

KITE FEDERATION NEWS

Christmas Newsletter - December 2022



Merry Christmas Everyone !!

Wow, what an amazing term this has been—it seems like so long ago we all stood out watching what turned out to be the final stage of the tour of Britain, before hearing of the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II.

Thankfully we've all made safely to Christmas. The children have all been amazing retelling the story of Christmas with their Nativities, and entertaining us all with their Pantomime performances. The way they struggled through coughs, colds and fading voices, covering and supporting each other was amazing to see.

We hope you all have an amazing festive period with your families, and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!!

Best wishes

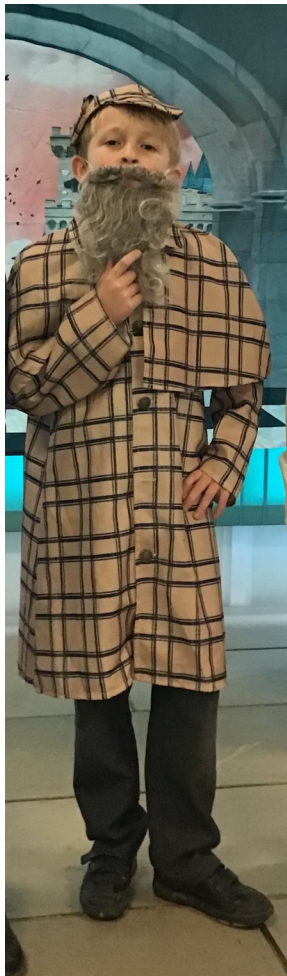
All the staff across the Kite Federation.

We look forward to
seeing you all again on
Wednesday
4th January!!



It's been a fantastic
end to the term,
with amazing Nativity
Performances at both
Schools and even a
special visitor !!





Cinderella & Rockerfella

Thank-you for all your help with costumes and helping everyone learn their lines. We hope you enjoyed watching the shows as much as the children enjoyed performing them for you.





During 2022 Forest School areas were added at both St. Matthews and Norwell C of E Primary Schools. The Children at St. Matthews have made good use of their area learning bush craft skills, how to assess and take risks, persevere and achieve outside of a traditional classroom setting.

The area at Norwell is taking longer to establish but children have started to use it and this will be developed more over the coming year.

The children at St. Matthews continued their 'Green' theme when making their community Christmas tree which went on display in St Swithun's Church in Retford. All their decorations were made from natural materials or materials that could be reused.



Football team remain unbeaten

Our year 5 and 6 football team enjoyed a perfect start to their season with 3 impressive victories. Matches will resume once lighter evenings allow the fixtures to take place.

Rampton School 1 – 11 Kite Primary Federation
Sutton on Trent 1 – 8 Kite Primary Federation
Dunham on Trent 3 – 12 Kite Primary Federation



Thank-you for your generosity this term. With your support at coffee mornings, St. Matthews French Café and activities the children have been doing in school, we have raised over £550 for Macmillan Cancer Support, Children in Need and CHiNK.

St. Matthews have been raising money for CHiNK (Children in Kenya) for the last 10 years helping support the education of Aisha in Kenya.



Your donations have also helped fill shoe boxes full of presents that will go to orphans and vulnerable children in Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania where children would otherwise not receive anything for Christmas.



Children at Norwell made a 'Diversi-tree' for the Christmas tree festival at St. Mary's church in Newark. They were inspired by a quote from Jo Cox MP who said "We have far more in common with each other than that which divides us."

OUR FEDERATION VISION

Together we will flourish and thrive, building on our Christian and local community, for the good of all.



Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. [Isaiah 40v.31](#)

The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!



1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).



2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.



3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.



4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.



5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.



6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.



7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.



8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.



9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.



10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.



11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.



12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



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#WakeUpWednesday



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