

In the Spotlight

12th May 2023

Principal News:

In the SpotLight is a regular newsletter to brief parents, carers and the wider community on key school news and messages.

General News I hope you and your families are well and have enjoyed the two recent bank holidays. This is a busy time in school as we continue to support Year 11s preparing for their first formal public exam of the 2023 series which is Biology on Tuesday. I know pupils are working hard and are being supported in school to be the best they can be. I wish all our Year 11s the very best for their forthcoming exam period. In a few weeks time, Year 10 will be sitting their end of year mock examinations as well. Thank you to all parents of Year 10 who attended the parents' evening this week. This was the first face to face parents evening for this year group and it was important to



engage with parents and carers in person; it builds better relationships and allows for better collaboration. Attendance was about 75%. I hope we can increase this with future planned Year 11 events next year. Attendance at parents' evening with your son/ daughter is an important part of the home school agreement and allows staff and families to work together for the best of the student. If you were unable to attend, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Taylor (Head of Year 10) for any information you may require. There will be another Year 10 data capture next half term.

Rewards – Next half term looks to be an exciting one with many foreign and domestic residential trips planned as well as numerous rewards opportunities including a Year 9 and 10 best and most improved attendance trip as well as a return of the cash-in initiative. Keep an eye on Edulink for further details about this.

Equipment—I referred to this a fortnight ago; however, too many pupils are still not bringing the correct equipment to school. Here is a list of the equipment all pupils need to have with them each day. Year 10s are running a daily pop up stationery shop for pupils to purchase essential forgotten items. Items are being sold at cost. Please make sure pupils bring to school a small amount of money if they need to purchase items. Thanks to the Year 10s who are giving up their time to facilitate this service.

Pens (blue or black and red)	Pencils H and HB	Reading Book
Pencil sharpener	300mm ruler	Eraser
Calculator (scientific for GCSE)	Coloured pencils	Fine felt tip pens
Protractor	Pair of compasses	Highlighter pens

Uniform – standards of uniform are still not where I would like them to be. The link is here should you need to check what is and what is not allowed <u>Uniform Policy</u>. Hopefully you will have already received the link for our uniform survey which closes on Friday 19th May. Here is the link again just in case <u>Uniform Survey</u>. Thank you to those who have already provided your views. I want to use next half term to provide clarity around uniform and consequences for not wearing uniform so everyone is clear come September.

Year 11 Examinations and attendance after May half term As you will already be aware, the last day that Year 11 must attend fully will be Friday 26th May 2023. After May half term they are only required to attend for their examinations. However, due to family circumstances and work commitments we are offering pupils the opportunity to be in school after May half term, if they need to be. Pupils will be able to attend their normal lessons with their normal staff to revise privately or receive any subject-specific revision that may need prior their exam. In order for this to work efficiently, we will need to know the dates that you will require your child to be in school with us after May half term. This will allow us to fully prepare for their attendance. A link to a form has already been sent out but here it is again as a reminder—Year 11 Attendance after Half Term. Please complete the form to confirm your child's attendance by Friday 26th May 2023.

Safeguarding Please find below a link to a video of an innovative cyber safety approach from the New Zealand government. It brings to life some of the dangers that our young people face in a realistic and humorous way—<u>Cyber Safety Video—New Zealand</u>. CEOP is the UK equivalent for cyber safety, run by the National Crime Agency, so please also take a look at this site too: <u>CEOP Safety Centre</u>



AN OAT ACADEMY

National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted o it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted lety with their children, should they fee ther guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OF RESTRICTION

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Telegram isn't new, but it's grown significantly in popularity over recent years, thanks to its secure nature and speedier performance than many of its competitors – including WhatsApp, While Telegram is an excellent app in terms of actual performance, like any messaging platform it brings its own challenges for parents when it comes to feeling confident about children being able to handle their own messaging conversations and contact with the outside world in general. Here's everything that trusted adults need to know about using Telegram safely.

LACK OF AGE RESTRICTION

Telegram has a 16+ age restriction on using the service, while someon-is required to be over 17 to actually download the app. Once that's accomplished, however, there's no need to provide further identificatio that means there's no guarantee that under 17s aren't using the app and no way to confidently verify the any other user actually is who they rantee the app -verify that

17+

CENSORED

POSSIBLE CYBERBULLYING

UNMODERATED CONTENT

ause Telegran ally moderation, it can spora ome a hotbed for illegal or a circulation of this material name d to its temporary removal from e App Store. In fairness, the sam an be said of several messaging latforms, but Telegram's (eature for lattorne), but Telegram's (eature

Advice for Parents & Carers

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PRIVACY CONTROLS

child wants to use Telegram, trongly suggest using the app's n privacy settings to restrict who can see they were last online, their profile photo, and hone number. This can be set to 'everybody', ontacts' or 'nobody': we'd recommend either s, depending on ho m to be. w locked

USE THE BLOCK FUNCTION

sers can block spam, abusive, or imposter accounts within the app. ocking stops that account from messaging your child, or viewing their ofile and activity. If the user in question is one of your child's peers or endship circle, it may be worth bringing it to the attention of their school. in mind that your child can also ny point if they wish. leave a Telegram

Meet Our Expert

Source: https://www.telegram.org/ | https://www.engodget.com/telegram-explained-2022-16303506

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PREMIUM ACCESS

@national_online_safety

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REPORT UNSAFE CONTENT

ossages which the app

NO



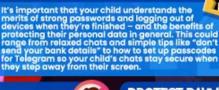
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DISCUSS SECURITY

for Telegram so your child they step away from their



PROTECT PAYMENT METHODS

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Apple and Google's storefronts offer family sharing options, but it's also worth double-checking your settings to ensure that a password or two-factor authentication option is set up to prevent any unexpected purchases. If your child does pay for a premium Telegram subscription without your consent, Apple and Google have been known to issue refunds in some cases.

PREMIUM COSTS

or L35.99 a year) adds translation features, and creases channel and account mits. If your child has access to bur Apple ID or Google Pay details, ey may be able to sign up for the emium package with owledge. 9 per month or £35.99 a ye

UNAUTHORISED W ACCESS

gram's major seiling

SECRET CHATS

ts often use Telegram to eir sources, for example), ung people it can make it difficult to prove that has been abusive or riate towards them on the