



Churchfield News

Summer 2 Week 1 – 16th June 2023

Upcoming Diary Dates

- W/C Mon 12th June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Starts (2 weeks)
- W/C Mon 12th June – SENDCO Parents' Meetings (2 weeks)
- Mon 12th June – Y3 Residential Info Sessions (2:30pm & 5:00pm)
- Wed 14th June – MATlympics
- Thur 15th June – Grassroots Sports Awards Night
- Tue 20th June – Y1/2 Sports Day (9:30am – 12:00pm approx, Dorothy Hyman)
- Tue 20th June – Parent vs Pupil Rounders (3:30pm – 5:00pm approx)
- Wed 21st June – Primary Enterprise Challenge Final Days
- Wed 21st June – Y5/6 Sports Day (9:30am – 12:30pm approx, Dorothy Hyman)
- Thur 22nd June – Y3/4 Sports Day (9:30am – 12:00pm approx., Dorothy Hyman)
- Thur 22nd June – FS2 Sports Day (1:30pm – 3:00pm, at School)
- Thur 22nd June – Parent vs Pupils Rounders (3:30pm – 5:00pm approx)

Inset Day

A reminder that we have an INSET Day on **Friday 30th June.**

INSET Days 2023-24

We can now confirm our 2023-24 Inset Days as:

- Mon 4th Sep 2023
- Tue 5th Sep 2023
- Wed 6th Sep 2023
- Mon 8th Jan 2024
- Mon 22nd July 2024

Sun Cream & Hats

The weather is set to be VERY hot next week, please remember to send your child with a hat and sun cream that they can apply themselves. We strongly recommend applying sun cream before school.

Waterton Girls' Football Festival

A HUGE, HUGE well done to the girls that took part in the Waterton Girls' Football Festival this week. They all played incredibly well and showed true determination, teamwork, passion, self-belief, honesty and respect! If you are interested in your child attending club away from school, there's a long list on the 'PE Premium' section of our website.

Transition Days

Transition days this year will be Monday 10th July and Tuesday 11th July. There may also be Wednesday 12th July – we're just firming up the plan for the week.



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Parent vs Pupil Rounders

The much-loved Parent vs Pupil rounders is back on the 20th and 22nd June for Wellbeing Week! Look out for a letter with more information soon. All games will be played on the Dorothy Hyman bottom field.

Safeguarding Visit

We recently had an external visit to check our approach to safeguarding and that all of our systems and processes are compliant with the latest guidelines. We received excellent feedback on our work! As always we would stress that safeguarding and pupils being happy, safe and supported is the most important part of our work. If you ever have a concern about any child in our school or community please do make us aware so that we can support them and/or their family.

British Values

We are currently working hard to teach pupils the British Values as part of our curriculum. These have been part of assemblies, the wider curriculum and school events for some time. The values are 'individual liberty,' 'democracy,' 'respect and tolerance' and 'rule of law.'

Governor Update

We'd like to welcome two new governors to our Academy Standards Committee! Melanie Priestley is now our SEND governor, and comes with a wealth of experience as the CEO of a multi-academy trust, and Clare McArthur has now been appointed as our staff governor to ensure staff voices are heard at ASC meetings too. Our full governing body is: Melanie Morrell, Mark Atkin, Clare Kaye, Jemma Shephard, Katie Hobson, Kasia Kotlarska, Yvonne Gray, Melanie Priestley and Clare McArthur.

Y3 Residential Session

A reminder that the final Y3 residential information night is on Monday 12th June at either 2:30pm or 5:00pm in the Sports Hall.

New Uniform Policy

Our uniform policy has now been approved by governors for September 2023, this will be shared with parents in the coming weeks. There aren't many changes, other than some additional guidance around items that are now allowed in school and smart watches. There's also some additional advice on where to find the cheapest uniform!

Curriculum Newsletters

This week staff have emailed out the Summer 2 Sway Curriculum Newsletters. These include lots of information what your child will be learning about this half-term!



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Safeguarding – OmeTV

This week's safeguarding update is OmeTV, a social networking app that randomly connects users with others around the world to chat (very similar to Omegle). Click or tap on the guide below to download a version.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OMETV

OmeTV is another app which encourages users to 'make friends from all around the world'. People can search profiles by age and gender and send direct messages or photos. However, the app is primarily used for video calls. When using this feature, users are connected at random, although only their country of origin is shared. People can then either choose to move on to the next chat or can stay in that call for as long as they wish.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STRANGER DANGER

While young people generally know not to share personal information with strangers, the safety of their home and the distance offered by technology can make them feel more relaxed and uninhibited. Combined with the fact that OmeTV provides a webcam function – and anonymity – it can be an easy way for groomers to gather information, ask to connect on other social media platforms, or potentially request intimate images.

EXPLICIT CONTENT

Unfortunately, there are a lot of users who use OmeTV's webcam features to expose themselves. While users can swipe to the next call quickly, it's not something that can be filtered out completely – so young people could easily be exposed to highly inappropriate images.

REPORTING DIFFICULTIES

When video calling, the other person's username is often hidden and therefore they can't be blocked or reported. There is a 'Report Abuse' tab at the bottom of the video, but the speed with which calls can swipe past can make it difficult to use this system. There is also little evidence to suggest that offenders are dealt with appropriately (through warnings or account termination, for example).

AGE VERIFICATION

17+

Although the site states that users must be 18 or over, there's no way to verify this, and it's easy to use an existing Facebook account to log in, or for users to set up a fake account. To access OmeTV, users simply need to press a button confirming they're an adult, which means it's likely many users will claim to be much older than they are.

VIDEO RECORDING

REC

When young people are chatting live on a webcam, they could be coaxed by others into doing things they don't feel comfortable doing, or persuaded that no harm can come from it. What they don't know is whether the other user is recording them. These videos could then be used to embarrass or blackmail them, or they could be kept by a potential online predator.

LIMITED PARENTAL CONTROLS

OmeTV has very limited parental controls. There is a 'safe mode', but this is of little practical use given that explicit content isn't filtered out. While the site lists several rules and regulations, there are few apparent ways to enforce them or restrict what users can see or do.

Advice for Parents & Carers

FOLLOW AGE GUIDELINES

OmeTV has an age recommendation of 18 and over, which suggests the developers are aware that it may facilitate adult content. It's important to adhere to the age guidelines and try to restrict access to the app for younger users. If you find it on an under-18's device, talk to them about the potential risks and explain why they probably shouldn't be using it.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Maintain communication with your child about online safety and empower them to protect themselves. Simply deleting an app from their device impacts their independence and can cause resentment. Instead, highlight news reports of predators exposing themselves to children on the internet, and discuss what they should do if asked for explicit images.

DISCOURAGE CHATS WITH STRANGERS

Remind your child of the dangers of talking to strangers online. The anonymity OmeTV offers, plus its webcam function, makes it an attractive place for groomers to network and create inappropriate content. Explain that your child may see something which upsets them – and that it's a crime for anyone to expose themselves to a young person online.

ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Regardless of how responsible your child may be, it's essential to use parental controls on their device. It's easy for young people to get lured in by others, feeling they've built up a trusting friendship and being coaxed into doing things they wouldn't normally do. Ensure in-app purchases aren't enabled on their device, and emphasise that they can always talk to you about anything online that worries them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Butterfield is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

Source: https://www.nos.org.uk/news/online_safety/parents-should-consider-how-to-protect-their-children-from-online-sex-chat-when-using-apps-like-omeggle-2023-03-15/
<https://www.bbc.com/news/crime-india-man-sentenced-to-16-years-for-owning-two-phones-with-nearly-2-000-files-of-child-sex-material-2022-08-11> | https://www.nos.org.uk/news/online_safety/parents-should-consider-how-to-protect-their-children-from-online-sex-chat-when-using-apps-like-omeggle-2023-03-15/

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