

Notes from KML

In school this week and next week, we are focusing on internet safety in the run up to Safer Internet Day, Tuesday 7 February. As part of the initiative, a broadcast will be available on thinkuknow.co.uk/parents and youtube.com/ceop entitled The Parents and Carers Guide to the Internet. The internet has changed all of our lives, particularly our children's. For parents and teachers, this opens up a whole new world of things to be aware of. For many of us, this can all be a bit too much. You might be struggling to keep up with the things your child is doing online, you might wonder whether what they are doing is safe, and you might also be thinking "how can I be as good a parent online as I am offline?" Please help us to keep your children safe, consider the following tip.

- **Talk to your child about what they're up to online.** Be a part of their online life; involve the whole family and show an interest. Find out what sites they visit and what they love about them, if they know you understand they are more likely to come to you if they have any problems.
- **Watch Thinkuknow films and cartoons with your child.** The Thinkuknow site has films, games and advice for child from 5 all the way to 16.
- **Encourage your child to go online and explore!** There is a wealth of age-appropriate sites online for your children. Encourage them to use sites which are fun, educational and that will help them to develop online skills.
- **Keep up-to-date with your child's development online.** Children grow up fast and they will be growing in confidence and learning new skills daily. It's important that as your child learns more, so do you.
- **Set boundaries in the online world just as you would in the real world.** Think about what they might see, what they share, who they talk to and how long they spend online. It is important to discuss boundaries at a young age to develop the tools and skills children need to enjoy their time online.
- **Keep all equipment that connects to the internet in a family space.** For children of this age, it is important to keep internet use in family areas so you can see the sites your child is using and be there for them if they stumble across something they don't want to see.
- **Know what connects to the internet and how.** Nowadays even the TV connects to the internet, make sure you're aware of which devices connect to the internet, such as their phone or games console. Also, find out how they are accessing the internet – is it your connection? or a neighbour's Wi-Fi? This will affect whether the safety setting you set are being applied.
- **Use parental controls on devices that link to the internet, such as the TV, laptops, computers, games consoles and mobile phones.** Parental controls are not just about locking and blocking, they are a tool to help you set appropriate boundaries as your child grows and develops. They are not the answer to your child's online safety, but they are a good start and they are not as difficult to install as you might think. Service providers are working hard to make them simple, effective and user friendly.
- **(Notes taken from the CEOP website)**

NEXT WEEKS CALENDAR

Wednesday 8th

2pm U9 & U11 Hockey v KEQMS (Away)

Thursday 9th

3.30pm Infant and Nursery Parents Evening

Friday 10th

2.30pm House swimming gala

OPEN DAY REMINDER on Thursday 29th March from 2.00pm.

CHRISTINGLE, we had a lovely service – thank you for all donations made for the Children's Society, the total will be announced in next weeks newsletter.

MILES OF SMILES

Harvey Stansfield was nominated at the end of last year along with his brother Hugo. Their younger brother Charlie was 6 when he died in September after being ill for much of his short life. Both brothers helped look after Charlie during his illness and now miss him loads.

Harvey is very musical and has been awarded a music scholarship at Rossall and sings in a choir. His dream was to play the organ in a cathedral! WOW! Miles of Smiles immediately contacted Liverpool Cathedral who were wonderful and very keen to help Harvey have his smile take place there. His loyal supporters arrived at the Cathedral in

time for Evensong when Harvey, his dad and friend Joe Watson went up to the 'flight deck' to watch Ian Tracey play for the service. Afterwards, Harvey took his seat at the organ in the main body of the Cathedral. Despite his size Harvey tackled the three keyboards and seemingly, dozens of pedals with confidence and ease. He played for around half an hour with applause from the audience and to the amazement of the many tourists who were passing. What a super story!

ROSSALL ACTION is running again this February half term from 20th-24th February. Please contact Nicola Mason on 07903383836 or n.mason@rossall.org.uk for more information or to book your places. Please don't delay in booking as it is essential we have final numbers by Wednesday 15th February. Booking forms and brochures can be found at Junior School reception

CLASS NEWS

DRAGONS DEN (from Mrs Cross)

The Year 7 Drama group helped James McKnight in his rendition of "Tam O' Shanter" at Burns Night last Saturday. They went on to dance the night away to the Ceilidh Band, ate haggis, but didn't drink the whiskey! Well done to Meaghan, Francesca, Annabelle and Kathryn. Excellents awarded to all.



YEAR 6 On Tuesday visited the Imperial War Museum in Manchester. We spent time looking round all the exhibits and were amazed to find out that during World War II eggs came in a tin!. We also watched three 'Big Picture' shows and heard from people who had lived during war time how the conflict had affected them. There was an object handling session where the children worked in groups to use clues from the past to build up a picture about a mystery object they had been given. The museum shop also proved popular! We have been researching the Battle of Britain this week – perspective is an important concept within our UOI and the children have therefore written speeches following the battle as if they were Winston Churchill! I think we have some budding politicians in Year 6!

YEAR 5 "To infinity... and beyond!"- Year 5 are relishing the opportunity to discover all about Space Exploration and I have been delighted with the amount of interactive books, CDs and posters that the children have brought in about space to share with the class. The night sky has been perfect for stargazing this week and we've been discussing all the constellations and planets we can see- Amelia even has an 'App' on her phone that identifies everything out there! Hopefully we will visit the Astronomy Centre before half term to quiz Dr Lister on everything we've learnt and find out where exactly E.T. came from!

YEAR 4 have been thinking about communication skills this week. Our class text is Thomas and the Tinnners and we have been talking, and writing reports, about how Thomas would have felt when he was working in the tin mine. I was so impressed to see so much empathy expressed in the reports; it's so important for young children to be able to put themselves in the situation of others and express how they would be feeling. The Viking theme goes on; we're now thinking about Viking leisure activities - lots of which were sports based as good training for battle. We have designed and made Viking shields with papier mache ready to build a shield wall and later in the week we will be having a go at combat braiding (which isn't as dangerous as it sounds!).

YEAR 3 Our journey through space is now bringing us to land on earth. Our focus has been on our beautiful (if not a little tilted!) planet and its orbit round the sun creating seasons, climates and of course its rotation creating night and day. The children, so taken with this unit, have this week created their own Space Fact Comics on the computers. They worked completely independently and the results were outstanding and can be read in the Library. Their questions continue inexhaustibly...

Maths this week has been a little less glamorous than measuring the solar system but nonetheless as important. We all now know our 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables and we will continue to reinforce and use them, as well as moving on to our higher tables.

INFANTS

What a fabulous Friday afternoon! A group of Chinese students gave a presentation about Chinese New Year. They

showed us a variety of items they use to celebrate New Year. The fire crackers were really interesting. We all paraded under their huge dragon which was bright, colourful and very long. There was a buzz of excitement as we all walked under it. We then split in to groups and the students showed the infants how to write their names in Chinese. The children tried to copy which is tricky as it is so different to our writing. We have made masks, lanterns and stylised dragons. Lots of photos are also on display.

In Reception, our numeracy has focused on the language of size, e.g. bigger, smallest. Following our Goldilocks story, we painted three bears and the task was to make them three different sizes. This was challenging! A number of children have brought in lovely stories and we have completed some good pieces of writing.

Year 1 have been busy this week rehearsing for our play. We have practiced moving like all the animals and copying some of the noises they make. Please can you practice the 'Monkey Puzzle' song and your child's part for the play every night. In literacy we have been doing character descriptions of the animals in the play. We have also been thinking about how monkey may have lost his mum in the story and have written some lovely ideas down in our unit of inquiry books. In Numeracy we have been recalling the doubles of all numbers to at least 10. We have also started writing subtraction and addition number sentences and working out the missing number.

In Year 2 we have been working hard on our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We can count up and back in steps which has really helped the children to work out the sums. This has also aided our division work. The children have been open-minded while watching videos of Hindu weddings. They have enjoyed how bright and colourful they are and have seen some similarities and differences between Hindu, Christian and Jewish weddings.

PRE SCHOOL In our French lesson on Wednesday the children enjoyed singing some French songs and they made crocus pictures for a spring display. Afterwards they all went on a walk to search for the first signs of spring, we saw yellow crocus under the big tree on the Infants lawn. The children spoke to the gardener who told them that the yellow and white crocus come first followed by the purple flowers (Photos on website). We are about to change the role play area and the children have decided they would like a 'Princess castle' it should be completed soon!

RAINBOW We have been very creative this week, making a 'pirate ship.' This idea came directly from the children, when they decided to turn over the large box which was used for a house last week. After listening to our story 'On a Pirates Ship', the children enjoyed painting and modelling using a variety of media to create a sail, mast and a flag. During play it was lovely to hear the children making interesting suggestions and comments and also watching them dress up. We have also been string painting and making pasta collages in our messy area.



SPORTS DESK

YEAR 5 BIATHLON REPORT (Report by Miss Gomersall)

On Sunday 29th January Emily Mc and Louisa represented Rossall at the School's Biathlon Semi Finals in Macclesfield. This competition was one of only four in the country which would allow the top finishers to qualify for the National Championships. They were competing against pupils from as far afield as Birmingham, Cheshire, North Wales, Manchester & Liverpool. In very cold conditions both took to the track to complete the 500m running element of the competition. Both girls showed great determination and finished with some creditable performances. After the first discipline Emily was lying in 12th position and Louisa in 37th out of a large field of 58. The run was very closely contested with only 13 seconds separating the top 37 positions. All was still to play for as the girls moved to the pool for their second discipline of the day. Louisa put in a great effort in the pool, but due to the strength of her fellow competitors finished in 53rd position overall. Emily produced a strong performance over 50m of the pool and finished in a time of 36 seconds – the 6th fastest swim for her age group. This was enough to pull her up to 5th position overall which secured her qualification for the National Championships to be held in March at Crystal Palace, London. This is a great achievement and we wish her luck for the finals. Both girls should be proud of their performances and the way they represented the school.

(Unfortunately the under 12's and 13's boys fixtures have been postponed on the last two occasions)

1.02.12 U9 Netball v Sedbergh (Report by Miss Park)

Rossall U9's had their first netball match up against Sedbergh. Their enthusiasm and excitement was great to see and heads remained high even when Sedbergh raced ahead to lead 6-0 at half time. During the second half Rossall played much better and became more knowledgeable with the roles they were playing. The final result was 9-0 to Sedbergh, however Rossall show great potential and now know what to expect for future games. Player of the match was Olivia who played an excellent defensive role as GD.

1.02.12 U11A & B v Sedbergh (Report by Miss Park)

Both teams were also up against more experienced Sedbergh teams. With this being only the second competitive netball match, expectations were to play their best and use the skills we have practised effectively. Considering this, for both teams to come away with draws; A team 10-10 and B team 4-4, Rossall did extremely well. There is still a lot of work to do but the potential is there. Player of the match for B team was Grace and for A team Anna.

1.02.12 U13 & U12 v Sedbergh (Report by Miss H McCormack)

The U12 team drew with Sedbergh **10-10**. Rossall were leading for the first half of the game, with some outstanding interceptions in defence from Emma Botten. In the second half, Sedbergh slightly pulled it back, and the final whistle blew on a 10 all draw. It was a very good performance from a newly formed team- well done to all involved. Goals were

scored by Charlotte Tebbutt and Jessica Braidford. **Rossall** Players of the match were Emma Botten and Francesca Smith.

The U13s were not quite so lucky, and were defeated **15-9**. There was excellent movement around the court and the team were unfortunate not to convert more of the opportunities into goals. Grace McKnight was player of the match for her performance in attack in the first quarter and then her excellent defence in the remainder of the game. Other goals were scored by Eliza Marshall.

1.02.12 Rossall Rhinos v Altrincham (Report by Mr Condon)

After their excellent win against Highfield Priory last week, the Rhinos were in confident mood taking on Altrincham Prep on a perfect day for running rugby. However, the conditions suited our visitors, who taught us a lesson in quick passing and handling skills. Although Rossall were 'dazzled' by the Altrincham backline and early try, they came back fighting and soon began to exert pressure on the opposition. Teó, Laurence, Daniel and Richmond matched the opposition in the forwards and when Sam bulldozed his way through their whole forward pack, it looked like Rossall would make a comeback.

Will and our two Harrisons counter attacked superbly and tested the opposition with their pace and agility. Jack, Ben, Adam and Max worked hard in defence and all made try saving tackles to try to stem wave after wave of Altrincham attacks. Riki impressed once again and showed that even if you don't really know what's going on, sheer determination is a massive part of rugby.

Although Rossall lost by four tries, they were unlucky not to score in the dying seconds and certainly learnt from this bruising encounter. They are showing a great deal of potential for the rest of the season and the team spirit really is excellent. Well played Rhinos!

1.02.12 Rossall Rams v Altrincham (Report by Mr Rund)

The Rossall Rams contested a very different game of rugby to that they had played the previous week. The Altrincham boys were very physical and dominated the first half with some very direct and powerful running.

The Rams found it very difficult to keep possession in the first half; as a result they were muscled off the ball. This gave Altrincham the opportunity to score a number of first half tries. However, the Rams never gave in and displayed fantastic team spirit.

The first half proved to be a very steep learning curve for the Rams; they came out for the second half a new team. Some direct running and fantastic tackling from Connor encouraged the rest of the team to dig in and contest for the ball. It was this physicality and some quick thinking that helped Harry break through the Altrincham defence and score a marvellous solo try. If the Rams play a full game of rugby the way they performed in the second half they will be fierce competition for any team.