IN TOUCH

CHAMBERLAND RESIDENTIAL

WE ARE CELEBRATING WORLD BOOK DAY
NEXT FRIDAY 6TH MARCH

WE HAVE ORGANISED LOTS OF EXCITING ACTIVITIES FOR THE CHILDREN TO TAKE PART IN
INCLUDING:
CLASSROOM CHARACTER HOT-SEATING
Pick a book. Read a book. Share a story
Shared reading activity with another class!
WORLD BOOK DAY TOKENS FOR ALL!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO COME TO SCHOOL IN YOUR WORLD BOOK DAY COSTUME
AND BRING IN YOUR EXTREME READ PHOTO!

WE ARE ALL LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT DAY CELEBRATING BOOKS!

THANK YOU
AMANDA BISHOP

St.Mary's CE Primary School Extreme Read Challenge - REMINDER

At St. Mary's we are passionate about reading and we really encourage children to explore the pleasures of books and reading!

The idea is for children to have photos taken of them reading in the most interesting/extreme places they can, so long as they are safe. Whether it is up a tree, on top of a mountain or standing on their head, we want your photos!

If you would like to take part, your challenge over the half term is to take a picture of your child reading somewhere unusual and send it in to school by **Wednesday 4th March**. We will be displaying the photos for all to enjoy!

If you wish to send your chosen photo electronically, please send it by email with your child's class and 'Extreme Reading' in the subject to: office@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk.

(One picture only per child please!)

Can't wait to see the results!

Mrs Bishop

(Deputy Head)

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

St Mary's CE Primary Mothering Day Service will be held on **Friday 20th March** at St. Mary's Church - starting at 9.45am. All welcome.

Smart Speakers – A parents guide

Tips to get the best out of smart tech ▶▶

internetmatters.org

It's estimated that one in five homes in the UK use a smart speaker. As children are using devices at a younger age, it's important to consider setting controls on the devices they use.

How can smart speakers help?

Smart speakers can connect to a range of apps to allow you to;

- Stream music
- Play voice-based games
- Set reminders
- Shop online
- Support children with reading and other key skills

What do you need to watch out for?

Use of your personal information
Many of these devices are **always quietly listening** and collecting data to be more helpful but it's important to be aware of how this information is stored.
Make sure to check your privacy settings on the account that controls your device and set these to a level you are happy with.

Hidden costs
Be aware that if you are connecting your device to other apps and devices, **there may be a subscription fee to pay** and connected devices tend to be more expensive.

Streaming music and making purchases
If your device is not set up with parental controls your child **may be able to play music with explicit lyrics** or make unwanted purchases.

Changing interactions with tech
There is a concern that home assistants may change the way children interact with others, in conversation or simply making requests. **It's important to direct children to be polite** when using the devices and to get involved if they are having conversations with the device.

Top tips to remember when setting up your smart speaker

Speak to your kids about online safety – When introducing the smart speaker, sit down with your kids and share the rules on how they should use it. Remind them not to use inappropriate language when communicating with the smart speaker.

Check the basics – Does the app allow you to create children's accounts? What privacy settings are available? Can you set two-factor authentication to protect the product from hacks?

Set parental controls – Review and set controls to filter specific types of content kids could access. You can also set parental controls on your broadband to limit their access to inappropriate content.

Understand how smart speakers work – Take time to scan the device's manual and the company's site to get more information about features that can support your child particularly if they have any special needs.

Use strong passwords – Use well-protected passwords for you and your kids to avoid potential hackers.

Keep your software up to date – Companies release security updates and features so it's a good rule to stay on top of these updates.

Mute your speakers – To control what your smart speakers hear, is to mute the device when you're not using it.

Review your voice and audio interactions – You can control what is shared. With some smart speakers, you are able to review your voice interactions, delete or turn off auto-saving of interactions altogether.

Visit internetmatters.org for more advice
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