



Folly View Primary School
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12th May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a great start to Term 5 with high levels of engagement and positive learning behaviours being seen across the school. We will be introducing a new item in the newsletters 'Spotlight section' where each year group will take it in turn to share their learning and activities with the whole school. We hope that this will help parents and carers to understand more about the learning journey across the school.

This term we have welcomed our new Home School Link Worker, Mrs Helen Murray to our team. She will be based at Folly View on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday morning. Please see more information on her role in this newsletter. We have also been joined by Mrs Faith Dixey, who is now working as our SEND Administrative Assistant. She will be working closely with Mrs Cox (SENCO) and communicating with parents and external agencies.

Value of the Term – Integrity

This term we have been focusing on our school value of 'Integrity'

We have been talking about the importance of our words and our actions matching. The quote that we have focused on is 'doing the right thing even when no-one is looking.'

There have been lots of examples of children showing integrity this term already. Well done!



VE Day 80th Anniversary



What a brilliant day at Folly View we had to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The children arrived wearing red, white and blue to music and balloons. The children had such a good day learning about why VE Day is important and lots of other fun activities. In the afternoon we had a whole school picnic. Thank you to all the parents who provided food to share.

After the picnic all the children joined together in a circle to listen to Mrs Dullforce play 'The Last Post' and then they all stood respectfully for the silence. The final memory was all the children and staff singing 'We'll meet again'. We hope that the children will remember the importance of VE day and will have made their own memories as part of the 80th anniversary celebrations at school.

Welcome to our new Home School Link worker

Hello, my name is Helen Murray. I am the new Home School Link Worker at the Folly View.

My job role is to engage with our families to offer support, referrals or guidance.

There are lots of referrals and support that I can offer to families here at school such as:

Support with referrals/forms, such as CAHMs, DLA, adult social care, victims first, bereavement charities etc.

I can reach out to partner agencies to see if there is any support your family may benefit from.

I can make food bank referrals.

I can apply to charities for things families may need, such as furniture or white goods.

I can be a listening ear to families who may be having a difficult time.

And many other things.



If there is anything you think I could help you with, please email me via the school office and I will get in touch with you.

Communication with Parents

During our parent survey, it was evident that parents would – “like to see more of our children’s learning and what goes on in school.” We are continually looking at ways to ensure that communication with parents is effective and that the learning that is happening in the classroom is shared with parents.

We are delighted that so many parents have joined us on Class Dojo and we hope that this is proving beneficial in finding out more about what your children are learning in school.

If you have any specific feedback about communication, please feel free to speak to me on the gate or send in an email.

Updated contact details – please can we ask that if you have changed your address, phone number or email address that you let us know via the office email so that we can update your details on our system.



ClassDojo

Safeguarding

One of our most significant responsibilities at school is to safeguard the children in our care. We have a strong culture of promoting the wellbeing of all our children and part of this is to have designated staff who support and manage safeguarding for our school.

These are: Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Jo Baird

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Mrs Helen Cox, Mrs Sonja Spence,

Mrs Helen Murray and Mrs Kate Morris.

Our school Safeguarding Policy can be found on our website under Key Information > Safeguarding or via this link: <https://www.follyviewprimary.co.uk/safeguarding/>

Please note that if you have a concern about any child or family, you can make a referral directly to the Oxfordshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). They can be contacted on 0345 050 766

Fundraising update

Thank you to everyone who helped us collecting the blue tokens from Tesco. We are delighted that we 'won' and will receive £1500 to set up a sensory and wildlife garden in our grounds.



Folly View Summer Fair – Friday 4th July

Please make a note of this date and come and join us for our very first Folly View Summer Fair. If you can help on the day or have any ideas, please contact our PTA on follyviewfriends@gmail.com

Dates

Tuesday 13 th May	Make me smile - mental health ambassadors training Year 5
Thursday 15 th May	Indian Dance Workshops
Thursday 22 nd May	Talent Show Final
Week beginning 26 th May	Half Term
Monday 2 nd June	INSET Day – School Closed
Tuesday 10 th June	Year 4 Sutton Courtney Trip
Tuesday 10 th June	New Reception Starters Information Evening 6pm
Thursday 12 th June	PC Ben talks Year 1 and Year 3
Monday 30 th June	New Reception Starters Teddy Bears Picnic 3.45pm-4.30pm
Tuesday 1 st July	Sports Day KS2 AM EYFS/KS1 PM
Friday 4 th July	Year 5 at FCC 9.30-2 STEM activities
Friday 4 th July	Summer Fair at FVP 3.30
Tuesday 8 th July	Year 4 Create Day with Royal National Opera
Wednesday 9 th July	Transition Day – children spend the day in their new classes
Tuesday 22 nd July	Last day of term – School finishes at 1.15pm

Kind regards, Mrs Jo Baird and the FVP Team

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



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Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2



PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES

You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.

3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES

For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.



4

THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES

As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the Internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the Internet.

5



MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER

Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.



9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

6

REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS

Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.



7

DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE

Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.



8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'context and content' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.

