

# Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh  
C of E Primary School**



**Date:** 10/2/2023

Mrs Emma Jones, Headteacher  
Withycombe Village Road  
Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3BA

Please ring us on: (01395)  
263397

email: [admin@wrpschool.org](mailto:admin@wrpschool.org)  
website: [wrpschool.org](http://wrpschool.org)

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## News from your Headteacher

Half Term at last! It has been a short half term but a very busy one. When I look back at all the things we have done over the past 5 and a half weeks, it is quite amazing. The children have enjoyed lots of exciting learning experiences, trips and visitors and next half term looks like it will be just as fun.

We return to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

As a school we really value being able to take children out of school to visit places or being able to give children rich experiences in school. We always try to keep the cost of our trips and visits affordable, in particular this year, with the cost of living crisis impacting on families across the country. Although we want children to continue to have these enriching learning experiences, we cannot proceed with visits without parents and carers financial contribution towards the cost. Trips and visits are a highlight of the children's time here with us at Withycombe – it is the memories of these trips and visits which children remember long after they have left us. I really hope that we can work together to continue to provide these experiences for children in the future. If you are struggling to make a contribution towards payment for trips etc, please come and speak to Mr Smith or me as soon as possible.

### Parents' Evenings

I hope that you all managed to meet with your child's class teacher this week and that you found the appointment useful and informative. In the Summer Term, teachers will write an annual report which will detail your child's progress and attainment. The report will also highlight some areas that children may need to develop or target.

Our recent parent survey indicated that parents would like to know more about how we cater for the wide range of children's needs at our school. We are proud of the fact that we know all our children well and that we strive to ensure each and every one of our children meets their potential. This week you should have received a communication which explains our Graduated Response to children's needs. If, following your Parents' Evening appointment, you are unsure of the support your child is receiving, please arrange a meeting with Mrs Clare Hollingsworth, our SENDCo or a member of Senior Leadership Team.

### Hope4Kibera

Thank you all for your amazing efforts with our cycling challenge over the past 3 weeks! We have raised an amazing £348 so far for this very deserving charity. If you would like to contribute, you can do so via Parentpay or alternatively, there is a collection box in our office area.

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### Contact us

Please remember that there are many ways you can contact school staff if you have any queries. You can email your child's class teacher directly using the class email account; alternatively, you can email [admin@wrpschool.org](mailto:admin@wrpschool.org) or [enquiries@wrpschool.org](mailto:enquiries@wrpschool.org) or call us on 01395 263397. Please be aware that teachers do not have the opportunity to check emails during the school day and therefore if you have an urgent message for staff within the school day, please ring our office or email as indicated.

Have a lovely half term.  
Mrs. E Jones

Term dates can be found at: <https://www.wrpschool.org/parents>

### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February-Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

Half Term

### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

PTFA Discos

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

World Book Day

### **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Last day of Spring Term

### **Collective Worship**

This week our theme has been 'Be an Eco Warrior'. The children have loved talking about what they can do and the changes they can make to take care of the world. Children enjoyed listening to the book 'Michael Recycle' on Monday and today Year 5 led our Collective Worship.



### **Safeguarding - WhatsApp**

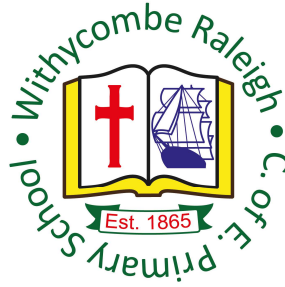
WhatsApp is now the world's most popular messaging service, with about 2 billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and voice / video calls! It provides end-to-end encryption making messages secure between sender and recipient. It has an age rating of 16+ due to potential risks for younger users e.g. strangers, scams and location sharing.

Many of the older pupils at our school, use the app despite the 16+ age rating and we are aware that this has led to difficulties between children. I am hoping that by sharing some of the concerns and some tips for managing the app, that with your advice, this will help children to keep safe and happy when using WhatsApp (if you feel they are ready to do so).

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## What are the concerns?

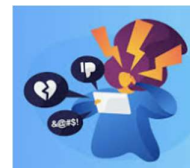
**Potential cyberbullying:** group chats and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. Sometimes comments are not meant to be malicious, but it is all too easy for children (especially of primary age) to take things from different conversations and form a far from solid understanding of a conversation. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin (s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can for example block people from posting in a chat which could make a child feel excluded or upset.

**Contact from strangers:** to start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person needs to have the app). So, if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them on WhatsApp.

**Location Sharing:** the 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. It is a useful method for a child / young person to let a loved one know they are safe – but if they use it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them too.

**Scams:** there is potential for children to receive messages pretending to offer prizes with links, duping them into making payments or impersonating friends or relatives.

**Disappearing messages:** it is possible to set messages to disappear after a set period of time e.g. 24 hours. These messages can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrong-doing (although the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence of course!)



## Safeguarding steps / solutions

**Take an interest:** in your child's online activities and form a healthy culture of sharing with your child e.g. encourage them to show you any abusive messages and educate them about what to do when things become uncomfortable.

**Create a safe profile:** It is worth altering a child's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone' 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.

**Leave a group:** if your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use the group settings to leave. If someone exists in a group, the admin can add them back once, but if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

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**Explain about blocking:** if your child is receiving offensive messages, calls or spam from a contact they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communications from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – they also need to be deleted from the address book.

**Think about location:** if your child needs to use the 'live location' function, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options and your child should manually stop sharing their location as soon as it's no longer needed.

**Delete accidental messages:** if your child posts a message they want to delete they can do so within a seven-minute window. They need to tap and hold a message and choose 'delete' and then delete for everyone. It is worth remembering that recipients may have seen and taken a screenshot of a message before it was deleted.

**Report potential scams:** educate your child to not engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true! When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. Of course, if an unknown sender claims to be a friend, you could call that person to verify this.

Mr Smith, Designated Safeguarding Lead

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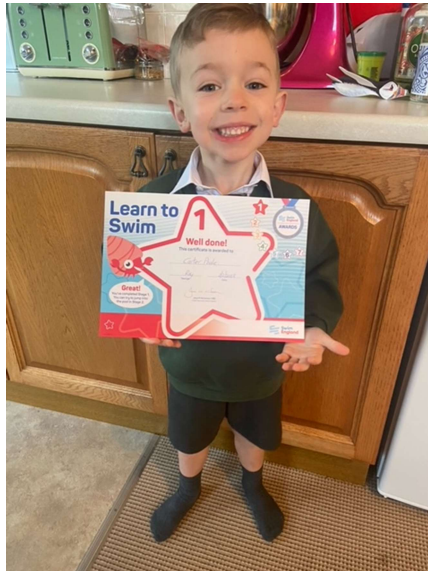
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## Sports & Achievements

We love to hear about your children's sporting and other achievements. If you have anything to share, please email [enquiries@wrpschool.org](mailto:enquiries@wrpschool.org) with your news and a photo if possible. We will endeavour to include as many of your photos as possible each week.



This week's sporting stars:

Joe (Sycamore) got Man of the Match this week for his football team Brixington Blues Under 8s.

Millie (Dolphin) had her first gymnastics competition at the weekend which she won. She got 2 silvers and 2 golds.

Carter (Bumblebees) has had a super week - he's moved up into Stage 2 at both of his swimming groups!

Elsie from Seal class passed her stage 3 swimming this week.

Piper (Year 3) achieved her next distance badge and also completed stage 3 in swimming.





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Year 1 are learning what it means to belong to a faith community. They explored some Christian and Jewish artefacts to see what objects and symbols are important to people of these faiths. They talked about how Christians and Jews share a special meal with others of the same faith.

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Year 1 were visited by Potty Joy last week. They all used clay to create a model of a seagull. They experimented with tools and joining techniques to create their model.



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Charlie (Year 6) and Mr Barnes our  
Caretaker, have created a device for  
cooking popcorn on the fire in the Wild  
Tribe area.

This week Year 5 shared their fantastic stories based on the 'Tear Thief'  
to our Foundation children. Year 5 have worked incredibly hard on their  
stories and it was a pleasure to watch the younger children enjoy  
listening to them.

