



Coaley Church of England Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a relatively peaceful week. The Christmas break seems such a long time ago now as we all get used to this new way of working. I hope you are all keeping safe and not feeling too overwhelmed with learning from home. We know it's a stressful time and so please know that we are here to help. Please call if you need any support or advice as we will always do our best to support you all through this challenging time.

We have been in contact with all our families since the lockdown started and will endeavour to be in touch at least once a week. Some of you are sharing work and uploading it for feedback and marking every day and we love hearing from you, seeing your work and hearing your news. Do not be shy in coming forward as your teachers are available between 9.00am to 3.30pm each day to support you with learning at home. You can upload each piece as you go or all in one block. It's whatever suits you. If you need extra support, your teachers can call you on the phone, chat via Zoom or give feedback on your child's work via Google Classrooms. There are videos of all maths lessons and other subjects to support you and your child. We know that nothing can replace being in school full time and we all really appreciate all you are doing at home. We will be in touch with some of you this week who are struggling to engage your child with home learning to offer our help, support and different approaches that have worked so far for other children at Coaley.

Learning online also creates its own problems with your child having regular use of the internet. Whilst the web is an amazing tool for us to use, it also has hidden dangers, especially for children, and it's important that you monitor your child's access to online gaming and use of social media.

PC Mark Weedon sent through some information about TikTok. I have copied it onto page 2 to share with you. However, much of the same advice applies to all online use. The Owls will be doing some specific online e-safety lessons next week and the Robins and Starlings will be doing so later in the term.

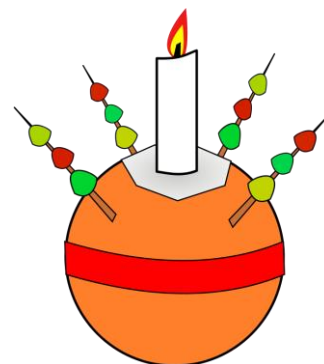
Take care and stay safe.

Yours

Richard Lucas
Executive Headteacher

Christingle

We will not be able to celebrate Christingle in the same way this year however here at school we will be making paper versions. If you would like to make a Christingle at home, we will be sharing our creations on Friday 29th January during our Zoom Celebration Worship at 2.30pm.



TikTok App – Advise for Parents

The past year has brought so many significant changes to the way we live our lives. Online learning, working from home and the accompanying challenges of online meetings have impacted on many of us.

Like their parents and carers, many primary school age children have increased their time on the internet, which in itself has posed increased challenges for digital parenting.

Throughout this challenging time, Schoolbeat Officers and Police Community Support Officers have worked closely with Head teachers to provide advice and guidance to primary school pupils on how to stay safe online.

*What has become clear to Schoolbeat Officers is that more and more primary school children are highlighting their use of social media, in particular **TikTok**.*

Like many other Social Media platforms, TikTok has an age restriction of 13 years old. Whilst TikTok can be very appealing to younger audiences, many parents and carers are reminding their children that they need to be 13 before having the app.

Some parents and children have reported inappropriate content on the app, others have raised concerns about the risks linked to the messaging function and children keeping profiles open in order to get more comments and shares.

The online world can be an exciting place for children, however, it is not without its risks. It is important that children follow cyber safety advice and utilise age appropriate apps and games, this way we can reduce those risks and make their online experience as safe and fun as it should be.

It's great to take an active interest in your child's life online and we'd encourage you to talk openly with them about the things they do. Remember, the internet is an essential part of young people's lives and provides them with tremendous opportunities.

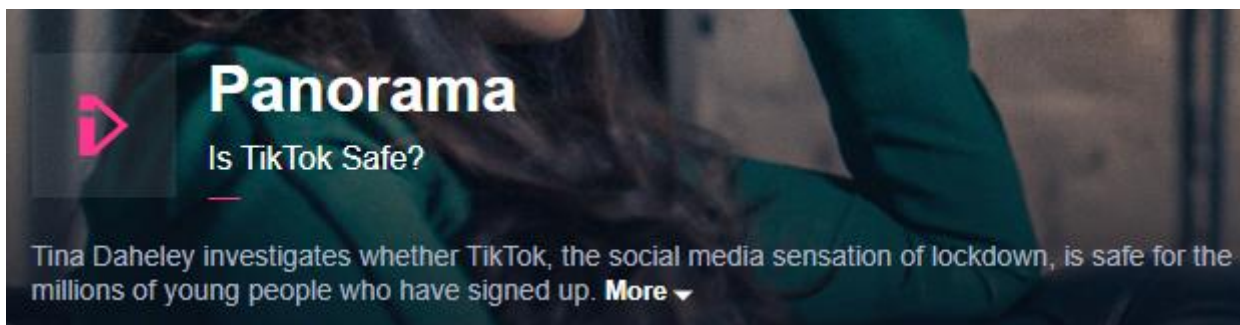
Useful information for parents and carers and online safety advice/resources can be found on the below sites.

The NSPCC's online Net Aware service provides expert reviews and safety advice on all of the most popular social networks, apps and games young people are using;

www.net-aware.org.uk

CEOP's ThinkUKnow website contains resources and advice tailored by age, as well as specific tools for parents and professionals; www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Also, below is the link to a Panorama episode which looked into how safe TikTok really is;



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000p3p9/panorama-is-tiktok-safe>

Family Magazine Gloucestershire

Here is the [link](#) to the latest issue: [Families Magazine Gloucestershire](#) for you to enjoy.



Proud Cloud Certificates:

Robins: Ellie

Starlings: Oliver

Owls: Lucas R

Values Certificates:

Robins: Ffion

Starlings: Andrew

Owls: Rosa

Growth Mindset Certificates:

Robins: Sasha for using the conjunction `and` to join sentences.

Starlings: Thomas for really pushing himself to complete his guided reading to a high standard.

Owls: Bella for working so hard with your home learning.

WE ARE COALEY ~ We Believe

We Respect

We Belong