



Newsletter



KS2 End of Year Show: The Next BIG Step

Our KS2 (Class 3 & 4) children are looking forward to their end of year production and rehearsals will soon begin in school! This year the show is called, 'The Next BIG Step'. We will send out further details, including information about costumes, tickets and evening performances, but in the meantime, please save the dates to your diary (see below) as all Class 3 and 4 children will take part.

Family Contributions

We appreciate that the cost of living is impacting on all families in all kinds of ways and we're always grateful for your support wherever you can. This year, we have tried to ensure our pupil enrichment opportunities have remained as good as ever but with increasing costs for things like trips and transport, we're finding it difficult to cover costs. When we ask for a contribution from families, please help if you can! The 2023-24 calendar is currently being reviewed and, without family contributions, events like Castleshaw, the Halle' and drama workshops may not be able to go ahead as before.



Outdoor Learning Day was a great success despite the weather! The children enjoyed a range of activities in the great outdoors including the popular 'Den Building' which this year was enhanced thanks to your kind donations; we used them to buy more resources for building and snacks to enjoy in the dens!



Starting Reception Class in September 2023?

We have spaces for September 2023! If you know anyone who is unhappy with their allocation or who considered Friezland but thought they may not be within the catchment area, ask them to contact school.

Medical Appointments

Wherever possible, please ensure that medical appointments for pupils are made outside of the school day.



Sport Race Afternoon Weather permitting, the children will take part in Sports Day on Thursday 25th May. During the morning, the children will take part in a range of activities and events and during the afternoon, you are invited to come and spectate for our races (bring a camping chair or blanket to sit on)! **The children should come to school in their Friezland PE kit and trainers.**

Class 1 & 2 Races: 1 - 2pm

Class 3 & 4 Races: 2 - 3pm

Transition: Move-up Days

Friezland staff are busy planning our 'Move-up' sessions for July, to best support our children with transitions to a new year group and/or class.

Y5 Kingswood Zoom

On **Tuesday 23rd May 5pm**, Year 5 parents are invited to attend a virtual meeting to learn more about the 2024 Kingswood Residential. Miss Hill will send the link to join, directly to families. We're planning in advance so that we can gauge interest and also give families more time to pay.

Dates for the Diary

May

23rd Y5 Kingswood Virtual Meeting for 2024, 5pm,

24th FoF Meeting 7.30pm at The Royal George

25th Sport Race Afternoon

25th End of Summer Term 1 (**THUS**)

June

5th Start of Summer Term 2 (**MON**)

14th-16th Y6 Kingswood Residential

15th Guitar Awards (*selected children only*)

WB 19th Healthy Me Week 3

20th Class 3 Halle' Visit

21st Fathers' Day Breakfast 8:45-9:45am (*pre-book ONLY*)

22nd DLP Spelling Bee Final (*details to follow*)

28th Fathers' Day Breakfast 8:45-9:45am (*pre-book ONLY*)

30th Class 2 Castleshaw Visit

July

5th Friezland Move-up Morning 1

8th FoF Summer Fair

10th Friezland Move-up Morning 2

12th The Next BIG Step KS2 Production, 2pm and 6pm

13th The Next BIG Step KS2 Production, 6pm

19th Leavers' Service, 9:30am, Friezland Church

19th Leavers' Lunch (*details to follow*)

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly towards your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

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CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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SPORTS CAMP

This May Half Term

At Radclyffe Athletics Centre & Failsworth Sports Centre

9:00am - 3:30pm

Ages 6 - 11 Years

£15 Per Day

Book your space now by visiting:
oclactive.co.uk/holidaycampbooking/
 or scan the QR code



This May check out our fantastic Sports Camp at Radclyffe Athletics Centre & Failsworth Sports Centre!

Our fun-filled sports camp sessions are led by our qualified Oldham Active sports team.

The camp is 6 - 11 year olds. Places are £15 each per day.

Times and Dates
 Failsworth & Radclyffe Sports Camp:

Tuesday 30th May – Friday 2nd June

9:00am - 3:30pm

How to find us:

Radclyffe Athletics Centre, Hunt Lane, Oldham, OL9 0LS

Failsworth Sports Centre, Brierley Avenue, Manchester M35 9HA

For more info and to get in contact with us, Email: sport@ocl.co.uk

