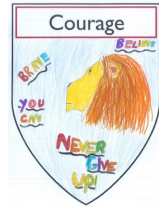
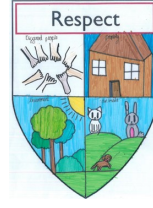


Oldswinford Cof E Primary School

'Believe, achieve and shine brighter together'



Spring Newsletter: 13th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another great week at Oldswinford.

We are currently in the process of updating our curriculum subject pages on our school website. Over the next few weeks I will signpost which ones have been finished and ready for you to look at. They can be found in the yellow 'key information' tab. Then under 'Curriculum and Assessment' or 'Curriculum Subjects'. Maths, English, History, Geography and PE are finished so please take a look. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Have a lovely weekend,

Ellie Game

Value of the half term...

Self Control

This week we compared different scenarios of people with and without self-control and what could happen. We looked at when we are angry and what could happen with and without self control. The children were great at thinking about how having self control could make a positive impact. We also read the story of Adam and Eve from the Bible and shared how they didn't have self control when they were tempted by the snake to eat the apple from the forbidden tree.

Message from Dudley Admissions

Good morning

We are still missing a large number of applications for the new Reception Intake September 2023, the Admissions Service sent letters in December reminding parents who hadn't applied that primary applications needed to be completed by **15th January 2023**.

If parents are unable to do an online application a form can be emailed to either the parent or school if that helps them to make the application before the closing date which is this Sunday.

The service are doing daily downloads to ensure all information on School Access Module is up to date for Reception 2023. If you have any queries please contact Dudley Admissions.

School Uniform

We have a huge amount of lost property which we are struggling to reunite with it's owner as it's not named! Please can we remind you that all uniform including shoes, PE kits, trainers and coats needs to be labelled.

Many thanks.

6 SESSIONS

£42

INCLUDES A STARTER KIT!

FIND OUT MORE



Dear Parents/Carers,

Squash Stars – a fun, new sports programme to introduce kids to the exciting game of squash - returns in February. This six-week programme created by [England Squash](https://www.englishsquash.com/), enables kids aged 5-9 the chance to pick up a racket and begin a lifelong love of the game. Sports clubs in the area are delivering the programme and you can book your child onto the February intake now.

Your child will be taught the skills to play squash, develop hand-eye coordination, be fit and healthy and make friends. All sessions include match play through action-packed fun games and drills and delivered by specially trained leaders.

Sessions are taking place right on your doorstep and you can book a place at www.squashstars.co.uk.

Thank you.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



SOLIHULL APPROACH

NHS

"Transformed the way I respond to the kids"

"Every parent could benefit from this course!"

NEW
TERM
NEW
START
NEW
LEARNING
FOR PARENTS TOO!

"Reassured me I'm already taking the right approach"

online courses available 24/7
prepaid access for residents in eligible areas



WWW.INOURPLACE.CO.UK

Dudley families
enter the access code **CASTLE** to gain free access

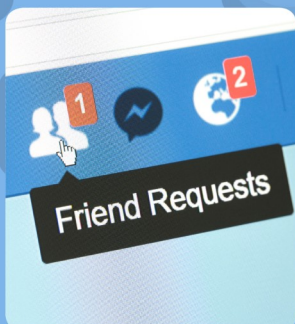
For ALL PARENTS, CARERS (& YOUNG PEOPLE):

Check out this choice of 10 different online courses, free to you, designed to make life a little easier!

There is something for everyone. We all need a bit of head space and thinking time occasionally



The whole concept of social media relies upon users having friends and/or followers. 'Friends' tend to be those with whom users will share their own personal profile. It's usually a mutual relationship with both parties able to engage and interact with everything their friends post online. 'Followers' on the other hand can typically be just one-way relationships and, dependent on the platform, only provide access to certain aspects of an individual's profile, such as a person's content feed. A common trait that often exists between the two however is the desire to gather as many friends or followers as possible.



What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO 'FRIENDS & FOLLOWERS'



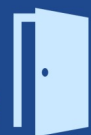
POSSIBLE 'FRIEND ENVY'

Children may compare the number of friends or followers that they have with their own online friends and people they know. In some cases, this could lead to 'friend envy', particularly if they see this as a sign of popularity. This could lead to your child showing signs of jealousy and resorting to sending friend requests to people they don't know that well, or even strangers, in a desperate bid to increase their own status online.



OPEN DOOR POLICY

Another way that children can increase their following is by leaving their accounts open so that they can be easily found, and anybody can view their posts. This is in the hope that other users will like their posts and decide to follow them, therefore increasing their numbers. Once again, this can leave your child vulnerable to being followed by strangers or people who have dishonest intentions.



FEELINGS OF REJECTION

Just like increasing friends and followers can bring a sense of happiness and satisfaction, so the loss of friends and followers can cause children to suffer feelings of sadness and rejection. Depending on how invested your child is in their social media activities, this could influence their attitude and behaviour offline and potentially have a negative impact on their mental health and wellbeing.



COLLECTING 'FAKE' FRIENDS

Children who feel under pressure to increase their friend count or want to increase their following as quickly as possible can be vulnerable to collecting 'fake' friends. They may, for example, accept friend requests from people they don't know very well or from complete strangers, inadvertently leaving themselves open to online bullies, trolls or even the possibility of being groomed.



CONSTANT NEED TO PLEASE

As children start to gain more friends or an increasing number of followers, they might start to feel an added level of pressure to provide them with more interesting and likeable content. Almost as if they now have an audience waiting, this constant need to please may be an extra burden that pushes your child into oversharing personal information or posting material that is inappropriate or offensive, inaccurately portraying what they're actually like in the offline world.

Safety Tips For Parents

BE THEIR FRIEND OR FOLLOWER

The best way to know who your child is friends with online or who follows them is to be their friend or follower yourself. This will allow you to see who your child is engaging with most online or open up discussions about how they know certain people they've added to their network who you haven't heard them speak about before or you yourself don't know.

BEHAVE ONLINE AS THEY WOULD OFFLINE

Your child's behaviour online should always be treated as an extension of their behaviour offline. Discuss with your child the pitfalls of trying to be somebody they're not and that trying to please everybody will only make them unhappy. Tell them that they should be proud of who they are and that they should always behave in an appropriate and responsible way when posting content online.



TURN ON PRIVACY CONTROLS

All social media platforms have their own privacy controls which can be used to help protect children online. For instance, removing the ability for strangers to comment on public posts or having a screening process for friend or follow requests is good practice which can help to ensure your child's experience online is a safer one.

TALK TO THEM ABOUT THE VALUE OF REAL FRIENDSHIP

Social media can often distort what true relationships and friendships should actually be like. It's important to teach your child the value of true friendships and that meeting and speaking to people face to face in the real world, offline, is often a better way to build a more trusting and confident relationship with someone rather than just speaking to them online.



TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

If privacy measures have been put in place, then usually your child will receive a notification if somebody tries to befriend them online. Talk to your child about making sure they don't open up their personal life to people they don't know and that if they are ever in any doubt, they should never accept a friend request from a stranger.

DISCUSS WHAT BEING POPULAR ACTUALLY IS

A higher number of followers can be a measure of popularity but can also lack substance beyond just the number itself. Discuss with your child that popularity can come and go and that a large number of followers doesn't necessarily mean a large number of friends, particularly online where the real value in a relationship cannot be accurately determined.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.

