

THE GOLDSMITH GAZETTE

Dream. Rise. ASPIRE.

25th March 2022



A note from Mrs Bridgwood...

We have some very exciting events taking place in school at the moment and lots of fun packed Easter activities happening soon to take us to the Easter Holidays.

It is great to be able to welcome you back onto our school site again, now restrictions have eased, we are even able to welcome back face-to-face parents evening. This is detailed below and further information will be coming out to you next week about this.

Our family of schools were represented by our CEO, Dawn Haywood at the prestigious World Education Summit this week. It was great for a wide scale audience to hear about how our family schools 5 big moves to ensure our children have the very best experiences in schools.



Easter Activities

In Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, children can make an Easter bonnet which they can wear to a parade during a school assembly. They are likely to need some help, but the more they do for themselves the better.

In Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, we have an 'Eggstraordinary Decorate an Egg' competition for children to enter. Children will need to hard boil an egg and decorate it in any way they like using anything you have at home. They may even wish to create a background.

Staff will be asked to decorate a jar at home and fill it with goodies for our Easter raffle. If you wish to do this as well, please feel free to do so. The decoration should have an Easter theme and the contents can be anything – sweets, chocolates, bath salts, tea bags etc.

We will also be having an Easter raffle where children can purchase a raffle ticket for 20p each. The prizes will include a variety of Easter eggs and the Easter jars created by Year 6. Entries must be in school no later than **Thursday 7th April** for judging to commence and a prize will be awarded per class.

Good luck everyone and 'Happy Easter!'



Ways to keep in touch...



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A big thank you to all the Grown-ups who came to our Mother's Day Workshop in Early Years on Wednesday. The children had a lovely time having you all in school and loved taking part in the activities set out for you, making crafts and singing Mother's Day songs!

It is great to be able to invite you all back into school again.



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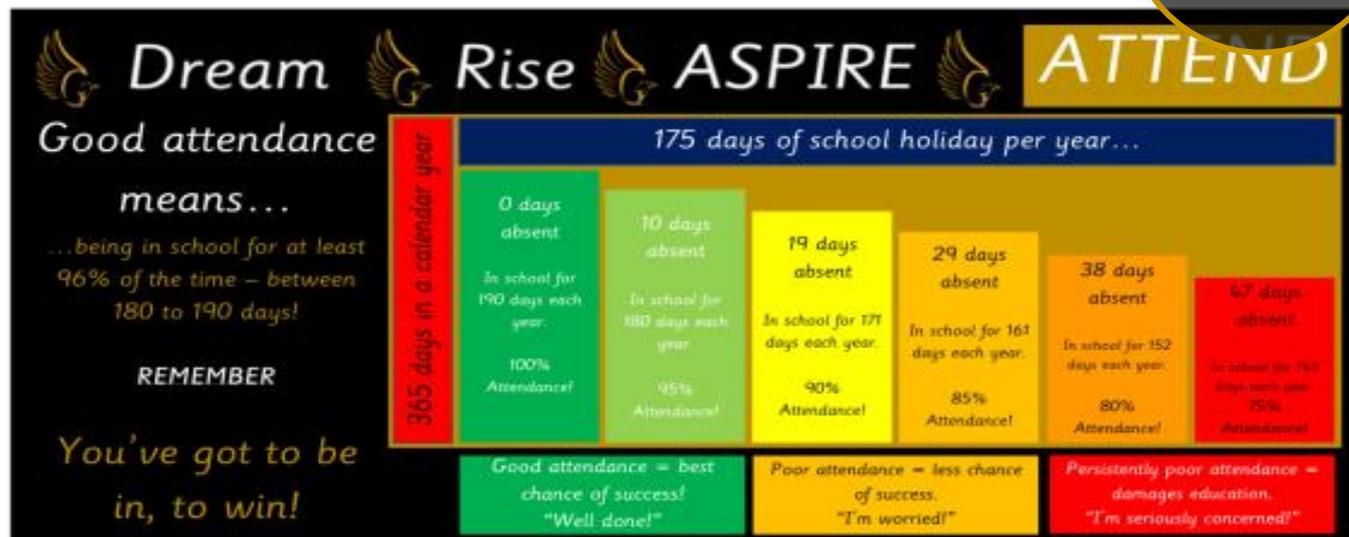
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Attendance

All children in our school should aim for 100% attendance. However, we do know that sometimes this is an unachievable target due to unexpected illness which requires you to be absent from school. This is why we ask that all pupils aim to at least achieve a minimum of 97% attendance. Over the course of an academic year 97% attendance will give our pupils the best opportunity to maximise their achievements. If attendance falls below 97%, it can have a significant impact on the number of lessons that a pupil misses, which will then reduce their academic progress and social skills. All pupils' attendance in our school is monitored closely and part of my role is to help children achieve the best they can by supporting our pupils to overcome any barriers that may prevent them from coming to school. If a pupil's attendance starts to decline (no matter what percentage their attendance is) or falls below 95% parents will be invited into school to discuss in greater detail. Please refer to our school attendance policy for our full attendance procedure.

Within school we offer regular incentives to the children to help motivate them with attendance and punctuality. This term is Easter hampers. If your child wants to be in with a chance of winning one of these hampers they need to ensure they are in school. If you wish to discuss your child's school attendance please feel free to contact Mr Baker.

Lateness

Lateness has a significant impact on the children's learning as they miss vital classroom time where instructions and teacher input is missed.

As well as having outstanding attendance please ensure your child arrives at school on time and avoid bringing them via the main office as this can sometimes delay when they arrive to class as we are a large site we have to wait for a staff member to be available to take any children that are late to class.

We understand that some mornings do not go to plan and you anticipate that you are going to be late. Please let Mr Baker or the main office know so we can plan to support any missed learning when the pupil does arrive.

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We had a wonderful time in school celebrating Spanish day! We enjoyed Spanish dancing, food and lots of activities as part of cultural learning.

We have had a great week of school sport, participating in the School Games Final Qualifiers in girls football and sports hall athletics, in addition to 24 children attending the All England International Badminton tournament at the Barclaycard Arena.

In the girls football we were extremely determined to come out on top of the Sheffield Qualifier with an excellent victory against Leighswood and 2 good draws against other schools. The girls came really close to making it to the next stage of the competition and should be proud of their efforts.



Goldilocks have been investigating minibeasts this week and have enjoyed creating their own Play-doh minibeasts!



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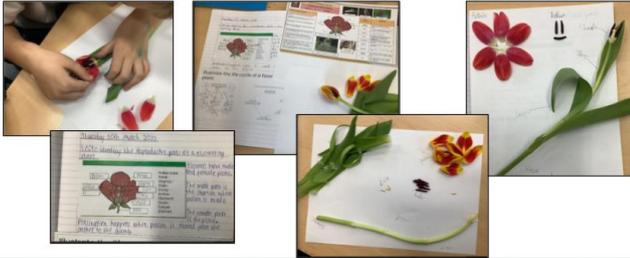
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Thursday 10th March 2022

LO: Identifying the parts of a flower

Our new topic is learning about living plants and habitats. We labelled a diagram of a flower with the female and male parts. Our practical was to then dissect a real flower and to find the parts of the flower and to label them. We had to show resilience to make sure we did this very carefully!



Year 5 have enjoyed dissecting a flower and labelling all the parts as part of their new Science topic!

The whole school also enjoyed taking part in Science day last Friday and our very first Science fayre was a great success.



Year 1 children enjoyed Science Day making slime in the Fizz Pop workshop and going on a plant hunt looking for wild and garden plants.



Whilst restrictions have been lessened, we still encourage our children to regularly wash their hands to prevent any cases arising/spreading and we hope you can work with us to encourage the same.

Parents Evening

We will be sending out full details next week of parents evening and are thrilled to confirm that appointments will be face to face in school for the first time since the pandemic.

This is a great opportunity for you to have 1:1 time with your child/ren's class teacher/s.

All appointments will be made on ParentMail so please ensure over the weekend that you are signed up ready to receive all the information and are able to book when it goes live.

If you would like to find out more about what your child is learning please check out our website:

<https://www.goldsmithprimary.org.uk/>



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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for parents.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PHONE SCAMS

In a three-month period during 2021, no fewer than 45 million people in the UK experienced a suspicious attempt at being contacted via their mobile. Phone scams are a common form of cyber-attack where fraudsters engage directly with their intended victim through their smartphone. As our phones carry so many sensitive (and therefore potentially valuable) details about us, it's vital that trusted adults are alert to the tactics that scammers use to get access to user accounts, personal data and private information for financial gain.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SMISHING

SMS phishing, or 'smishing' is one of the most common forms of mobile-based cyber-attack. Smishing is when a scammer texts their target, pretending to be a reputable person or organisation. They aim to trick the victim into supplying sensitive data such as bank details and personal information, so that they can then access the target's bank accounts and remove money.

IMPERSONATION

Fraudsters often impersonate someone else to trick the victim into actually transferring money directly. They might claim, for example, to be a friend or relative using a different number who urgently needs funds. Other common cons include sending fake texts informing the target that they have a package which requires a fee to be delivered, or that they have an unpaid bill to settle.

NUMBER SPOOFING

Here, the scammer takes impersonation a step further by cloning the phone number of a genuine company. So when the target receives a call or text, their phone recognises the sender's number as legitimately belonging to Amazon, HMRC, the NHS or the DVLA (who have all been impersonated in these cons). This makes the scam far harder to spot and the victim much more inclined to comply.

FAKE TECH SUPPORT

Attackers contact a target, pretending to work for their employer's IT support team. They then advise them to download some software to fix 'a technical issue' with their device. In reality, however, the software grants the scammers access to the victim's private data and sensitive information. This con is more common on a desktop and laptop device, but is still possible to accomplish on mobiles.

SIM HIJACKING

SIM hijacking switches control of a phone account from the victim's SIM card to one in the scammers' possession. Criminals use personal details pieced together from social media (birthday, address, pet's name and so on) to pose as you, then instruct your phone network to transfer your number to their SIM - giving them access to all calls and texts meant for you, including one-time login passcodes.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO SOME DIGGING

If you've received a call or text asking for specific information, research the caller's number. There are several websites that allow you to enter a phone number and will then display any relevant information about it - this usually includes feedback and comments from other people, so you can easily see if that particular number has been implicated in potential scams.

TRY A CALL BLOCKER

If a suspicious call comes through on your mobile, you can manually block the number if you believe it to be dubious or a nuisance caller. Alternatively, you could consider installing a call blocker service on your phone. They automatically stop calls getting through from numbers which have been reported as suspicious, halting potential scammers in their tracks before they can reach you.

VERIFY THE SOURCE

Never disclose confidential details to an individual or organisation you're unfamiliar with. If the caller claims to represent a company you trust but is still asking for personal information or payment on an outstanding charge, end the conversation. Then find the company's genuine number on a bill or on their website and call them directly to confirm if there really is an issue you need to address.

BREAK OUT THE TECH

Lots of anti-virus software now also protects mobiles. Some anti-virus apps can detect phishing links in text messages and alert you to the risk. When you're out and about, try not to use public WiFi for sensitive transactions: it's far less secure than your home WiFi network. Instead, you could consider installing a VPN (virtual private network), which encrypts all data travelling to and from your phone.

REPORT INCIDENTS

If you or a family member does give out confidential information to a caller you aren't sure about, contact the actual company mentioned to check if the call was genuine. If they confirm that the call was not made by their organisation, you should report it as a potential scam via the Action Fraud website and (depending on exactly what information was divulged) consider involving the police.

BE WARY OF LINKS

If you get a message from an unknown number asking you to click on a link, report it as spam and do not open the link. One recent example 'warned' victims they'd been exposed to the Omnicron variant and needed to click a link to buy a special test - only to find they had paid their money to scammers. Links can also install malware onto your device, so always treat them with extreme caution.

Meet Our Expert

Formed in 2016, KryptoKloud provides cyber security and resilience solutions to its customers. With offices in the UK, the company offers managed services operational packages including cyber security monitoring and testing, risk audit, threat intelligence and incident response.



Sources: <https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/news/2021/45-million-people-targeted-by-scams/> <https://www.pricedecider.com/blog/news/shocking-new-uk-figures-reveal-how-many-committed-every-5-seconds/> <https://www.kryptokloud.com/2022/01/for-the-biggest-score-of-2021/>

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