

This week

- Fri 26 Jan: Friends of Thomas Coram Year 4 Disco

Dates further ahead

- Thu 1 Feb: Year 5 Young Voices at the O2
- Fri 2 Feb: Year 6 Devon payment due, £65.00
- Mon 5 Feb: Year 4 Norfolk payment due, £55.00
- Mon 5 Feb: Deadline for cancellation of summer term music lessons
- Fri 9 Feb: School closes for half term break
- Fri 16 Feb: Federation consultation closes

[A full calendar is available on our website](#)

Notices and reminders

The school would like to thank parents and carers for their [generous donations following the Year 3 Christmas production](#). £225 was sent to Coram which will enable Coram Life Education to teach 45 school children about healthy lifestyle and cyber safety.

Congratulations to those Y6 pupils who represented the school at the [Maths Challenge organised by Ashlyns](#) for primary schools in the town on Thursday afternoon. The team came first and must be commended for their teamwork and mathematical skills. Well done!

Following the elections at the start of term, the new School Council representatives have decided their focus for this term is [to reinvigorate our pond and wildlife area](#) as an outdoor learning space. If there are any parents with expertise in this area, please contact the school office.

As the school continues to grow, the number of vehicles has increased considerably at pick up and drop off times. This is leading to [congestion on the road leading up to the school entrance](#). On several occasions, school staff have had to intervene and ask parents to move their vehicles in the interest of everyone's safety. Hertfordshire Highways has been asked to visit the site and monitor the situation; in the meantime can we ask parents to be considerate of other drivers and where possible to park in the surrounding roads.

As a school we recognise and value the importance of [punctual and regular school attendance](#) in order to ensure all pupils maximise their learning and achievement. Our aim therefore is to work with parents and carers to address attendance and punctuality issues to ensure the children's attendance is 100%, unless there are unavoidable reasons to prevent it. However, if a pupil has at least 15 sessions (i.e. 15 half days) unauthorised absence in a term (including unauthorised holidays), the Local Authority will be asked to issue a fixed penalty notice. Further details are available in our Attendance Policy which is available to view on the school website.

Recent letters

Last week we sent out these letters, which are also available on our website:

- Teen Brain Sessions Year 6
- Game On Half Term Course

This week's attachments

Today we're attaching:

- FOTC Year 4 Disco
- eSafety Parent Newsletter
- LegoMaster

Does your [child love to build creations out of Lego](#) and is over the age of 9 (on 31 March 2018)? The producers of LegoMasters (Channel 4 series) are on the hunt to find Britain's most talented Amateur Builders. Further information can be found on the attached poster.

[This week at St Peter's](#) - in 2017 St Peter's supported People not Borders through much of their collective fundraising activities (excluding red bucket collections) and have raised £1537 to date. They would like to choose new charities for 2018 (one local and one overseas) and are asking for nominations from the congregation. If you have a suggestion, please email churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk or drop a note to the parish office with your nomination and a sentence or two about them and why you are nominating them. Everyone in the congregation will get a chance to vote on the nominations in early February.

Year 4 **DISCO** at TC



**Includes
Crisps
& Drink**



**TUCK
SHOP**

Friday 26th January 3.30pm – 5.30pm

£5 per Child * £4 per School Sibling thereafter

Places must be secured in advance as only those with
signed permission from a parent may attend.
Parental consent is required.

Return of this completed form by **WEDNESDAY 24TH JANUARY**
will confirm parental consent has been given.

Child name(s) and class _____
(All children attending must be named above)
Please advise if your child has any allergies _____

I have made arrangements to collect my son/daughter at 5.30pm

Parent/carer authorising signature _____

Parent/carer email _____
(Email addresses will be added to the FoTC mailing list and not shared with any third parties)

Cash or cheque to be enclosed with permission slip -
cheques made payable to ,The Friends of Thomas Coram, please!

Online Safety News



Spring 2018 | PARENTS/CARERS

Digital 5 A day Helping children and young people lead healthy online lives



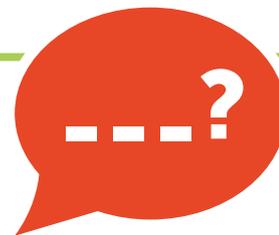
The amount of time that children are online is increasing. A new campaign, led by The Children's Commissioner, called Digital 5 A Day has been launched to help parents encourage their children to have a good digital diet which includes a balance of being connected, active and creative, giving to others and being mindful. The Children's Commissioner stated, 'You wouldn't let an 8-year-old eat a double cheeseburger and fries every day of the year, so it's important

children aren't left to use smart phones, computers or tablets without agreed boundaries..... So our 5 A Day guide promotes a positive relationship with technology rather than being too restrictive and is actually based on the NHS's five steps to mental well-being. We've placed those in a digital context and think it gives parents guidance and children room to explore and learn while keeping them safe. Importantly, it encourages them to do so themselves.'

The Digital 5 A Day: A Guide For Children and Young People can be accessed here:

bit.ly/childrenscommissioner_digital_5_a_day

Sarahah, the anonymous messaging app



Sarahah meaning 'honesty' in Arabic, is a free social media app that many teenagers are using to pass on anonymous, unmonitored comments to each other. The app has approximately 300 million users. Users can comment on friends' or strangers' profiles without them identifying who has posted the message. The app lets users create a profile and works as an add-on to the popular social networking app Snapchat. Due to the fact that all comments are anonymous, it's very easy for people to say mean and hurtful things without any repercussions. As with other anonymous apps there is the possibility that the Sarahah app could be used to bully or harass others. Sarahah is not recommended for children's use and it comes with an app store rating of 17.

Read Common Sense Media's review of Sarahah here:

bit.ly/commonsensemedia_sarahah

Keeping safe when playing online games

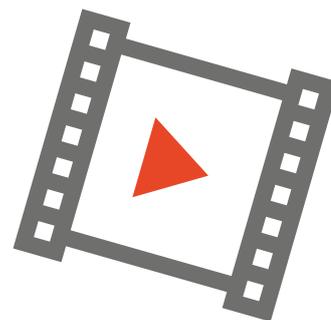


Online gaming can be a fun and creative activity for all the family. However, it is essential that parents/carers help children to be aware of the possible risks and help build the skills and knowledge to enable them to enjoy gaming in a safe way. Childnet has published a free leaflet that has a wealth of advice to help parents/carers ensure children are accessing games in a positive and safe way.

bit.ly/childnet_onlinegaming_introduction_for_parents

Be Share Aware

It can be very hard for parents to keep track of what children are doing and accessing online. The NSPCC have teamed up with O2 to help parents/carers talk to children about staying safe in the digital world. The films 'Lucy and the Boy' and 'I saw your Willie' may help you start a conversation about the dangers and consequences of sharing inappropriate photographs and videos on line.

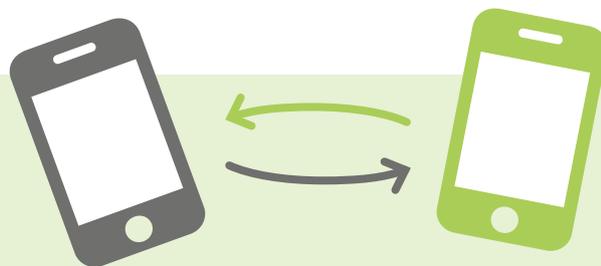


You can access the films here:

bit.ly/nspcc_shareaware

Snapchat Streaks

Is this harmless fun?



Snapchat is one of the most popular social media apps used by young people to share photos and videos with friends. A Snapchat 'streak' is when you and a snapchat friend send and return a snap to each other within a 24 hour period. A number and an emoji appears beside a Snapchat friend's name corresponding to the number of days in a row a new picture or video has been sent back and forth. You must Snapchat your friend within 24 hours of receiving the last Snap to keep the streak going. Young people can be pressured into keeping a streak going and when the streak does stop it can cause problems. The NSPCC told Newsround that they've received a number of calls from upset and worried young people because their snapchat streak has ended. One young person spoke with the NSPCC because she couldn't get on to wifi that day she was worried that she would be bullied and that people would think she didn't like them anymore.

Whilst children can have great fun with friends using the streaks, parents/carers should remind children of the stress it could cause and help them question whether it is a true measure of friendship.

Top tips for having a conversation with children about cyberbullying

Discussing cyberbullying with your child may seem very daunting but the best way to support them is to encourage them to have open and honest conversations with you about their online life.

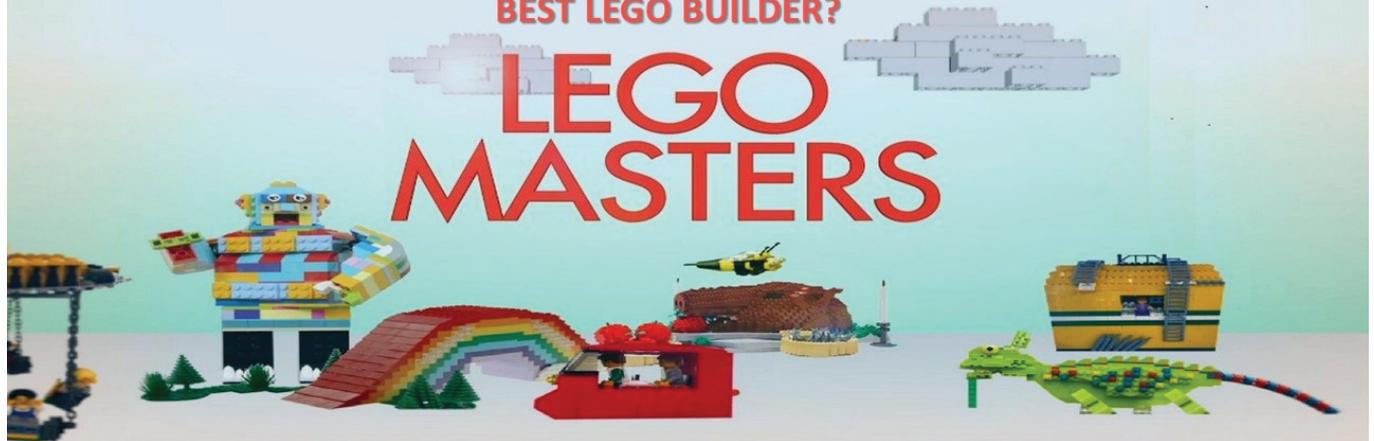
Check out childnet's website for ideas at:

bit.ly/childnet_6_tips_cyberbullying

- Know how to start the conversation
- Let them talk
- Don't deny access to technology
- Let them know if you plan to talk to their school
- Let them know you are always available to talk



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE CROWNED BRITAIN'S
BEST LEGO BUILDER?



Do you love to build awesome creations? We are looking for brick obsessed pairs of all ages to register interest in a second series of 'LEGO MASTERS' on Channel 4 to find Britain's most talented amateur builders.

Please email build@tuesdayschild.tv to register your interest. If you are under 18 please ask a parent or guardian to email on your behalf. Unfortunately, we won't be able to answer all the requests individually. Applicants must be 9+.

TUESDAY'S CHILD