

Newsletter

Spring Term 2024

Week 12



This has been another very busy and exciting term. You will have seen on our Facebook and DOJO page the events that have been held and the pupils have enjoyed and developed their learning.

We have taken part in many sports activities and competitions, U Dance, Victoria's Got Talent, Phunky Foods cooking, and many more such as science week with all the scientific learning and visitors.

All of these events help our pupils develop their skills of collaboration and team work. As we return for the Summer Term please check the diary dates as we update our events.

Our Easter events were very well supported and we raised £2,500 which goes towards subsidising our trips learning events and visitors.

A big thank you to all the staff for the arranging of all of the learning and events this term and to yourselves for your continued support.

Your children are amazing and the school continues to go from strength to strength. Thank you and have a lovely Easter.

We break up for the Easter holidays on Thursday 28th March at 3:20pm and return to school on Tuesday 16th April. We hope you all have a well-earned rest and we look forward to seeing you all ready for the Summer term.



Wellness Guide

While scrolling online, you'll almost inevitably have come across posts or links with headlines like "You Won't Believe These 10 Crazy Facts about ...". Such lurid language - and the often-dubious nature of the content it promotes - has become something of a running joke on the internet.

Yet while these articles are often laughed at by communities online, they can have an insidious side.

Clickbait, as it's known, can frequently function as part of a trap: intended to draw users in for the sake of advertising revenue or, in worse cases, masking an attempt to collect their personal information. This guide explores the various risks of clickbait and offers some top tips for evading the pitfalls of this controversial marketing technique.

Guide at the end of the newsletter

Attendance



As a school we are responsible for recording pupils' school attendance in our school registers. The school registers are legal documents, and its data is forwarded regularly to the Department for Education and the Local Authority.

As a school we want all of our pupils to attend regularly and on time. We want to support parents to meet their legal duty to ensure regular school attendance. Thank you to all of our parents who are working with us in improving the attendance of the school.



If your child is going to be absent from school, please ensure you inform us as soon as possible by calling the school

office on 01900 606053 and leaving a voicemail on Option 1. You can also report this via the Scholarpack App.

Pupil Achievements

If your child has any extracurricular achievements you wish for us to feature on our newsletter, please email these to admin@victoriajunior.cumbria.sch.uk with all information and a photograph. This could be anything from swimming to horse-riding, judo to fishing, and everything in between.

Do you have concerns about a child in Cumberland?

If you are worried that a child is at risk of immediate harm please contact:

Cumberland Safeguarding Hub on
0333 240 1727
Email: safeguarding.hub@cumberland.gov.uk
(PLEASE PASSWORD PROTECT THE EMAIL AND SEND THE PASSWORD IN A FURTHER EMAIL)

Out of working hours – contact the
Emergency Duty Team on 0300 373 2724

To speak to a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for advice call
0300 303 3892
or email lado@cumbria.gov.uk

To speak to the Cumberland Early Help Team call
0300 303 3896
Or email early.help@cumberland.gov.uk

Wyn Allen Safeguarding, Health and Safety Consultants Ltd.
April 2023

Easter Holidays

Friday 29th March - Monday 15th April

April

16th - Return to school

20th - Carnegie Singers concert

22nd - Reverend Powell assemblies

23rd - 25th - Year 3 felt making

24th - Y5/6 Girls football tournament

25th - Year 4 Phunky Foods session

25th - Y5/6 Boys football tournament

29th & 30th - Year 5 Phunky Foods session

May

1st - 3rd - Year 4 Castlehead Residential

2nd - Year 4 Phunky Foods session

6th - Bank Holiday - School Closed

7th - 8th - Year 3 Kingswood Residential

13th - 16th - Year 6 SATS Week

15th - 17th - Year 5 York Residential

20th - 23rd - Year 6 London Residential

Half term

Friday 24th - Friday 31st May 2024

June

3rd - Reverend Powell assemblies

6th - Year 4 Phunky Foods

10th - 14th - Sports Week

11th - 12th - Excel Activities

13th - Football competition

14th - Sports Day

19th - Y6 Blackpool trip

21st - Y5/6 Odd Socks Theatre performance
at Curwen Park

July

1st - Phunky Foods Y6

16th - Year 6 Leavers Prom

19th - Break up for summer at 1pm

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, asocial and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'rage bait' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as "8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True". Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Victoria School

Nursery, Infant and Junior Term Dates 2023/2024

Autumn Term 2023

Starts: Tuesday 5th September 2023

Half Term: Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2023

Ends: Tuesday 19th December 2023

Spring Term 2024

Starts: Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Half Term: Monday 12th - Friday 16th February 2024

Ends: Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Term 2024

Starts: Tuesday 16th April 2024

Half Term: Friday 24th May - Friday 31st May 2024

Ends: Friday 19th July 2024

Good Friday: 29th March

Easter Sunday: 31st March

Easter Monday: 1st April

May bank holiday: Monday 6th May 2024

INSET DAYS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

INSET are determined locally

Please note these may differ from Cumbria County Council term dates