



DESMOND  
ANDERSON  
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Newsletter #9  
12th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week it's been. It was lovely to see so many of you at the DAPA museum this week. Many of you expressed how lovely it was to be in the school building after all these months. I hope you enjoyed seeing what the children have been learning. The museum will be open next Wednesday and Thursday after school. If you missed your day this week just come along on any of the 2 days next week.

Last week we published the news about Yasmin ( Escher class) representing us at the children's Parliament ahead of COP26. The next step is for our school council to discuss the topic with their classes and then decide as a school what we want to do to contribute towards saving the planet. Some children have already been actively researching this topic and doing some work on their own. Please talk to your children about some ideas or what you do as a family or household to help with this huge problem.

Next week is Anti-Bullying week as well as Children in Need (we got it right this time)! The theme for Anti-Bullying is 'one kind word' which is really powerful. Can you please talk about this topic with your child or children and help them come up with some kind words that they can use always. We will be doing lots of activities in school too.

Then on Friday the children can dress up in their Pudsey, spotted or own clothes for a donation of £1. So lots happening next week.

Have a good weekend  
*Mrs Powys*



Good news! Friday 19th November is **Children in Need** - that is next Friday!

Children can dress in Pudsey clothes, clothes with spots on or your own clothes for a donation of £1 and all money goes towards **Children in Need** of course!

# Black History Month celebrated!

In October we celebrated Black History Month. The theme this year was *Journeys* and every class was allocated a person who had made a difficult journey in life. These life journeys were often hard work and the person had to show great fortitude and resilience to not give up.

Lots of you will have seen the fabulous Black History Month museum which has been set up in the main hall. This showcases all the marvellous work that the children have undertaken in celebration of the journeys made in life.



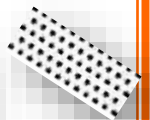
There were lots of positive comments from parents who were happy to be welcomed into the school building for the first time in a long time to see such amazing and inspiring work. The children looked so proud showing off their efforts and we all are too.



If you haven't been in to see this amazing showcase, please come on in! Opening times next week are 3.10 pm–3.30pm next Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th November.

## Year 3 fabulous artwork!

Year 3 have been learning about Pop Artist Andy Warhol and creating their own contrasting colours Pop Art fruit! They used Bendaydot paper to layer some contrasting colours. This helped create their bright and bold colours—what do you think?



# Remembrance Day

At 11 O'clock on the 11th day of the 11th month, we celebrated Armistice day or Remembrance day as it's more commonly known. On Thursday we remembered those who have sacrificed their lives in conflict and those who were or are serving in the armed forces across the world. After an assembly where we learned more about why we commemorate it and the meaning of the poppy, we got to listen to The Last Post as we had a respectful two-minute silence.

In Wiltshire, the children designed, coloured and created their own 3D poppies...



# What an achievement!

Lucie-Mae in Klimt achieved her badge 1 in trampolining on Wednesday this week. It was a tough challenge but she was very determined and resilient, and she did not give up. Now she must keep up her attitude so that she can earn her badge 2.



Well done, Lucie-Mae! That is a fantastic achievement.

# What Parents Need to Know about SQUID GAME

AGE RESTRICTION

15+

Suitable only for 15 years and over.

With themes of horror and violence, it's important for parents and carers to understand the potential risks posed to young audiences by the nine-episode Netflix-exclusive TV show, Squid Game. The series, rated 15+, is about a world where contestants who are deeply in debt play children's games in order to win cash prizes. The losers, however, are violently killed. The show's popularity has meant it has spread in various guises across online platforms, with a heightened risk of children and young people potentially viewing unsuitable content. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers understand exactly what Squid Game is all about.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some might argue that Squid Game contains content that might not even be suitable for older teens, let alone young children. Characters are brutally tortured and killed through stabbings or getting shot as a result of rules developed and enforced by a masked game master. The show also features sexual content and threats of sexual violence, as well as a strong theme of gambling that runs throughout the whole show.

## APPEAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Whilst the content is very much adult-themed, some features of the show seem to appeal to young children at face-value. The name "Squid Game" may be interpreted as a programme aimed at children rather than adults. The content itself, such as the bright and childish aesthetics, may also appeal to young children, particularly as there's a focus on playground games to go with it.

## SIMILAR CONTENT SUGGESTIONS

When using social media and streaming sites, content is recommended based on what is the user has consumed i.e. what they have watched or searched for. Therefore, there is a greater chance of your child being exposed to similar violent or horror-themed content on social media after watching a show like Squid Game.

## VIRAL SPIN-OFFS

As well as Netflix, Squid Game has grown in notoriety and prevalence on other platforms, like TikTok and YouTube, with clips of the show going viral. On YouTube Kids, a number of successful channels have taken advantage of the Squid Game trend, creating content such as "How to Draw Squid Game Characters" videos. Its popularity has also led to the creation of app games that put the player in the role of a contestant who is killed if they lose a game.

## SCENE RE-ENACTMENTS

Squid Game's pervasive presence on social media has encouraged many content creators to re-enact scenes from the show, which has led to reports of children wanting to also imitate those scenes displayed on social media at home and in school. Much of this content stems from the "Red Light, Green Light" game from the first episode, where contestants attempt to make it past a giant animatronic girl before she shoots them.

You may have heard of the current craze called 'Squid Game', based on a television programme. We have been recently concerned with the nature of some of the games that some of the children are playing based on elements of this adult programme. It's important that as parents and carers, you know what this is about and ways to deal with it. On this page you'll find an explanation as well as some important and useful advice.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Netflix has easily accessible built-in parental controls that allow you to set up a profile for your child with a specific age rating, block them from watching certain shows and even lock their account so it can't be accessed by anyone else. Netflix also allows you to access your child's viewing history to make sure they're not watching anything inappropriate for their age.

### CHECK AGE RATINGS

Age ratings on TV shows and films are a way to gauge what is suitable for audiences of different ages. If you are unsure about the content your child is watching, check the age rating to see if the TV show or film is deemed suitable for their age group. If not, try watching the show yourself or talking to other parents who have seen it before to get a better understanding of why it's been rated a certain way.

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### MONITOR ONLINE ACTIVITY

Squid Game has become a social media craze and it's possible your child will see some content related to the show on various platforms. Therefore, it's important to be aware of which websites your child has visited on their smartphone, tablet or laptop, and to also keep an eye out for which accounts they are following on social media platforms, such as Instagram and TikTok.

### HAVE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Making sure your child is comfortable telling you about what they see online can go a long way to ensuring you are kept in the loop about their online use. Showing an interest in what your child is doing online gives you the opportunity to discuss what is and is not appropriate for their age group, and how they might recognise their own feelings towards content they see.

### MONITOR BEHAVIOUR

Due to the viral nature of the show, even if your child has not seen Squid Game, it's important to keep an eye on their behaviour. There have been reports from schools of children "playing Squid Game" in the playground and acting aggressively towards the losers as a way to replicate the consequences of losing in the TV show. Viewing content that makes your child feel uncomfortable could also cause them to feel distressed or distracted, so it's important you can easily spot the signs.

### WATCH THE SHOW

If you're trying to figure out whether you should let your child watch Squid Game, it might be a good idea to watch the show yourself first. Doing so will allow you to get a better understanding of the show's content and themes, as well as help you decide if this is something you'd feel comfortable with your child being exposed to.

# Mathemagics!

Ms Chisholm , our Maths lead – gave children a home learning project to do over the half term. It was to do with celebrating 50 years of our current decimal coins.

We had a few children who did beautiful projects and they received a certificate and a Maths badge at our celebration assembly. Well done to the following children for their time and effort in completing the project.



Well done to the following children;

Lucie-Mae -	Klimt
Aliyah -	Turner
Isabelle -	Mackintosh
Sophie -	Mackintosh
Scarlett -	Miro
Adrianna -	Van Gogh
Guilia -	Mackintosh
Chloe -	Picasso

Please keep an eye out for another project next term!

## Diwali Workshop

Earlier this week, several of our classes took part in a celebration of Diwali in an organised Diwali Dance workshop!

The expert tutor told the children the story of Rama and Sita and showed how this could be told through dance! The children learned a sequence of excellent moves and came together at the end to show the full story!





**CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY**

**HERE ARE OUR STARS OF THE WEEK**

**Well done everyone!!**

**KS1**

Van Gogh - Isabel  
Cezanne - Omer  
Mackintosh - Jannah  
Matisse - Sarav  
Gardner - Joshua, Raphael,  
Aizah and Ralph

**KS2**

O'Keeffe - Yusuf  
Turner - Zion  
Monet - Mason  
Miro - Zain  
Picasso - Riaan  
Dali - Callum  
Hockney - Teagan  
Escher - Jessica  
Wiltshire - Joshua

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2021 / 22**

**(Subject to change)**

### **Term 2** (7 weeks)

#### **November 2021**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November PD Day (School is closed)

#### **Dec 2021**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December Break up from school at **1.30 pm** Christmas  
Holidays

20<sup>th</sup> Dec – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 Christmas Holidays

### **Term 3** (7 weeks)

#### **January 2022**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Inset Day (School is closed)

Term 3 starts (Spring Term) - Back to School

#### **Feb 2022**

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February

21<sup>st</sup> Feb – 25<sup>th</sup> Feb

Break up from School - Feb Half Term (normal time)

INSET DAY

Half-term

### **Communication with Staff**

If you would like to request a meeting or communication with a staff member, you can call the school office on 01293 525596 or alternatively fill in our [Contact Form](#) and a member of staff will get back to you ASAP. Thank you for your understanding during these changes.

Please find the contact form here: [DAPA Staff contact request](#)



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