



Our school value this half term is “**Forgiveness**”

‘Just the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also forgive others.’

Colossians 3.13

Notices

Online Safety

Following our online safety week in February, it has come to our attention that the “**Momo Challenge**” is an alleged form of cyberbullying that spreads through social media and has recently resurfaced as a concern. As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that all our children stay safe online, and working with our parents, we wish to bring this issue to your attention. Please refer to page 5 of this newsletter for further information. Thank you.

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March 2019

We will be celebrating World Book Day in school on Thursday 7th March. Children may come to school dressed as a hero/heroine or villain from a book of their choice. Children will receive a book voucher on the day.

Uganda Visit

As everyone will be aware, Mr Kennedy and Miss Geeson went to Uganda over half term with a group from the Charity Edukid to undertake work with a Ugandan school and develop links. We are looking forward to working with our children and discussing this with them over the coming weeks.

There will be a special assembly next week when the children will hear all about the experience and the school council and WOW group will be meeting with Miss Geeson and Mr Kennedy to discuss any projects. We look forward to keeping you all informed.

Drama Club Production 2019

Rehearsals are now under way for our forthcoming production of “**The Wizard of Oz**”. A polite reminder that Drama Club sessions now run until 4.30 p.m. on a Tuesday after school. This year’s production will take place at Christ Church Ministry Centre on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th July at 6.30 p.m. It is essential that parents and carers let Mrs. Chapple know as soon as possible if any children are unable to take part in the production on these evenings. A letter regarding costumes will be sent out in due course.

Cricket Club

Cricket Club resumes once again on Thursday for those children who have already returned their slips. However, please note that there will be no Cricket Club for the last two weeks of this term.

Parents Evening

Parents Evening will take place on Wednesday 13th March 2019 between 4.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. Please see page 4 of this Newsletter for the slip and return this, (or handwritten equivalent) to school as soon as possible.

Crosby Marina Residential for Year 5

Please note that there will be a meeting for all Year 5 parents on **Friday 22nd March at 2:45 p.m.** This will be held in the school hall and there will be an opportunity for parents to find out about this visit.

Forthcoming Events

Dates for your Diary

Please check all our key dates on the school website—a reminder of some key dates is below.

Tuesday 5th March—Bridgewater Hall Concert for Year 6

Wednesday 6th March—Year 5 to Philharmonic Hall

Easter Bingo on Friday 29th March (See page 3 for full details)

World Book Day—Thursday 7th March 2019

Friday 8th March-PHA Disco

Thursday 21st March—Aughton Music Festival (St. Michael’s School)

Tuesday 19th March at 2.45 p.m.-Keyboard & Ukulele Concert

(parents invited)

P.H.A. Easter Bingo

Friday 29th March

Easter Bingo takes place on Friday 29th March, opening at 5.30 p.m. Eyes down at 6.00 p.m. Tickets include the cost of a bingo book and a pen. There will be an Irish lottery on the night. We would really appreciate donations of Easter eggs to be used as prizes on the evening to be donated to school week commencing Monday 25th.

P.H.A. Disco

Friday 8th March



Infants disco 5.00—6.00 p.m.

Juniors disco 6.15—7.15 p.m.

Tickets will be £3.00 each, which includes a snack and a drink. Please see the slip provided on page 4 of this newsletter.

Dance Talent After School Course

Just a reminder that the infants course starts in April and Juniors has already started this week.

Spring Term Clubs (2nd Half)

Please see page 2 of this newsletter for all the Spring Term Clubs 2019. Please note that dates may be subject to change.

Music Festival at Aughton St. Michaels School

A reminder that Aughton Schools Music Festival takes place on Thursday 21st March. Please ensure that your child has someone to take them to the festival venue and to stay with them for that section of the day.

SPRING TERM CLUBS 2019

(2nd Half)

All clubs will start week beginning 25th February 2019

(Please note that clubs are subject to change)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Monday	Signing	12.30—1.00 p.m.	Mrs. Frackelton (Years 4,5&6)
	Yoga & Mindfulness	3.30—4.15 p.m.	Mrs. Nolan (Year 1)
	Football	3.30—4.30 p.m.	Mr. Swift (Years 5 & 6)
Tuesday	Drama	3.30—4.30 p.m.	Mrs. Chapple (Juniors)
Wednesday	Choir	12.15—12.45 p.m.	Miss Geeson (Years 1—6)
Thursday	Spanish	3.30—4.15 p.m.	Miss Fletcher (Year 2)
	Maths Club	12.30—1.00 p.m.	Miss Fletcher (Year 2)
	Cricket*	3.30—4.30 p.m.	Mr. Kennedy (Years 5 & 6)
Friday	Running	12.00—12.30 p.m.	Mr. Kennedy (Juniors)

* Cricket will be subject to the weather

PARENT HELPERS ASSOCIATION

Forthcoming Events & Activities

OUR NEXT MAIN EVENT IS:-



Save the date in your diary for our ever-popular **Easter Bingo on Friday 29th March**. Doors open at 5.30 p.m. and its eyes down at 6.00 p.m. Tickets cost £3.50 a person and include entrance, Bingo books, an Irish Lottery ticket and a pen. Refreshments will be available to buy on the night and there will be a raffle.

Sponsored Run

Thursday 25th April will see all children compete in a sponsored run. This event will be held during school hours so parents will not attend. Sponsor forms will be sent home before the Easter holidays and all forms and **money raised needs to be returned to school by Friday 26th April**.

Christ Church Summer Social

In a twist this year, our Summer Fair is to be held on **Friday 14th June from 3:30pm until late**. The focus will be on family fun and there will be our fabulous BBQ, various other food stalls, fun games and refreshments. We would hope everyone could join us for a night of entertainment and a get-together with friends, bring a picnic blanket and spend the night with us for a great cause.

PHA Disco on Friday 8th March 2019

Infants Disco— 5.00 p.m.—6.00 p.m.

Juniors Disco— 6.15 p.m.—7.15 p.m.

(Tickets are £3.00 per child—Price includes a snack and a drink)

I hereby give consent for my child/ren to attend the disco on Friday 8th March 2019 as follows:-

My child (Full Name) _____ in Year _____ will be attending the disco at £3.00 per child

My child (Full Name) _____ in Year _____ will be attending the disco at £3.00 per child

Please list any allergies: _____

Total enclosed £ _____ (Cheques payable to "Christ Church P.H.A.")

Signature

Parent/Guardian

Date: __/__/2019

Please complete this slip (or handwritten equivalent) and return it to your eldest child's class teacher together with payment in a sealed envelope marked "P.H.A. Disco"

**PARENTS EVENING
Wednesday 13th March
4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.**

I/we would like to see our child's class teacher. Full name of child (CAPS) _____ in Year _____ Preferred time: 4.00 to 5.00 p.m. [] or 5-6pm [] or 6-7pm []

I/we would like to see our child's class teacher. Full name of child (CAPS) _____ in Year _____ Preferred time: 4.00 to 5.00 p.m. [] or 5-6pm [] or 6-7pm []

I/we would like to see our child's class teacher. Full name of child (CAPS) _____ in Year _____ Preferred time: 4.00 to 5.00 p.m. [] or 5-6pm [] or 6-7pm []

Signature

Parent/Guardian

Date: __/__/2019

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS SLIP (or handwritten equivalent) TO YOUR ELDEST CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER

Appointments will be issued in due course

It's important to note that new challenges are arising on the internet all the time. We have created this guide to raise awareness of the issue and offer advice on helping parents to talk to their children about making safer decisions online. See also our '7 conversation starters' guide for more tips on better communication with your child.



Momo is a sinister 'challenge' that has been around for some time. It has recently resurfaced and once again has come to the attention of schools and children across the country. Dubbed the 'suicide killer game', Momo has been heavily linked with apps such as Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, and most recently (and most worryingly)... YouTube Kids. The scary doll-like figure reportedly sends graphic violent images, and asks users to partake in dangerous challenges like waking up at random hours and has even been associated with self-harm. It has been reported that the 'Momo' figure was originally created as a sculpture and featured in an art gallery in Tokyo and unrelated to the 'Momo' challenge we are hearing about in the media.

What parents need to know about **MOMO**

CHILDREN'S VIDEOS BEING 'HIJACKED'

There have been recent reports that some seemingly innocent videos on YouTube and YouTube Kids (such as 'surprise eggs', unboxing videos and Minecraft videos) have been edited by unknown sources to include violence provoking and/or other inappropriate content. Even though YouTube monitor and remove videos that include inappropriate content, clips can be uploaded and viewed thousands of times before they get reported and removed. As a parent, it's difficult to spot these videos as the harmful content doesn't appear until partway through the video.

DISTRESSING FOR CHILDREN

Popular YouTubers and other accounts have been uploading reaction videos, showing their experience of the MOMO challenge. Some of the videos include a disclosure message warning that the content may be "inappropriate or offensive to some audiences" and that "viewer discretion is advised" but these videos are still easily accessed by clicking 'I understand and wish to proceed'. The image of the 'Momo' character can be deeply distressing to children and young people and it's important to note that it may slip through parental settings and filters.

SUGGESTED VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

Video apps such as YouTube include an 'up next' feature which automatically starts playing another video based on the video just watched. Due to YouTube's algorithm, users are shown 'suggested videos' that they may be interested in. The thumbnails used on suggested videos are purposefully created in a way to encourage viewers to click them. During our research, we found that when watching one Momo related video, we were shown countless other Momo themed videos and other scary content which would be age-inappropriate for children under 18.



**National
Online
Safety**

Top Tips for Parents

TELL THEM IT'S NOT REAL

Just like any urban legend or horror story, the concept can be quite frightening and distressing for young people. Whilst this may seem obvious, it's important for you to reiterate to your child that Momo is not a real person and cannot directly harm them! Also, tell your child to not go openly searching for this content online as it may only cause more distress.

BE PRESENT

It's important for you, as a parent or carer, to be present while your children are online. This will give you a greater understanding of what they are doing on their devices, as well as providing you with the opportunity to discuss, support and stop certain activities that your child may be involved in. As the nature of each task become progressively worse it's also important to recognise any changes in your child's behaviour.

TALK REGULARLY WITH YOUR CHILD

As well as monitoring your child's activity, it's important for you discuss it with them too. Not only will this give you an understanding of their online actions, but those honest and frequent conversations will encourage your child to feel confident to discuss issues and concerns they may have related to the online world.

DEVICE SETTINGS & PARENTAL CONTROLS

Ensure that you set up parental controls for your devices at home. This will help to restrict the types of content that your child can view, as well as help you to monitor their activity. In addition to this, it's vital that you are aware of your device and account settings to ensure your child's utmost safety. For example, on YouTube you can turn off 'suggested auto-play' on videos to stop your child from viewing content that they have not directly selected.

PEER PRESSURE

Trends and viral challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they seem. Make sure you talk to your child about how they shouldn't succumb to peer pressure and do anything they are not comfortable with, online or offline. If they are unsure, encourage them to talk to you or another trusted adult.

REAL OR HOAX?

As a parent it is natural to feel worried about certain things you see online that may be harmful to your child. However, not everything you see online is true. Check the validity of the source and be mindful of what you share as it may only cause more worry.

REPORT & BLOCK

You can't always rely on parental controls to block distressing or harmful material. People find ways around a platform's algorithm in order to share and promote this type of material. Due to this, we advise that you flag and report any material you deem to be inappropriate or harmful as soon as you come across it. You should also block the account/content to prevent your child from viewing it. Also encourage your child to record/screenshot any content they feel could be malicious to provide evidence in order to escalate the issue to the appropriate channels.

FURTHER SUPPORT

Speak to the safeguarding lead within your child's school should you have any concerns regarding your child's online activity or malicious content that could affect them.

If your child sees something distressing, it is important that they know where to go to seek help and who their trusted adults are. They could also contact Childline where a trained counsellor will listen to anything that's worrying them.

The Childline phone number is
0800 1111.



SOURCES:
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/sick-videos-youtube-youtube-kids-14052196>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-47359623>