



# November 2020 NEWSLETTER



## Dear Parents & Carers

This time of the year always comes around quickly in the autumn term as we start thinking of the lead up to Christmas. I have been extremely proud of our pupils, staff and parents in the first 3 months of this academic year. Pupils being back in school have allowed them to continue to develop emotionally, socially and academically which is essential to their progression.

Our pupils in school continue to make great progress across a broad curriculum, ensuring they embed a deep understanding of subject knowledge and skills. This half term, I have been blown away by the learning the pupils have been accessing towards their history learning experience. From exploring the positives of The Great Fire of London, to deciding whether the battle of Dunkirk was a success. Our pupils have worked as historians and linked some brilliant writing towards it.

For the rest of the half-term, our pupils will become scientists and work towards answering an enquiry question.

I hope you all continue to remain safe and healthy as we enter the festive period.

With best wishes,

**Ben Nelson-Smith**  
Headteacher



## Parent Workshops

Thank you to all our parents that have joined a parent workshop this month. It was great to see parents showing an interest and supporting our school towards key aspects of their child's learning.

Video recordings will be released shortly for parents who were unable to attend the workshops live.



## Welcome To Collaton St Mary Primary School



Achieving and Flourishing in our Christian Community.

## Trust Wide Maths Challenge

An exciting math challenge took place across our trust in November where pupil teams across our trust competed in maths challenges virtually. Led by Mr Nelson-Smith, groups across all the school in our trust completed 'confidential' maths challenges to improve their problem solving, reasoning and collaboration skills. It was great to see the impact and unit between our schools!



## Remembrance Service

This year our remembrance service was virtual. In the service, Mr Nelson-Smith showed a video to the children about the meaning of why we use poppies. Thank you to Rev Gerda who was able to joined us for a prayer. We supported the British Legion by selling for the Poppy Appeal.

## Virtual Prospectus Meetings

This month Mr Nelson-Smith held virtual meetings for our prospectus families for children starting in September 2021. This was very successful due to the limitations of no school visits at present.

## Year 4 Courgette Success

The last harvest pick for this half-term. These courgettes went straight into our school kitchen to be used. Winter lettuce are on the go at the moment!



## Year 6 Outdoor Classroom Day

Year 6 enjoyed their outdoor classroom day where they took part in a multiplication treasure hunt in the school grounds.







# Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to all the families who donated a shoebox gift for Operation Christmas Child. The organiser Lindsay Williams has sent a personal note as a thank you.

*To all who contributed to Shoebox Appeal 2020,  
A HUGE THANK YOU for the boxes, or  
items for boxes, that you gave for this year's  
shoebox Appeal. These boxes will bring joy,  
in a particularly difficult year, to children  
who have nothing of their own. Thank you.*

*Lots of places throughout the country, - and  
locally, - have decided not to participate this  
year, so it is wonderful that we have  
collected around 250 in Brixham, waiting  
to be transported to Central Church, Torquay,  
before being taken on to children probably in  
Eastern Europe.*

*Thank you for your thoughtfulness -  
Hope to see you in 2021. God Bless Lindsay Williams*



We had a "mufti day" to help raise money for children in need this year. There was lots of great Pudsey related clothing. Great efforts to help change young lives!







TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

# TIKTOK



## MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are lighthearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.



## INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.



## TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.



## ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.



## ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.



## IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



# Safety Tips For Parents



## TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



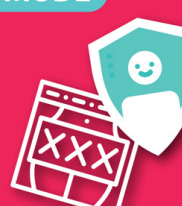
## USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



## ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



## EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.



## LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



## MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



## Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



## \*NEW FOR 2020\* FAMILY SAFETY MODE

TikTok Family Safety Mode allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's. It's a great way to oversee your child's digital wellbeing by giving you direct control over their safety settings and being able to remotely turn features on and off. This includes managing screen time, the ability to send and receive direct messages (and with whom) and the ability to restrict the appearance of content that might not be age appropriate.





Please help us with the

# The GREAT POT noodle Appeal



We are aiming to collect **1000** pots – please help us!

Please leave donations on the table in the school carpark by **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

If we all added one Pot Noodle to our weekly shop for the next 5 weeks we would meet our target of **1000** pots!



**All donations are gratefully received and will be donated to the Paignton Community Larder which is a local charity that helps local families.**



find themselves in a place of hardship





# Donate a Christmas Jumper!

If you have any Christmas Jumpers at home that no longer fit then please donate them. We will sell them to raise money for the PTFA.



**Save the Children**

Christmas Jumper  
day is on

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

so buy a new one  
from the PTFA ready  
to wear on that day.



Any good condition children's or adult's Christmas Jumpers would be very much appreciated.

Thank you once again for your support from the PTFA.





**Are you concerned that a Child or Young Person is being harmed or is at risk of being harmed?**

**Do you think a Child or Young Person needs help?**

**If the answer is YES, then please contact MASH with any concerns**

**MASH**

**The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)**

**Telephone: 01803 208100 email: [mash@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:mash@torbay.gov.uk)**

**OR**

**Please speak to the following:**



**Ben Nelson-Smith**

**Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding  
Lead**



**Nicky Postlethwaite**

**Deputy Headteacher  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead  
KS1 Lead Teacher**



**Kate Freeman**

**Parent Governor  
Safeguarding Lead**



**Wendy Parr**

**Head of Safeguarding  
and Inclusion for ACE**



# Collaton St Mary Primary School Term Dates

Friday 11th December

Christmas jumper mufti day

Tuesday 15th December

KS1 Christmas Lunch and Christmas afternoon

Wednesday 16th December

KS2 Christmas Lunch and Christmas afternoon

Friday 18th December

End of term service and last day of term

Monday 4th January

School returns



## £2.50 OFF

the purchase of any tree

**Voucher code: COLLB20**

Present this voucher at any of our retail sites including Haldon Christmas Tree Centre, Choose and Cut from the farm and Morrison Paignton & Totnes.



### FREE SANTA HAT

This can be redeemed at any of our local outlets (no purchase necessary)

Terms & Conditions apply. one voucher per customer. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer

## 4 ways TO BUY



Available at Haldon Christmas Tree Centre



Order online for UK home delivery



Choose your own tree from our Dartmoor farm - BOOKING REQUIRED via website



Available at Paignton and Totnes stores



## COLLATON ST. MARY C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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