



Newsletter 29.01.2021

Issue 15

Message from Mr Inglis, Head of School

I hope you remain safe and well. This week, we have had our two day monitoring visit from Ofsted. The purpose of the inspection was to ensure that leaders are taking effective action to provide education in the current circumstances. Completed via MS Teams, both inspectors focused on what leaders are doing to provide education to all pupils in the current circumstances, whether this be for vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers in school or those pupils being educated remotely at home. Over the two days, they met with myself and Senior Leaders, small groups of pupils and staff, the IEB and the Local Authority. I am bound by confidentiality currently and will ensure you have a copy of the report as soon as it published.

As I am sure you are aware, the Prime Minister this week announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the reopening of schools from Monday 8th March. This is in response to the national public health data and pressure on NHS capacity and we have been promised at least two weeks notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education. The school will remain open to vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers after February half-term, as they are now and Education restrictions are to be reviewed again in mid-February when the Government will look at when more pupils can be brought back into school. The Government has also confirmed that schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers during that week. I will of course, keep you updated as the situation evolves over the coming weeks.

TGBS Fitness Video

TGBS Staff Fitness Video - Mr Ditta

Staff at Turves Green Boys' School understand that pupils' physical health, fitness and well-being is important to them and that during this time in lockdown pupils do not have the same access and

resources through PE lesson, extra-curricular activities and sports fixtures. This can lead to individuals worrying about declines in physical fitness.

Therefore, the staff have come together to create a fun, informative fitness video to remind everyone that we are in this together. The video contains ideas and inspiration for pupils and their families on how to keep fit at home with household equipment and their own bodyweight during lockdown. Who needs Joe Wicks when you have the staff at TGBS!

We hope you all enjoy the video and that it motivates you to become more physically active whilst at home during lockdown. The video can also be found on the website, and on the TGBS VLE in the Physical Education folder. Please follow the link below to view the video.

https://turvesgreenboysschool-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/t_ditta_tgbs_co_uk/EZk0qX-PuQVNiS9cnsNpDfEBdwEuMfztCZVwiqygR8n2rQ

Online Learning

Live Lessons - Mrs Grove

We've been really pleased with the way pupils have adapted to the live lesson format and have been engaging with the lessons. Keep up the excellent work!

Attendance and engagement in lessons will be closely monitored so it is essential that all pupils log on and attend their live lessons. If there are any problems using teams contact r.khan@tgbs.co.uk to solve any technical difficulties such as joining teams, logging in and passwords.

TOP TEAMS TIPS

Submitting Assignments

Much of the work set is now through assignments, there is a link, below to a great YouTube tutorial on how to submit assignments for anyone who is still finding it a bit tricky.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_PD6u4w7iM

TEAMS CODE OF CONDUCT

Microphone off-unless instructed to unmute by your teacher.

Camera off at all times

Use the 'raise hand' function to ask a question.

Do not use the chat unless instructed by your teacher. It is not to be used to chat to your friends.

Pupils who do not adhere to the TEAMS code of conduct will be given a warning and then if the poor behaviour persists, they will be removed from the live lesson.

Parents In Partnership

E Safety: Online Gaming, Gambling and 'Loot Boxes' - Mrs Oshodi

Much is written in the media about online gaming, gambling and "skin" betting. These terms can be confusing as they mean different things in different contexts. Online gaming has historically meant

gambling websites with cards, slot machines and roulette. More recently, as we are discussing here, online gaming has also come to mean video games you play over the internet. In this guide we discuss what parents and carers need to know about in-game purchases such as loot boxes, and the dangers that surround “skin” betting.

What is a Loot Box?

Loot boxes, which are purchased by two in five (40%) of young gamers, are items embedded within games, containing randomised rewards which are uncertain at the point of purchase. These can be cosmetic, such as ‘skins’ that change the appearance of an in-game character, or provide users with an advantage in gameplay.

- Over half of young people (55%) believe that playing a mobile or video game could lead to a young person gambling
- Over half (54%) of young people see the relationship between gambling and gaming as a negative one for young people
- One in seven (14%) of those who have taken part in gambling-related activity on games, paid for the activity using their own credit card, their parent’s card, or with money borrowed from a friend or family member, with one in ten (11%) taking part in gambling-like activity on games because they did not
- want to have a worse character or team than their friends.

How to Protect your Child

If you are a parent concerned about in-app purchases the first thing to do is to check you have set-up passwords on any cards associated with games consoles or smartphone devices. This ensures children need to ask before spending money. You can also set up [Parental Controls](#) to restrict whether they can interact with games in this way.

Spending some time playing games with your child is also important. This not only enables you to understand why they enjoy it but how the virtual items they want to buy may enhance (or not) the game.

This enables you to [have a conversation](#) with your child about the value of a particular purchase and together make an informed decision. As with other kinds of advertising, this enables parents and carers to highlight how games make money, and how advertisement or incentives in games make these items look good before purchase.

Safeguarding Message ‘County Lines’ - Mrs Oshodi

During our ‘Learning for Life’ sessions which are usually held during the first ten minutes of period one, our pupils are all taught about a key safeguarding message every week. During lockdown, we feel it is important that the messages pupils have heard during the Autumn Term are not forgotten and so each week in the newsletter, we will be giving an overview of these sessions so that the conversations can continue at home. The powerpoints that were used with pupils can be found on the PIP area on our website <https://web-tgbs.wixsite.com/tgbs/pip>.

“County Lines” is a type of drug dealing in which vulnerable young people are made to sell drugs in towns and villages outside big cities. They are controlled by drugs gangs from in the cities.

Children as young as 11 years old may be recruited, sometimes through the use of social media. The tactic to entrap children may be as simple as waiting outside a school and using location services on an app to send messages to anyone nearby offering them money. Or children may be recruited in shopping centres with promises to buy them clothes, trainers and other things they want.

Children who are not known to the police are useful to these criminal gangs, who refer to them as 'clean skins'.

Once recruited, children are forced to carry drugs between locations, usually on trains, taxis or coaches. They may also be forced to sell the drugs to local users. When they are away from home, they are often kept in squalid conditions alongside habitual drug users. They rarely have any means of communicating, as the criminals that control them take their phones.

The criminals behind county lines aren't interested in the impact on their potential victims. They see children only as a commodity useful to their drug network. Once the child has fulfilled their use, they are tossed aside and the traffickers move on to their next victims. The criminal exploitation involved in county lines is often associated with other serious crimes such as sexual exploitation, violence, money laundering and human trafficking. It can potentially affect any child.

Very often, victims don't feel as though they have been groomed, especially when the adult offenders use children to recruit other victims in a process that can feel like genuine friendship. It is this 'carousel of recruitment' we need to prevent. Sadly, there will never be a day when drug dealing is not an issue, but we can try to stop children being used, and stop criminals hiding behind them.

How can parents help?

Having an awareness of the problem is a positive step. Many parents and carers are unaware of how children are being recruited to county lines activity. It's really important that parents know this could happen to any child. Talking openly with your child is an important first step towards protecting them.

County lines may feel like a daunting topic, but conversations don't need to address this specifically; they could focus on broader themes, such as when strangers online offer money to a child for doing something for them. If stories in the media feel relevant and appropriate, you could use them to start a conversation.

Knowing the signs of criminal exploitation and county lines is key. These might be:

- Returning home late, staying out all night or going missing
- Change of friendship group
- Being secretive about who they are talking to and where they are going
- Being found in areas away from home
- Travel documents, rail tickets, taxi apps on mobile phone
- Having hotel cards or keys to unknown places
- Unexplained absences from school, college, training or work
- New phone that is constantly ringing/receiving messages
- Increasing drug use, or being found to have large amounts of drugs on them

- Unexplained wealth, phone(s), clothes or jewellery
- Increasingly disruptive or aggressive behaviour
- Using sexual, drug-related or violent language you wouldn't expect them to know
- Coming home with injuries or looking particularly dishevelled

Whatever the situation, your child needs to know that you love them and that they can talk to you about anything. As with any form of abuse, they need to know they won't be blamed.

Taking a loving, generous and accepting approach is the best way to combat the exploitative tactics of county lines criminals.

If you ever feel as though your child is at immediate risk, please call the Police on 999. Alternatively contact your school or local Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Mental Health & Well Being



<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>

An NHS initiative to help support people with their mental health. There is lots of information on their website and a button you can click if you need urgent help



<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

A children and young people's mental health support charity. There is a 'find help' tab at the top of their home page.



<https://hubofhope.co.uk/>

Enter your postcode on this website and it will give you a list of services local to you that may be able to help. The school postcode is B31 4BP.



<https://www.themix.org.uk/get-support>

Essential support for under 25's, you can visit their website or call 0808 808 4994 from 4pm until 11pm daily. They also have a crisis line that you can text 24 hours a day



<https://www.mind.org.uk>

Mind can help you make choices about treatment, understand your rights or reach out to sources of support



<https://papyrus-uk.org/>

Free School Meals

Free School Meals Update

All parents and carers of pupils eligible for Free School Meals have been issued supermarket vouchers to help cover the cost of meals during the lockdown. These vouchers have been backdated and over the cost for the first four weeks of term.

Vouchers have been issued using a system called Wonde. The majority of families will have received their vouchers via email. For those families who have requested support with accessing and downloading, these vouchers have been sent via Royal Mail.

The school will continue to use Wonde to send vouchers to parents throughout the half term on a weekly basis.

For frequently asked questions or support with accessing vouchers, please find the Wonde links below:

<https://help.schoolvouchers.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360014448678-How-to-access-your-voucher-video>

<https://help.schoolvouchers.com/hc/en-gb/sections/360003848737-Parent-FAQs>

If you require any further information, please contact Miss Woods

j.woods@tgbs.co.uk

Free School Meal Online Application Service

Turves Green Boys' School have an online system to apply for free school meals. There are many benefits to the online service:

- There are no paper forms to complete and return
- The automated system will notify the school if you are eligible
- There is no need to supply evidence to support your application
- It is a secure and confidential process

In order to complete the online application, you will need your national insurance number or national asylum support service reference number, and your child's date of birth.

To apply online please click on the following link: www.tgbs.co.uk/parents/fsm-information

Northfield Families

Birmingham Children's Partnership

Emergency and ongoing help for Birmingham

January 2021

Dear Parent or Carer

As lockdown three begins, we want to let you know about the help that is available to families. Please find detailed information about where you can find help for now and the longer term. If you want to talk to someone about help please contact your [local team](#) who can advise on all issues for all families.

[Free Birmingham with Love](#) - information and help for families with transitions to school, mental health, Children, Youth, to, Sexual, Health, 2020 and more.

Coronavirus advice. Use the local [NHS website](#) for the latest Birmingham guidance.

Emergency food assistance. Birmingham has announced an emergency food package — please contact one of our [local teams](#) who will be able to help directly with a grant for food, often within 48 hours. There are also [food banks](#) across Birmingham that are here to help.

Mental health support. For young people aged 11-25 there are forums, guides and counselling available completely free of [charge](#). If your child 5-25 needs support, get in touch with [Tasha](#) by calling 0207 541 4470 or [email](#). Adults can get support from [MIND](#) by calling 0121 282 3555. Or for urgent help call [Crisis Text Line Birmingham](#) on 0300 300 0099. And remember to stay [active](#).

Parenting support. We've pre-paid for each parent, grandparent and carer to access £88 of [online courses](#). Use the code COMMUNITY to access support for children from bump to 19.

Local offer. See the [local offer website](#) for details of other services including for children with additional needs (SEND).

Financial help. If you've lost your job, or are struggling for food or rent, there are services that can help. [Local welfare provision](#) can make a big difference if you are in a crisis and need food, fuel or basic white goods. [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be able to help with rent.

Domestic abuse. For women and children affected by domestic abuse please see [guidance](#) or confidentially contact [Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid](#). For men, please contact [Respect](#). Also [ask for A&I](#) and the [Safe Spaces](#) scheme where victims can access help through pharmacies.

Bereavement support. It's a terrible time to lose a loved one — you can get help by calling 0121 697 8010 or from [Grief](#).

For any other help, from public services or community groups, then please contact our voluntary sector [local hubs](#). There are ten area hubs across the city which can connect you to support. If you are worried about a child, please call Birmingham's Children's Advice and Support Service on 0121 303 1888. You can also call the Police, or in an emergency (including child abuse) please call 999.

Stay safe and well in these difficult times and please don't hesitate to seek help if you need it. With best wishes,


Paul Jennings
Chief Executive, Birmingham City Council


Chris
Chief Executive, NHS Birmingham and Solihull CCG

We're Here to HELP Local Northfield Families



Many children, young people and their families are facing challenges as a result of Covid-19. Community organisations and support services are working together to meet local needs.

We can support young people, families, schools and community workers with
Information and a directory of local support available during the Covid-19 period (including food, wellbeing, debt, parenting and play)

Please contact us at Northfield Community Partnership for more information about support available for families in the Northfield Area.

Email : northfieldfamilies@northfieldcommunity.org

Phone: Mon-Wed 0751 6618137 Mon-Fri 07951 346327

Follow us on
Twitter and Facebook @NorthfieldFamilies
for regular updates and information.



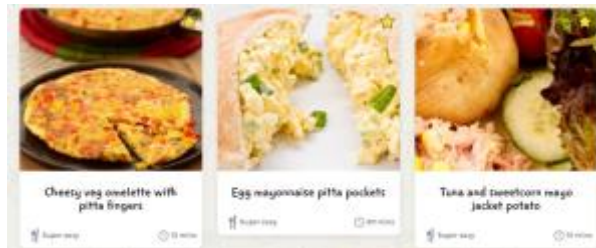
Lockdown Lunches and Meal Plans

Free school meal vouchers to spend?

Struggling for meal inspiration?

Change4Life have created recipes and shopping lists for families which can be used to create lunches for around £15 each week.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>



Curriculum

Miss Mansell's Factoids

1. Bees sense electric fields to tell if another bee has just visited a flower
2. Lightning strikes Earth about 100 times every second
3. Microbes in the Atacama Desert survive by extracting water directly from the atmosphere
4. Seahorses, pipefish and sea dragons are the only animals where the males get pregnant
5. The brain doesn't let humans self-tickle because there's no element of surprise
6. Western monarch butterflies are close to becoming extinct. There used to be millions but now just 1914.
7. Microplastics have been found in the snow on Mount Everest
8. Spider webs used to be used as bandages due to their antiseptic and anti-fungal properties
9. In order to be an astronaut and work on the ISS, you have to be able to speak Russian
10. Algae in a Lake Hillier in Australia makes the water pink because of a reaction with the salts in the water

Make INSTANT ice.... Miss Handley

- Put water bottles in the freezer for two hours. ...
- Remove the water bottles from the freezer before they freeze. ...
- Place a ceramic bowl upside down on a flat surface (like a tray) to catch the water overage.
- Place an **ice** cube on top of the pouring surface.
- Then SLOWLY pour while **instant ice** forms!

Virtual library gives children in England free book access

Pupils in England can read works by popular authors online while schools stay closed in lockdown.

Read in BBC News: https://apple.news/Ak4_DFTpxTZSXuecodis9pg

What our pupils have been up to this week















SEND

Minibeasts Sorting Activity

Sort the minibeasts into the correct group.

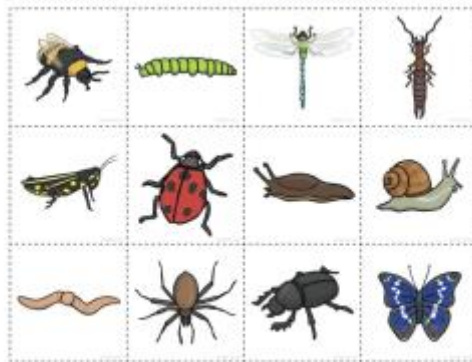
Minibeasts with legs



Minibeasts with no legs



Minibeasts Sorting Activity Cards



This week is Fun Week



Honeybee Maze





Can you spot the 5 differences??



Careers - *If you can dream it, you can do it!*

NATURALLY BIRMINGHAM: GREEN BITESIZE LEARNING

Are you in Year 9 or above and currently considering your career choices?
 Have you ever considered the green sector?
 Did you know that careers in the green sector include – environmental scientists, landscape designers, surveyors, civil engineers, archaeologists, geographers, forest engineers & much more...

Here at Naturally Birmingham, we want to promote how fantastic working in the green sector is and all of the opportunities it has to offer. One of the best things about the green sector is getting interactive and learning on the job. We have created 3 videos, which include activities that are often used within the green sector.

So far Text
 Measuring a Design Space
 Estimating the height of the tree.

Are you studying maths, geography, art or science? Or do you have an interest in the green sector? Follow the link to the videos and have a go at the activities – [you can find the videos here](#). We have created support packs to compliment the videos and highlight the relevant careers.

The three videos will provide you with an insight in to green sector and if you want to know more – get in touch! We'd love to hear from you. You can also share your pictures with us on Twitter @SocialMediaApprenticeor #SkillsApprentices

Aim Higher are currently running a virtual careers fayre <https://aimhigherwm.ac.uk/careers-fayre-2021/> There is various careers related information on a variety of vocational pathways.

Access Creative College have a virtual open events, this is an opportunity to look at their range of courses, qualifications and at the facilities. This event is taking place on 1st Feb 2021 www.accesscreative.ac.uk

Open Day – Access Creative College

February Virtual Open Day

Monday 1st February

Music & Events // Music Tech // Games & Computing // Media & Design

We are now taking bookings for our upcoming event on 01/02/21

[Click Here To Book](#)

<https://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events/virtual-open-day-feb-21/>

Stay Safe, Stay Creative!

Important Dates:

JLR. Degree Apprenticeships in Engineering. Closing 15th February 2021

BT. Advanced Apprenticeship Power Planning. Closing date 31st January 2021

Mott Macdonald. Advanced Apprenticeship Civil Engineering. Closing date 24th January 2021

Severn Trent PLC. Advanced Apprenticeship Water Process Technician Closing 21st March

JD Dental. Dental Nurse Apprenticeship Advanced. Closing Date 6th June 2021

Busy Bees. Child Care Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship. Closing Date 30th Jan 2021

New Opportunities and Openings:

Amey Group Plc. Rail Degree Apprenticeships. Closing Date 12th Feb 2021

WSP UK Ltd. Birmingham Planning Team Advanced Apprenticeship. Closing 30th April

AoN PLC. Insurance and Reinsurance Advanced Apprenticeship. Closing 3rd Feb 2021

JB Dental Surgery. Advanced Dental Nurse Apprenticeship Closing 6th June 2021

Kennedys. Higher Legal Apprenticeship. Closing 28th Feb 2021

MGTS. Engineering Apprenticeships Advanced Level. Closing Date 28th February 2021

Toyota. Advanced Apprenticeship Service and Maintenance Closing 30th May 2021

JLR. Advanced Apprenticeships Engineering/Manufacturing. Closing Date 28th February 2021

MAKEUK. Several Engineering opportunities. www.makeuk.org/futuremakers

Kennedys. Legal Apprenticeship Higher Level 4. Closing Date 28th February 2021

For further information on these apprenticeships: www.getingorfar.gov.uk and www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk

You will have to register with these websites.

Useful Websites:

Exploring ideas, interests and skills

www.nationalcareersservicedirect.gov.uk

www.icould.com

www.bfi.org.uk - British Film Industry runs a national programme offering hands-on filmmaking.

Apprenticeships

www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

Higher Education

www.ucas.com

www.university.which.co.uk

www.whatuni.com