

## Newsletter - FRIDAY 25 March 2022

Thank you for taking the time to fill in the parent survey. I will be collating the results and actioning the points raised. This information is really useful to school as we all want our school to be the best experience it can possibly be for both you and your children.

I know we have had a few occasions where the children have been in either dressing up clothes or non uniform but your support with this is really appreciated. It was wonderful to see so many super heroes in school last Friday!!!

**Mrs Allen, Headteacher**

### Attendance

Well done to Mrs Cruise and Mrs Simpson's classes for winning the attendance bear this week to share with 99.3% attendance.

### ATTENDANCE FROM 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021

Overall attendance 93.6% Target 97%

KC 94.4% LE 93.9% AJS 93.7% SC 92.5%

### Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns please do not hesitate to contact school and speak to either Mrs Allen, Mrs Blakeman or Miss Lumsden.

### General Information for all Parents/Carers

**Earrings-** No earrings or clear space savers are to be worn by pupils for Health & Safety

**Batteries Recycling-** We are also still collecting any used batteries in partnership with Groundworks in our pursuit to win another recycling prize for our school.

**School Uniform and Book Bags** - just a reminder that you can order online all logoed uniform from Total Sport NE, Hendon Road, Sunderland, SR1 2JD. We no longer sell any uniform from the school office.

### Dates for your Diary 2021-2022

Thurs 31 Mar 2022 - AJS Class visit Hylton Castle  
 Mon 4 Apr 2022 - Parents Evening  
 Tues 5 Apr 2022- Parents evening  
 Wed 6 Apr 2022 Easter Bonnet Parade - whole school  
 Fri 8 Apr 2022 - school closes for Easter holidays  
 Mon 25 Apr 2022 - school reopens  
 Mon 2 May 2022 - Bank Holiday - school closed  
 Tues 3 May 2022 - School reopens  
 Mon 23 May to Fri 27 May - A full week of Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in school  
 Thurs 26 May 2022 - Family Platinum Jubilee Tea Party- details to follow  
 Fri 27 May 2022 - School closes for Half Term  
 Mon 6 June 2022- **INSET DAY**-School closed  
 Tues 7 June 2022 - School reopens  
 Mon 13 to Fri 17 June 2022- Year 1 (and Year 2 retakes) Phonics Screening  
 Fri 17 June 2022 - St Benedict's Hospice **YELLOW** Day  
 Wed 22 June 2022- Nursery Sports Day  
 Thurs 23 June 2022 - School Sports Day  
**Fri 1 July 2022- Queens Platinum Jubilee Day - School closed**  
 Fri 15 July 2022 - Reports to Parents  
 Wed 20 July 2022 - Year 2 Leavers Assembly & Performance-details to follow  
 Fri 22 July 2022 - School closes for summer holiday

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS- School Holiday vouchers

Although every child receives Universal Free School Meals up to Year 2 you can still apply for income based Free School Meals. The government has decided to issue vouchers over the next school holiday you will only receive a voucher if you qualify. Please go to Sunderland City Council website to apply.

## Online Payments-Pay360 Educational Payments

Any parents who require a code to set up your account (you do not need a different code every time you need to pay) please contact the school office and we will be able to assist you. Once set up you can pay for everything trips, clubs etc. as we move forward to a cashless system.

## ClassDojo

It's fantastic to see so many parents getting involved again!! Please keep checking for updates in the class story and please send photos of what your child is getting up to at home, we love to see them having fun!! If you see a post please feel free to comment on the class posts, it really means a lot to staff!!

## Red Nose Day 2022

Thank you so much for your kind donation of £39.50.



## Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday 6 April 2022

Don't forget to start making, with your child at home, an Easter Bonnet for our annual parade around the community! A letter has been sent home on Wednesday regarding our plans for the day.

We are also looking for donations of sealed packets of cakes towards our fundraising Cake Sale



## Website

You can find all letters which are sent home and school events on our website. We also try to update them on ClassDojo

## Pre-loved Uniform

We have a selection of pre-loved uniform in our school reception area. It is freshly washed and bagged. So please feel free to have a look if there is anything you need. If you have any good quality uniform you would like to donate please hand in to the school office.

## Parents Evening Consultations

A letter has been sent home on Monday for everyone to sign up online on our website for Parents evenings. We are offering face to face and telephone consultations. Please sign up online and then let the school office know as soon as possible if you require a consultation by phone.



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PHONE SCAMS

In a three-month period during 2021, no fewer than 45 million people in the UK experienced a suspicious attempt at being contacted via their mobile. Phone scams are a common form of cyber-attack where fraudsters engage directly with their intended victim through their smartphone. As our phones carry so many sensitive (and therefore potentially valuable) details about us, it's vital that trusted adults are alert to the tactics that scammers use to get access to user accounts, personal data and private information for financial gain.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### SMISHING

SMS phishing, or 'smishing' is one of the most common forms of mobile-based cyber-attack. Smishing is when a scammer texts their target, pretending to be a reputable person or organisation. They aim to trick the victim into supplying sensitive data such as bank details and personal information, so that they can then access the target's bank accounts and remove money.

### IMPERSONATION

Fraudsters often impersonate someone else to trick the victim into actually transferring money directly. They might claim, for example, to be a friend or relative using a different number who urgently needs funds. Other common cons include sending fake texts informing the target that they have a package which requires a fee to be delivered, or that they have an unpaid bill to settle.

### NUMBER SPOOFING

Here, the scammer takes impersonation a step further by cloning the phone number of a genuine company. So when the target receives a call or text, their phone recognises the sender's number as legitimately belonging to Amazon, HMRC, the NHS or the DVLA (who have all been impersonated in these cons). This makes the scam harder to spot and the victim much more inclined to comply.

### FAKE TECH SUPPORT

Attackers contact a target, pretending to work for their employers' IT support team. They then advise them to download some software to fix 'a technical issue' with their device. In reality, however, the software grants the scammers access to the victim's private data and sensitive information. This con is more common on desktop and laptop devices, but is still possible to accomplish on mobiles.

### SIM HIJACKING

SIM hijacking switches control of a phone account from the victim's SIM card to one in the scammers' possession. Criminals use personal details pieced together from social media (birthday, address, pet's name and so on) to pose as you, then instruct your phone network to transfer your number to their SIM - giving them access to all calls and texts meant for you, including one-time login passcodes.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DO SOME DIGGING

If you've received a call or text asking for specific information, research the caller's number. There are several websites that allow you to enter a phone number and will then display any relevant information about it - this usually includes feedback and comments from other people, so you can easily see if that particular number has been implicated in potential scams.

### TRY A CALL BLOCKER

If a suspicious call comes through on your mobile, you can manually block the number if you believe it to be dubious or a nuisance caller. Alternatively, you could consider installing a call blocker service on your phone. They automatically stop calls getting through from numbers which have been reported as suspicious, halting potential scammers in their tracks before they can reach you.

### VERIFY THE SOURCE

Never disclose confidential details to an individual or organisation you're unfamiliar with. If the caller claims to represent a company you trust but is *still* asking for personal information or payment on an outstanding charge, end the conversation. Then find the company's genuine number on a bill or on their website and call them directly to confirm if there really *is* an issue you need to address.

### BREAK OUT THE TECH

Lots of anti-virus software now also protects mobiles. Some anti-virus apps can detect phishing links in text messages and alert you to the risk. When you're out and about, try not to use public WiFi for sensitive transactions: it's far less secure than your home WiFi network. Instead, you could consider installing a VPN (virtual private network), which encrypts all data travelling to and from your phone.

### REPORT INCIDENTS

If you or a family member *does* give out confidential information to a caller you aren't sure about, contact the actual company mentioned to check if the call was genuine. If they confirm that the call was not made by their organisation, you should report it as a potential scam via the Action Fraud website and (depending on exactly what information was divulged) consider involving the police.

### BE WARY OF LINKS

If you get a message from an unknown number asking you to click on a link, report it as spam and do *not* open the link. One recent example 'warned' victims they'd been exposed to the Omicron variant and needed to click a link to buy a special test - only to find they had paid their money to scammers. Links can also install malware onto your device, so always treat them with extreme caution.

## Meet Our Expert

Formed in 2016, KryptoKloud provides cyber security and resilience solutions to its customers. With offices in the UK, the company offers managed service operational packages including cyber security monitoring and testing, risk audit, threat intelligence and incident response.



sources: <https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/news-centre/2021/45-million-people-targeted-by-scams/> <https://www.actionfraudcentre.org/blog/news/blocking-new-uk-11222-statistic-financial-scams-committed-every-5-seconds/> <https://www.rich.co.uk/news/2022/01/19-the-biggest-scams-of-2021/>



## British Science Week 2022

Last week our whole school took part in British Science Week! Our theme was 'Protecting our Oceans' as plastic pollution is such an important topic for our children to be aware of. Each class completed some exciting tasks to develop their awareness of how pollution ends up in the sea and what we can do to help.

