

**17<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

Dear Families,

A great turn out everyone- thank you! The soup and rolls were a huge success. Opal and Jade class are becoming great little cooks. Lots of you said how much you enjoyed this so thank you. On Friday, Jade and Opal classes joined together again to sing our Harvest song one last time, and finish our soup. Mrs B even made some homemade, fresh, bread to eat with it! Lovely! We are looking forward to planning more events with you – watch this space. Hold onto your hats, it's the last week before half term – the children are tired!



### **The negative effects of social media on young minds**

As I've immersed myself deep into the children's world of play, either pretending to be a shop keeper, selling vegetables or being a Martian from outer space, I have noticed how much gaming language the children are using in their interactions. For example shooting someone or talking about a character who kills people from on-line games. In school we are trying to teach children a world of rich vocabulary so it can be challenging if they are exposed to too much inappropriate online shooting/killing games which can also lead to inappropriate play and language in the playground. School appreciates the positive impact electrical devices can have but we would like to stress the importance of balancing this with as much 'play' as possible – including games that do not involve screens. Research has shown that excessive screen time drastically affects a growing child's development specifically, social and emotional development.



A long term research team, The Millennium Cohort Study Group, has conducted a study consisting of nineteen thousand children born in 2000 and 2001. In following this group of children, the study group has discovered that children who are prone to watching or interacting with electrical devices for more than three hours a day are more likely to suffer from behavioural and relationship-orientated problems by the time they were seven than those who spent less time on their devices. This study demonstrates the damaging effect these devices have. Children who frequently play on tablets or phones are at a higher risk of problems such as hyperactivity, poor concentration and friendship issues, a new study suggests.

So, please be mindful when handing over electrical devices, the more time children spend playing on e-media reduces the time spent on constructive activities such as interactions with family members, reading and playing.

**Walk around the village - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

Both Jade and Opal class plan to walk around the village of St Day this week. We would like to complete a learning walk around the village pinpointing certain geographical landmarks. If you are able to lend a hand in the afternoon please let me know. Our next step after half term –is to walk to Carharrack park as a group.

**Parent Partnership Meetings- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October – in School**

Please remember to sign up for parent partnership meetings this week. It is a great chance to catch up and share ideas about how you can help your child learn at home and to celebrate achievements so far this term.

**Homework**

The children have new RWInc homework. New letters to practise at home include letters sounds, n, s, i. Library books are sent home for you to share with your child. For guidance on how to write the sounds please see attached RWInc sheet.

**RED READING BOOK BAGS**

**Please make sure you have ordered a red reading book bag from the office as I believe there is a bit of a wait for them. It is essential that EVERY child has a red reading bag in order for the children to share their reading with you at home and in school. All homework is sent home in book bags so please make sure they are brought into school every day. We will send little phonics books home as soon as the children are confident with their first 5 letter sounds. Those children with book bags have chosen a library book to share with you at home.**

**Half term 24<sup>th</sup> October - 28<sup>th</sup> October**

We return to school on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Have a lovely, safe half term holiday. The children have settled into school so well and I look forward to many more adventures in the build up to 'Christmas' – I know that word already!! It is going to be **BUSY**.

As always, please get in touch if you need anything.

Thanks

***Miss Viv Horne***

***Opal Class***