






Attendance

 Rabbits	 Squirrels	 Foxes	 Badgers	 Owls
96.25	93.85	93.50	97.74	90.28
Whole School –		Year to date –		Target –
94%		95%		96%



It was with a mix of optimism and caution that I listened to Boris Johnson announcing the next lifting of Covid-19 restrictions beginning on Monday. As exciting as it is that we will be able to spend time inside with our wider family members, eat in a restaurant or even share a hug, I am still cautious that too much, too quickly could lead to another spike, and put our loved ones at risk once again.

As a primary school, our guidance has not changed. The children will be remaining in their class bubbles and if a positive case is reported in school, we may still have to close the bubble. We also encourage you to remain socially distanced on the school site and to wear a facemask if you are able to. The restrictions in school will be reviewed in June, when a confirmed date is given for the easing of all other restrictions.

As international travel and holidays begins to open up, it seems a good time to remind you that as a school, we cannot authorise any holidays in school time. Our summer term finishes on 16th July, so if you are planning a holiday, you may be able to take advantage of the earlier end of term date.

This week has been Mental Health Awareness Week and it has been lovely to see so many of our children connecting with nature, the theme for this year, as part of their learning and in their playtimes. The staff have been busy booking trips and events for the end of term, so please ensure that you keep an eye on parentmail as we will be sending letters and dates out over the coming weeks.

I wish you all a good weekend, hoping the sunshine returns soon

Mrs Hammond



Foxes have enjoyed Forest School. They have been collaborating with each other to design and build their own boat. They have also enjoyed making bird feeders and hoping to encourage wildlife into the school.



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun



We send a huge thank you to our PTFA, Longacres Bybrook Garden Centre and to our parents that have generously donated bags of compost. We are very grateful but we still need more if possible!

We still have a way to go filling our planters!



Online Safety:

As part of our ongoing work to keep children safe online, we will be sharing information through the newsletter about how to keep your children safe on social media apps and online. Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. The first poster about Tiktok is at the end of the newsletter. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs Hammond.



1 in 10 Chance to WIN £25 Gift card

Good Egg Safety Video Consultations with our experts

During 2019, **149** seats were checked in Kent and over **78%** were incorrectly fitted or condemned.

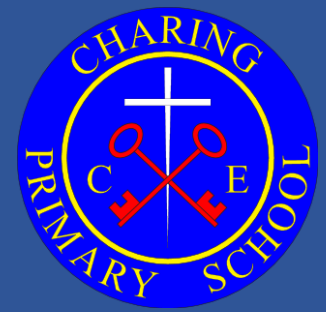
Ensure your child is sitting safely
FREE impartial online child seat fitting advice for Kent residents

Book your consultation for Tuesday 8th June now on
goodeggsafety.simplybook.it



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

Dates



for your diary



Starting Secondary School

Year 5 Secondary School information.

Wednesday 9th June 5pm

School Hall.

It's time to start thinking about secondary schools. Join us on Wednesday 9th June at 5pm to find out more information.



PTFA AGM Monday 24th May 6:30pm

Being part of the PTFA is very rewarding and we are always on the lookout for new members. Either with fresh, new ideas or as helper for our events. Whatever time you can give, even if it's just half an hour will be appreciated and make a difference.

We have a friendly relaxed approach and you would be made to feel very welcome!

All children get to benefit from the fundraising efforts from the PTFA. Some examples include:

- PTFA funded Forest School
- PTFA purchased Ipad for all classes
- PTFA subsidised Panto Trips
- PTFA funded playground equipment
- PTFA funded educational activities
- PTFA funded Breakfast with Santa



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

School Census Day Menu.



Please help us with our school funding and choose a school lunch on Thursday 20th May

School Photo day.

Wednesday 9th June

Kittle Photography will visit us and will take individual photos and class photos.



Fun Fair Day

Thursday May 20th 2021



Menu

Pork Sausage Hot Dog in Roll
or Veggie Sausage In A Roll
with Chips & Tomato Ketchup

Or

Loaded Potato Skins With Cheese & Onion

Chips

Cucumber & Carrot Sticks

Refreshing Ice Lolly or Chocolate Cookie

caterlink

Year 6 enrichment event!

21st - 23rd June 2021



- Monday 21st Kingswood
- Tuesday 22nd Ashford Hollywood Bowl
- Wednesday 23rd Go Ape! Leeds Castle



Please contact the office if you need a paper copy of the trip consent letter.

THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD CHATHAM



Badgers Class Trip.



24th June 2021

- Full Speed Ahead! Ship Building Challenge.
- Ready, Aim, Fire: Rocket Launching.
- Take Cover! Air Raid Experience.
- Step Aboard HMS Ocelot (1962) and HMS Cavalier (1944).
- A guide dedicated to our group.

Please contact the office if you need a paper copy of the trip consent letter.



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around 800 million active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about



TIKTOK



AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – so it is possible for a child to be exposed to explicit and age-inappropriate content.



EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and want to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.



TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTok famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be "the next big thing" will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.



HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.



ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep you intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.



IN-APP PURCHASES

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. Buying coins is now restricted to over-18s – but TikTok doesn't require users to verify their age on sign up, so a young person could easily access this feature if they were determined to.



Advice for Parents & Carers



TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.



MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

In early 2021, TikTok changed the default setting for all under 16s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 18s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.



LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.



ENABLE FAMILY SAFETY MODE

'Family Safety Mode' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content.



USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.



MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.



Meet our expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



SOURCES: www.tiktok.com



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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