



## HEAD'S BLOG...

A great day today with children dressed funny for money in aid of Red Nose Day. The sound of laughter filled our classrooms too with class 'LOL shows'. Thank you so much for your support of this worthy cause - we raised an incredible £302. Amazing!!

I teased you last week about new initiatives in school. Key Stage 2 pupils may have come home talking about the STAR assessments they have completed online this week. This is all part of our implementation of the Accelerated Reader programme, which accurately assesses and track pupils' reading and comprehension, enabling us to closely match reading books to ability thereby helping even better progress. More information can be found on the new [Reading at Bishop Bronescombe tab](#) on our website.

A great idea has also shared with you later in this newsletter on how you can support children with reading with almost ZERO effort—definitely worth a try!

In addition to this, we are very much aware of children missing out on the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular clubs over recent months. We are working on clubs being offered for all class bubbles in the Summer term—watch this space for further details.

Lastly, the Diocesan Director of Education is running an Easter Art competition. We would encourage anyone to have a go over the weekend — any medium, any shape so throw off the shackles of the rectangular card format (but consider it may be best shown on screen)! Please hand in your entries to the office so we can send them on to Church House. There will be a prize for every school that sends in entries and winners from each of EYFS, KS1, KS2. Please remember to write the name, year group and school on the back of each entry sent in.

Happy weekend to all!

Ms Carmichael

**Coronavirus reminders** If your child develop any symptoms of Coronavirus (persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste / smell), s/he **MUST NOT** come to school and school must be informed. Call 119 or get a test online at:

<https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).

A new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If you believe that your child is well enough to attend school and they have only symptoms of a 'common cold' such as: runny nose, sore throat or a mild cough they are permitted to attend.

The Department of Health and Social Care announced that from Monday, 1st March, households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March. Households, childcare and support bubbles of primary, secondary and college staff can also be tested. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

via employers if they offer testing to employees, at a local test site, by collecting a home test kit from a test site, by ordering a home test kit online on this link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Schools should not give test kits to parents, carers or household members. A letter containing advice on where to access testing will be made available for schools to share shortly.

**NB: All absences must be reported to our school office by calling 01726 64322. You can leave a message if outside of office hours. Please DO NOT report absences via Class Dojo. Thank you.**

# Dates for your diary

## 2020/21 Spring Term Diary Dates:

**Thurs 1st April 2021—Last day of term, no after school club**

Fri 2nd Apr 2021-Fri 16th April 2021—Easter holidays

Mon 3rd May 2021—Bank Holiday

Mon 31st May 2021-Fri 4th June 2021—Half term

Fri 11th June 2021—Inset day

Fri 23rd July 2021—Last day of term

## Important information

### Parent Arrangements for Drop Off and Collection

Parents and carers are requested to wear face coverings when on and around the school site and follow national guidance for the wearing and storage of masks. Primary pupils are not required to wear face coverings.

#### Drop-off times and locations

	<b>EYFS</b>	<b>KS1</b>	<b>Main car park</b>
<b>8.30</b>	Nursery	Doves	Pelicans
<b>8.45</b>	Rainbows / Stars	Fish	Hope
<b>9.00</b>		Lambs & Angels	Phoenix
<b>9.15</b>		Peacocks	Faith
<b>12.15</b>	Nursery		

#### Collection times and locations

	<b>EYFS</b>	<b>KS1</b>	<b>Main car park</b>
<b>11.30</b>	Nursery		
<b>2.45</b>		Doves	Pelicans
<b>3.00</b>	Rainbows / Stars	Fish	Hope
<b>3.15</b>	Nursery	Lambs & Angels	Phoenix
<b>3.30</b>		Peacocks	Faith

Please note revised drop-off and collection times for EYFS classes.

We have noticed that some pupils are being dropped off earlier than their designated drop-off time and would like to politely remind you to ensure these timings are followed to avoid the crossing of bubbles. Class teachers are aware of which pupils they should be expecting from 8:30am and this only applies to those with siblings in Doves and Pelicans.

# Important information

## Contact tracing over the Easter holidays

Schools and further education providers continue to play an important role in contact tracing and the national effort to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

We will continue to play our part with contact tracing over Easter, similar to the arrangements over Christmas.

Please ensure you inform us if your child tests positive for Coronavirus if they developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school. We will then identify close contacts and advise self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst at school. You can inform us by emailing: [bbsupport@celticcross.education](mailto:bbsupport@celticcross.education). This email address will be checked daily until Wednesday, 7th April.

Where pupils test positive for coronavirus during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being at school, you are not required to inform us; however, you should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Where pupils need to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case during the holidays, you do not need to inform us about this until the first day of the Summer term.

Many thanks

## OTHER NOTICES

### **Bug-busting plea!**

Surprisingly, there seem to be a few cases of nits around. Can we ask that you check your child's hair regularly and treat any cases as soon as possible to prevent a spread of these annoying critters?



According to NHS guidance, lice and nits can be removed by wet combing and you should try this method first.

You can buy a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits. Alternatively, if you are finding it difficult to access one, please ask Mrs Clifford in the office as we have a small stock available in school.

There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

It usually takes about 10 minutes to comb short hair, and 20 to 30 minutes for long, frizzy or curly hair.

Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.

More information on alternative methods can be found [here](#).



## This week's Achievers



### BBeebies

Lowenna

For her amazing sense of humour!!

### Rainbows

Winnie

For super reading and writing progress.

### Stars

Ava

For fantastic Maths and Phonics

### Little Doves

Harry

For great engagement and taking on all challenges with confidence.

### Little Fish

Ethan

For being a model pupil in class, following instructions and contributing his thoughts and ideas.

### Little Lambs

Emily H

For her amazing work on timetables and fractions this week.

### Peacocks

Sophie M

For fantastic Maths. Well done!

### Pelicans

Thomas

For supporting his friends with their Maths.

### Phoenix

Isabel

For fantastic contributions in all of our lessons this week and a wonderful persuasive writing piece on saving water.

### Angels

Clara

For writing an incredible, descriptive chapter of Malamander, using a range of incredible vocabulary and language techniques, which created real suspense.

### Faith


Archie

For his brilliant writing in literacy this week. We are very impressed with his writing and attitude to the subject too!

### Hope

Libby

For embracing all of her learning with a smile on her face. Miss Mewton is so impressed with your rapid recall of number facts - keep up the great work!



# READING



Did you know that turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can double the chances of them becoming good at reading? Wonderfully simple isn't it? 10 seconds of effort for parents, a lifetime's impact for their children. All of this backed up by decades of scientific research.

Kids read more when we Turn On The Subtitles. We wanted to let you know how this brilliantly simple, free, small change to children's existing TV viewing habits can drastically improve their reading skills. Stephen Fry explains the benefits of turning on the subtitles in more detail. Find out more from Stephen [here](#).



## Bishop Bronescombe's Reading Ambassadors

There is a large amount of research that demonstrates that children who read regularly at home perform much better at school and throughout their lives. In order to continue to encourage our students to be enthusiastic readers, we have selected some reading ambassadors whose main role is to share their enjoyment of reading and their knowledge about books with their peers. Over the next couple of weeks, we will introduce them and share the books they are currently reading in preparation to review them for their peers.

### Ella in Peacocks



"I love reading because it gives you time to imagine things in your head. When there are no pictures you have to create them yourself in your imagination which I love doing. I find reading relaxing. Ella is currently reading *Ariki and the Island of Wonders* by Nicola Davies. She was attracted to the book by the front cover which is illustrated with a beautiful, tropical beach. The main character on the front cover and the tropical beach reminded Ella of the film, *Moana*. I wonder if the story is like *Moana* at all? Ella will tell us all about it when she's finished reading it!

### Seth in Angels.

"I love reading because it gives me adventures."

Seth is currently reading a recently published book called '*Brightstorm: A Sky-Ship Adventure*' by Vashti Hardy. Fortunately, Seth said that he loved reading because it gives him adventures and this book is a fantasy adventure book. It's about two children who fear their father, who is an explorer, has gone missing whilst on an expedition to reach South Polaris; they go off in search for him.....We'll leave Seth to let you know what happens without giving any plot spoilers!



### Ruby in Pelicans



"I love reading because it gives me adventures that I would really love to go on. In one of the stories I'm reading, they have to find three magic eggs which will make all the food that they eat taste like chocolate – I wish I could do that in real life!"

Ruby chose to read '*George's Marvellous Medicine*' by Roald Dahl. Although this fabulous book has been around for a while, Ruby read the blurb and decided she wanted to find out what happens to Gran! She might be in for a surprise!



# PARENT SUPPORT

## Parent/Carer 'Time to Talk'

Every Monday throughout March, 12:00-13:00

For families encountering child anxiety, challenging behaviour or living with a child with additional needs or diagnosis.

We provide a non-judgemental space to explore child anxiety and challenging behaviour with or without associated SEN or additional needs. Parents/carers are aided to connect with other to gather support and ideas as we look to find helpful ways to move forward.

Parenting is a big enough challenge without feeling isolated, alone or misunderstood. You may be having a specific issue or perhaps would just benefit from chatting with others who may really understand the kind of challenges you've encountered.

If you have a specific topic that you'd like to see being discussed please contact Terri-Anne.

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_YmFmNDk4ZTk4ZTUzOS00N2FiLWI5MjQtZDc0ZTkWNWM1MjEz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2201398f75-2fae-4e02-9926-832eec032036%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d712396d-8d9e-4345-ba47-02ca6d01e0bb%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YmFmNDk4ZTk4ZTUzOS00N2FiLWI5MjQtZDc0ZTkWNWM1MjEz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2201398f75-2fae-4e02-9926-832eec032036%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d712396d-8d9e-4345-ba47-02ca6d01e0bb%22%7d)



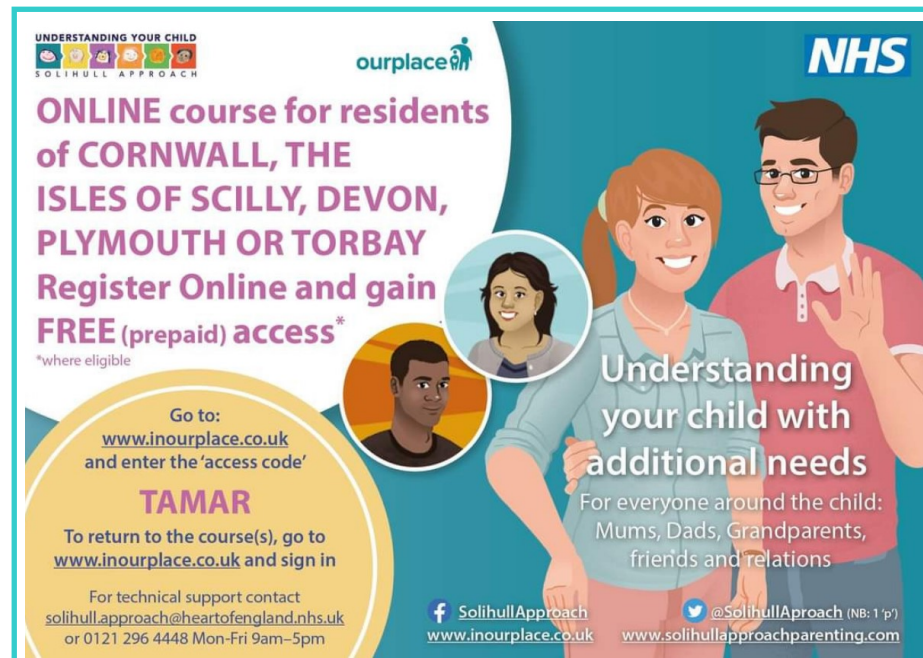
**Sensory Processing Disorder**

Find out about SPD  
How to support your child  
and Q&A session  
**MARCH 31, 2021**  
Facilitated by Tigger Pritchard

Via ZOOM  
11.00am - 1.00pm

to book your place contact  
Michellepcc@outlook.com

Parent Carer Cornwall



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD  
SOLIHULL APPROACH

ourplace

**ONLINE course for residents  
of CORNWALL, THE  
ISLES OF SCILLY, DEVON,  
PLYMOUTH OR TORBAY**

**Register Online and gain  
FREE (prepaid) access\***

\*where eligible

Go to:  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)  
and enter the 'access code'

**TAMAR**

To return to the course(s), go to  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk) and sign in

For technical support contact  
[solihullapproach@heartofengland.nhs.uk](mailto:solihullapproach@heartofengland.nhs.uk)  
or 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

**Understanding  
your child with  
additional needs**

For everyone around the child:  
Mums, Dads, Grandparents,  
friends and relations

**NHS**

**SolihullApproach**  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

**@SolihullApproach** (NB: 1 p)  
[www.solihullapproachparenting.com](http://www.solihullapproachparenting.com)

# ONLINE SAFETY



This week, a review by [Online Safety UK](#) on a fairly new, popular game—Among us.

Among us is another popular, visually basic but pleasing game. The first thing that comes to mind when we played Among Us to get a feel for it, is that it feels very child friendly in it's graphics (although effectively you're chopping a character in half, but visually its not gruesome) and the purpose of the game took us back to a time when we would get the Cluedo board out as a family at the dining table. You're effectively roaming around one of three maps (this is expanding to more maps) and the aim is to achieve certain objectives as a group, but one person is an "imposter" who is there to sabotage the mission and kill off players in secret. The imposter wins if they sabotage the mission successfully, the team wins if they vote collectively who the imposter is every time that someone is killed, but the imposter gets a say of course, and can pin the blame on other players.

## Is the content suitable for my child?

It is a PEGI Age Rating 7 and generally the graphics of the game aren't too bad in comparison to other harsher games. There is a very basic chat system which you can toggle on and off, but in reality if you're not talking to your other players then the game is relatively pointless to play, so keep this in mind if you're imposing restrictions. Online Safety UK recommends that this game can be used from the ages of 7, in align with the PEGI rating as we feel any younger, the concept of the game may pass them by.

## Can you speak to others?

Yes, this is the purpose of the game and without being able to speak to others, the game is rendered useless. But that doesn't mean they have to speak with complete strangers, take a look at the video below explaining about "private matches". If you're playing on public servers, you're going to be playing with a number of complete strangers, so as like any online game or chat service there is an element of risk here for your child, so it's important to keep open channels of communication on a daily basis so if they have an issue they can freely come to you, or if you want to check in, it's met with less hostility and defensiveness because they know it's based on good intentions and not just prying.

## Reporting & Safety

Probably the one area we would say Among Us creators are lacking in this present time, the game is a couple of years old and had so few people playing they didn't develop a reporting system. Now they have millions of players and they still don't have a reporting system, not to say they aren't concerned about their users, but it's taking time to make these changes. One positive from the creators is that they introduced a "vote to kick" function which allows the collective of players to kick a player out of the game if they're being abusive or obstructing the fun of the game. This doesn't ban them from playing but it allows the game to be played by a group of people who want to enjoy it for what it is.

There is no Help Centre or community guidelines at present but the NSPCC's Netaware website, which classifies the game's safety as 'average' has some useful safety tips for parents [here](#).