



Parent Newsletter

Friday 31st January 2025

Dear Parents,

Our Christian Value this half term is:

Perseverance

On the journey of life, God gives us the strength not to give up.
He stays alongside us as our friends.

We welcome everyone in to our school and want them to feel at home.
In the Bible, St Paul wrote 'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.'
God wants us to encourage others to keep going to achieve their goals.

Bible Verse

In our prayers, we can ask God to help us if we feel worried about facing a new challenge.

Hebrews 12 1-2

Celebrating our children:



What Would Jesus Do Awards:

Honey Bees and Discovery- Bella for showing her Christian value of compassion, caring and being such a kind friend to our Honeybees.

Atlantis- Oliver showing the value of perseverance by taking on the tricky twos this week and smashing them!

Enterprise- Harry for showing our Christian value of service. Harry stayed behind during our skip to help tidy up some painting resources that needed to be cleared. He has been such a thoughtful and helpful boy all week!

Endeavour- Annabelle showing our Christian value of perseverance. She has worked hard all week on her SATs preparation at home and in school.

Stars of the week this week:

Honey Bees and Discovery Class-
Charlotte

Atlantis Class- Toby E and Tommy

Enterprise Class- Emily, Leo and Oby

Endeavour Class- Thomas, Esmee and Valentina

Parents will receive an invitation to

our Celebration Assembly at 3pm, via Dojo.



Honey Bees and Discovery- We have been exploring the outdoors and dancing like the Chinese dragon.

Atlantis- Atlantis have been outside practising our spellings

Enterprise- Preposition fun for our grammar sessions.

Endeavour- We have been on the hunt outside for matching pairs of decimals and fractions!



Enrichment

Honey Bees and Discovery- This week we have been learning all about the Lunar New Year, making lanterns, dragons and Chinese food.

Atlantis- Atlantis have been busy being Beebot wizzes! Using our algorithm skills with the Beebot robots!



Enterprise- Nest sketches in art.



Yoga sessions working on our wellness.

Endeavour- Three of our Year 6 boys went to Maths in Motion at Newburgh CE Primary. They used angles and percentages to prepare a car to race 52 laps around an F1 track on a Bahrain circuit!
Testing electrical conductors in science.



Viscosity and Density.

Our Astronauts display sent to us by our new friends at Deepdale.



Happier January:

Happier January 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Find three things to look forward to this year	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day	4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why	5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe	7 Learn something new and share it with others
8 Say positive things to the people you meet today	9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)	10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why	11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime	12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Take a different route today and see what you notice	14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today
15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	16 Contribute positively to your local community	17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	18 Get back in contact with an old friend	19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough	20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge	21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone
22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you	23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment	24 Take a small step towards an important goal	25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently
29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	30 See how many people you can smile at today	31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS Happier · Kinder · Together

Honey Bees and Discovery- Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better.

Atlantis- Atlantis have been making sure they say thank you when we are grateful for something or someone.

Enterprise- Plan something fun and invite others to join you.

Endeavour- We have been thinking about our strengths and how we can use them.

Online Safety Newsletter:



Online Safety Newsletter

Feb 2025

Messaging others

There are many ways in which our children can communicate online, for example via messaging apps, social media apps and online games such as FIFA and Fortnite. We need to understand how and who our children are communicating with to keep them safe online.

Ensure your child knows to talk to a trusted adult should they need to. However, remind them that it is not appropriate to contact teachers online, they should only use official school communication methods.

What are the risks?

- Bullying and inappropriate chat.
- Contact from strangers.
- Sharing personal information including images.
- Sextortion - this is a form of extortion where somebody threatens to share a nude/sexual image of you.

How can I mitigate the risks?

- Ensure your child is accessing age-appropriate apps/games and that appropriate parental controls are set up.
- Chat to your child about the risks so they are aware of what can happen online.
- Depending on the age of your child, it may be more appropriate for devices to be used in family rooms so you can monitor what they are doing.

Further information

- <https://www.compaducation.co.uk/parents/concerned-about-your-child/online-contact-and-staying-safe/>
- <https://www.brightonary.co.uk/what-to-do-when-your-child-sends-inappropriate-texts/>

Squid Game – rated 15+

Season 2 of Netflix's Squid Game is now available and has been **rated 15** by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). You can find out why Squid Game has been rated 15 by visiting the BBFC: <https://www.bbfc.co.uk/release/squid-game-r29shgwjdyvbjwvwo01mm3nqldg>.

Due to its popularity, Squid Game related content can be found on numerous other platforms such as YouTube, TikTok and Roblox, so your child may come across this show without even viewing it on Netflix. Content may range from trailers of the show or content that other people create such as memes and games.

What can I do?

- **Parental Controls** - Set up appropriate parental controls on your broadband devices and on individual apps to reduce access to content that is not appropriate for their age.
- **Talk** - Chat to your child about age ratings and why this means certain programmes are not suitable for them to watch.
- **Individual Profiles** - Set up child profiles on any streaming services to ensure your child is only viewing content appropriate to them.
- **Reporting** - Make sure your child knows how to report and block on all platforms that they use.
- **Explore** - Watch and explore things online together so you can see what your child is doing and how to support them.

More information:

It is important to talk to your child regularly about what they are watching and ensure that they know they should always tell you or another trusted adult if they do see anything upsetting. You can find out more about the type of inappropriate content your child might come across online here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/inappropriate-content/learn-about-it/>

Should children have mobile phones?

The Children's Society explore this important question in their recent blog titled "Should children have mobile phones?" The article discusses concerns such as excessive screen time being linked with mental health issues as well as the benefits of a child friendly phone rather than a smart phone. You can read the full article here:

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/should-children-have-mobile-phones>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.02.25.

Snapchat

What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. You must be 13+ to sign up. Users can send messages (snaps) to others that are only seen for a set time e.g., 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.

Key Concerns

There are potential risks to using Snapchat, including:

- the risk of your child viewing content that is not appropriate for their age.
- location sharing (via Snap Map) (this can be switched off).
- cyberbullying.
- contact from strangers.
- excessive screen time.

Family Centre features

Snapchat's Family Centre is a set of parental controls and includes tools such as allowing you to:

- see who your child is friends with.
- see who your child has sent messages (not the contents of conversations though), photos or videos to in the last week.
- view a list of group members for groups that your child has been active in.
- restrict content to limit access.
- report any accounts that you are concerned about.

You can learn more about Family Centre here:

<https://parents.snapchat.com/parental-controls?lang=en-GB>

Safety tips

Please make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up on Snapchat, including who can see their location and also ensure your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary:

- <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/7012343074580-How-to-change-my-privacy-settings-on-Snapchat>

More information

For more detailed advice and information:

- <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/the-risks-snapchat-poses-to-children>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/snapchat/>

Do you need help managing your child's device?

You can use Google Family Link or Apple Family Sharing to help you depending on your child's device.

Google Family Link

This is a free parental control app from Google that lets you:

- View activity reports showing how long they spend on each app.
- Approve or block new app downloads.
- Set screen time limits.
- Find their location.

You will need to download an app and then decide appropriate settings.

<https://families.google/familylink/>

Apple Family Sharing

You can set up Family Sharing in the settings of your device. Family Sharing allows you to:

- Share Apple subscriptions and purchases from the App Store.
- Approve what children purchase/download.
- Limit screen time.
- Share locations and find devices.

<https://www.apple.com/uk/family-sharing/>

Monitoring Apps (paid for)

In addition, there are apps that you can pay for that you may find provides a better solution for you. Whilst we cannot recommend/endorse a specific product, these are some examples that you could review and test using a free trial:

- Norton Family: <https://uk.norton.com/products/norton-family>
- Qustodio: <https://www.qustodio.com/en/>
- Family Time: <https://familytime.io/>



Important dates for your diary!

Friday 7th February:

- NSPCC Number Day
- Atlantis Class worship at 9am

Tuesday 11th February:

- Safer Internet Day

Friday 14th February:

- School Closes for half term
- FOHSM Disco 3.20pm-4.45pm

Monday 24th February:

- School opens

Monday 3rd March:

- Fair-trade Fortnight

Wednesday 5th March-7th March:

- Endeavour Class-Min-y-don

Wednesday 6th March:

- Ash Wednesday Service in church at 9am

Thursday 7th March:

- World Book Day

Monday 10th March:

- Multi Faith Week

Friday 14th March:

- Bishop Philip Visits school

Tuesday 18th March:

- TASA Tag Rugby

Friday 21st March:

- World Maths Day

Wednesday 19th March:

- Parent's Evening

Friday 21st March:

- Non-uniform Day-bring an Easter Egg.

Tuesday 25th March:

- TASA KS1 Festival

Friday 28th March:

- Endeavour Class Worship

Thursday 3rd April:

FOHSM Easter Disco. 3.20-4.45pm

Friday 4th April

- Easter Service in church at 9am
- Easter Egg Raffle in school
- School Closes for Easter
- ASC Closes at 4.15pm

REMEMBER TO PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY.

**PLEASE NOTE: DATES MAY BE ADDED or
AMMENDED.**

**Thank you for your continued support.
We hope this keeps you up to date with
everything going on at Hoole St Michael.**