



Hurst Green Happenings

Autumn Term no 79

5th November 2021

Nursery Parent Consultation Meetings

In the week commencing 15th November, Mrs Smith will be giving Nursery parents an opportunity to meet with her to discuss their child's progress in Adventurers.

A sign up sheet will be put up next week so you can select a timed slot that suits you.

If you are unable to get to school to see the sheet, please email the School office who will help you to book a slot.

These meetings will take place in person in the undercover area outside to assist with Covid regulations.



On Friday 19th November, we will be joining in with thousands of other schools across the country in raising money for BBC Children in Need.

The children are invited to come to school in their own clothes with a "spotty" theme. You could decorate a t-shirt or pin spots on a dress?

We are asking for a min donation of £1 per child and will be collecting on the school gates in the morning. Many thanks in advance for your support with this fundraising event.

We have had a very busy first week back. With all the bugs and sickness going around, we are delighted that our Reception Class still managed 100% attendance this week. Well done Explorers Class!



Following our letter about Parent Governors, we are delighted to announce our newest Parent Governor as Sarah Bruce. Sarah has children in both Nursery and Year 1 and we look forward to working with her in the future. We still have 2 places for Parent Governors. If you are interested in applying for this role, please get in touch with me.

As it gets colder and children come in with coats, hats and gloves, it is now, more than ever, really important that everything is clearly labelled so we don't end up with a huge amount of lost property.

Can we also remind parents that all hair below shoulder length should be tied back securely. This will hopefully prevent any outbreaks of head lice which we tend to start seeing at this time of year.

Enjoy the sunshine this weekend.

Mrs S George

Did you know that Hurst Green School Association is a charity listed on Amazon Smile? This means that if you sign up and set us as your chosen charity then each time you make a purchase via smile.amazon.co.uk the Hurst Green School Association will receive a donation from Amazon.

Once logged into Amazon under the Your Account option select Amazon Smile. From here you can select or change your chosen charity. There is another charity registered with a very similar name so please ensure you have chosen the Hurst Green School Association.

Last year the HGSA received £15.02 from Amazon. Let's see if we can beat that donation this year.



Many thanks

Patricia Curry (HGSA secretary)

Forest School News

Now that the weather is getting colder, please can we ask that suitable, warm clothing is sent in for Forest School. This should include a warm jumper or fleece, warm trousers, socks and a woolly hat. It can get cold outside and if the children get cold, it effects their enjoyment and learning.





SOUTH EAST SURREY DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association

SESDA Reg. Charity no.281076

Parents' Support Evening

Dyslexia – Questions and Discussion

Tuesday 16th November 2021 8pm – 10pm

SENCO from a local school will answer questions.

A chance for parents and carers to meet Committee members, who are themselves parents of dyslexic youngsters, and specialist dyslexia tutors, to talk about any concerns they have about dyslexia at home or in school.

This meeting is free and open to all parents and carers who have an interest in dyslexia.

Bookings please. We need to know numbers beforehand. Bookings to sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com by Saturday 13th Nov.

Covid restrictions - Masks worn when moving around but not during meeting. Hand sanitizer at door.

**Holy Trinity Church Centre, Carlton Road,
Redhill. RH1 2BX**

SESDA Helpline: 01737 556173

E-mail: sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com



Cheerleading classes in Edenbridge for 4-18 year olds

Dear Parents,

We hope you are all well and looking forward to the run up to Christmas!

We are holding cheerleading and tumble classes at Velocity Gymnastics academy in Jan from 5:30- 7:30pm on a Monday evening for ages 4-18 and would love for you to join us.

We offer high quality training in all aspects of Cheerleading, Fusion Cheerleading is a small friendly academy where all pupils are taught in a caring, encouraging and professional environment.

Cheerleading is a great inclusive team sport that combines physical endurance and strength-based activities, developing coordination, flexibility and mental skills. it is a fast-growing sport in the UK providing many boys and girls with a safe community where they can build confidence, leadership skills and self-awareness.

All teachers are fully qualified, and DBS checked. All pupils perform in regular internal showcases as well as performing in other events throughout the year. Why not come and trial a free taster class with us?

We hope your children are just as excited as we are about cheerleading!

Our classes are getting booked up extremely quickly and we have limited space so book your FREE trial now.

If your child isn't already signed up and you would like to book a FREE trial , please follow this link to our website:

<https://www.fusioncheerleaders.co.uk/book-online>

Kind Regards

**Connie Shaw
Fusion Cheerleading**

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a photo- and video-sharing app which allows users to chat with friends via text or audio. Users can share images and videos with specific friends, or through a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) visible to their entire friend list. Snapchat was popular during the pandemic, with many young people using it to connect with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an even larger audience and emulate current trends, rivaling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects on the app with people they know, they may still receive friend requests from strangers. Snapchat's links with apps such as Wink and Hinge have increased this possibility. Accepting a request means that children are then disclosing personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features. This could allow predators to gain their trust for sinister purposes.

EXCESSIVE USE

There are many features that are attractive to users and keep them excited about the app. Snap streaks encourage users to send snaps daily. Spotlight Challenges give users the chance to obtain money and on-line fame, and the Spotlight feature's series of videos makes it easy for children to spend hours watching content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat are not suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's Discover function lets users swipe through snippets of news stories and trending articles that often include adult content. There is currently no way to turn off this feature.

SEXTING

Sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse. While these pictures do disappear – and the sender is notified if it has been screenshot first – users have found alternative methods to save images, such as taking pictures with a separate device.

DAMAGE TO CONFIDENCE

Snapchat's filters and lenses are a popular way for users to enhance their 'selfie game'. Although many are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' filters on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations and create feelings of inadequacy. Comparing themselves unfavourably against other Snapchat users could threaten a child's confidence or sense of self-worth.

VISIBLE LOCATION

My Places lets users check in and search for popular spots nearby – such as restaurants, parks or shopping centres – and recommend them to their friends. The potential issue with a young person consistently checking into locations on Snapchat is that it shows other users in their friends list (even people they have only ever met online) to see where they currently are and where they regularly go.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add function helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this feature could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

Talk to your child about what is and isn't wise to share on Snapchat (e.g. don't post explicit images or videos, or overly identifiable details like their school uniform). Remind them that once something is online, the creator loses control over where it might end up – and who with. Additionally, Snapchat's 'Spotlight' feature has a #challenge like TikTok's. It's vital that your child understands the potentially harmful consequences of taking part in these challenges.

CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

Snapchat has recently announced that it is rolling out a new safety feature: users will receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Your child can send Snaps directly to friends, but Stories are visible to everyone they have added, unless they change the settings. If they use SnapMaps, their location is visible unless 'Ghost Mode' is enabled (again via settings). It's prudent to emphasise the importance of not adding people they don't know in real life. This is particularly important with the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchatters to see the places your child regularly visits and checks in: strangers, bullies and predators could use this information to engage in conversation and arrange to meet in person.

TALK ABOUT SEXTING

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it is important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sending, receiving or sharing explicit images, as well as the possible emotional impact. Emphasise that your child should never feel pressured into sexting – and that if they receive unwanted explicit images, they should tell a trusted adult straight away.

BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending explicit images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and choose report or block. There are options to state why they are reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sukhtankar is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and seeing behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Autumn Term 2021

Wednesday 17th November	Open Morning—prospective parents Please email school to book a slot
Friday 19th November	BBC Children in Need
Friday 3rd December	Mufti Day in exchange for chocolates
7th, 8th and 9th December	Christmas Performances
Friday 10th December	Nasal Flu Immunisation Christmas Jumper Day—in exchange for bottles Christmas Lunch
Tues 14th and Wed 15th December	Christmas Tables in playground—info to follow
Friday 17th December	Last day of Autumn Term

Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4th January	INSET DAY
Wednesday 5th January	Return to school
Thursday 7th January	Final Open Morning
Saturday 15th January	Closing date for Year R and Year 3 places for 2022
Thursday 10th February	HGSA Valentines Ball
Friday 11th February	Break up
14th—18th February	Half Term
Monday 21st February	Return to school
Tuesday 1st March	HGSA Sponsored Pancake flip Life Bus Visit
Friday 18th March	Red Nose Day
Friday 25th March	HGSA Mother's Day shop
Thursday 31st March	Last day of Spring Term
Friday 1st April	INSET DAY

Summer Term 2022

Tuesday 19th April	Return to school
Monday 2nd May	May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 26th May	Break up
Friday 27th May	INSET DAY
30th May - 3rd June	Half Term
Friday 17th June	HGSA Father's Day (or FUDGE) Day shop
Monday 6th June	Return to school
Thursday 14th July	HGSA Summer Disco after school
Friday 22nd July	Last day of Summer Term

Email: office@hurstgreenschool.org Website: www.hurstgreenschool.org Phone: 01883 712171

Emergency information regarding the school will be announced on Heart Radio 102.7FM and the school website