

HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY BULLETIN

"For I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future"

ISSUE NO. 17: 26 Jan 2024

DIARY DATES

Tues 6 Feb Safer Internet Day with E-Safety Parent Information Session at 9am
Thurs 8 Feb Ladybirds and Dragonflies Class Trip to Shah Jahan Mosque, Woking

w/c 12 Feb Spring Half Term w/c 19 Feb Science Week

Fri 8 Mar 2.30pm Mothers Day Assembly Fri 15 Mar Red Nose Day for Comic Relief

Mon 18 Mar 3.15pm Ladybirds Friendship Teatime in Tandridge Village Hall—All welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a great week. How wonderful it is that the days are starting to get a little lighter and it looks like it should be a calm and dry weekend.

A question: How big was the Titanic? If you happen to look in the library you may wonder, as the children in Dragonflies class under the clear guidance of Jane (our amazing after-school Art teacher) have been building a fantastic replica model (not to scale I need to add!) of this incredible steamship out of junk modelling. They are having a whale of a time getting totally stuck in and creating the finer details of the ship from the wealth of research they have undertaken. We will be displaying this in the visitors area for all to see once it is completed. Thank you Jane for volunteering your time for this amazing project. The children are having such fun.

Dragonflies have also been using their phenomenal debating skills as I saw this week, when using evidence sources to put forward their argument for who was responsible for the sinking and loss of life on board the Titanic. This was absolutely wonderful to see. The passion and enthusiasm of the children was fantastic!

So as you can see the children are showing a real enthusiasm for history. This was further supported when Adeline emailed in to show what her grandfather had found when renovating a window at his house this week. Workers found a copper gunpowder flask, a clay pipe and a funeral card from 1877 hidden on top of a window that was being replaced. The family were residents of 'The Brook' in Tandridge, now known as Brook Farm. Adeline was very excited about the fact they lived there before the Titanic was even built! How amazing—thank you so much for sharing this with us Adeline.







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COUGHS & SNIFFLES: TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

Please may I remind parents that unless their child has been sick, has diarrhoea or is genuinely too ill to attend school due to other medical issues then they are still

expected to be in school all of the time. A cough or cold is not an adequate reason for a child being absent from school. Attendance is an extremely important matter and very high on our agenda. Please don't send your child into school with a promise that they can go home if they don't feel well as this usually just serves to make symptoms suddenly 'worse' If a child is unwell during the course of the school day we will of course inform parents/carers immediately and you will be asked to collect them. We do appreciate that there are lots of 'bugs' around at the moment and in most cases children are genuinely unwell but please do send them back in as soon as they are well enough. Medicines can be administered in school if necessary with your signed consent. Sickness and diarrhoea however require an absence of 48 hours minimum please in order to avoid the spread of illness. For safeguarding purposes, absence must be reported to the school office before 9.30am on each day. Thank you very much for your co-operation in this very important matter.

THINGS TO CHECK THIS WEEK:

□ Please check that all items of uniform, coats, etc are clearly named



AWE AND WONDER

The children are having a great time thinking, looking, and sharing with us all their Awe and Wonder moments. The Gardening Gang have been in awe of the birds and wondering how they eat their birdfeeders so quickly. The children have been very busy with Jenny and Sue trying to make as many as they can to keep up!

On the topic of Awe and Wonder, if you are at a loose end over the next few weekends you may want to consider the 'Life' event at St Martin's in the Field Church in London. Life is a "spectacular sound and light experience" which "promises to immerse you in a new unique experience that celebrates the natural world around us". This colourful and immersive light display will take you a journey through earth, sea and sky in a dazzling show suitable for all ages.

It is on from 30 Jan - 3 Feb 2024 5.30-9.45pm

Book online >> https://www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/calendar/life/





It's Friday! ... ONCE A WEEK, TAKE A PEEK



CLASS NEWS





BUSY BEES

This week Busy Bees have started a new topic " All About Space, Sun and Moon". They had a full day learning and finding out interesting facts about the International Space Station and what is like to be an astronaut. Yesterday we learned about famous astronauts and watched videos of the 1969 moon landing. We designed rockets and wrote about what we would take to space in our suitcase if we could go. Next week we will bring our designs to life by building our rockets, so please ,if you have any recycling items that your child can use at school to build their rocket, send them in in a carrier bag during next week. In Maths, Busy Bees have been comparing groups to 10 using the language of "more" and "fewer". The children have also been enjoying the new Space Station role play area and the new "All About Space" science area.

LADYBIRDS

Ladybirds have had another brilliant week. We have been looking at different genres of writing in English, using the book 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon to inspire us. We have looked at diary entries and writing a postcard and the specific features used for each. For both pieces of writing we had to pretend we were 'Beegu', which we really enjoyed! We have also created some 'Beegu' inspired art work using oil pastels. In Maths we have been checking our understanding of the days of the week, as well as re capping our knowledge of 3D shapes. In Science we looked at reptiles and learned what the term cold-blooded means. Ask us, see if we can remember!

HOMEWORK

Busy Bees: Tricky words practice and collect

recycling items to build a small rocket

at school - Look for the designs in the

children's bags?

Ladybirds: Properties of 3D shapes

Dragonflies: 3D Shapes

Dear Father,

May the sunlight and the rain be reminders that You are at work renewing the earth.

As a God of renewal, You are ever at work in our lives, too.

Open our eyes and lives to the needed changes in our lives this Spring.

Awaken us to new life and perspective, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



DRAGONFLIES

Dragonflies have had a very creative week. We have designed, made and painted models of HMS Titanic. The models are amazing and very historically accurate. In History we have looked at using information sources to form an argument. We were trying to decide who was to blame for the deaths on the Titanic - Captain Smith, Captain Lord or White Star Line. Mr Atterton thought our debating skills were phenomenal. In English we have continued looking at 'Up'. We used this as a way to learn the skill of using speech in our writing. In Maths we have looked at 3D shapes. We learned to describe these using edge, face, vertices and name.



II hope you all have a really wonderful weekend with your amazing children. They bowl us over each day with their delightful learning and nuggets of information. They are a credit to you.

God Bless, Lenía Greenaway

NHS **HAVE YOUR SAY** About how children are invited for their vaccinations SCW Child Health are seeking views of parents, carers and people working with families to help decide how to send invitations for routine childhood vaccinations. This survey takes 5 minutes and will help us improve the service we provide to children and families. HAVE YOUR SAY

ST PETER'S CHURCH, TANDRIDGE

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Phone: 01883 714263

Email: stmaryoxted.stpetertandridge@gmail.com https://stpeterstandridge.uk/Groups/343723/St_Peters_Church.aspx

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY

8am Holy Communion @ St Mary's, Oxted Family Communion @ St Peter's 4.30pm Café Service @ St Mary's, Oxted 6.30pm Evensong

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountful grace and mercy may speedily help and delivery.

your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

HOUSE TEAM POINTS







CHILD PROTECTION CONTACT CENTRE

At St Peter's we take the safety and well-being of every child very seriously. If you are ever concerned about a child please speak in confidence to our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Miss Greenaway or our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mr Atterton and Mrs Vaquinhas. If you feel you have not had a satisfactory response from us to any child protection issue, please phone the contact centre on:



Southwark Diocesan Board of Education

Supporting Christian Education

R Tel: 0300 200 1006

"Safeguarding is Everyone's Business"

Emergency information regarding the school will be announced on HEART RADIO 102.7FM







What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

MYLOL

13-19

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? MyLOL is a free social networking and dating site aimed at teens. Profiles can publicly display users' images and information, including sexual orientation and personal interests. The service bills itself as "the number one teen dating website in the world", claiming to have more than a million users globally. Despite its popularity, the MyLOL app is no longer available from Google Play or the App Store, although the site is still active. In some countries, police forces and schools have previously warned parents about "sinister predators" and "inappropriate activities" on the site.

FLIMSY AGE GATES

Although MyLOL states it is exclusively aimed at users aged between 13 and 19, there is no credible age verification system to prevent a younger child – or an older adult – from signing up to the platform. Coupled with the fact that it's impossible to establish a user's true identity on MyLOL, this raises a serious concern that the site could be used for proportions.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

MyLOL maintains that it monitors all uploaded images for nudity or sexual content. It also claims to be able to detect suspicious keywords. However, there have been numerous reports of explicit content being found on the platform, with users often posting provocative, semi-nude pictures of themselves and engaging in fiirty or sexually explicit conversation.

POTENTIAL CYBER-BULLYING

people based solely on their appearance, much in the same vein as the now-defunct site Hot or Not. This feature could easily lead to distress and builying, especially if a young person's profile pics receive an untavourable response. Various reviews of MylOt have noted that builying frequently becomes an issue in the platform's chat groups and private messages.

IN-APP SPENDING

Mytot, is free to join and use, but it also offers poid-for memberships. Users who have poid money get their profile promoted at the top of the site and in search results. They can also earn additional credits for increased engagement with the platform – such as sharing, replying to messages and voting. At the time of writing, the monthly membership fee was \$9.95 (just under £8).

DATA COLLECTION

According to its privacy policy, No. 120 MyLOL collects user data including email addresses, contact details and interests. While the company says it is committed to protecting users' privacy, the small print states that information may be shared externally. MyLOL claims to follow procedures to keep data secure, but does not specify what these procedures are, or whether such information is encrypted.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

MyLOL makes it easy to connect with strangers. In fact, the site's rewards feature encourages users to send private messages to people they don't know. There have been several media stories of adults posing as teens on MyLOL to connect with minors, which could lead to extremely dangerous situations, such as a young person meeting up with someone who has been posting under a faise identity.



Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS ONLINE DATING

It's vital to talk to your child about the possible dangers of platforms like MyLOL – particularly the threat of online predators. Remind them of the risks of sharing intimate images and information with strangers and emphasise that most people don't realise they're being 'catflished' until it's too late – it really isn't wise for a young person to meet up with someone they've only spoken to online.

RESTRICT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child has access to a bank card or other payment method, they may be enticed into signing up for MyLOL's premium features. Having their profile boosted and receiving more attention could be especially tempting if their friends also use the site. You could consider altering their device's settings to disable internet purchases, or at the very least keeping an eye on their online spending.

EXPLAIN PRIVACY RISKS

Before your child begins using a service such as MyLOL, it's important that they understand the potential pitfalls of giving out their personal data on this type of platform. Explain to them, for example, that they shouldn't divulge any personally identifying information to people who they don't know, as scammers can be quite convincing when attempting to stead someone's identity.

SET UP LOCATION ALERTS

If you're worried that your child may be planning to meet up with someone they've met on MyLOL, you could consider utilising GPS or WiFi location tracking technology to follow their whereabouts in real time. You can even set up a virtual boundary or 'fence' and opt to receive an alert to your phone if your child enters or exits a specified area.

Meet Our Expert

Carry Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the Industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inguirer, Carry is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.





The National College









