



Governors' Newsletter 14

Summer Term 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to get in touch with you to acknowledge the extraordinary challenges that you have been facing, and continue to face, during these difficult days and weeks. We would like to thank you for the way that you have worked with our two schools to help them to continue to support your children in their learning, in whatever way you can. Children's learning happens in so many different ways and we hope that the advice and support that has been put in place is helping you. The most important thing is that you all keep well and stay safe. Mrs Mc Carney and all the staff look forward to having your children back in school, when it is safe for them to return, and they will work hard to ensure that your children will catch up with their learning over time.

We want to pay tribute to those of you who are working in key roles to ensure that people's needs are met: front line workers in the NHS, Social Care and other settings, where there are daily challenges that are met with courage and deep commitment and those of you who work to ensure that we are all supported, by keeping us supplied with what we need to live. Our schools have been pleased to be able to be open for those of you who need support with your children, as you continue to go out to work in these key roles. Our Bowthorpe community has been united in the way that it is working with us and with one another to ensure that those who are vulnerable or in isolation can get the support they need. We would like to express our thanks to them for their dedication and commitment to the people of Bowthorpe.

As things change, and further guidance comes from government, we will work together to follow a transition back to school that is safe for all our children and their families. You will be kept up to date with the plans and how they will be implemented so that you understand what they mean for you and your children. In the meantime, we hope you keep well and stay safe.

Rosemary Games
Chair of Governors

New Governors

The Governors are pleased to appoint two additional parent governors to add their voice to the other volunteers who take care of the schools in All Angels' Federation.

Clare Watson and Debbie Bunting both have small children attending Clover Hill and bring much needed expertise to the Governing Body.

All Angels' Governors are unpaid volunteers who have wide ranging backgrounds and experience to help the school with advice and represent the wide variety of different groups in the federation's community.

Our Five Key Values:

Respect Trust Perseverance
Hope Success

All Angels' on Facebook

Keep up to date by following the schools' Facebook pages. Watch out for Mrs Brabbin's baking posts.



Suffering Illness or Bereavement

Our love and thoughts go out to all who have experienced or are experiencing illness at this time, with all the worries and concerns that that may have caused or is causing. Everyone needs a high level of support to help them through this time of crisis. We hope you have been able to get the support you need so that the very real anxieties that you are feeling are shared.

We would also like to express our deepest sympathy with those of you who have lost loved ones at a time when you are separated and when you most need to be together for comfort and support. In particular, our love and thoughts are with our member of staff, Amie Daniels, and her family, whose son Blake very tragically died after sudden illness.

We keep you all in our thoughts and prayers and hope that you can get in touch if there is any way that we can support you or your children at this time.

Governance during Lockdown

It is business as usual for Governors. The Governing Body has already had two video conference meetings since the lockdown. One to review the procedures for providing support for home schooling, for safeguarding all our children and supporting children of key workers and others who may need in-school provision; the other to look at Finance and Health and Safety. We are following DfE guidelines for meetings online and making sure we support staff, families and the community in any way we can at this time, making sure that the Federation is working towards maximising the safety and well-being of pupils, staff and parents.

Key Worker and Vulnerable Children

As you are possibly aware, schools have been asked to stay open to provide childcare for the children of Key Workers and for vulnerable children. At All Angels' this is being provided at Clover Hill for children from both schools. Using one of our schools as a base is more effective because of the numbers of children attending and is in line with Local Authority guidelines at this time.

If you are a key worker and need childcare, please contact the school. Contact details are at the bottom of this newsletter.

Safeguarding

Keeping children safe is our number one priority. The safeguarding policy has been updated to specifically deal with home schooling and safeguarding during lockdown. Details can be found on the school's websites.

Staff are keeping in touch with families in a number of ways. Please contact the school if you have any concerns. The names of dedicated safeguarding leads for the school are on the home page of the websites. In addition if you see anything or hear anything that makes you worried about a child, then say something. Call 0344 800 8020 or in an emergency call the police.

Free School Meal Vouchers

Governors apologise for any delay in issuing free school meal vouchers. We understand that the national scheme is still experiencing delays. Mrs McCarney has approached another company to provide vouchers for children eligible for free school meals to deliver them to families quickly. Please contact the school if you are still experiencing difficulties.

Initially before Easter the schools sent out vouchers for local stores and was able to provide a hot meal once a week for the whole family from the kitchens at Clover Hill.

Bowthorpe Church and NR5 Helping Hands have distributed food parcels and support to vulnerable families. The local community has been a huge help and have worked with the schools to make sure that aid is given to those who need it.

Family meals are provided now at Clover Hill Community Centre by Society Alive on a Thursday.

Please contact the school if you need further support.

Learning at Home

Teachers have had to learn quickly how to provide lessons at a distance. They miss the day to day contact they have with your children and have had to adapt to providing suitable online content and how to deliver it mostly to families' inboxes. If you find something your child has enjoyed online let their teacher know so they can share it with others.

We are aware that there are families who will not have the hardware to access online content, please contact the school if this is the case.

Parents please do not feel you have to know everything, in fact get your children to teach you. If methods have changed since you were at school, ask your children how they would start to tackle a piece of work. Teaching is also a good way to learn.

What is impressive are the activities the children are undertaking with their parent's lead, not just suggestions from school. Please share these with your teachers, they love to see how you are getting on. These could be shared on our Facebook pages too!

It is especially difficult if you are trying to work from home too and fit schoolwork in between video/phone calls.

Governors applaud all the efforts parents are making to keep their children involved in schoolwork. Your children will look back at this time and will remember baking that cake, seeing that pretty bird on a walk or making that absurd looking puppet. Take your time, find something you enjoy doing together.

Websites

The school websites are being updated with a new look for up to date information go to:

STMJ: <http://www.stmichaelsjuniorschool.co.uk/>

CHIS: <http://www.cloverhillschool.co.uk/>

Back to Normal?

In her first Newsletter at the start of the Summer Term, Mrs McCarney outlined what returning to school might be like when the Government give the all clear.

No one knows when that might be, but Governors are confident that the staff at both schools will put the same extraordinary effort they have exhibited during this whole crisis into making sure that it is as safe for your children when they do get the go ahead.

Our children may not be able to socialise the way they used to immediately, but some day we will be able to see large groups of children playing together again.

E-safety

The internet has become the first port of call when it comes to teaching during lockdown. With children spending more time online it is important that parents and carers are aware of some of the ways to ensure that they are safe when using online content and social media. Please see the advice below.

All National Children's Safety experts believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, blogs and tips for adults.

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

- 1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL**
When you or the parent/carer control a smart device, you can set up parental controls. With most devices, you can adjust the settings to restrict the content your children access. It can be difficult to do, as you'll often find yourself in the settings menu that comes with the device. On certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.
- 2 PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES**
You can set up restricted access on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu, look for a cog icon and select the "Users" option. Here you can set a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but the option "AppLock Control" in the play store.
- 3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES**
For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences settings menu and select "Screen Time" to set up your "Screen Time". Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.
- 4 THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES**
As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device by your home connected to the internet: a games console, smart TV, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think ahead! Consider how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the internet.
- 5 MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER**
Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a safe search setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for "safe search". Make sure you use the change to default each time you open the browser. This will certainly reduce the chance of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't see.

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

- 6 REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS**
Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the danger with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The message behind social media settings is often more for their benefit without leading it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of their on-screen software.
- 7 DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE**
Location software is really useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to follow your child back to safety. It's a good idea to disable location software on all devices at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why there can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.
- 8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES**
Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.
- 9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME**
Managing how much time your child spends on screens is a new challenge for many. It's important to monitor when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of limiting their screen time, however. Consider the content they are exposed to. It's more important to consider the content and content of what the screen is being used for. It's a good idea to put limits on devices using "Screen Time" functions, which you can find in the settings of various devices.

Meet our expert
Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than a decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety
Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.04.2019

All Angels' Governors

Rosemary Games (**Chair of Governors**)
Laurie Bolt (**Vice Chair of Governors**)
Janet Acaster
Kath Brabbin (Staff Governor STMJ)
Debbie Bunting (Associate Governor)
Linda Johnson
Lou Simmons (Parent Governor STMJ)
David Walker

Helen McCarney (**Headteacher**)
David Blake
Mandy Brown (Staff Governor CHIS)
Brian Earley
Gavin Shiers
Clare Watson (Parent Governor CHIS)
Lois Wiltshire

Feedback - Governors can be contacted by writing or emailing either of the schools in All Angels' Federation, please mark your communication for the attention of the Chair of Governors.

Clover Hill V.A. Infant School & Nursery Rawley Road, Bowthorpe, Norwich, Norfolk NR5 9AP
Telephone: 01603 745559 • Fax: 01603 744432 • email: choffice@allangelsfederation.org.uk
website: www.cloverhillschool.co.uk

St. Michael's V.A. Junior School, Astley Road, Chapel Break, Bowthorpe, Norwich, Norfolk NR5 9LA
Telephone: 01603 745812 • Fax: 01603 748315 • email: stmoffice@allangelsfederation.org.uk •
website: www.stmichaelsjuniorschool.co.uk