



The Northam Newsletter

The Northam Schools' Federation - St George's C of E Infant and Nursery & St Margaret's C of E Junior School



FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 2018

We take the online safety of your children very seriously and will always aim to update you whenever there are concerns. A few months ago we brought to your attention the Snapchat update that was causing safeguarding concerns, these have sadly arisen again. Please be aware that Snapchat now shows where any of the users (your child and their friends) are at any time. It uses GPS to precisely pinpoint on a map where the users are, even changing to a car when they move quickly. Your child and other users are depicted by a Bitmoji. Once you get onto the Snap Map it'll show you where your Snapchat friends are and what they are doing there if they share a picture. The update also allows you to upload Snaps to "Our Story" - anyone can see these pictures. Whilst this may sound like innocent fun please be aware that if your children have their location shared then they can be tracked down. The app allows you to zoom into their location at street level. If you have decided that your child is old enough to be using a social media platform such as this please can I recommend that you set up a "Ghost Mode" to keep their location private. It is also advised that children only use their phones in communal places in your homes - not hidden away in their bedrooms - and that you check them regularly. It is also a good idea to ensure that you are one of their online 'friends'.

Have a peaceful weekend

Claire Cole - Executive Headteacher

ARRIVING IN THE MORNING

It has been noticed that some children are arriving late each morning. This was particularly apparent this week with Year 1 Bikeability starting at 9.00am. Your child must be in school before 9.00am. If you are unfortunately delayed please remember that the classroom doors will be shut and you will need to go to Reception and sign your child in. Late arrivals have to be marked on the school registers and this will affect your child's attendance.

Our other concern is also that late arrivals also mean that some parents are rushing, driving very quickly and parking precariously on the roads surrounding our two schools. This could lead to accidents with life-changing consequences. Please, please, please take care when driving anywhere near our schools.

NURSERY REQUEST

Miss Gander has asked if anyone has any old landline phones or computer keyboards they can donate to the Nursery for the children to use this term. Mobile phones are also welcome but she

would prefer landline phones if possible. Thank you.

SWIMMING

Just a reminder that Puffins Class and Year 5 are now swimming every Tuesday. Children need a swimming costume, towel and a swimming hat in school every week please - all items to be clearly named of course!

DINNER MONEY

Despite our request last week we still have junior school children coming to school without dinner money in a named envelope...it makes things very complicated! Please remember that dinners must be paid for either in advance or on the day. We will continue to send out text messages to the parents of those who have not paid.

ABSENCES

Please can we ask that you remember to contact us if your child is going to be absent from school. Both school phones have an answerphone facility so a message can be left if necessary. Please can you also ensure that the details that we hold for you are up to date. We would be grateful if you would let us know of any changes of address or telephone number. Please remember that this also includes the other contacts that we hold for your children such as grandparents, aunts or friends - just in case we cannot get hold of you and need to use an alternative contact. Thank you for your support with this.

The Week Ahead:

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP THEME: Friendship

- MONDAY:** Mrs Fulford out all day. Governors' meeting—Resources 5.15pm/Full Governing Body 6.30pm
- TUESDAY:** Mrs Fulford in a meeting all day. PM - Reception Forest School. PM Year 5 swimming/Puffins Class swimming. 2.00pm - Pre-School Families Story Group in Community Room
- WEDNESDAY:** Mr Lewis out AM. Mrs Cole in meetings all day. Mrs Prangley out all day. 2.00pm - Stay & Play in the Community Room.
- THURSDAY:** AM - Mrs Davis out. AM - Year 2 Beach School.
- FRIDAY:**

CONTACT US!
01237 473569.

admin@st-margarets-junior.devon.sch.uk
www.st-margarets-junior.devon.sch.uk



CONTACT US!
01237 477262.

admin@st-georges-infants.devon.sch.uk
www.st-georges-infants.devon.sch.uk