



28th February 2019

Dear Parents/carers,

Already this week the children have had the opportunity to try out a new sport (table tennis) and participate in a rock band, in addition of course to their usual classroom activities. Today we have been joined by the Happy Puzzle Company who have developed the children's mathematical reasoning through the use of logic puzzles. With such a lot of exciting activities in school it is no wonder the weeks fly by so quickly at Black Horse Hill.

Admittedly, it is unusual for me to write to you so soon after our newsletter, but there are a few important things I need to communicate.

Internet Safety

Although I have very limited understanding of the character Momo, my research suggests that Momo is a very unpleasant alien-like woman who is allegedly popping up on you tube, WhatsApp and online gaming. Momo allegedly suggests children do highly inappropriate tasks. It would be very frightening for a young child to see this character.

Some parents have raised concerns about this character and indeed members of staff have reported that pupils from different classes have mentioned the character. We will remind children in school **generally** about online safety with the key message being: **if you see something that makes you feel scared or uncomfortable switch off the device and tell an adult**. We won't discuss Momo specifically in school.

Parents/carers should continue to monitor what their children are doing online and make sure their security settings are set to maximum. See this guidance if you need help to do this <https://www.wirral safeguarding.co.uk/online-safety-guidance-parents/>. If there are older siblings in the family please be vigilant and ensure that they are not exposing younger family members to the character.

Bumped Head notes

A group of Deeside schools have been working with an Emergency Medicine Registrar to design a head injury notification form for schools. The new form provides the key information medical staff need to know if a child attends hospital with a head injury. I have attached a copy for your information.

If a child does have a bumped head/head injury you will receive a completed copy of this form. If the child does later present some symptoms which cause you concern you can take this from to hospital/GP and the information required will be recorded.

Very few bumped heads result in a child needing medical attention, however we are extremely cautious at school and if a child has had any treatment to the head they will receive a red head injury form. Sometimes parents will say that their child is always getting bumped head notes and this is because we don't want to miss any injury that could possibly be more serious.

Earrings

I have noticed that a number of pupils are coming to school wearing earrings. The wearing of earrings is not permitted in school for health and safety reasons. If pupils do turn up to school wearing earrings parents/carers will be called to come to school and remove them. If your child has recently had their ears pierced and their earrings need to be left in then they must be covered by tape. This must be done at home by parents/carers.

The summer holidays is the ideal time for children to have their ears pierced because they can wear them safely in the summer holidays and their ears can heal.

Statutory Assessments

At our Year 2 Curriculum Evening in September we talked about the Statutory Assessment Tests for Year 2 pupils. These tests will take place during May. As stated at our meeting the test will be administered as part of normal classroom procedures and experience tells us that most children do not even know that they have had a test. Please speak to our Year 2 teachers at Parent/Teacher meetings in March if you have any queries.

Similarly, parents who attended the Year 1 Curriculum Evening will know that Year 1 pupils have a phonic screening test. This test will be administered in the week commencing Monday 10th June.

The children have very much enjoyed playing outside in the good weather without the restriction of their coats this week so I do hope this lovely sunny weather continues.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Morris
Headteacher