

Meadowhead Community Junior School Newsletter



Summer Term: Newsletter 2

Comic Relief Fundraising

I am delighted to let you know that we raised £311.80 on this fun day at school. The red nose day event winners of the 3 legged race and fund raising winners were class 5C. Congratulations! Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Mini Marathon

Next Friday (3rd May) we will be holding our fun filled sponsor event the Mini Marathon. Children are invited to come to school in sports gear or if they wish, fancy dress. During the day children will complete 35 laps of the playground. Children can run, jog, walk, bear crawl, skip, side step, whatever they like to complete the activity.

Please support your children in collecting sponsors for the event from family and friends. Thank you!

Uniform

Please could parents ensure children come to school in black school shoes. Trainers should not be worn. Please contact Mrs Chadwick if there are any difficulties with this.

Jewellery

Please do not send your children to school wearing earrings. This is for health and safety reasons and is part of our Jewellery Policy. Please use the summer holidays as the best time for having ears pierced. Thank you for your support with this.

Anglesey Street

Once again I am very concerned about the safety of our children and other pedestrians who are walking along Anglesey Street before and after school. Unfortunately, there are a number of cars that create dangerous situations at these busy times of the day. I would greatly appreciate drivers parking away from school wherever possible. Anglesey Street is very narrow. Cars are driving onto the pavement in order to give way to other cars. Some cars also travel far too quickly along the street.

I have contacted the Community Police to ask for support in improving the situation. The safety of our children and their families is of paramount importance.

Allison Chadwick
Headteacher

Class Attendance for this week

Congratulations this week to class 6LV

Green: 97%+

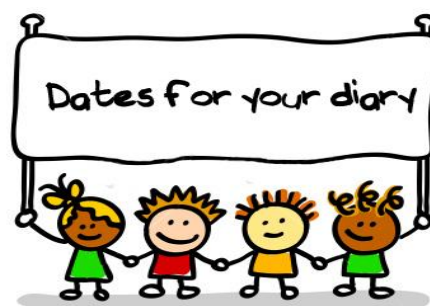
Amber: 95 – 97%

Red: Below 95%

3M	3FP	4B	4CW	5A	5C	6L	6LV
92.1%	93%	91.1%	94.6%	94.2%	93.3%	87.2%	95.4%

Our whole school, class and individual attendance target is 95%

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Thursday 2nd May

Friday 3rd May

Monday 6th May

Monday 13th May – Friday 17th May

Friday 24th May

INSET day (school closed to children)

Mini Marathon

Bank Holiday (school closed)

SATs for Year 6

End of term

Wake-Up Wednesdays

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **CLICKBAIT**

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, apathetic and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory "rage bait" articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as "8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True". Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, Techkadar and Wired, among others.

