



BYERS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please note the following:

CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

We have had a busy half term so far with a varied range of experiences in addition to our normal curriculum. These have included:

- MammalWeb workshops (whole school)
- Outdoor maths trails at Hardwick Park (Y3/4) and the Botanic Garden, Durham (Y5/6)
- World Book Day activities (whole school)
- Roman workshops led by Mr Henderson (Y3/4)
- Journey to Easter workshops led by Rev Friswell and Rev Titterton (whole school)

NSPCC'S 'SPEAK OUT. STAY SAFE.' PROGRAMME – TUESDAY 2 APRIL

We will be welcoming visitors from the NSPCC to our school on the above date to deliver age-appropriate assemblies to the infants (Class 1 & Class 2) and the juniors (Class 3 & Class 4), followed by a workshop for Class 4. Please see the information overleaf for further details.

EASTER EGG COMPETITION – FRIDAY 5 APRIL

On the last day of term the children will be given time in class to decorate an egg for entry into our Easter Egg Competition. If your child would like to take part they will need to bring in an undecorated hard-boiled egg and any other materials they would like to use – a range of resources will also be available in school. Prizes will be awarded in the afternoon and the children will be able to bring their eggs home at the end of the day.

EASTER COFFEE AFTERNOON – FRIDAY 5 APRIL

We will be holding our Easter coffee afternoon on the above date, commencing at 1.15pm. As usual we would be most grateful for the contribution of cakes, scones, biscuits etc. for the refreshment stall – shop-bought contributions will be most gratefully accepted if you do not have the time to make your own. The book club will run throughout the afternoon. We are always looking for raffle prizes - any donations are most welcome.

ONLINE SAFETY

Keeping up to date with what your children are doing online can seem daunting. Technology is constantly advancing and sometimes parents feel that their children know more about the internet than they do. Whatever their age, www.internetmatters.org/advice can help you to find out more about what they might be doing online and give you some simple, practical advice on the steps you can take as a parent to keep them as safe as possible.

EASTER HOLIDAY

School will close for the Easter break on **Friday 5 April at 3.15pm**. We return on **Tuesday 23 April 2019**.

Mr W. Kirtley (Headteacher)

NSPCC
Speak out. Stay safe.

The NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme is visiting our school to make sure our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

I'm pleased to tell you that we will be working with the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, who'll be delivering their *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme this term. This is a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting an assembly to the children in our school as well as a workshop for Years 5 and 6.

**"NSPCC has helped me to build the confidence to tell people about my worries and problems."
Child's feedback.**

What is the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme?

Through child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops their specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language.

We have studied the content of the materials and heard from other schools who have participated and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of their visit, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

"This service provides important information in a child-friendly way – it should be made mandatory in all schools. A brilliant service!" *Teacher, Wistaston Primary, Crewe*

If you would like any more information about the NSPCC *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme, including frequently asked questions, you can find it on the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/schools or please come into speak to me and I can provide more information.

Talking about the Underwear Rule with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'The Underwear Rule', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex.

The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/