



Romilly Newsletter

Edition 4 - Friday 22nd December

A Message from the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors

A huge thank you from both myself and Leanne Sokolski, Chair of Governors, to all of the staff, governors, PTA and families of our learners, for all of their hard work and support over the last term.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and look forward to seeing everyone again in 2024!



K. R Williams
Headteacher

Attendance

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone for your efforts in improving our whole school attendance. Because of this, our attendance has risen from 89% to 94% due to everyone's effort and support.

Our target is 95% which we are really hoping to achieve this year. To help us achieve this, please ensure your child comes to school if they are well enough and that they arrive before 08:55am. If your child arrives after registers close, they may be marked with a 'U' for 'Unauthorised Absence', which ultimately affects their overall attendance record. Please make every effort to get here before the gates close at 08:55am.

We are happy to work closely with any families who need support in improving their child's attendance. We are always here to help and offer guidance in this important aspect of your child's education. Once again, we extend our thanks to all parents for your commitment to improving our school's attendance.

Together, we will continue to strive for excellence.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 8th January - INSET day - school closed for all children

Wednesday 10th January – Reception parents Read, Write, Inc workshop

Thursday 11th January - Drama Club re-starts

Tuesday 16th January - Year 6 school trip to visit Cardiff Museum

Safeguarding - Who to contact if you have a concern about a child

If you are worried about a child's safety please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away. The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding People (DSP) for Romilly Primary School:

- Miss N Williams (Lead DSP)
- Miss K Williams (Deputy DSP)
- Mrs E Durrant (Deputy DSP)
- Mrs D Lee (Deputy DSP)
- Miss R Gould (Deputy DSP)
- Our school governor for safeguarding is: Emma Davies-Powell.



The above DSP's can be contacted via the school office, or by telephone on 01446 736934. For a copy of our school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, please visit our 'safeguarding' page on our school website.

Attendance Update

Whole school attendance target: **95%**

Attendance for each year group for 11/12/23 – 15/12/23:

- Reception - 94%
- Year 1 - 96%
- Year 2 - 90%
- Year 3 - 87%
- Year 4 - 91%
- Year 5 - 89%
- Year 6 - 91%

★ **Well done Year 1 for meeting our target of 95%!** ★

PE Timetable 2024

Week commencing 08/01/24

Tuesday 9th January - Year 1

Wednesday 10th January - Reception

Thursday 11th January - Year 2

Week commencing 15/01/24

Monday 15th January - Year 5

Tuesday 16th January – Year 4

Wednesday 17th January - Year 6

Thursday 18th January - Year 3

Schoolcomms

We send our messages to parents using the Schoolgateway app, this can be downloaded via the App Store or Google Play. You may miss important messages if you do not have the app.



Did you know you can also complete any of our forms by using the app? When on the app, click on the house logo (bottom left hand corner) - click your child's name - click useful links – you'll then have a list of all forms we currently use in school.

E-Safety

With the Christmas holidays fast approaching, we wanted to take a moment to discuss the importance of E-Safety when it comes to new devices that your children may receive as Christmas presents.

In the digital age we live in, it is crucial to ensure that our children are using technology safely and responsibly. As your child may be receiving a new device this festive season, we wanted to share some important information and recommendations regarding the use of parental controls.

Parental controls are a valuable tool that can help you safeguard your child's online experience. These controls allow you to monitor and limit the content your child can access, helping to protect them from potentially harmful or inappropriate material.

Here are some key steps to ensure the correct implementation of parental controls on new devices:

1. **Familiarize Yourself with the Device:**

Take some time to explore and understand the functions and features of the new device your child will be using. Each device may have different settings and options for parental controls, so it is important to read the user manual or search online for specific instructions.

2. **Enable Filtering and Restrictions:**

Activate filtering and restrictions that are appropriate for your child's age and maturity level. This will limit access to age-inappropriate content such as violent or adult material. Be sure to adjust these settings accordingly as your child grows older.

3. **Set Time Limits:**

Encourage responsible device use by setting limits on the amount of time your child can spend on their device each day. This will help them maintain a healthy balance between online activities and other important aspects of their lives, such as schoolwork, physical activity, and social interactions.

4. **Discuss Online Etiquette and Digital Citizenship:**

Take the time to have a conversation with your child about the responsible use of technology and the importance of treating others with respect online. Teach them about the potential consequences of sharing personal information or engaging in cyberbullying.

5. **Foster Open Communication:**

Create an environment where your child feels comfortable discussing any concerns or experiences they may encounter online. Encourage them to come to you if they ever feel uncomfortable or receive any unwanted messages or requests.

By implementing these esafety measures, you can help ensure that your child has a positive and safe online experience. It is essential to stay informed and involved in their online activities, providing guidance and support whenever necessary.

If you require any further information or assistance regarding esafety or parental controls on specific devices, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help and support you.

Wishing you and your family a joyful and safe festive season!

Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At myaccount.sony.com, create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

WINDOWS 11 PCS

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



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