

Mr Whitehead's News



Dear Parents and Carers,

Children's Mental Health Week

This week has been 'Children's Mental Health Week' with the theme of 'Express Yourself.' Mrs Liddle and Mrs Abbott hosted an assembly on Monday sharing the things adults in school do to express themselves and look after their own mental health. Teachers have been sharing activities and resources to support children in exploring the different ways that they can share their thoughts, feelings and ideas. We've been celebrating at home and at school today by Dressing to Express. We hope the children have enjoyed exploring this important aspect of keeping healthy through this period of lockdown.



New Governors

Welcome to our two new parent governors, Jody Harris and Simon McDonagh, who have recently been elected. We look forward to working with them in the years ahead.

Half Term Holiday

We can confirm that school will be closed for February half term as planned including to children of critical workers. Therefore school will close on Friday 12th February and reopen on Monday 22nd February. We should have further information on 22nd February about any planned reopening of schools. I will let you know about the plans and date for reopening as soon as possible.

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 9th February

An internet we trust - exploring reliability in the online world



Next week, we observe Safer Internet Day, which this year focuses on how we can decide what to trust online, supporting children to question, challenge and change the online world for the better. It will explore how influence, persuasion and manipulation can impact children's decisions, opinions and what they share online.

The day will also look at the emotional impact navigating a misleading online world can have on young people and why it is important to create a supportive, critical and questioning culture online that encourages debate and discussion. This will help children to develop the skills to support one another, and the strategies to spot and speak out against harmful and misleading content online.

Further information and tips about keeping safe online can be found here: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>.

Financial Support for Families

I'd like to extend a big thank you to Shipley Town Council who have contributed £1,109 to bolster our winter food programme. This additional funding will be added to the remaining funding we have from our Holiday Fund and monies received from Bradford Council to support families who require support during the COVID-19 crisis.

No Child Cold Campaign

As a result of the latest lockdown, 75,000 children in our district are currently at home all day, every day at a time of year when temperatures are very low. Many families across the district are struggling to afford to heat their homes for this extra time.

No Child Cold is a campaign to raise money to provide direct help to these families. It has been set up by Bradford partners to make sure that no child in the Bradford District is left in the cold this winter as a result of lockdown. Those partners include Citizens Advice, Bradford Council, along with faith and community organisations and businesses in our district.

As our districts' children sit down at home to access remote learning, we want to make sure no child is unable to learn, because they are simply too cold.

You can support this project quickly and simply through the [Give Bradford](#) page, and help children in need across our district keep warm during this lockdown. Any donation is welcome and will make a difference in helping to keep children warm.

You can also apply for help from the scheme if you need it, and find out about other support that is available.

If you would like further information about any of the financial support programmes currently available, please email in confidence, traceyliddle@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk and someone will get back to you to discuss the support on offer.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

Our new Relationships and Health Education policy has been approved by governors and can now be found on the [school website](#).

Parent Forums

We will be holding a virtual parent forum on **Monday 8th February @ 11:00am**

The forum will not focus on any set topic but will include opportunities to discuss the current situation for school, our remote learning provision and plans for the return of all children. Please can I ask you to book in for the parent forum using [Eventbrite](#). If you have particular questions you'd like to ask, please email them to feedback@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk. I look forward to seeing you.

Holiday dates for 2021-2022

The holiday dates for the next academic year have been agreed by governors and can be found [here](#) on the school website. A copy is also attached.

This Week's Headteacher Challenge - Safer Internet Day

[Safer Internet Day Quiz 2021](#)

This week, I'm inviting children and their families to take part in this quiz with a range of questions and dilemmas that children might face when using the internet. It's aimed at children aged 8 to 13 but anyone can take part and it will be a useful way to open discussions with your children about issues they might face when online. You can get a copy of the quiz by clicking on the link above.

When you've finished the quiz, you might like to create a poster encouraging children to stay safe online. We'd love to see any posters you make - you can share them on Twitter or by emailing assembly@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk. We'll share and celebrate any posters received in next week's celebration assembly.

Well done for getting through another week of this extended lockdown. The children at home and at school are doing so well and we are all really proud of them. I hope you and your children have a great weekend. As always, keep safe and well.

