

**DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**
Every Day, a Learning Journey

Fockbury Road.
Dodford,
Bromsgrove, B61 9AW
office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Parkes

Message from Mrs Parkes

I hope that you are all keeping well and have been able to get outside as the weather has not been so kind to us this past week. I know the announcement made by the government about all Primary children not returning to school before September was met with mixed feelings and was particularly hard on children as we know that the social side of school is probably what they miss the most.

I cannot at this time give any further details in terms of what provision we will be offering as this half term progresses. I will reiterate though that the offer is always a flexible one and the only offer which will not change at this time is that children of keyworkers and those children deemed vulnerable will have priority over the places offered. Many of our decisions have to be based on government directives and scientific advice on proceeding in a safe way for the children and the staff in school.

We are still supporting all of our families at home by producing our class newsletters and being here for you at the end of the phone or via email. We do enjoy seeing the Twitter posts and the pictures which are sent into us and don't forget that if you do share work with your child's teachers then they will send a reply which I know many children have enjoyed receiving.

Home Learning Newsletters

Just a reminder that the teachers send their class newsletters each Friday but if they do not pop into your emails, then please check your junk email box and also remember that they can be found on the school website too. Plus, most of them run over more than one page, having activities, worksheets and resources attached to support the ideas—so please scroll all the way down to the bottom of the document!!

Home Learning Packs

We are acutely aware of the time children have now spent at home and that some of you do not have access to a printer or do not wish your child to spend too much time using a screen. We would like to offer an opportunity for parents to collect a further pack of printed worksheets for the children to work through at home and a book to write/doodle in. If this would be of interest to you, could you please let us know via the school office email and we will have them ready for the end of next week and let parents know how to collect them from school.

Upcoming dates for your diary

CLUBS THIS HALF TERM

Monday—

Tuesday—

Wednesday—

Wednesday—

Friday—

ATTENDANCE

Wrens %

Robins (1) %

Robins (2) %

Owls (3) %



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Song-writing Project by Armonico Consort

This project invites children who are in their final year at middle, primary and first schools to write a 'leavers song', with the aid of five videos introducing melody, rhythm, structure, chords and genres, and a folder of backing tracks. Songs can be on any theme – it might be a sad song about leaving, or an excited song about new beginnings at a new school, or a thank you to teachers and friends for the amazing memories. Once the song has been created Armonico Consort are asking for recordings to be sent to them by 5 July so that they can add backing tracks and other instruments if needed.

The project is inclusive and will enable children of differing abilities to access the resource material, thus benefitting from the mental and physical benefits that are associated with music whilst fulfilling key aspects of the Literacy and Music National Curriculum through their creative imagination. For more information and the project resources including letters to parents, videos and backing tracks see <https://www.severnarts.org.uk/creating-a-leavers-song>

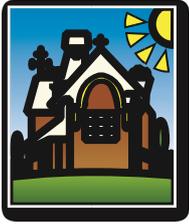
This project is one of nine #KeepMakingMusic projects developed by Worcestershire musicians in response to a Severn Arts grant. Each of the projects focus on music curriculum activities such as keeping and understanding the beat, use of rhythm, setting lyrics to a tune and performance as well as providing elements of musical development for teachers. The projects are varied and fun and include constructing a simple tune using the chords on a piano, performances, instrument making, music quizzes and games. To see all of the projects visit <https://www.severnarts.org.uk/Pages/Category/june-july-activities>

They also do a song each day that the children can learn and sing along too plus much, much more for those budding singers out there!

Canal and River Trust

The Canal and River Trust have produced a wealth of activities to do at home which I think a lot of our eco-savvy children will enjoy. There are also lots of very important messages about water safety too which are very relevant as the summer months are here and more of us are out walking and enjoying the footpaths around the waterways. They also make reference to Drowning Prevention Week from 12th to 19th June. Follow the link below,

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers/learning-from-home>



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On-line safety

Please remember to remind your children on how to use computers, tablets and phones safely!

BE SMART ONLINE

S SAFE Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

M MEET Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk

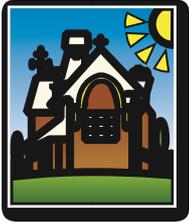
A ACCEPTING Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.

T TELL Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline – 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk

BE SMART WITH A HEART
Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM



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On-line safety cont'd

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



Founded in 2011, Zoom is one of the world's leading video conferencing software providers. It has a number of features, including video and audio conferencing, real-time messaging, screen-sharing and the ability to upload, share and search for content. Users can start their own meetings or they can join meetings set up by others. The app is available to use across PCs, laptops, tablets and mobile phones and is free to download on both the app store and on Android.



What parents need to know about



ZOOM BOMBING

'Zoom bombing' is the term which has been coined to describe unauthorised people joining zoom meetings uninvited and broadcasting pornographic or inappropriate videos. An attacker can hijack a meeting if they know the meeting ID and it isn't reinforced with a password. Not taking preventative measures or implementing privacy controls could open up the risk of children witnessing sexual or inappropriate content with very little notice.

RISK OF PHISHING

The rise in popularity of Zoom has led to a rise in hacking operations and phishing campaigns. This is when participants are encouraged to click on links to join what they believe to be legitimate Zoom meetings via email, but which are in fact fraudulent. These scams aim to obtain sensitive information such as user login details, passwords and/or credit card information.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Depending on how the app has been set-up, Zoom can offer very little privacy. In many cases, the meeting hosts can see detailed information about each participant including their full name, phone numbers and maybe even location data. Furthermore, depending on where the camera has been set up or where your child's computer is positioned, private or personal information could be stolen depending on what can be seen in the background.

LIVE RECORDINGS

One of the features of Zoom is the ability to record live meetings. By default, only the host of the meeting records live sessions however other meeting members can also record if the host gives them access. Recordings can be stored on devices or on the cloud and can be downloaded and shared with no restrictions. This means that videos, audio clips and transcripts of recordings involving your children could be widely shared on the internet or between users without your authorisation or consent.

PRIVATE ZOOM MEETINGS

Zoom has a facility to set up breakout rooms, which enables a private meeting within the main Zoom session. The host can choose to split the participants of the original meeting into separate sessions. This gives children the ability to speak privately away from the main group to other users however chats aren't always monitored by the host and if the meeting has been made public, children could be more vulnerable to experiencing negative comments.

'LIVE STREAMING' RISKS

At its very core, Zoom facilitates live streaming. That means it inevitably carries some of the associated risks that live streaming brings. These are likely to be minimal within a controlled environment (for instance when used in a classroom setting for remote learning). However, live streaming means that content isn't always moderated and children who use the app unsupervised or with limited security settings, may be more at risk of exposure to viewing inappropriate material. Other risks can include downloading malicious links, sharing personal information or even potential grooming.

Safety Tips For Parents

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Remind your child that if they do see something that makes them feel uncomfortable or upset then they need to talk about it and report it. Parents can report unwanted activity, harassment, and cyberstalking to Zoom directly. To help your child, you could try setting up a checklist before they go online, with an agreed set of rules and what they should do if they see something inappropriate.

USER PRIVATE MEETING IDS & PASSWORDS

It is always better to set up a meeting with a random ID number generated by Zoom than by using a personal number. This means it is harder to guess and less likely to be hacked. It's important to never share meeting IDs with anybody you don't know and always set-up a password function to allow other people to sign-in. This should already be a default setting that is applied on Zoom.

PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL DATA

It's important to discuss with your child that they should not share personal information on Zoom. This includes passwords, their address, phone number, etc. Create your child's account under a false name or pseudonym and always set a custom background to help hide details in your home. Zoom allows you to turn on virtual backgrounds and select your own image to appear behind you.

BEWARE OF PHISHING EMAILS

Every time you or your child gets a Zoom link, it's good practice to ensure it has come from the official platform and is not fraudulent. Signs of a phishing email include an unrecognisable email address, an unofficial domain name or a slightly distorted logo. The email itself might also be poorly written or contain suspicious attachments.

TURN OFF NECESSARY FEATURES

If your child is using Zoom, there are a number of features that you can turn off to make the experience safer for them. For instance, disabling the ability to transfer files or engaging in private chats can help to limit the risk of receiving any malicious attachments or receiving any inappropriate messages. In addition, you can turn off the camera if it is not needed or mute the microphone when not in use.

USE THE 'VIRTUAL WAITING ROOM' FEATURE

The waiting room feature on Zoom means that anybody who wants to join a meeting or live session cannot automatically join and must 'wait' for the host to screen them before entering. This is now a default function and adds another layer of security to reduce the likelihood of zoom bombing.

KEEP YOUR VERSION UPDATED

It's important to ensure you are using the latest version of Zoom available and always update it if you get a prompt. These updates are usually to fix security holes and without the update you will be more vulnerable to an attack. Check the official website to see what the latest version is and compare it to your own.

HOST IMPLEMENTED PRIVACY CONTROLS

If your child is part of a larger group meeting, then it's important to make sure that the host is abiding by Zoom's Terms of Service. This includes the fact that they have gained everybody's permission for the session to be recorded. The host should also have set screen sharing to 'host only' and disabled 'file transfer' to help keep the live stream secure.

Meet our expert

Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing low children access services and apps online.



SOURCES: <https://zoom.us/privacy> | <https://zoom.us/> | <https://zoom.us/docs/doi/School%20Administrators%20Guide%20to%20Rolling%20Out%20Zoom.pdf> | <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/apr/02/zoom-technology-security-coronavirus-video-conferencing>

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