



Hughenden Primary School

Working together, Empowering Lives, Enriching Minds

Newsletter – March 2019

SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parents,

Momo Challenge

The “Momo challenge” is hitting the headlines, and media reports are causing concerns for parents. This is what parents need to know, and what you can do to protect your child.

What is the Momo challenge?

Momo is a creepy doll-like figure which is said to appear in social media, videos and games online, encouraging children to add a contact on WhatsApp. It then sends them violent images and dangerous dares. Media reports have linked the Momo challenge to self-harm and suicide. However, there are relatively few reports of children having participated in the challenge, and it's unclear the extent of the concern. What's clear is that a lot of people are worried about it, but instances of harm seem very rare.

Protecting your child

Setting age-appropriate boundaries is important. Younger children should not be using social networking and chat apps at all, and should be supervised when watching videos on sites like YouTube. With older children, it may be appropriate for them to use social media and WhatsApp to talk to their friends, although their networks should be private and they should avoid talking to people they don't know. Children of any age should be very cautious about adding anyone they don't know to their networks.

Have open conversations about online safety, and let your child know they can come to you if they see anything that upsets or worries them. Read [Protecting Your Child Online](#) page for more advice about exploring online safety with your child.

Report any Momo-related content to the platform (e.g. YouTube, Instagram).

Teach your child what it means to be assertive and explore saying no to doing things they don't want to do - whether face to face or online.

Overall, be calm and reassuring. Momo may be frightening to children, in particular younger children. Memes like the Momo challenge draw their power from fear, so make sure your children see that you're not scared of Momo, and it's a problem you can solve together.

Share this information

Please share this information with your contacts on email and social media. It's important that all parents are aware of the issue. This information is also available on our website; please share the link.

Being Respectful

A lot of our toys and equipment have been getting damaged recently, particularly in the younger classes. Please can we ask you all to have a conversation with your children about being respectful of other children and their belongings as well as the school's equipment.

Y3 Echoes

Tickets for the evening performance of 'Echoes 8' at the Royal Albert Hall on Monday 18 March are available to purchase from the Royal Albert Hall Box Office. Call this number to purchase: 020 7589 8212

There are 2 dates where children are out of school for Echoes that affect hot lunches. We need to ask all parents to log onto their Live Kitchen account and cancel any hot lunches they may have pre-ordered. This will prevent any charges being added to your account where the meal isn't taken.

Please check there are no hot meals ordered for the following dates:

- Tuesday 26th February
- Monday 18th March

Thank you in advance for your support. We will try our best to check also but as these meals are chargeable the responsibility lies with parents to cancel this.

Bumped Head Policy – update

Currently, we make a call home to parents for any child who has had a bump from the neck up however slight. This was trialled and welcomed by parents. The adverse effect of this though, we believe, is that some children intentionally have small bumps as they enjoy the attention they receive.

Unfortunately, this could take staff away from more serious incidents. Moving forward, staff and first aiders will assess all children who have a bumped head and administer the appropriate first aid and ensure the accident book is completed. Class teachers will be informed as well as Quackers club staff if children are not going straight home. Where head bumps are genuine we will continue to complete the head bump letter and make a call home.

CLASSLIST

It has been brought to our attention that the cards payment option on Classlist is not working. Tomorrow at the school gates we will bring our card machine if anyone wishes to purchase mother's day gifts and/or film night tickets.

Star Gazing Event

Please look out for additional information on this which we are working with the school to send out ASAP.

Quiz Night Date Revised

The Quiz Night Date has had to be revised so 'save the date' for 11th May. More Info to follow shortly.

Summer Fete

'Many Hands Make Light Work'. Could you spare a moment of our time to help organise it? From leaflet dropping, writing letters for company donations to just going to Poundshop for supplies, every little helps.

PE Kits

We have had an increasing number of children who do not have a PE kit held in school. Please ensure that it is kept in school or brought back first thing Monday morning so that it doesn't affect their participation in PE lessons. This includes suitable footwear for indoors and outdoor sports and warm layers for these colder months.

Snow Updates

As in the past, we reiterate that you should only make the journey to school if you feel it is safe to do so. Please note that we cannot guarantee there will be a crossing patroller in place for days we open the school later. Please ensure you check updates also on the school website and the Schools County Closure list by following this

If your child is absent, please bear in mind that the office staff may also not be able to get into school so refrain from calling and email details of any absence, either illness or snow related instead so we can ensure attendance is accurately noted. Thank you in advance for your support and co-operation.

Parents Evening

The dates for parents evening have been set for Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th March 2019. Appointments will be available to book on eSchools from Monday 4th March. Further details for parents evening will be shared on a separate letter which will be sent out after half term. More diary dates for the Spring Term can be found below. If you need your eschools login please contact the school office.

Hughenden Hoppers – Parents Meetings

The office will be contacting you in March to offer you an appointment with the pre-school teachers to discuss your child's progress, should you wish to. You can track your child's progress and see what they have been working on by logging onto Tapestry.

If you have any queries or concerns in the meantime do not hesitate to contact us through the school office.

School Crossing Patrol

The School Crossing Patrol team are currently recruiting for patrollers – if you are interested in applying please contact Georgina Longley for further information. This is a part time role or can simply be to provide cover or relief work and is a vital part of our children's school day. Direct: Dial: 01494 586639 - email: glongley@buckscc.gov.uk

Parent E-mails:

We have been notified by a few parents that they are not receiving emails from the school office via eschools and they have recommended that ALL parents need to add the following email address to their contacts list: no-reply@eschools.co.uk this will hopefully ensure that emails sent via eschools will go to your inbox rather than your spam folders. If you continue to experience any further issues, please contact the school office.

Please also check that we have a current email address for both parents/carers as a few parents have had theirs bounce back.

Parent Pay:

We have received several requests from parents asking to pay online for school trips. This is only possible to do if the cost of the trip is over the amount of £10, as we incur a transaction fee for every payment. If this option is available, details will appear on the trip letter.

Barnardo's Support for Parents

We're looking for volunteers to work in a structured way with families in your area who are struggling to parent children under 8. If you are interested in working with families and have experience in looking after children, you can make a difference.

If you can spare about 3 hours a week, we'll train you in how to pass on your precious skills and knowledge and we'll support you in doing a really worthwhile job. If you would like to know more, you can phone Barnardo's Support 4 Parents for an informal chat on 07715 428 690 or email support4parents@barnardos.org.uk.

SPRING TERM 2019 DATES

Monday 4 th March 2019	Bookings for Parents Evening go LIVE on eSchools
Friday 8 th March 2019	PTA – Film Night World Book Day – Mufti Day
Monday 11 th March 2019	PTA – Stargazing Astronomy event
Thursday 14 th March 2019	Red Nose Day
Friday 15 th March 2019	Whole School Science Day – Plants & Habitats Day
Monday 18 th March 2019	Echoes performance at The Royal Albert Hall – more information to follow
Tuesday 19 th March 2019	Y5/6 History walk to High Wycombe Rye
Wednesday 20 th March 2019	
Thursday 21 st March 2019	Bikeability Level 2 Sessions – Year 5
Friday 22 nd March 2019	
Monday 25 th March 2019	Parents Evening
Wednesday 27 th March 2019	Parents Evening
Saturday 30 th March 2019	PTA – Quiz Night
Monday 1 st April 2019	Year 6 at Calshot Residential all week
Friday 5th April	End of Spring Term – 1.30pm finish – including Hughenden Hoppers QUACKERS CLUB 1.30-6pm - To Be Confirmed
Monday 8 th April 2019 - Monday 22 nd April 2019	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23 rd April 2019	INSET DAY
Wednesday 24 th April 2019	Back to School (Summer Term)

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