

Friday January 12th 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Winter weather

Please take care when driving to and from school during this cold weather. The roads can be slippery and icy during the mornings at this time of year, especially the crossroads at Broad Lane and Northbourne Road.



We are currently not forecast any snow during the coming cold spell, however, should this change we will communicate any emergency plans with you. The most important thing is to make sure you are receiving text and email messages from school, as this is how we will always communicate with parents.

Online Safety

Was anyone in your household lucky enough to get a new device for Christmas? Maybe a tablet or games console or possibly even a laptop? If so, then you will know how careful you need to be around internet access for children.

There is a wealth of information for you on the school website. We subscribe to a monthly online safety newsletter that covers all areas of online safety and awareness for all age groups. There is advice on staying safe on games consoles, advice around apps such as TikTok, Whatsapp and Snapchat and information on specific games and apps that children may be interested in.




Online Safety Newsletter December 2023

Minecraft

Minecraft remains ever popular and with Christmas ahead of us, maybe your child will be receiving this game as one of their presents. Minecraft Legends is rated as PEGI 7 meaning it is suitable for those over 7 years of age. The App store rate Minecraft as 9+.

You should be aware that there is a multiplayer option so players can chat to each other, and in-app purchases are available. Parental controls are available, either within Minecraft or on the console itself e.g. Nintendo Switch or PlayStation. Find out more here:

<https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/article/parental-controls>

Get to know Age Ratings

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?


 Facebook


 Instagram


 Twitch


 SnapChat


 X (Twitter)


 WhatsApp


 YouTube


 Messenger

Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence, if accessing the app/game etc.

You can view all of our online safety newsletters by visiting our website at:

[Northbourne CE Primary School - Online Safety Newsletters \(northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk\)](http://www.northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk)

Recent advice in the newsletters has covered:

- App age ratings
- EA FC 24
- Roblox
- Snapchat
- TIK TOK
- Minecraft

Parent Governor vacancy

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

In last week's newsletter I advertised a vacancy for a parent governor on our school governing body. Thank you to those who have shown an interest. There is still time for further interest and nominations. Any interest or nominations for the post will need to be made by close of school Friday 26th January (15 school days after the post was first advertised).

If you are interested and would like further information please do contact the school. Any parent or carer who wishes to be put forward for this role will need to **complete a nomination form, which you will find attached to the this email**. Paper copies are available from the school office on request.

Each parent or carer standing for election is invited to provide on their nomination form, a short personal statement (a maximum and strictly no more than 250 words). The statement could include biographical information, your reasons for wanting to be a parent governor, your skills and the contribution you believe you could make to the governing body.

If there is more than one nomination for the one vacancy, a ballot (vote) will be held, and copies of the personal statements will be sent to all parents and carers within the school community. Each parent or carer at the school will have one vote for the new parent governor.

I do hope you will consider standing as a governor. Please do contact the school if you have any questions.

Reading Volunteers

Do you have an hour or two to spare in the week? Would you be interested in joining our team of reading volunteers at Northbourne? We would love to hear from any parents, carers or friends of the school who are able to commit to an hour or two a week to help support the development of our pupils' reading.

All of our reading volunteers are DBS checked by the school and play a pivotal role in providing additional 1:1 reading support.

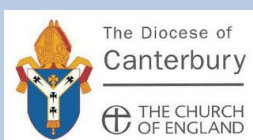
If you feel you have the time to spare as a regular reading volunteer, please speak to Mrs Berridge in the school office.



INSET DAYS

The remaining INSET days for Northbourne this academic year take place at the very end of July, on the 22nd and 23rd. These are after the pupils have finished for the summer.

There are no further school closure days planned for the rest of this academic year, beyond any unforeseen emergency closures.



Learning Warrior
12th January, 2023

Willow – Jaxon
Beech – Felix
Maple – Peter
Hazel – Eada
Oak – Florence
Head Boy Award – Maisie M
Head Girl Award – Eada
Attendance Ted – Willow Class
Punctuality Pup – Willow, Beech, Maple, Hazel
Class

DISCO

FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

4.30 – 6.00PM

TICKETS INCLUDE:
HOT DOG
SNACKS
UNLIMITED SQUASH

TICKETS
£5



PURCHASE YOUR TICKET VIA THE
TEACHERS2PARENTS APP