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Although everyone is feeling a bit tired, we have had an amazing half term in school. It has been a pleasure to see the children settling into good routines and making progress with their learning. It has felt like a long half term, but with so many positives, and feeling more normal after recent times in school.

During the holidays, we hope you manage enjoy special times with your families. Many children are excited about Halloween celebrations, breaks away and spending time with family and friends. We hope that everyone takes the opportunity to recharge their batteries, ready for the exciting events ahead on the run up to Christmas.

SJS STARS OF THE WEEK

- Y3AH: Annabelle Fisher
- Y3JT: Alana Platts
- Y3RD: Alfie Kane
- Y4CG: Max Wilson
- Y4KT: Jessica Harper
- Y4OS: Sophie Hawksworth
- Y5GG: Connor Wharton
- Y5HK: Finlay Brown
- Y5JH: Akash Sajid
- Y6ER: Erin Fox
- Y6MC: Riley Tollan
- Y6CH: Fiona Daniels

Mrs Foster: Tommy Siddall
Miss Sheehan: Mason Gomersall
Mr Wright: Penny Cawthorne

Lower School Lunchtimes: Reuben Priestley
Upper School Lunchtimes: Alyssa Mitchell
Dining-Room: Willow Collett

READING AROUND THE WORLD

Y3 - LONDON

Penny Cawthorne
Darcy Ruddlesdin
Kira Fulcher

Y4 - CAIRO

Joel Couldwell
George Spencer
Darcy Hague
William Edwards
Oscar Edwards
Charlie Bullimore
Aurelia Cottam
Ted Goff

Y5 - BELJING

Amy Palmer
Elijah Muhone
Izaak Teeling
Dwayne Lakin
Joshua Reid
Freya Bradbury
Lilly-Rae Baguley

Y6 - BUENOS AIRES

Zoe Parsons
Darcy Tshibangu
Maddison Armitage
Oliver Cunningham
Erin Fox
Henry Robins
Miley McCoid
Felix Bond
Fiona Daniels
Luke Warnonk
Jack Clark
Anna Montgomery
Samuel Smith

A FAREWELL MESSAGE TO...

...Miss Hicks and Miss Kelly who will be leaving us just after half term. They have both been valued members of the Stocksbridge Junior School team for the past few years and have both taken the tricky decision to broaden experiences beyond education. We are sure you will join us in thanking them for their hard work over the years and wishing them the very best of luck for the future.

HARVEST

Thank you for every single donation to our harvest collection for Stocksbridge Food Bank. We were amazed at the amount we received and we know this will make a difference to those in our community most in need.

GLOCKS BACK... DARK NIGHTS AHEAD

BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN
this winter



We will soon be setting the clocks back an hour and summer-time will end. The resources below will help remind children, including teenagers, about road safety and keeping safe in the dark.

- Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents <https://www.rospa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>
- Safety First – Cycling at Night <https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cycle-safety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/>
- Be Bright, Be Seen Poster https://6282.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Be_Bright_Be_Seen-A5-Flyer.pdf
- Keeping Children Safe in the Dark <https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-in-dark/>
- Dark Nights <https://www.childcare.co.uk/information/dark-nights-children-safety>
- Be Bright Be Seen <https://brightkidz.co.uk/initiatives/be-bright-be-seen/>

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

It seems a little early to be mentioning Christmas but we would like to let you know about the Stocksbridge Town Council Christmas Card Competition as some of you might like to get creative during half term. The deadline for this is Tuesday 9th November so please make sure that all entries are handed in by this date. If your child would like to enter, please ensure their entry is:

- Submitted on A4 paper
- Only drawn using felt tip pens or crayons
- Does NOT include glitter, stickers, glue or anything attached
- Brightly coloured as these show better on the finished article
- Clearly named with the school written on the back of the entry.

The Mayor will choose two finalists from each local school with one chosen as an overall winner. A Christmas Card with the winners design will be produced with smaller pictures of the finalists design on the inside. All finalists will receive a pack of the cards plus the card will be used as the official Town Council Christmas Card.

We look forward to seeing lots of entries.

DINNER MENU FOR AFTER HALF TERM...

WEEK 3	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
20/9. 11/10. 1/11. 22/11. 1/12. 10/1. 31/1/22					
MEAT MAIN MEAL	All day breakfast	Homemade chicken enchiladas served with rice	Roast chicken served with roast potato	Homemade meat & potato pie	Fishfingers served with chips & ketchup
VEGETARIAN MEAL	All Day breakfast	Quorn chilli served with wholemeal rice	Quorn fillet served with roast potato	Tomato and vegetable pasta bake	Cheese & onion quiche served with chips & ketchup
ACCOMPANIMENTS	Seasonal vegetables Salad Fresh Bread	Seasonal vegetables Salad Fresh Bread	Seasonal vegetables Salad Fresh Bread	Seasonal vegetables Salad Fresh Bread	Seasonal vegetables Salad Fresh Bread
DESSERT	Ginger biscuits with fresh fruit Homemade tray bake	Chocolate & pear sponge served with custard Homemade tray bake	Fruit jelly Homemade tray bake	Apple flapjack Served with custard Homemade tray bake	Chocolate orange brownie Homemade tray bake
FRESH FRUIT AND YOGHURT	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt
JACKET POTATO	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings

CROSS COUNTRY



Team SJS Cross Country is slowly expanding, with a fantastic turnout of fourteen runners for Race 3! For the first time, we had enough athletes to enter two Year 3/4 boys' teams and our first Year 5/6 boys' team, clocking up points for our school. Concord Park proved to be a fast course with all runners providing a thrilling sprint finish up the final hill to cross the line!

We are still looking for more runners to come and join our SJS Cross Country team. Race 4, on Saturday 13th November, is at our most local and accessible venue, Bradfield School. We hope this will encourage any potential runners to join our speedy crew! In the meantime, speak to Miss Hague if you are interested in joining the running club on Monday evenings.



Y6 GIRLS FOOTBALL COMPETITION

The Y6 girls football team have been training this half term in preparation for their competition. None of the girls play for local teams, so they have worked extremely hard to develop their skills and knowledge ready for the tournament. The team played three games in total where they won one game, drew one game and lost a nail-biting game against the overall winners (Monteney) 2-1. Mrs Foster was so proud of the team's determination and teamwork throughout the tournament and couldn't have asked for more from the girls. The player of the match (determined by the other teams) was Stella Wilson. Well done team Stocksbridge!



Y6 BOYS FOOTBALL COMPETITION

The Y6 boys football team took part in their league competition on Tuesday 20th October at Stocksbridge Junior School. Schools involved included Nook Lane, Deepcar A, Deepcar B and Marcliffe. The boys worked really hard as a team and lifted their game when they played a strong-sided Marcliffe to decide who would win the competition. The boys won 2-0 and are now through to the Sheffield City Finals next year! Player of the match was Mason Walker for his amazing goalkeeping saves during our toughest game. A big thank you to Mr Carr for supporting Mrs Foster with the competition and football training this half term. Well done to all involved!



MINI POLICE PROGRAMME



Stocksbridge Junior School are proud to introduce their first squad of Mini Police. South Yorkshire Police in conjunction with Stocksbridge Junior School are operating a Mini Police programme. 'The aim of the Mini Police programme is to promote and develop relationships between South Yorkshire Police and the local community, whilst increasing safety awareness amongst primary age children.' Our Mini Police will develop a knowledge and understanding of the role the Police play in our community and experience working alongside some of the officers from the Deepcar Police Station. In November the Mini Police will be looking at Road Safety and sharing their findings with their peers in school to ensure the important message of Road Safety is shared with all pupils.

THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE

the national
sleep
helpline

**Does your child
suffer with
sleep issues?**

Do you struggle
with your child's
bedtime?

Will your child
not sleep in
their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

03303 530 541
Available Sunday - Thursday 7pm - 9pm

The advertisement features a photograph of a woman and a young girl in a supermarket. The woman is smiling and looking at a product on a shelf, while the girl is holding a bowl of food. The background is a dark blue gradient with white and light blue text.

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 issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL BOTS

WHAT ARE SOCIAL BOTS?

Bots are computer-generated accounts which sit on social media, masquerading as humans. While many are harmless or even have good intentions, others are designed to extort, sell products, spread propaganda or bully human users. Bots – short for ‘robots’, of course – are often confused with state-funded troll accounts; the two can be difficult to tell apart. However, if the results are the same, then both should be treated similarly.

KNOWING THE RISKS

ASTROTURFING

Propaganda and conspiracy theories are usually niche interests on social media. But with an army of thousands of bots amplifying posts through retweets and shares, people can make their messages travel further and appear to reflect mainstream opinion. Known as ‘astroturfing’, this can make children more susceptible to questionable beliefs.

CYBERBULLYING

Bots can be set to hunt for certain search terms or opinions and then automatically reply aggressively to anybody who uses them in a message. This means that if your child posts something that whoever programmed the bot doesn’t like, they may be deluged with angry messages from fake accounts – which can be overwhelming and comparable to cyberbullying.

EXTORTION

Criminals use bots to trap users into sextortion or online blackmail scams. The bot cultivates a flirtatious online relationship with the victim, then persuades them into a video chat during which they are tricked into posing inappropriately or carrying out a sexual act. This footage is recorded, and threats are then made to release it to the victim’s friends and family unless money is paid.

SHADY SELLING

Bots are often used for illicit advertising – that is, they spam social media platforms with links to commercial websites. Additionally, some unscrupulous influencers have been found to use bots to artificially inflate their number of followers and the engagement with their account – making them seem more popular and therefore able to charge companies more to work with them.

SPOTTING THE SIGNS ...

BEWARE PROLIFIC POSTING

Bots post a superhuman amount of content. A visit to their profile usually proves they’re responding to people far faster than a human could. Check their join date and number of followers. If the account has been around for ages and still doesn’t have any friends, it probably isn’t a real person. A brand-new page is also a red flag.

NOTICE ODD USERNAMES

Finding a social media username that isn’t taken can be difficult. People often end up with their name and some numbers – but not the way bots do it. A username like johnsmith5273 is either a sign of a random number generator or a site offering an unwieldy alternative because the preferred name is taken, which isn’t something most humans would accept.

VERIFY PROFILE PICS

Check a user’s authenticity by investigating their profile picture: bots obviously don’t have faces, so they tend to skim publicly available photos to try to fool people. Put suspicious pics through a reverse-image search like TinEye – you might find they actually belong to someone else or are stock images.

CHECK THE CONTENT

Bots can’t think for themselves and usually just exist to amplify somebody else’s message. Try copying and pasting the text into the search function on Twitter, for example, and see if it’s being said anywhere else. If a lot of similar-looking accounts are saying the same thing, you’re probably looking at a bot army.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SPOT THE BOTS

Forewarned is forearmed, so if your children aren’t that familiar with the world of bots yet, explain what to look for using the tips in this guide. At the moment, most bots still aren’t that sophisticated – so finding accounts which are designed purely to troll people or spread misinformation isn’t hugely difficult, even for an untrained eye.

BLOCK AND MOVE ON

Your child isn’t obliged to be friends with anyone online, bot or not. Pretty much every social media app has a block button, and you should encourage your child to use it whenever something or someone is making their digital lives less than pleasant. If everyone blocked malicious bots rather than engaging them, they wouldn’t pose a problem.

BE SUSPICIOUS

While many people have made lifelong friends over the internet, it’s important not to be too trusting. Random strangers adding you on Facebook could well be bots, so do some background checks: do they have any mutual friends? Is it a new account? Even if everything seems fine, encourage your child to be cautious: warn them of potential risks.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alphr. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New Statesman, CNET, the Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Gizmodo, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.



SOURCES: <https://www.computing.co.uk/tech/tips/3085226/the-positive-power-of-twitter-bots> | <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/19/world/europe/asia-troll-factory.html> | <https://truepublica.org.uk/united-kingdom/propaganda-automated-bots-defending-the-government/> | <https://www.bbc.co.uk/trad/presenters/ames-obrien/what-are-the-twitter-users-with-eight-numbers/>



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#WakeUpWednesday

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