It has been a week of trips and visitors this week. Years 2, 3, 4 and 6 all went to Wimbledon Bookfest and got to meet some world famous authors, the girls football team went to watch England vs Australia at Craven Cottage, Year 5 had an Anglo-Saxon workshop, Year 1 went to the library and Year 2 went to the Brightsparks concert. It is wonderful to see the curriculum being brought to life and enriched with such exciting trips and visitors. As well as all of this, on Wednesday it was World Mental Health day and all classes recognised this by taking part in some mindfulness exercises. Next week is parents evening. I ask all parents attend these meetings to find out how your child is settling into the year. Have a wonderful weekend and I can hardly believe that next week is the last week of this half term.

This week, years 2, 3, 4 and 6 attended the Wimbledon Bookfest. It inspired our children to read and I must say the teachers have also come back buzzing with ideas. They got to meet famous authors including David Almond, Nadiya ‘Bake Off’ Hussain and Tom Fletcher. This is what Erin (6L) had to say:

*Today our Year 6 classes went to the Wimbledon Bookfest to see David Almond, a famous, award-winning author, talk about what life was like for him as a boy and why he has always wanted to write. He read out the beginning of his new book, The Colour of the Sun, and we were all hooked (we were also given a copy of it to take home). It was amazing; David Almond was like an average boy when he was younger, he played football and lived in a small town in the North East. He encouraged us to use what we see and notice, as well as our imaginations, when we write. He showed us his notebook, full of scribbles and drawings which led him on to writing his books. Surprisingly, he said his favourite subject at school was cookery (because all the girls did it!). I really enjoyed hearing his ideas and I am looking forward to reading his book so much (as well as Skellig later in Year 6!).*
On Tuesday night, Miss Howland, Mrs Rogers and I took the girls football team to watch England vs Australia at Craven Cottage. Not only was it exciting to watch the game but Leah (Yr5) was the mascot for the Australian team. It was a fantastic evening and we were all so proud seeing Leah lead the sides out. This is what they thought of it:

Today, the girls football team went to see the woman’s match (Australia vs England). We learnt a lot from this great experience and we all enjoyed it. We learnt many things, such as using all parts of your foot, as well as how to score a great goal. Just as the game began my partner (Charlotte) and I said that we would choose our favourite player from each team at the end. As half time approached, the score was 1-0 to England. After some snacks, we began watching the game once again. Charlotte and I discussed many of the skills we saw. Just after the game, I came to the decision number 3 and 12 were my favourite players because they really stood out. I really recommend football to anyone. It was amazing!

Year 5 Anglo-Saxon Workshop

Today we had the Saxon Workshop. The Saxon workshop was absolutely amazing because we got so involved and got to dress up and act out little scenes. It was also educational as we went back in time and the people that led it, told stories.
12/10/2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have been asked on many occasions to provide parents with information about certain apps and games that their children are using or are interested in trying. So, every week, I will be featuring one game or an app that has been brought to my attention by parents and ones that children tell me that they play at home or at friends’ houses. It is so important that you talk to your children about their online behaviour, how they interact with their friends and others online and how to keep themselves safe. Please see the advice at the end of this letter.

What is Tik Tok (Musical.ly)

TikTok (formerly known as musical.ly) is a social media platform for creating, sharing and discovering short music videos, think Karaoke for the digital age. The app musical.ly was used by young people as an outlet to express themselves through singing, dancing, comedy, and lip-syncing. In 2017 Chinese technology firm Bytedance acquired the video app Musical.ly for $800 million a year after, the company merged it with another of its products, TikTok. The app is now called Tik Tok, complete with a new logo, has all of the same features as musical.ly and allows users to create videos recorded in 15 seconds or less and share them across a community.

How TikTok (Musical.ly) works:
The new version of the app focuses on themed challenges, encouraging children to make videos of themselves doing things like editing two videos together or working out to '80s music. Parents should note that the app has its own celebrities, and kids may use it in hopes of becoming famous. Users cannot delete accounts themselves and must request a delete code from the developers after submitting their phone number. Users, or formerly known as ‘musers’, can either sign up using their Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or email account. Children either live stream or upload videos of themselves lip-synching to music, copying dance moves from popular videos.

Features: A “reaction” feature allows users to react to friends’ videos directly from the phone. Enhanced creative tools like interactive gesture filters; unlock features such as funhouse mirror camera effects; VR-type filters that can be activated just by blinking and Green screen-like background effects.” Other features include a direct messaging feature embedded in the app called direct.ly, the option to link to a live-streaming app called live.ly, a leader board that displays the most popular videos and a “Trending” tab that displays popular hashtags.

Age Restriction (recommended age ratings for the game)

The terms on musical.ly’s site currently state: THE SERVICE IS NOT FOR PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 13 OR FOR ANY USERS PREVIOUSLY SUSPENDED OR REMOVED FROM THE SERVICE BY MUSICAL.LY. IF YOU ARE UNDER 13 YEARS OF AGE, YOU MUST NOT USE OR ACCESS THE SERVICE AT ANY TIME OR IN ANY MANNER. Ireland and some other EU countries have put a 16 rating on the app.

Features to be aware of that are not suitable for Primary children

Inappropriate Material Because the app employs popular music, expect swearing and sexual content in the songs. Though the videos viewed during the review process only con-
tained some tight and revealing clothing, some families have encountered sexually suggestive or even explicit material, including "musers" in revealing clothing, dancing suggestively, or singing provocative lyrics. Between lip-synched popular songs and original compositions, there's a lot of variety here. Some songs are G-rated, but there's also music featured with mature themes and strong language. If your account is not private, all videos that are uploaded can be captured and saved by anybody who uses the app

Hashtags: Even if your account is private, it does not prevent your child from browsing other inappropriate content through the trending hashtags on the screen.

Messaging: a direct messaging feature embedded in the app called direct.ly.

Restrictions. New as of August 2018, a Digital Well-Being setting allows parents to set two-hour screen time limits with the app (locked with a password), and a new Restricted Mode (also password-protected) can help filter out inappropriate content. Settings allow users to share their videos with friends or the general public, but setting accounts to Private does nothing to eliminate previously obtained followers.

By default all accounts are public. Consider setting the account to private/friends only. Go to your child’s profile using the head icon in the lower left corner and tap the gear icon in the upper right corner. Select “Privacy and Settings” and click on “Privacy and Safety”. Here you can secure your account by making your account private. See image. With a private account only approved users can see your videos, however, your profile remains public. Read the developer's privacy policy for details on how your children’s information is collected, used, and shared and any choices you may have in the matter, and note that privacy policies and terms of service frequently change.

Blocking: To block a user, go to their profile, press on the “…” in the upper right corner, and select “block this user." You can unblock a user on the same menu. Users can report comments, videos, chats, or other accounts. Users can also Flag inappropriate content. To report a Tik Tok/musical.ly, then press on the button with three dots and then click “report abuse.”

As with all games and apps, we offer this advice to parents:

- Talk to your child regularly about what they are doing online and how to stay safe. Let them know they can come to you or another trusted adult if they are feeling worried or upset by anything they have seen. You can use these conversation starters to help.
- Explore your child’s online activities together. Understand why they like using certain apps, games or websites and make sure they know what they can do to keep themselves safe.
- Agree your own rules as a family when using sites, apps and games. You can use this Family Agreement template to help you get started.
- Manage your technology and use the privacy and parental control settings available to keep your child safe.

Maria Halpin
IT Manager/co-ordinator

Next week: WhatsApp
FRIDAY 2nd Nov BOOK NOW!
Mufti Day - £1 per child. Pay on day into buckets at school gate or purchase with your disco tickets.
Reception/KS 1 Disco, £5 with a snack bag. Collect from classes at 4.30pm
K2 Disco, £3 with cash tuck and shine shop selling fun Glow items.
(Suggested max spend £5). Collection at 4.45pm
Both Discos are straight from school!
It is a MUFTI Day so children can come to school in the morning dressed for the disco! SHINE or SPOOK costume optional. Children will be taken directly from class to disco!
Tickets may only be purchased via Classlist here:

BOOK NOW! HOUSE POINTS FOR HOUSE BOARDS
The winter fair is fast approaching and we are again looking for local parents, grandparents, friendly neighbours, friends etc to host real estate boards promoting the school fair. You can be in the vicinity of Wimbledon, Raynes Park, Worcester Park, New Malden or Morden.
This year we will award all those who can host a real estate board with 5 house points for your chosen school house group - Mercury, Venus, Neptune, or Jupiter.
Hawes and Co have been a long-term sponsor and supporter of Hollymount School Fairs. In return for their generous sponsorship we aim to achieve at least 100 boards.
The boards are in place for about 2-3 weeks, which is at least 2 weeks before the fair.
Please help support our sponsor. If you are willing to have an estate agents board outside your house please complete this form https://goo.gl/forms/GJPM04rKGao4RnWtI1

The Great Year 2 Bake Sale
Fundraising for Class Resource
19th October 2018, 3.15pm. School Playground
The Art Programme is inspired by a group of passionate parents who love art in partnership with Ms. Marshall, the art coordinator.

The big idea and inspiration is themed “Reach for the Stars” with all art being inspired by “Stars in Art.” Think of Van Gogh’s Starry Night or Matisse Starry Night and other celestial themes. The double meaning also motivates the students to take the first step and have a go.

Inspiration for Students by Year Groups

The Partnership Team

The first instalment of this inspiration are festive art cards produced by each individual student. Here is a sneak preview of an amazing expression of the theme. You can place your order from Classlist for your child/children’s expressions.

Look out for the 2nd instalment, the annual calendar, where year groups teamed up for this production.