

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

This week, after the Momo hoax, my thoughts are very much on screen time and how difficult it is to ensure that children are not exposed to risks or viewing unsuitable images. With this in mind, the Rother Valley School Council (made up of year 5/6 pupils) have agreed that it would be good for them and their peers to complete a survey to find out whether it is a big issue, or not.

The councilors, themselves, have already done the questionnaire and are asking their friends to complete it too. It would be good to have a wider view of children's screen time. We are therefore asking that year 2 complete a survey at home. It is anonymous so children can be totally honest.

Please do encourage your child to do this (year 3 and 4 are welcome to do it too, if they wish)

Y2 Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LBVK39C>

The Rother Valley School council hope to produce a document to help families as a result of what they find out. Many thanks for your support with this venture.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Fairtrade display

Thank you to teaching staff who went to Buriton church and the Great British Cake Shop on the first Saturday of the holidays to put up the children's Fair Trade work. This is the first time that we have participated and it's great to raise awareness of such an important issue.



Key Harting values: love and respect
'Love others as yourself'
Worship Theme: Lord's prayer

School disco

Sorry not to enjoy my usual dance with the children at the disco on Friday! I hear that it was a great success and really well run. Many thanks to the PTFA for running such a great event and to Suzanne Fielder for giving up her Friday evening too.

Tick tock app! Not a hoax, I believe!

Whilst sitting at the computer, I have heard on the news that there are significant concerns about the use of this app by children. Please check whether your child is accessing it. Don't be surprised if they are in some way - 13 year old access requirements are often ignored!

Information on Tick Tock App from Internet matters site (accessed 24.2.19):

'It is a way (for users) to express themselves and create short-form video clips to gain a following and build a community around their passions. It also features some special effects that users can apply to their videos to make them more unique. They can cross-post the content on other platforms to share it with more people.

What do parents say about the app?

Seeing inappropriate content

Parents have expressed concern around the inappropriate language of some of the video posted which may make this less suitable for younger children.

Contact from strangers

Predators seeking to connect with children is another risk that parents have said their children.

For more insight on parent review, visit [Common Sense Media](#).

What should parents be concerned about?

When you download the app **users can see all the content without creating an account** although they are not able to post, like or share anything until they've set up an account on the app.

You can set up your account by using your existing Google, Facebook, Instagram account, via email or phone.

By default all accounts are public so anyone on the app can see what your child shares. However, only approved followers can send them messages.

Users can like or react to a video, follow an account or send messages to each other. There is the risk that **strangers will be able to directly contact children** on the app.

Children may be **tempted to take risks to get more of a following** or likes on a video so it's important to talk about what they share and with whom.

To delete an account you have to request a code from the app using a phone number.

Does Tick Tock have any safety features?

Like Facebook and Instagram, it has a [digital wellbeing element](#) (which is password protected) which alerts users who have been on the app for more than 2 hours. You can also turn on 'restricted mode' to filter out inappropriate content on the app.

Also, you can [set an account to be private](#) so that all videos can only be seen by the creator and no one else on the platform. With a private account, you can approve or deny users and limit incoming messages to followers only.

Please note that even with a private account, your child's profile photo, username, and bio are still visible to all users on the platform.

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You can [manage who can comment, duet and direct message](#) your child on the app

How to report inappropriate content on the TickTock app?

You can [report content](#) that doesn't follow TickTock's [community guidelines](#) within the app, click here to find out how to do it on the app.

You can [delete followers or 'Fans'](#) by choosing the fan you'd like to remove and selecting 'Block' from the menu of options.'

World Book Day - cats!

As always, such a great array of costumes - this time from books about cats. It is wonderful to know that families have spent time discussing how the children can dress up; talk, at home, is key to learning and developing thinking. Thank you for your support.

PTFA - clothes sale

Remember to collect unwanted clothes and textiles for the PTFA sale/ bagged textiles. Please deliver to the Roundhouse on the morning of 13th March. Remember: green bags for clothes in a good condition to be sold. Black bags are for re-useable clothes, shoes, belts, bedding and soft toys.

Key dates for your diary

Note: Inset days; PTFA events; new dates/ information added to calendar

Sharing assemblies are for all families to attend, if they wish.

Holiday dates for 2019	
We respectfully ask that you log the dates of the school calendar in your diaries as legislation does not permit us to authorise leave unless there are exceptional circumstances. You are therefore asked to take family breaks in school holidays only. The school website has the Absence policy , should you need clarification.	
5.4.19	Last day of Spring term
8.4.19	Easter holiday
23.4.19	First day back after Easter
6.5.19	Bank holiday
27.5.19	Half-term holiday starts
3.6.19	First day back after half-term
21.6.19	INSET DAY
23.7.19	Last day of school year
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts

Key events for Spring term

Spring Term 2019		
8.3.19	pm	Y6 Voices for Peace event at Chichester Cathedral
13.3.19	pm	Clothes sale (Roundhouse) - drop off bags in morning
15.3.19	pm	Y6 MRC netball
	Eve	Open mic
26.3.19	pm	RV debate
28.3.19	Eve	RV Arts - dance
5.4.19	11am	Easter service (Congregational church)
		Last day of Spring term
Summer Term 2019		
12.6.19	Pm	Sports day (confirmed)
19.6.19	pm	Reserve Sports day (confirmed)
2.7.19	am	Leavers' service at Cathedral
11.7.19	6pm	School production
12.7.19	6pm	School production
23.7.19	Last day of school year	
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts	

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