

## Welcome

Please take a moment to read the information below. We have our Christmas calendar detailing Christmas parties and other important information.



During November, school children all over the country remind themselves about how to stay safe on the roads. Your child has taken part in a number of assemblies and lessons based around road safety. Please talk to your child about what they have learned.

Please also make sure that your child is visible on the streets and roads as the mornings and evenings get darker.

If your child walks to and from school alone, please talk to them regularly about staying safe on their journey. We have had some reports recently of older boys playing unsafe games on the roads.



## Meet Gimbel Elf.

We're told he intends to make mischief in covid-secure ways. He has made clear he'll be emailing classes every day and we'll post his antics on social media.





## Christmas 2021 arrangements



Friday 3rd December 2021 - There will be NO Christmas Fayre this year due to the ongoing Covid restrictions.

Friday 10th December 2021 - Christmas Jumper Day - Come to School in your Christmas Jumper

Friday 10th December 2021 - Virtual Carol Concert - Film to be released following the concert.

Tuesday 14th December - EYFS virtual nativity released at 10:00am.

Wednesday 15th December - Children's Christmas lunch.

Wednesday 15th December - 2:00pm Awards Presentation film will be released, children will watch in school.

Thursday 16th December - Toy & Mufti day - Please only send toys that can be wiped down.

## Christmas Parties

Thursday 9th December am - Year 6

Thursday 9th December pm - Year 5

Monday 13th December am - Year 4

Monday 13th December pm - Year 3

Tuesday 14th December am - Year 2

Tuesday 14th December pm - Year 1

Wednesday 15th December am - EYFS



Biscuits and squash will be provided.

Our curriculum aims to equip every child with the skills and knowledge to become ...



The Golden Threads throughout our curriculum

- Oracy – Oracy is the ability to express yourself clearly and communicate with others effectively through spoken language.
- Wellbeing – Wellbeing is defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as "the state of being comfortable, healthy, or happy."
- Diversity – the practice or quality of including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds and of different genders, sexual orientations, etc.
- Enquiry & Exploration - the act of asking questions to gain information.

Our golden threads equip children with the skills and knowledge they need to achieve our aim.



**\*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BIRCH & PALM CLASS\*\***

On Friday 3rd December, Year 2 we will be filming their Christmas Carol Concert

If possible, please send your child in with a hat, scarf, Christmas jumper, Christmas hat etc to wear for filming in a NAMED BAG - children should not wear them to School.

Thank you



**Christmas Parties**

You do not need to send your child in with any snacks or party food, as we will provide a drink and biscuits.

Dream Believe Achieve



# **CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2021**



**Save the Children  
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**



**YOU'RE NOT JUST WEARING A JUMPER - YOU'RE MAKING  
THE WORLD A BIT MORE MAGICAL FOR KIDS  
EVERYWHERE!**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE YOU CAN DO SO ONLINE VIA THE LINK  
BELOW OR CASH IN AN ENVELOPE - A DONATION OF 50P IS SUGGESTED**

<https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/cjd210028973>

**WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN YOUR  
FESTIVE JUMPERS**

## **DAVENTRY FOOD BANK...**

We are really pleased to be supporting Daventry Food Bank again this year. If you would like to help them by donating a selection box or sweetie tube, that would be fabulous. Please bring them into School by Friday 10th December.

There is a box in the atrium for you to place them in.

Thank you

## What Parents and Carers Need to Know About Cryptocurrency

Cryptocurrency is software enabling the exchange and storage of digital 'coins' representing financial value. To monitor who owns which coins, platforms save an online record of every transaction, called a 'ledger' or 'blockchain'. This is secured by cryptography: a set of methods for protecting sensitive information. Bitcoin, released in 2009, was the first cryptocurrency; other platforms have since launched such as Ethereum, Tezos and Filecoin. As cryptocurrency becomes a more established part of digital life, young people are bound to encounter it – so it's vital that trusted adults understand its risks, and how it can be explored and used safely. In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as complex technology, scams and risky investments.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# CRYPTOCURRENCY

### What is cryptocurrency?

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#### COMPLEX TECHNOLOGY

Like any new software, cryptocurrency comes with bugs, flaws and limitations. Broadly, it isn't yet evolved to be as user friendly as web browsing or social media. Using it safely means spending time learning about the complicated technology it uses. We would strongly suggest anyone considering getting involved in cryptocurrency should consult specialised tutorials to learn about it properly in advance.

#### WIDESPREAD EXAMPLES

Cryptocurrency software for smartphones is often free to download from app stores. Emails with links to cryptocurrency services can land in any inbox. Cryptocurrency is also advertised on search engines, on social media and in online games (for example to buy add-ons which help players level up). It can't be purchased easily without a credit card or bank account, but young people will still be exposed to cryptocurrency in various settings.

#### CHANCE OF SCAMS

Cryptocurrency provides another opportunity for scammers to extract personal data and money from in wary web users. Unlike credit card transactions or wire transfers, a bank can't reverse cryptocurrency transactions after a suspected fraud – making it an appealing channel for online extortion. These transactions do leave evidence in the blockchain, however, which means that cryptocurrency scammers can and do get caught.

#### BEING LOCKED OUT

If you forget your online banking password, you can reset it by proving your identity in another way. In the world of 'crypto', however, the private key to access your funds can't be reset. Cryptocurrency operates without intermediaries like banks – so no-one stores a copy of users' private keys. This has security benefits, but also presents the huge risk of permanently losing access to your account. Learn how to store private keys securely before purchasing any significant amounts of cryptocurrency.

#### RISKY INVESTMENT

Prices can be very volatile, so cryptocurrencies are considered high-risk investments. If you might need your savings soon, don't hold them in cryptocurrency as their value could drop suddenly and sharply. Sometimes, cryptocurrency may be a profitable investment – but note that any gains are taxable. You may even have to pay tax when exchanging one cryptocurrency for another if the currency you're exchanging is priced higher than it was when you bought it.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### AVOID IF UNSURE

In the UK, cryptocurrency is considered risky, because users aren't well protected if something goes wrong. Most cryptocurrencies use software developed by decentralised communities, so there's no customer service and no support if your funds get stolen or you lose access to your mobile cryptocurrency wallet. Unless you understand cryptocurrency, it's probably best not to use it. After all, if you couldn't comprehend the highway code, it wouldn't be safe for you to drive.

#### CHECK CREDENTIALS

Buying cryptocurrency for the first time involves wiring funds from your bank to a cryptocurrency exchange – a business that converts your money into cryptocurrency. They can also store cryptocurrency for you, though this could present a security risk. Cryptocurrency businesses in the UK must now comply with money laundering regulations: the Financial Conduct Authority's website has a list of all business that are approved, and it's best to avoid dealing with any that aren't.

#### EXPECT EXPOSURE

If your child plays online games that involve some form of virtual currency, and has access to some kind of payment method, they may find themselves in a position to buy and use cryptocurrency. There's probably no immediate danger, but discussing the potential risks with them could be useful. If your child is old enough to understand the concepts of spending and saving or to grasp the basics of programming, then they're old enough to learn about cryptocurrency.

#### STAY CAUTIOUS, STAY INFORMED

Approach cryptocurrency with caution as well as curiosity. Don't click on links in unexpected emails referring to cryptocurrency and beware of promotions promising free cryptocurrency in exchange for personal information. Avoid mentioning on social media that you own cryptocurrency, as this can attract scammers. Stay informed of potential new risks and regulations by regularly checking specialised sources (such as CoinDesk).

#### Meet Our Expert

JP Vergine is an educator and associate professor at University College London's School of Management. His award-winning research on technology and organisation has been published in leading academic journals as well as in two books. JP is also a speaker and advises on startups. He tweets at @PirateOrg.



National  
Online  
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

# Baby Massage Taster Sessions

Helping you to be a happy, healthy family



These one off one hour sessions will introduce baby massage techniques themed around sleep for non-mobile babies. The session will also include information on baby development in line with Public Health messaging. There will be opportunities to socialise with other families and develop peer support groups.

We will also be running a free 4 week programme of baby massage in the new year.

Places on these programmes are limited: To book your place, please visit:

[https://strong\\_start\\_team.eventbrite.co.uk/](https://strong_start_team.eventbrite.co.uk/)

For further information please email

[StrongStartTeam@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:StrongStartTeam@westnorthants.gov.uk)



**Public Health**  
Northamptonshire

**Strong Start**



West  
Northamptonshire  
Council



North  
Northamptonshire  
Council

In partnership with

# Strong Start Seasonal Sessions

Helping you to be a happy, healthy family



## Seasonal Sing With Me

A session with a mixture of traditional tunes, nurse rhymes and some seasonal songs. These sessions are for under 5s.

## Seasonal Play and Learn

A session with a age appropriate toys and resources with the opportunity to create something together to take home. These sessions are for under 5s.

Places on these programmes are limited: To book your place, please visit:

[https://strong\\_start\\_team.eventbrite.co.uk/](https://strong_start_team.eventbrite.co.uk/)

For further information please email

[StrongStartTeam@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:StrongStartTeam@westnorthants.gov.uk)



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