



Mowbray Primary School
Stakeford Lane
Guide Post
Choppington
Northumberland
NE62 5HQ

Headteacher: Mr Andrew Miller

AM/LH

8 February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Parents Evenings

Thank you to everyone who attended parents evenings this week. If you were unable to attend but would still like to discuss your child's progress with their teacher, please contact your child's teacher.

Medical Appointments

We appreciate that it is not always possible to get medical appointments outside of school hours. However, please be reminded that time missed for appointments is counted within your child's attendance. If at all possible please try and arrange any routine appointments outside of school hours.

In any case of a child having to leave school for a medical appointment, an appointment letter, card or slip must be presented to the school office.

Online Safety

We have had an increase in children reporting that they are accessing various sites, apps and online programmes that potentially could contain inappropriate material for their ages or be beyond their emotional maturity. In many cases, parents have been unaware of age restrictions on the particular sites. We have therefore included a list of common sites with their age restrictions for your reference:

- WhatsApp – 16 years old in Europe

- Facebook }
- Snapchat }
- Twitter } for 13 years old
- Instagram }
- Musical.ly }
- Skype }

- YouTube – 13 years old to have an account

On some platforms, protocols are in place to protect users until they are 18 years old. So a 13 year old subscribing may have protection for 5 years until they are 18. However, if a child is only 9 but declares they are 13, that 5 year protection would run out when they are 14 years old.

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Children online can be at risk in two ways:-

Content – Content uploaded online is rarely private. It can be altered, copied, pasted or reposted by anyone. The information is often “owned” by the site once posted. It makes it very difficult to “take back” what may later be regretted. Children who post or create inappropriate, offensive or even illegal content on their own or other’s sites could be in serious trouble with school or the police.

Contact – Young people need to be aware of information shared on sites. If personal information is not protected by enabling privacy settings they may be sharing information with strangers, some of whom may have malicious intentions. Posting or chatting about personal details may identify and allow someone to contact a child online or in person or leave the child open to cyberbullying from those they don’t know.

If you are unaware of your child’s online profile or ‘footprint’ it is worthwhile having a conversation with them to ensure their data is safe, they know how to stay safe and they are aware of what is appropriate and inappropriate.

Much of the information in this newsletter is from childnet.com which is available for further information as is

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/social-networking>

Yours sincerely

Mr A Miller
Headteacher

Friday 15 February		School closes for Half Term
Monday 18 February – Friday 22 February		Half Term Week
Monday 25 February		School reopens
Monday 25 February – Friday 1 March		Maths Week
Monday 25 February to 8 March		Chicks Hatching in School
Thursday 7 March		World Book Day
Friday 15 March		Red Nose Day
Tuesday 26 March – Friday 29 March	11.30am*	Mothers’ Day Lunches
Monday 1 April	1.30pm*	Coffee Afternoon / Easter Egg Competition
Wednesday 3 April	9.00am* 9.30am*	Reception & Larch Easter Assembly Elder, Beech, Mulberry Easter Assembly
Thursday 4 April	9.00am* 9.45am*	Holly, Maple, Chestnut Easter Assembly Willow Easter Assembly
Friday 5 April	1.15pm	Easter Parties
Friday 5 April		School closes for Easter
Monday 8 April – Monday 22 April		Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23 April		School reopens