

Christ Church CofE Primary School



Friday 26th January 2023



Homework

Homework expectations at Christ Church

At Christ Church Primary, our non-negotiable expectations of homework are that:

- All children read daily
- All children practise spellings
- Children in years 2-6 practise times tables each week, ready for a weekly times tables test in their class

TTRockstars is a brilliant app to practise times tables; children can use the same log in for Numbots which is fantastic for helping children develop their fluency in mental addition and subtraction.

Spelling Shed is another useful app to help practise spellings at home. Teachers update Spelling Shed each week with the spellings for that week.



KEY DATES

30th January- National Storytelling week
(details in this newsletter)

5th February- Children's Mental Health Week

6th February- Safer Internet Day

13th February- Shrove Tuesday Event (details to follow)

We will be holding a Valentine's disco during the last week of term- dates and times to follow

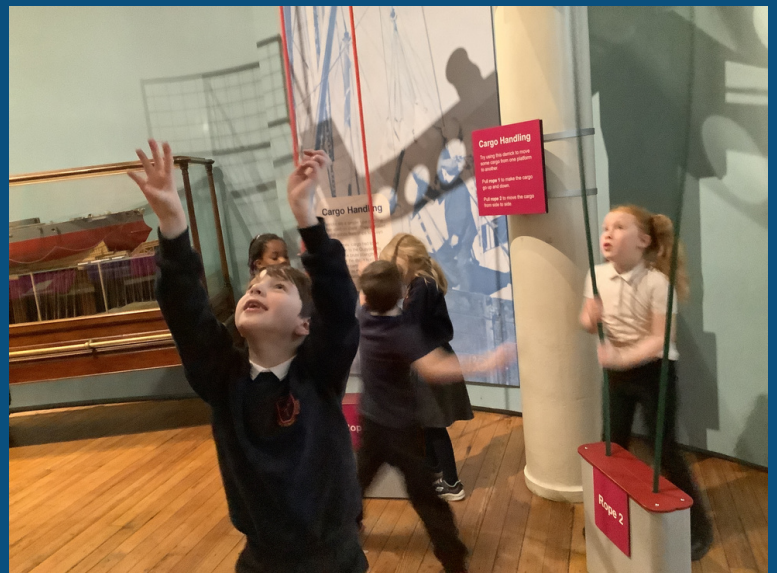
**Please see your child's
teacher if you need any
log ins for use at home.**



Year 2's trip to the Discovery museum



Year 2 had a brilliant day at the Discovery museum, finding out all about the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead of 1854. We shared the story with a puppet show and then had time to explore the museum.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MYLOL

AGE RESTRICTION
13-19

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MyLOL is a free social networking and dating site aimed at teens. Profiles can publicly display users' images and information, including sexual orientation and personal interests. The service bills itself as "the number one teen dating website in the world", claiming to have more than a million users globally. Despite its popularity, the MyLOL app is no longer available from Google Play or the App Store, although the site is still active. In some countries, police forces and schools have previously warned parents about "sinister predators" and "inappropriate activities" on the site.

FLIMSY AGE GATES

Although MyLOL states it is exclusively aimed at users aged between 13 and 19, there is no credible age verification system to prevent a younger child – or an older adult – from signing up to the platform. Coupled with the fact that it's impossible to establish a user's true identity on MyLOL, this raises a serious concern that the site could be used for grooming.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

MyLOL maintains that it monitors all uploaded images for nudity or sexual content. It also claims to be able to detect suspicious keywords. However, there have been numerous reports of explicit content being found on the platform, with users often posting provocative, semi-nude pictures of themselves and engaging in flirty or sexually explicit conversation.

POTENTIAL CYBER-BULLYING

MyLOL lets users 'vote' on other people based solely on their appearance, much in the same vein as the now-defunct site Hot or Not. This feature could easily lead to distress and bullying, especially if a young person's profile pics receive an unfavourable response. Various reviews of MyLOL have noted that bullying frequently becomes an issue in the platform's chat groups and private messages.

IN-APP SPENDING

MyLOL is free to join and use, but it also offers paid-for memberships. Users who have paid money get their profile promoted at the top of the site and in search results. They can also earn additional credits for increased engagement with the platform – such as sharing, replying to messages and voting. At the time of writing, the monthly membership fee was \$9.95 (just under £8).

DATA COLLECTION

According to its privacy policy, MyLOL collects user data including email addresses, contact details and interests. While the company says it is committed to protecting users' privacy, the small print states that information may be shared externally. MyLOL claims to follow procedures to keep data secure, but does not specify what these procedures are, or whether such information is encrypted.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

MyLOL makes it easy to connect with strangers. In fact, the site's rewards feature encourages users to send private messages to people they don't know. There have been several media stories of adults posing as teens on MyLOL to connect with minors, which could lead to extremely dangerous situations, such as a young person meeting up with someone who has been posing under a false identity.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS ONLINE DATING

It's vital to talk to your child about the possible dangers of platforms like MyLOL – particularly the threat of online predators. Remind them of the risks of sharing intimate images and information with strangers and emphasise that most people don't realise they're being 'catfished' until it's too late – it really isn't wise for a young person to meet up with someone they've only spoken to online.

RESTRICT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child has access to a bank card or other payment method, they may be enticed into signing up for MyLOL's premium features. Having their profile boosted and receiving more attention could be especially tempting if their friends also use the site. You could consider altering their device's settings to disable internet purchases, or at the very least keeping an eye on their online spending.

EXPLAIN PRIVACY RISKS

Before your child begins using a service such as MyLOL, it's important that they understand the potential pitfalls of giving out their personal data on this type of platform. Explain to them, for example, that they shouldn't divulge any personally identifying information to people who they don't know, as scammers can be quite convincing when attempting to steal someone's identity.

SET UP LOCATION ALERTS

If you're worried that your child may be planning to meet up with someone they've met on MyLOL, you could consider utilising GPS or WiFi location tracking technology to follow their whereabouts in real time. You can even set up a virtual boundary or 'fence' and opt to receive an alert to your phone if your child enters or exits a specified area.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

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Year 5/6 basketball competition



Three teams from years 5 and 6 competed in a basketball competition on Thursday at John Spence. We played incredibly well, considering year 6 have only had 3 sessions of basketball with Mr Pilkington and for some of the year 5 children, it was their first ever time playing basketball!

The Christ Church Lakers finished in runner up position, narrowly losing to a strong King Edward's team.

Basketball at John Spence



Newcastle Eagles hold a brilliant basketball club each Wednesday at John Spence and are always looking for new players. If your child is interested, please see the following timings below and get in touch with the coach for further information.

NORTH SHIELDS BASKETBALL CLUB

NEWCASTLE EAGLES / NORTH SHIELDS BASKETBALL CLUB

Head Coach: Jack Bertram

Coaches Email Address: J.Bertram@eaglescommunityfoundation.com

Venue: John Spence Community High School, Preston Road, North Shields, NE29 9PU

2023-24 Training Sessions:

Wednesday – 5:00pm – 6:00pm – U6's & U8's
Wednesday – 5:00pm – 6:00pm – U10's
Wednesday – 6:00pm – 7:00pm – U12's
Wednesday – 7:00pm – 8:00pm – U14's
Wednesday – 8:00pm – 9:00pm – U16's
Wednesday – 9:00pm – 10:00pm – U18's

2023-24 Season Prices:

Club Membership – £12.00
Monthly Subscription – £20.00 per month



Children at Christ Church will be celebrating National Storytelling week which starts on January 30th (Tuesday next week). Below is an outline of the events we have planned!

| Day | Event |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 30th January | Storytelling assembly with Mr Needham Story time mix up across school. |
| Wednesday 31st January | Secret Storytime visitors across school |
| Thursday 1st February | Live storytelling events online KS1 with Swapna Haddow @ 10am KS2 with Steven Camden @ 10am Story time mix up across school. |
| Friday 2nd February | Storytelling Mighty Write morning using Literacy Shed video as a prompt |



100 word story writing competition for children and families. Who can write the best bedtime short story in just 100 words? Pick up an entry sheet from the office if you'd like to enter. The closing date for entries is the end of the school day on Monday 5th February. The winner will be announced on Friday 9th February.

House Captains



Introducing this term's year 6 house captains.

House captains play an important role in school in motivating their house to earn house points, awarding certificates in assembly and counting house points at the end of each term.

Our house captains will soon be delivering an assembly to inform their houses of what the house prize will be at the end of the spring term.