



WHATSAPP GUIDANCE

As I am sure you are aware, Whatsapp is rated as suitable for 16+ year olds due to the level of maturity required to deal with communicating on such platforms and to ensure that users stay safe online.

I have attached guidance for parents from the NSPCC, which you may find useful as it highlights the significant challenges and concerns facing any children who have access to the app.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

Oak Trees MAT

As you are aware we are now in the process of becoming an academy and joining the Oak Trees Multi-Academy Trust.

Already enjoying the benefits of support from the MAT, we are now aiming for a conversion date of 1st April 2024. This has been delayed by a month merely due to the fact that there have been so many schools going through the same process.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Yesterday (6/2/24) is Safer Internet Day (theme: Inspiring Change) and Miss Benson has organised for children to engage with activities which explore some of the benefits and challenges posed by using ever evolving digital technology as well as learning how to stay safe online. There will also be a whole school assembly on the same day and the following resources may help you at home:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/safer-internet-day-2024-theme-announced/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This week we are marking Children's Mental Health week with PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) lessons, a whole school assembly focusing upon the theme of 'My Voice Matters' and looking at how we listen to each other and identify that every child matters. We will encourage children to identify what matters to them which is something you may wish to discuss further at home and you may find the information below useful:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The highest attendance this year to the end of the last week (27/02/24) was:
YEAR 6 with 96.99%

A huge well done to everyone in Year 6 and all of the other classes who were very close.

READING

We continue to prioritise reading for all pupils with the knowledge that this supports children's wellbeing, drives a passion for reading and supports learning progress.

We continue to ask that all children read five times a week for a minimum of 10 or 15 minutes and actively encourage children in Year 3-6 to read for longer periods to build reading stamina. Staff will continue to monitor children's engagement with reading and the number of sessions marked in Reading Logs with one child from years 1-6 being selected each week to share a hot chocolate with Mr Dixon.

DATES 2023/24

School closes 16.02.24
HALF TERM
School opens 26.02.24
School closes 28.03.24
EASTER HOLIDAY
INSET DAY 15/04/24
School opens 16/04/24
School closes 24/05/24
HALF TERM
INSET 03/06/24
School opens 04/06/24
School closes 23/07/24

DATES FOR THE DIARY

5/02/24 Children's Mental Health Week
6/02/24 Safer Internet day
7/02/24 Finance Governor Meeting
9/02/24 Wear Your Scarf to School Day
13&15/02/24 Parents' Evening
26/2/24 Governors Meeting (MAT)
7/03/24 World Book Day
15/03/24 Y4-6 Cross Country
15/03/24 Comic Relief Event
18/03/24 Y5/6 Tag Rugby
19/03/24 Full Governing Body Meeting
22/03/24 F2/Y1 Tam O'Shanter Farm Visit
25/03/24 Y4-6 Cross Country
27/03/24 Easter Discos

Please check the calendar www.irbyprimary.com for further information and dates.