



Welcome to Mr Plaskitt, our Trust Safeguarding Lead, who will be working at Alt for some days during the week. You will see him around on the gates and he will be supporting our children and their families. Welcome to the team!

## EYFS

### Amber and Ruby

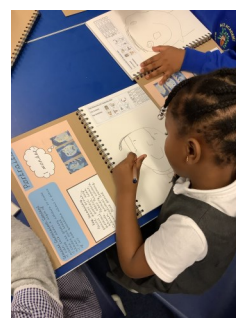
This week, we have been learning about families and homes – we have been talking about who is in our family and who we live with.



## KS1

### Opal

In art, we have been using sketching pencils to create our portraits. We had to be very gentle to make sure we added the correct tone for the details.



### Jade

We have been learning to take turns and share in PSHE this week.

### Pearl

In geography this week, we have been drawing maps and describing our local area. Ask us some questions at home to see if we can remember.



## Lower KS 2

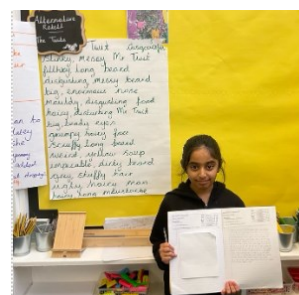
### Topaz

Every Thursday morning, Topaz class has a ukulele lesson. This week, we sang various songs about our dog doing the can can (ask us!) and Eugenius the musical. Finally, we played our ukuleles; we are learning the song twinkle twinkle little star.



### Citrine

In Citrine class, we have been conducting a rather revolting scientific investigation. We investigated the effect of fizzy, acidic liquids on our teeth using eggshells as a model. The results were quite hideous.



### Emerald

The children in Emerald class have been putting the finishing touches to their narrative writing topic. Their beautifully-written stories about the vile pranks Mr and Mrs Twit play on each other have made us teachers feel amused and nauseated in equal measure!

## Upper KS2

### Amethyst

In Amethyst class, we have been looking at forces in our science lesson, exploring Newton's laws of gravity by carrying out different experiments. In PE, we have also been developing our travelling and dribbling skills ready to apply them in a range of different games.



### Tanzanite

This week, we have delved deeper into our topic of the Tudors. We have researched the lives of the wives of Henry VIII and used our iPads to help produce our own fact files. Alongside this, in art, we have begun looking at Tudor miniature portraits and have had our own attempt at sketching these too.



### Sapphire

In PE, we have been learning about the importance of warming up and cooling down to ensure that our bodies are ready for exercise and can recover well too. We have also been participating in team-building activities which were great fun.



## Star of the Week

Well done to this weeks stars of the week.

Amber	Eliza	For becoming super independent, especially during lunchtimes
Ruby	Freddie	For being a fantastic member of Ruby Class and having super ideas.
Opal	Charlie	For being a friend to everyone and a super role model.
Jade	Hooriya	For always trying her very best with independent learning and completing challenges to stretch her thinking.
Pearl	Geniveve	For great contributions during carpet time and for joining in more with group work.
Topaz	Wade	Infectious enthusiasm with his singing in our ukulele lesson
Citrine	Eilayah	For making a super effort with her reading, maths and writing this week. She has tried so hard even when things are challenging.
Emerald	Hanna A	For producing a superb piece of writing based on The Twits, incorporating her own
Amethyst	Haseeb	Always giving 100% effort.
Tanzanite	Rahaf	For going that extra step in her learning by challenging herself in her own time to try
Sapphire	Leticia	For consistently making valuable and relevant contributions during class discussions.

**Principal's Award:** Ali N– showing great kindness and care for others.

**Principal's Reading Champions:**

Leo, Zoya, Ismail, Ronnie, Ensley, Sahil, Mustafa M, George A, Bella, Urwah, Minsa



### Health & Safety Reminder

Please be reminded that children are not to play on the climbing frames or with the play equipment either before or after school. Bikes and scooters are to be pushed once on school grounds and either stored in the bike shed or taken home with parents.



### Breakfast club

Please can all parents and carers who attend breakfast club support us by tidying their plates and cups away once they've eaten. We have noticed that some families are eating and leaving their mess for staff to clean up.

Please support us to keep our school hall clean and tidy.



### Programme of Coffee Morning Agenda 2023-24



On 10th October, we will be sharing details of the new, exciting parenting workshop, starting soon at Alt Academy. We know that being a parent is not always easy and families need extra support at some stage as children grow up. The Parenting workshop will help you better understand & support your child, improve their communication/social skills and learn strategies to reduce challenging behaviour.

**Coffee mornings will take place every Tuesday morning at 9:00am in the KS2 hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Here is the agenda for this half term..... please could and join us!**

**3rd October** – Qwell – Online Counselling Service for Parents

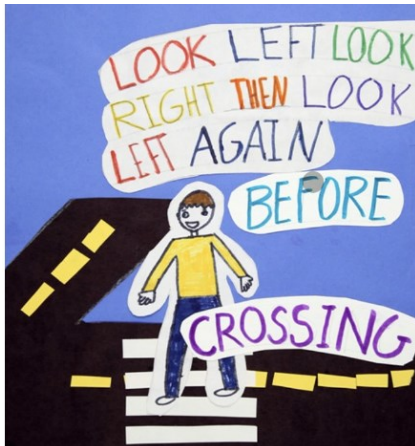
**10th October** – Coffee chatter and natter! Parents to offer each other support, tips, suggestions & encouragement.

**17th October** – Parenting course –starting soon in Alt Academy – come along to find out more!

**24th October** – Coffee chatter and natter! Parents to offer each other support, tips, suggestions & encouragement.

**Coming soon - exciting, new courses, including Parenting, Maths & ESOL. If you are a FCHO tenant, then you can access free work-related training too! Attend Coffee Morning to find out more.**

### Crossing Patrol

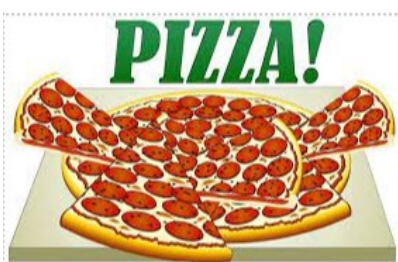
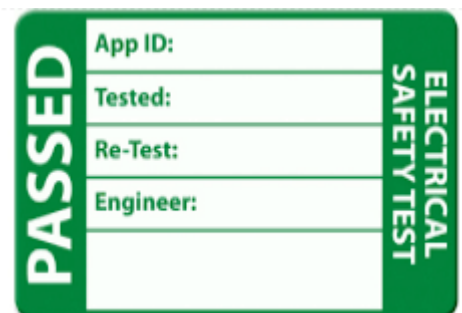


We are currently experiencing intermittent levels of school crossing patrol outside Alt Academy. This means, that there will be some sessions where there is not a crossing patrol on site. In assembly on Monday, we are going to recap the 'look left, look right' approach so that children know to watch the road very carefully. Whilst staff on duty can support a child crossing the road if they appear to be in danger, this support is not consistently available and is not to be relied upon. Please support your children to be safe on the crossing. If your child walks to and from school alone, please discuss road safety with them.

### PAT testing – iPad chargers

Please can all Key Stage 2 children bring their iPad chargers into school every day.

Next week, on 4th October, **children must have their chargers in school to be PAT tested.** This is a vital test which will ensure the safety of all plugs and electronic equipment. Thank you for your support.



### Pizza School Lunch!

On 5th October, we will be having a special pizza lunch! We will be offering this for free to all Key Stage 1 and EYFS children. If there are children in KS2 who are eligible for Free School Meals but usually have a packed lunch, we would love them to take up this offer too.

### Football Competition

A HUGE Well done to our Year 5/6 football team who played at Hathershaw College yesterday (28th Sept) and came 3rd overall!

They faced some stiff competition but held their own and did us proud.

Great job Team Alt.



### Parent iPad meeting – Year 3 parents

Calling all Year 3 parents!

Come and join Mr Stuckey, Mrs Branwood and Mr Denny as they talk you through your child's new iPad.

You must attend to sign the correct forms so your child can bring their iPad home.

There are two options:

**Friday 6th October at 9:00am – KS2 hall**

**Friday 6th October at 3:00pm – KS2 hall**

It is important as many parents/carers attend so that we can keep all children safe online.

Thank you for your continued support.



## Attendance

Please support your child's learning by ensuring they are in school, and on time every day.

We ask all families to book holidays in the school holidays (except for exceptional circumstances).

The attendance policy for Alt Academy is on our website. Here is a link:

[https://www.alt.theharmonytrust.org/serve\\_file/19778567](https://www.alt.theharmonytrust.org/serve_file/19778567)

If you have any questions about this, please speak to Mrs Cooper, our Office and attendance manager.

Thank you for your continued support.



**Overall attendance year to date – 93.6%**

**Weekly winners – Well done to: -**

**EYFS and KS1 – Jade 95.5%**

**KS2 – Emerald 92.8%**

**Our target is 96%**



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING



Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health ... so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.

## 1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.

## 2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).

## 3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.

## 4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

## 5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.

## FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

**Childline:** talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at [www.childline.org.uk/get-support/](http://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/)

**National Bullying Helpline:** counsellors are available on 0845 225 5787 or by visiting [www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html](http://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html)

**The NSPCC:** the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at [www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/) and can be reached on 0800 800 5000

## 6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent 'fighting their battles for them'. In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.

## 7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

## 8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.

## 9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.

## 10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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## Sensory needs seminar for families of autistic children



Friday 10th Nov 2023  
9.30am —2.30pm

Honeywell Business and  
Community Centre  
Hadfield St, Oldham  
OL8 3BP

This is a **Free** seminar for families of Autistic children.  
Refreshments are provided, please bring your own lunch.

**Please note this event is for parents/carers only**

### Booking is essential

Book your place by following this [link](#)

To find out more contact:-

Tel: 0161 998 4667

Email: [abigail.gibson@nas.org.uk](mailto:abigail.gibson@nas.org.uk)

## FREE Customer Training



**ACCREDITED COURSES** - Places will need to be booked for the following, by emailing [customertraining@fcho.co.uk](mailto:customertraining@fcho.co.uk) or speaking to your FCHO Directions advisor if you have one.

\*See criteria - Open to 19 years old, Not in employment or education and have been in the EU for 3 years plus. Support maybe provided on request for travel expenses.

### Warehouse and Logistics Level 1

Get a qualification and a guaranteed interview with Amazon warehouse.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September (10 days) 9am – 3pm @ First Choice Homes. Union Street. Oldham. OL1 3BE. \* See criteria

### Teacher Training Level 1

Passionate about education. Dreamt of working in a school setting?

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October for 10 weeks (Mondays) 9.30am – 3pm @ First Choice Homes. Union Street. Oldham.  
\* See criteria

### Business Admin Level 1

Perhaps working in an office is more your career move. We have you covered at FCHO!  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December (Thursdays and Friday) 9.30am – 2.30pm  
@ First Choice Homes. Union Street. Oldham. OL1 3BE. \* See criteria

### Sports Facilitator Level 1

Considering a career in sport take your first step!

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October (2days) 9am – 3pm @ Werneth Cricket club in collaboration with Dream big sports. Open to anyone 16-28 years of age.

### Food & Hygiene Level 1 and 2

Looking for a career in catering? Fancy completing an accredited course from the comfort of your own home, at a time that suits? Open to all.

**NON-ACCREDITED COURSES** - Places will need to be booked for the following, by emailing [customertraining@fcho.co.uk](mailto:customertraining@fcho.co.uk) or speaking to your FCHO Directions advisor if you have one. Open to all.

### Step into NHS coming soon to FCHO!

A helping hand to gaining employment in the NHS within a variety of roles.

Information day Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Course start 31<sup>st</sup> October for 7 weeks (Tuesdays) 10 am till 2pm @ First Choice Homes. Union Street. Oldham. OL1 3BE.

### Finding and applying for work

Sometimes interview questions can be tricky! Come to this training and stand out from other applicants.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September – 10 am till 12pm @ First Choice Homes. Union Street. Oldham. OL1 3BE.

### Interview Techniques

Does your mind go blank in interviews? Struggling for examples? Come and join our training to feel more confident and prepared!

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October - 10.30 am till 12.20 pm @ First Choice Homes. Union Street. Oldham. OL1 3BE.

### Conversation English

Are you learning the English language and not yet confident? Come and have conversations and build up your confidence for ESOL with our amazing ESOL tutor. Commitment is required for 12 weeks, put your name down to join the list to start.  
Every Wednesday 1pm till 3pm.

Follow us on:



[www.fcho.co.uk](http://www.fcho.co.uk)