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**Warwick Bridge Primary School**  
**Newsletter No 24**  
**19<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Back to School**

Two weeks have now passed since we returned to school. It is good to see how the children have become used to being back in the classroom and being with the adults they haven't seen for nearly three months. We are particularly pleased to see how the youngest of our children have been adapting. The new arrangements for the Reception and Nursery pupils may be just a week old, but all of the children are enjoying being in their classes. Mrs Lightfoot has said that the Nursery pupils really enjoy their classroom and meeting their Reception friends during breaktimes and PE sessions. All EY staff are enthusiastic about the new class arrangements and say that both the Nursery and Reception children are enjoying their time at school.

**Attendance**

The first week back at school has provided some very encouraging attendance figures. Well done to all the children in Reception and Key Stage 1 – you all had 100% attendance. And children in the Year 3/4 Arctic Foxes class also did very well indeed with no one away for the whole week. Well done all.

<u>12.3.21</u>	<u>Snowy Owls</u>	<u>Polar Bears</u>	<u>Arctic Foxes</u>	<u>Arctic Wolves</u>	<u>Narwhals</u>	<u>School</u>
	100%	100%	100%	97.9%	92.7%	<b>98%</b>

**Staying Safe Online – Tik Tok and Omegle**

All parents and carers should be aware that allowing children to access sites such as Tik Tok (age 13+) can be deemed as putting them at risk. Sites such as Tik Tok have a significant number of online users who are not using the platform as intended. They can be seen as online predators and try to contact other users by engaging them in online conversations. Children using Tik Tok have been encouraged to access another site – Omegle. This is a chatroom used by thousands of users. Parents need to know that Omegle is an anonymous video chat client intended for adults. There's a website with the same name, though they don't seem to be connected. Users are asked several times to verify that they are at least 18, but all that's required is entering a birth date. Cumbria County Council provide information and courses on being safe online. You can find the latest updates on these by going to <https://cumbria.gov.uk/communitysafety/saferinternet.asp>

**Child Exploitation Awareness Day 18 March 2021**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March was Child Exploitation Awareness Day. The aim is to highlight the issues surrounding Child Exploitation; encouraging everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and adopt a zero tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children exploiting and abusing their peers.

**IT'S NOT OK.....young people's stories**

To help highlight Child Exploitation awareness day a group of young people in Cumbria have put their creative minds together to make a series of films about child safety. The young people involved in the production of these films are from across the county, and have helped write, animate and perform parts of the videos. The three films, which use the stories of fictional characters to highlight the issues of healthy/unhealthy relationships, exploitation and online safety, have been made as part of the CSCP and NSPCC's year-long campaign IT'S NOT OK. These three films will be shared with pupils at school, but you may want to view them with your child.

[Olivia's IT'S NOT OK Story](#)

[Jax's IT'S NOT OK Story](#)

[Alex's IT'S NOT OK Story](#)

It's Not OK aims to inform and educate children, parents, carers and professionals about child exploitation, online safety and unhealthy relationships. You can find more about the campaign at: <https://cumbriasafeguardingchildren.co.uk/itsnotok.asp>

Here is some more information for children to remain safe online. There are also other support networks out there for young people. Some of these are listed below:

- **KOOTH** – is an online counselling and emotional well-being service for children and young people, available free at the point of access. Chat and forums - it's safe and anonymous.
- **Young Minds** - is a charity providing online advice and support for children, young people, parents and professionals.
- **Papyrus UK** - Charity for the prevention of young suicide - hopefully they can provide support for parents in dealing with the young person's self-harming and suicidal behaviour and ways.

**Click on the links to visit these homepages**

## **WBS - Working, Believing, Succeeding – A Wonderful Bridge to Success**

### **Warwick Bridge School Song**

We are very pleased to announce that the school is once again looking to produce a song involving as many people from the school community as possible. In the same way as the *Handwash Song* involved children and adults, we want to get you participating in the latest musical venture. The new song is to the tune of the **Addams Family** and has been written especially for the school. We want to get children and adults involved. You can find out information by visiting the school's Facebook page. You can find more information at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3061544413909512>

### **Sustrans Big Pedal 2021**

This year's Big pedal from Sustrans will start on April 19<sup>th</sup>. This is the day we return to school after the Easter break. It is the first day of the summer term and what better way to celebrate the arrival of summer than getting active on our bicycles, feet and scooters. Children and adults are invited to use their bicycles, scooters or just walking to travel to and from school each day. It's a great way to stay fit and active. There is an informative video for you to watch with the whole family from Sustrans at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQLGK\\_Ek\\_qY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQLGK_Ek_qY) We hope that as many people as possible can join in this fun activity. Sustrans have also created an information letter for all families, which gives everyone the details of what is happening with the Big Pedal 2021 and how we are all keeping the Big Pedal safe during the Covid-19 outbreak. You can read this letter on the Warwick Bridge School website at:

[https://www.warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk/uploads/1228/flexible-big-pedal-info-sheetv2\\_eng.pdf/](https://www.warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk/uploads/1228/flexible-big-pedal-info-sheetv2_eng.pdf/)

### **Operation Encompass**

Warwick Bridge School has been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will run in partnership between Cumbria County Council, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Cumbria Police. The project, Operation Encompass, has been designed to provide early reporting to schools/nurseries/colleges of any domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of the setting's hours and might have an impact on a child attending the setting the following day. The information will be shared on weekdays during school term time. When incidents occur over the weekend, the Operation Encompass Designated Officer will contact the relevant setting at the earliest opportunity to provide disclosure to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or their deputy within that setting. You can read the full text of the letter regarding Operation Encompass and its impact in Cumbria on the school website at: [https://www.warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk/uploads/1229/OE\\_Letter\\_to\\_parents\\_2021.pdf/](https://www.warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk/uploads/1229/OE_Letter_to_parents_2021.pdf/)

### **Arriving and Departing from School**

Parents and carers are politely reminded that to avoid congestion, please arrive at the correct time to drop off and pick your child. Please do not arrive before your time.

These times are:

All siblings - 8.30am and 2.55pm

EY - (Nurs & Recep): 8.40am and 3.05pm

Y1/2 - 8.50am & 3.15pm

Y3/4 - 8.40am & 2.55pm

Y4/5 - 8.50am & 3.15pm

Y6 - 8.40am & 3.05pm

Please do not queue up before your appointed time. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

### **Donations for Eden Valley Hospice**

Mrs Yvonne Petry has contacted school this week and she is collecting donations for Eden Valley Hospice at Down-a-Gate. These donations should be made up of clothes, bric-a-brac etc. Yvonne's contact details to arrange drop off of the articles are: [yvonne.downagate@gmail.com](mailto:yvonne.downagate@gmail.com) or telephone her on 01228 560810. We hope that you are able to support this good cause.

### **Comic Relief 2021**

Thank you to all children and adults who got involved with Comic Relief Red Nose Day activities. This year we were rather limited in what we could do together as a whole school, but classes had assemblies, wore the new noses, did classroom activities and had a non-uniform day. In total we raised £144.35. Thanks to all who got involved.

Have a good weekend

Mr M Ashton