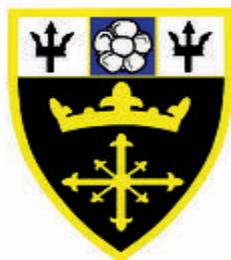


# WESTGARTH WEEKLY



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**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

Dear Families,



## **Sporting Update**

Mr Duncan has compiled an update of sporting events so far this term:

**Cross Country-** In the final on Wednesday, Shane achieved an amazing 6<sup>th</sup> place and Emily a fantastic 13<sup>th</sup> place. Well done Team Westgarth, you did us proud!

**Tag Rugby-** The Year 6 boys went through to round 2 of Tag Rugby at Guisborough Rugby Club, held yesterday, getting better and better with every game played.

**Tag Rugby-** The Year 6 girls competed enthusiastically in a Tag Rugby competition but, unfortunately, did not get through to the next round. Next time, girls!

**Football-** We competed in a Year 6 Boys' Football Tournament last Saturday morning, winning two games and losing one. Thanks to Mr Calton for managing the team.

**Yoga-** Reception have been having yoga sessions on a Friday and we have had great feedback from the yoga instructor about the behaviour and concentration of the children.

We are most delighted, as always, with feedback from other schools about how respectful and resilient our children have been at all events. We are so proud of you all.

## **E-Safety**

You may be aware of press reports about children accessing dramas, such as *Squid Games*, on Netflix at the moment. Our advice for this show is the same as any other film, TV show or game: If children are not of the age to meet the certification, then they shouldn't be watching it.

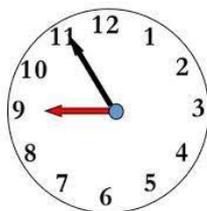
Here are some top tips for parents/carers, specifically about Netflix, along with an attached guide:

- Control what content your children can watch. Setting up a Netflix Kids' experience profile means that children only have access to TV shows and movies that have been carefully selected for children. The look and feel of the app is simpler and children can't access any account settings
- If your child is a little older, parents can create a separate profile to their own, and set a maturity rating that means children will see only TV shows and movies that match that rating. The three categories of rating for the UK are children (all, U, PG), teens (12, Guidance, Teen) and adult (15, 18, mature, adult). You can also block

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specific TV shows and movies from individual profiles which means they don't show up in the browse or search results.

- Parents can review the TV shows and films that have been watched on each profile under their account.
- If your child seems upset or shocked by something they have seen or if you are concerned about anything they've viewed, try to talk to them about it and have an open and honest conversation to help understand any concerns.
- It is important to keep your own account secure so that children can't freely switch between profiles and potentially access more adult-themed content or change access levels.
- Parents can set-up a Profile Lock PIN which means only they can access their own and everyone else's Netflix account.
- Given that Netflix doesn't use 2-factor authentication, the need for a unique username and strong password is even more important. Try to use a different password to ones you've used before and use a mixture of numbers, letters (uppercase and lowercase) and symbols, with a minimum of 8 characters.
- Always log out when not using your account so that if your device is lost or stolen, your account remains inaccessible



## Staggered start time

A reminder that we allow a 10 minute window from 8.45am before full time school officially starts at 8.55am. Please be aware that we then need to close the doors promptly at 8.55am as all staff are timetabled straight into teaching sessions and 1:1 support for children with additional needs.

## COVID update

We continue to have a regular number of positive COVID cases amongst both staff and children in school. As you are aware from previous communications, Test and Trace has taken over contact tracing in schools, so you should be contacted directly if your child is identified as a close contact of a positive case. However, we are reporting known case numbers to Public Health so that they can advise us if additional precautions need to be reinstated in school. This has not been the case so far.

Once again, I urge you to be understanding of the continued and additional pressures on school staff from these changes that the government has imposed in order to keep as many children in school as possible for their learning and mental health. We have not had a day of full staffing since returning to school in September, and our staff have the same personal and family vulnerabilities as the rest of society. I am extremely grateful to them for accepting, without hesitation, the increased risk of being in an environment where transmission rates are higher than most other workplaces, including their willingness to support events outside of their contracted hours, such as residential visits, clubs and after school events. They do so because of their commitment to the children in our care, and their core belief in the value and importance of a full and memorable primary education.

## Remote learning

Remote learning is offered to children who have to isolate at home because of being positive for COVID, but who are asymptomatic or recovered. If your child is unwell with COVID or any other illness, then we would, obviously, not expect them to complete school work at home.

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If you choose to take your child out of school for an unauthorised leave of absence, please be aware that we do not have the capacity to supply school work for that period of absence, but would encourage you, as always, to keep up with supporting your child's reading.



## **Structured Conversations**

Structured conversations begin next week. We hope you have been able to book an appointment to speak with your child's class teacher, and we look forward to meeting with you soon.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Woodhead  
Headteacher