



# St. Monica's Primary School

## Newsletter 17th November 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,



This week is Anti-Bullying week across the country and our children have been engaging in learning and discussion about this, following the Anti-Bullying Alliance's theme for 2023 of "Make a Noise about Bullying". It is the unfortunate truth that negative behaviours and attitudes happen in all aspects and ages of life, and giving our children the opportunity to learn about and discuss how our behaviour affects others, what it is like to be on the receiving end of persistent negative behaviour, and help them to understand the effects that this has on people's mental health is really important. Understanding this issue is key to preventing it from happening, but also for having the right strategies to deal with situations if they arise for yourself or for others. The discussions the children have in their classes, and the work they do in their PSRHE lessons particularly on developing positive relationships and E-safety is all part of the bigger, ongoing education of the children around the message of anti-bullying.

Our school council team has played an important role in this topic, being involved in assembly on Monday promoting their competition to design an 'Anti-Bullying Hero'. They will be judging the entries today and we will be sharing the winners next week. Our chosen Anti-Bullying heroes will then be used as characters on information posters the councillors will produce for our classrooms.

Tackling bullying involves working closely and in partnership with families. The Anti-Bullying Alliance has teamed up with Kidscape (the charity we invited in to hold an E-Safety parent workshop last year) to produce a parent's guide to tackling bullying. I couldn't put this any better than they do on their website when they say:

*"As a parent or carer, you are a vital piece of the puzzle in tackling bullying. You have a unique role to play in guiding and supporting your child through their school years and there are many positive steps you can take to help keep your child safe from bullying and harm. One of the steps is knowing when to ask for support. At the end of this resource, we have included details of organisations like Kidscape that can help."*

*This tool was written with input from Kidscape and is designed to give you information about bullying, tips about what to do if you're worried about bullying, and provide the tools to help you talk to your children about bullying."*

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2023-make-noise-about-bullying/parents-and-carers#:~:text=This%20is%20an%20opportunity%20to,the%20puzzle%20in%20tackling%20bullying.>

The guide will be sent out with this newsletter for your information and support. We are always here to support and talk about worries and concerns you may have on this issue so please get in touch with class teachers and/or myself if you would like to talk. Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mrs J Pearson

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### Reminder

Please kindly remember that there is no smoking or vaping permitted on school premises. We also do not allow dogs on site. Thank you.

### Lost Property

Please can we ask that you check that names are still clearly visible on uniform after washing. Our lost property has continued to grow each week this term. Many of the school jumpers, cardigans and P.E. tops have been in the lost property since we started back in September. The lost property is accessible daily in reception. Please take a moment to reclaim any lost clothing.

### School Photographs

Please check your child's bag this afternoon for the Tempest form to order individual and sibling photographs. You will need to order directly from Tempest at [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk). Below each photograph is a unique reference number, please view the photos online and make your selection for ordering as required. The photographs will be delivered to school and handed to children to take home in a couple of weeks. Please note that the school office does not have a record of the reference numbers, so please do not lose your forms. Thank you.

### Books for Bugs

Some of you may remember our Virtual Book Fair held last year. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to purchase discounted books ready for Christmas. All books are only £2.99 !!

The Book Fair is open online for just one week, so it is really important that you place your orders ASAP. Books for Bugs will give a percentage of their profits to school in the form of books for our library. This is a wonderful extra resource for the children to share and enjoy in school. If you would like to have a look at their launch video, it is available at <http://booksforbugs.co.uk/virtual-book-fair-info>. It is available to view not in preparation for our fair next week.

**Launch date: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Closing date: Midnight Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**



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### Junior Safety Officer

Erica and James have taken on the role of Junior Safety Officers this year. Their job is to help everyone in our school, and local community, to keep safe. They are busy planning a road safety assembly which they will present next week.



### FOSM

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**  
**CHRISTMAS FAYRE**  
FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER 15:30-17:30

THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER  
WACKY HAIR DAY  
IN EXCHANGE FOR  
CHOCOLATE

MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER  
PJ DAY  
IN EXCHANGE FOR A  
BOTTLE

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER  
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY  
IN EXCHANGE FOR  
CAKES



Fill & decorate a jar



1st price - £10 voucher  
2nd Price - £5 voucher

all will be available to buy at the Christmas fayre for £1

### COMPETITION TIME

- Find a jar with a lid
- Decorate the jar however you like
- Fill with sweets, stickers or small toys etc.....
- Bring into school by Tuesday 5th December
- A Winning jar will be picked on Thursday 7th December
- more than 1 entry allowed



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