

# Broke Hall Primary School



Friday 24th November 2023 Newsletter 5

## Message from Mrs. Fairs:

A quick glance at the school diary reminds me of just how much we have accomplished so far this term and how much there is still to look forward to. Not only is our school a place filled with visitors, trips, clubs and other exciting opportunities, but our local community is too. With this in mind, we have added a new section to our website under the "News and Events" tab. The section titled [Community Events](#) is the place we will add local classes, one-off events and invitations we learn of for you and your family to enjoy.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs. Fairs

## Sticky Questions:

We hope you enjoyed getting the conversation flowing with our last set of "Sticky Questions". This week's questions are:

- Reception – Would you rather live in a giant shoe, or a giant hat?
- Year One – Would it be good if everyone had their own personal helicopter?
- Year Two – How would you defend a castle?
- Year Three – What is the strangest thing about how people lived in the past?
- Year Four – Can you think yourself happy?
- Year Five – Does anything matter more than happiness?
- Year Six – How much of your thinking have others done for you?

## Junior Road Safety Officers

We have appointed five new Junior Road Safety Officers to help promote safe and sustainable travel choices at our school. They have already conducted a survey to find out how people usually get to school and will use this information to plan ways to get more people walking, cycling, skating and scooting to school for health, traffic calming and the environment. Look out for competitions coming soon.

## Broke Hall HSA Christmas Market: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 3.20pm

We are pleased to bring you further news of our newly rebranded Christmas Market (formerly the Christmas Fair). This will be a small scale event where you will have your chance to buy handmade items from stalls run by each class and by various school clubs. Our catering team will be offering freshly made chips and hot drinks from the kitchen hatch, as well as other stalls offering sausage rolls (with vegan-friendly option), cold drinks, cakes, cookies and mince pies. We will also have a selection of children's games to play, the Grand Draw, and a performance from our wonderful school choir. Due to a very busy schedule (there must be extra children on the nice list this year), Father Christmas is unable to attend our Christmas Market but fear not, he will be paying a visit to Broke Hall on our Christmas Day in School (18<sup>th</sup> December). There will be no external businesses at this year's market and we plan to space the stalls and activities across the school playground and building to ease congestion. Come along, raise some funds and soak up the festive atmosphere.



### Pupil-led fundraising appeals for Christmas

Pupil voice is very important to us at Broke Hall and we have been approached by some groups of children to support two very worthy causes. Both charities need support all year round but never more than during the approach to Christmas.

#### **RSPCA**



The School Council have written asking us to help them create Christmas boxes for the cats, dogs and small mammals cared for by the RSPCA centre in Martlesham. This centre, like all RSPCA shelters, is funded entirely by donations and receives no government support. They are asking that each year group collects items, donated from home, so that boxes can be made up with a variety of things these animals, in need of a loving home, have something to make their lives more comfortable while waiting for their “forever homes”. They have written a letter explaining everything, which has been sent to you alongside this newsletter.

#### **Lighthouse Women’s Aid**

Secondly, two of our year 5 girls, Briony and Lux are campaigning for your help. Their vision is for all children to be able to have a similar Christmas they are fortunate enough to enjoy. Sadly this won’t be the case for some but Briony and Lux are hoping to help some local children enjoy it a little more with the help of our school community by supporting Lighthouse Women’s Aid.

Lighthouse is a Suffolk based charity that supports women, young people and children who are affected by domestic abuse. At Christmas their safe houses will have families who have often fled with nothing, so the girls want these children and their mums to have Christmas gifts to enjoy opening on Christmas Day.

If you would like to donate a Christmas gift to a child, or indeed a Mum, who will be staying with Lighthouse this Christmas please bring in your gift to school by 1st December. We ask that the gifts donated are new, not used items, and not wrapped, please see the attached leaflet for some ideas. The Lighthouse has also requested gift cards as a useful alternative for the older children and to use post-Christmas.



**We realise that asking you to donate to both appeals may be too much – especially at this time of year so please do not feel that you should give to both organisations. If you are able, every donation received by either group will be very much appreciated.**

#### **Traffic Safety**

We would remind parents that the roads around the school are very busy at drop off and pick up times and would urge all drivers to keep their speed to 20mph and to be aware of pedestrians when opening car doors. We have had some concerning reports about driver behaviour and want to ensure that our children have a safe journey to school. Thank you for your co-operation.

<b>Term dates for your diary</b>	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Year One Christmas share
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	HSA Christmas Fair
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	2.30pm A Snowman at Sunset afternoon performance (Year 1)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9.15am A Snowman at Sunset morning performance (Year 1)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	2.30pm EYFS Nativity Performance
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	9.15am EYFS Nativity Performance
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	2.45pm Year Two Christmas singing performance (no ticket needed)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Design and Technology Share
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	2.45pm Year Three Christmas singing performance (no ticket needed)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day in school – wear a festive jumper
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term
Christmas Holiday: Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec to Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of Spring term for children
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Philosophy Day in school

## Are you considering buying a mobile phone for your child for Christmas? Or does your child already use one?

This is the time of year parents of our older children may be thinking of purchasing a mobile phone or other device for their child. It is not an easy decision to make but it is important that they are shown how to use them responsibly and safely. As a school we are having to deal more and more with incidences of unkindness and thoughtlessness involving mobile phones/social media and children. While we can address with these incidences in school if we need to, they do take up a lot of teaching and learning time for both children and staff. We need your support so we can approach responsible mobile phone use with a united front. Please make sure you join any social media that your child is on and that you are added to any friend groups. It is a good idea to agree with your child that you can regularly check their phone and see it at any time. It can be helpful to explain to your child that this is not to spy on them, but to keep them safe. It will also help to deter any negative behaviours if they know that an adult can see what is going on.

Below is a useful guides to help you make decisions together about what your child is allowed to do with their phone and how you can help them stay safe with their devices.

Please help us work with your child to maintain healthy, happy relationships while using mobile devices.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

# 12 Smartphone Online Safety Tips

## FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

The Christmas season has finally arrived and soon many of you will be opening your presents in the hope that Santa has listened to your request for the latest mobile phone or smart device. Owning a mobile phone can be fun, but it's important to use it safely and responsibly. By following our safety tips below, you can make sure that you set up your phone securely, keep your personal information private and enjoy using your phone in the healthiest way possible.

- 1 ALWAYS SECURE YOUR PHONE WITH A PASSWORD**  
This will help to keep your private information safe and won't allow others to access your phone without your permission. Make sure your password is memorable and personal to you but something which other people can't guess, and always share it with your parents just in case you forget it.
- 2 DISABLE LOCATION SETTINGS**  
This can usually be done from the device's privacy control settings. Disabling location settings means that your phone can't be tracked by others and strangers can't tell where you are when you're using it. It also helps to save battery.
- 3 ALWAYS USE A SECURE WIFI NETWORK**  
When you use your WIFI at home usually it is a secure network that only you and your family know the password to. Public networks, like those in coffee shops, can be accessed by anyone which means that people could potentially hack into your device and access your personal information without you realising.
- 4 ONLY PAIR WITH BLUETOOTH DEVICES YOU KNOW**  
A Bluetooth connection with another device means that you can send and receive data wirelessly. For example, you could listen to music wirelessly or receive pictures and videos from your friends. However, pairing your phone with a device you don't know means that you could be sharing personal information with a stranger or could leave your device open to receiving viruses.
- 5 ONLY USE APPS WHICH YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO USE**  
Before downloading any new apps, always check the age-rating of the app. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain things that aren't safe for you to see.
- 6 BEWARE OF BECOMING ADDICTED TO YOUR PHONE**  
Your phone can be fun to use and it's easy to become too attached, whether it's keeping in touch with friends, discovering new features or downloading the latest apps. Remember it's always good to talk in person, go out and have fun and get regular exercise. This will keep you fit and healthy and make you appreciate there's more to life than just your mobile phone.
- 7 LIMIT YOUR SCREEN TIME**  
Using your phone for too long, particularly in the evenings, can make you feel tired at school, affect your concentration and make you lose interest in other things in life. Only use your phone at certain times of the day and don't use it close to bedtime. You can set a 'screen time limit' via the settings on your phone. This will help you stay fit and healthy and means that you will still be able to focus and perform well at school.
- 8 THINK OF OTHERS WHEN TAKING PHOTOS**  
Don't take embarrassing photos of other people on your phone. If other people get access to the photo and share it with more people, it could make that person really upset and treated as a form of bullying. Always be mindful of the photos you take using your camera and who you share them with.
- 9 MAKE SURE YOUR PARENTS SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'**  
This means that you will be able to use your phone safely and securely and won't accidentally do things you shouldn't do. The best time to do this is when you get a new phone or device so that you're protected from the very beginning.
- 10 ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR PARENTS IF YOU DON'T FEEL SAFE**  
Sometimes, even though your phone is really secure, you might see something you don't like, or someone might contact you who you don't know. If this happens, always tell your trusted adult like your parents, carers, other adult family members or a teacher, all of whom will be able to support you and advise you on what you should do next.
- 11 DON'T TEXT AND WALK**  
This might seem like a strange thing to say but it can be dangerous to stare at your mobile phone whilst walking outside alongside busy roads or bicycle paths. In some cases, children have been knocked over by cars or cyclists because they haven't been aware of their surroundings whilst texting or playing games on their mobile devices.
- 12 DON'T SHARE YOUR NUMBER OR YOUR DEVICE WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW**  
Never feel pressured into sharing your phone number with people you don't know and don't lend your phone to strangers or keep it where others could get hold of it. Look after your device and always keep it hidden from sight to avoid it being stolen or broken into.