

Date : Friday 13th January 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Another busy week at Warren School. Educational visits are now up and running and our children and staff are really enjoying learning outside of the classroom. Annual reviews are taking place regularly and moving forward this year we will meet our deadlines with regard to reviews. The new playground is beginning to come together and it is exciting to see the progress that is being made. The flooring team will be on site next week. Gemma and I have been informed that the YMCA Youth Trinity Group in Lowestoft will be providing a hot meal service starting on the 9th January, so please see flyer added to our newsletter.

Kind regards,

Gemma Arlow - Safeguarding Lead and Helen Scarfe SEND Lead

Meerkats Class

Meerkats have been displaying some amazing ball skills this week, during their PE session with Teach sport.

They have been learning to dribble the football around some cones, hitting a ball with a hockey stick and bat and gaining some basketball skills.



Butterflies Class

This new term has brought some exciting new learning. Butterfly class have started to look at 'Growing and Changing', including getting to see pictures of some of the teachers when they were young.

In P.E., we have begun to learn Gymnastics, with all kinds of stretching, balancing, movement and shapes. As you can see, even the teacher joined in.



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Online Safety

Child Safety and the Metaverse

Christmas has now come to a close and a New Year has begun. As pupils and staff return to school, the annual playground inquisition will begin. Among their peer group young people will begin to discuss what they got for Christmas. For many the answer will almost certainly be 'a Fortnite battle pass, a new PC, a PlayStation 5 etc'. Their devices, which allow unfettered access to the internet and expose children to voice chat, text chat and photo sharing with complete strangers. This year offers an acceleration of the vulnerability window with VR headsets, connecting to Facebook's Metaverse and other platforms have been released onto the marketplace. The Metaverse seeks to link users to the internet as a Virtual Entity through the use of Virtual Reality Headsets. This amplifies the danger children are exposed to online. Over the coming months it will be vital for DSL's to understand these Christmas gifts and the issues linked to them. To help you understand this new, fast changing issue the NSPCC has published a guide to both the Metaverse and VR headsets. To find out more please follow the link:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2022/christmas-vr-safety-advice-for-parents-metaverse/>

Understanding the Playground - Fortnite

Since its release 2017, the battle-royale simulator - Fortnite, has become popular in classrooms and playgrounds throughout the world. The game, which features cartoonish renderings of characters, bright colours and non-visceral consequence free violence, has had a mass appeal to children. Each Christmas another draft of young pupils are induced into its overcrowded multi-player lobbies, to the point that there is not a school pupil in the country who hasn't owned it, begged their parents for it or played it round a friend's house. As a result more children than ever are exposed to multi-player chatting with strangers, and financial exploitation via the game's spend-to-gain-advantage operating style. Allowing children to use real world money to gain perks and costumes. From criminal blackmailing, to the coercion of nude exchanges by online 'friends' posing as children, the danger this game presents from a safeguarding perspective is clear. As an added complication, the technical speech surrounding the game used by pupils is near-incomprehensible, frustrating adepts to secure their safety. Fortunately to allow for greater comprehension of reports to staff involving the game, Internetmatters.org has published a guide to understanding the game and its terms. You can find the link below: <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/fortnite-battle-royal-parents-guide-keep-kids-safe-gaming>

A Guide to Online Safety and Gaming

As a new generation of young people arrive onto using multiplayer games and the internet in general this new year, it is more important than ever to make pupils aware of how to stay safe online. The SWGfL has published a pamphlet on how to best keep safe whilst using online software and games. With advice on reporting and blocking, online socialization and the considerations on online gaming, the pamphlet can be a useful resource for any teaching staff and Parents/ Carers, giving lessons on the topic. You can find a link to that resource below:
<https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/online-safety-and-gaming.pdf>

Parent Newsletter

Following this week's edition of the Parent newsletter, we will be changing from weekly updates to fortnightly.



Parent Engagement Session

All Parents & Carers are invited to attend the next Parent engagement session with Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne on Monday 30th January at Warren School between 6pm - 7pm. This will provide an opportunity to receive information regarding Consortium Trust and the plans for Warren School.

We hope to see you there.

Pupil Information Sheet

All Parents/ Carers will have received a pupil information sheet via email to be completed & returned to the School office. If you have not yet returned your pupil's sheet or you are having trouble accessing the form online, please contact the School office.

Returning this form will enable us to ensure our data records are accurate & up to date, this includes things like emergency contacts and consents.

Dates for your diary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Who</u>
Sunday 15 th January	World Religion Day	All Pupils
Sunday 22 nd January	Lunar New Year	All Pupils
Thursday 26 th January	Australia Day	All Pupils
27 th - 29 th January	Big Garden Birdwatch	All Pupils
Sunday 29 th January	RNLI SOS Day	Pupils Years 7-14
30 th January- 6 th February	National Storytelling Week	All Pupils
Monday 30 th January	Parental Engagement Session	All Parents/ Carers
1 st - 28 th February	LGBTQ+ History Month	All Pupils
Thursday 2 nd February	Time to Talk Day	All Pupils
Friday 3 rd February	NSPCC Number Day	All Pupils
Tuesday 7 th February	Safer Internet Day	All Pupils
Friday 10 th February	Last day of term	Everyone
Saturday 11 th February	International Day of Women & Girls in Science	Pupils Years 7-14
Friday 17 th February	Random Acts Of Kindness Day	All Pupils
Monday 20 th February	Pupils return to school	All pupils & staff
Tuesday 21 st February	Language Day	All Pupils
Tuesday 21 st February	Shrove Tuesday	All Pupils
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day	All Pupils
Friday 31 st March	Last day of term	Everyone
Monday 17 th April	Staff PD Day	All staff
Tuesday 18 th April	Pupils return to school	All pupils & staff

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YMCA YOUTH

Part of YMCA Trinity Group

YMCA

Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you



FREE HOT MEALS

We are providing a free hot meals service to help with the cost of living crisis starting 9th January running until May. Anyone is welcome to attend.

When	Mondays and Wednesdays
Time	Between 12 and 1:30pm
Where	Imperial House Bevan St East Lowestoft NR32 2AA

For more information please contact Josie on either 07912209841 or josie.trowsdale@ymcatrinity.org.uk

