



# The Quinta Primary School

Autumn Term 2 Newsletter 8 17.11.23

- Everyday Excellence
- Authentic Care
- Independence
- Opportunity

Good evening,

Firstly thank you so much for the amazing generosity shown by The Quinta families with their donations for the merry market bottle tombolas. It's this kindness that supports all of the initiatives the PTA provides. In 2 weeks one of those initiatives will be in school- This year's drama / panto will be fully paid for by the Friends of Quinta. It was also great to see how many of the school community continue to support Children in Need. Lots of ears and spots were on show this year so thank you again for this.

The winter season brings with it bugs and illness and it's not just the children. Some of our staff have been struggling to shake off these illnesses. We really appreciate your understanding when the class is covered in the absence of their normal adult.

Speaking of changes to staffing, Mrs Gratton has requested to return to full class teaching and step back from the assistant head role. This is simply to continue her passion for classroom teaching where her main love lies. Due to the capacity of the school leadership structure and experience, we are absorbing this across the team in the near future and reassessing the needs of the school leadership team over the course of this year before making more permanent decisions. In the interim, if you have any concerns in KS1 please raise them initially with your class teacher and then if still unresolved contact [admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk) to make an appointment with a senior leader.

Have a great weekend,  
Mr W. Sharpe

## Key Information

### **A Plea for Parent Helpers**

**Christmas Lights at the School** - As you will know, each year The Quinta Primary School adds a little Christmas sparkle to the estate with their festive lights. We were wondering if there are any parent helpers that would be willing to help us put these up during the week commencing 27th November please? If you are available and can help please either call the school office on 01260 221651 or email [admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk).

**To set up the Merry market and The Quinta Wonderland** - Again, please could we ask for you lovely parents to lend us a hand setting up the magical woodland and stalls within the school grounds on Friday 8th December. If you can spare us some time please let the school office on 01260 221651 or email [admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk).

**To help run the Merry Market stalls** - We are really struggling for volunteers to host stalls for our Merry Market on Friday 8th December from 3.30pm as our usual crop of volunteers aren't available. If you would be happy to help, bring a friend/family to do something together. You will be provided with mulled wine or hot chocolate!

For example, we have the hugely popular tombola, but with only a couple of people available the queue will be huge. This is only one of many stalls that we have up our sleeves but we need the people to host them.

All we ask for is a couple of hours or even just an hour - Grandparents, friends, aunties, uncles - we would really appreciate any support we can get to help the children have the best Christmas event yet!

If you are available and can help please either call the school office on 01260 221651 or email

[admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk)



**CHILDREN'S**  
*Christmas*  
**LUNCH**

**MAIN**

Traditional turkey and seasonal stuffing. Rudolph's roast potatoes. Santa's sprouts, Christmas carrots, Prancer's peas and gravy.

**DESSERT**

Christmas tree ice cream.

**DRINK**

Jolly juice.

**FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER**  
**Please order via Scopay by Monday 11th December.**  
Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options are available.

**Join us for a festive feast**

Children are invited to join us for our annual Christmas Dinner on Friday 22nd December. If you would like to add a little Christmas sparkle to your child's day please order via Scopay prior to Monday 11th December. Please note, the only options available on this day will be main meal or vegetarian option.

## Safeguarding

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

### INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

### REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

### UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

### A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

### SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

### CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

### CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

**Dates**  
[Click here for holiday dates](#)

**Christmas dates for your Diaries**

**Key Stage 1**

EYFS/KS1 will present the Christmas play 'The Christmas Quarrel' to parents/carers on the following days/times:

- Reception - Monday 11th December, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm.
- Year 1 - Tuesday 12th December, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm.
- Year 2 - Tuesday 12th December, 6pm - 8pm.

Reception and Year 1 will perform on the dates and times detailed above. Year 2 will be part of all three performances.

**Key Stage 2**

Astbury Church Carol concert Thursday 14th December at 6pm. Children to arrive at 5:30pm.

**Merry Market**

Friday 8th December 3:30 pm - 6pm.

**General dates for your Diaries**

- Tempest Photography - Class Groups and Year 6 Leavers - 23rd May 2024

**Sporting dates for your Diaries**

**Bee Active**

- Monday 4th December KS2 Sports Explorers
- Monday 5th February KS1 Gymnastics
- Monday 11th March KS2 Inclusive sports and wheelchair basketball
- Monday 15th April KS1 Olympics
- Monday 20th May KS2 Combat Dodgeball

**Skip-hop( last time as Lee is retiring)**

- Tuesday 30th April and Wednesday 1st May 2024

**Watersports**

- Year 3 Thursday June 20th 2024
- Year 4 Wednesday 10th July 2024
- Year 5 Wednesday 19th June 2024

- Year 6 Wednesday 22nd May 2024

### Swimming pool in use 9th-18th July



#### Key Assessment Dates

Attendance all year round is extremely important for your child's well being and progress however there are some key dates within the year that their attendance is imperative for national assessment, these dates are as follows:

- Key Stage One Phonics Screening Check - w/c 10th June 2024
- Key Stage One SATs - throughout May 2024
- Year 4 Multiplication Check - within the two week period commencing 3rd June 2024
- Key Stage 2 SATs Week - Monday 13th until Thursday 16th May 2024

The Quinta Senior Leadership Team			Who to contact
Member of staff	Position	What areas can they support me with?	How to contact/where they can be found
Mr W Sharpe	Headteacher	Escalation of concerns. Any safeguarding concerns.	<a href="mailto:head@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk">head@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk</a>
Ms S Stones	Assistant Headteacher	Issues or concerns relating to KS2. Any safeguarding concerns.	<a href="mailto:sstones@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk">sstones@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk</a> Teaching in Y6.
Mrs K Bernard	Assistant Headteacher	Issues pertaining to special educational needs. Any safeguarding concerns.	<a href="mailto:kbernard@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk">kbernard@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk</a>
Mrs S Hoyle	School Business Manager	Any issues pertaining to the school office, preschool booking.	<a href="mailto:sbm@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk">sbm@thequinta.cheshire.sch.uk</a> In the school office.

**Exciting Opportunities**

### Get set for Christmas with Artisanity

Artisanity, is a supportive community for local makers, crafters and artists based in Congleton.

Join them at their Christmas Craft Fair at Congleton Town Hall on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 10:30am – 3:30pm.

Alternatively, join them for an evening of shopping, pampering and prosecco at Glebe Farm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 7pm-9pm.

ARTISANITY  
SUPPORTING LOCAL MAKERS

demonstrations · refreshments · shopping  
gifts · crafts · art · browsing

FREE ENTRY  
FREE ENTRY  
FREE ENTRY

**Christmas  
Craft Fair**

Congleton Town Hall  
Sunday 19th November 2023  
10.30am-3.30pm

info@artisanity.co.uk  
artisanity.co.uk

Celebrating our local  
crafters and artists



# GET SET FOR Christmas

BE CHRISTMAS READY:  
SHOPPING, PAMPERING, AND PROSECCO!

AT ARTISANITY

FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER  
7PM-9PM



£5 VIP ticket  
with Goody Bag





*“The opportunity to learn  
an instrument offers  
something very special  
that can last a lifetime”*



**INSPIRE  
CREATE  
PERFORM**

# Learn a Musical Instrument at School!



- Outstanding specialist music tuition
- Learn almost any instrument including voice
- Independently rated an “outstandingly effective service” offering “outstanding value”
- Free access to ensembles and performances

**Book a course of lessons here:**



[www.musicforlife.org.uk](http://www.musicforlife.org.uk)  
[admin@musicforlife.org.uk](mailto:admin@musicforlife.org.uk)  
01244 728 922



# Rambert grades



## CREATIVE DANCE WITH SOPHIE

Creative Dance for Early Years is an innovative dance syllabus, created by Rambert Grades. Each dance class will take the children on an imaginative journey with endless themes. An energetic warm up is followed by physical skills development as the children learn structured movement material. Creative intuition is encouraged with a closing creative exploration to dive deep into their imagination. Swimming with whales, flying rockets to the moon or adventuring through the desert- every class is different.

Each session will explore movement in a new way and help to develop physical skills, harness musicality and empower confidence in young children

**WHERE?** The Quinta Primary School.

**WHEN?** - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 - 5<sup>th</sup> December, 15:20-16:15 every **TUESDAY**.

**WHO?** The club is open to Years 1, 2 & 3.

**HOW MUCH?** The six-week course is £30 per student (£5 per class). This payment will be made in full, upfront, for the duration of the full course. (In the circumstance of an absence, no refunds will be made) **SPACES ARE LIMITED!**

Each child will have the opportunity to work towards taking a Rambert Grades Creative Movers exam, which are a celebration of each student's progress at the end of each grade. Each child is rewarded with a bright fabric badge and a certificate (The next set of exams will be Jan-Feb 2024, following this next term). Children who move through the grades are commended on six qualities: Communication, Teamwork, Generosity, Effort, Listening and Enthusiasm.



To secure your place and process your payment, or for further information, please email [sophiemoores37@gmail.com](mailto:sophiemoores37@gmail.com).

B L A C K F R I D A Y



B L A C K F R I D A Y

### Free Swimming Lessons

Swim Bug are offering free swimming lessons to local families at Gymetc, Congleton for the rest of the year.

This is ages 3 years and up all abilities, 7 days per week after school and at weekends.

Swim Bug have small, holistic groups of 6 children with experienced teachers in the water. There is also an enclosed private "family hub" viewing area with toys/ books for younger siblings.

To secure a place families should email [congleton@swimbug.co.uk](mailto:congleton@swimbug.co.uk)

Places are offered on a first come, first served basis. Lessons will then be chargeable from January 2024.



# LIVE NATIVITY

## 2023



Meet at Glebe Farm, 6pm ready to set off at 6.30

Entry by pre-booked ticket only

Monday  
18th December



Adult - £6  
Under 16 - £3  
Family 2+2 - £15

Tuesday  
19th December



Available online Small booking fees apply  
Scan QR codes here or visit [astburychurch.org.uk](http://astburychurch.org.uk)

### Astbury Live Nativity

Why not start your celebrations this year with the true meaning of Christmas? Join the Astbury's Live Nativity, a much-loved community event, looked forward to each year as the highlight of the season.

The journey begins at the farm where attendees are greeted by the Centurion who orders everyone to go to Bethlehem.

Everyone then follows the star through the village in the footsteps of Mary and Joseph and become part of the story of the first Christmas. Along the way some smelly shepherds and angels encourage everyone to keep going. A grumpy inn-keeper tells people there is no room at the inn. Don't let him put you off ... Bethlehem is in sight!

Carols are sung to keep spirits up and everyone then starts to anticipate with excitement who they shall find at the end of their journey.

The stable scene in church awaits and everyone watches the arrival of the three Kings as they bring their gifts. Once again, the age-old story is complete and everyone raises their voices together to welcome the Christ-child. Finally, refreshments of hot chocolate or mulled wine and a mince pie are enjoyed, and everyone relishes in the fact that they have remembered and celebrated the real reason for the season.



# Congleton Santa

**Santa will be touring  
Congleton from Sunday  
26th November 23**

All details and the many ways to donate can  
be found on Santa's website and on Facebook.

*Be good and see you soon!*

*Santa and his Elves*



Scan this code  
with your phone.



congletonsanta

**congletonsanta.org.uk**

info@congletonsanta.org.uk

Congleton Christmas Collection. Registered Charity Number 1180237.

# SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

Santa is raring to get on his sleigh and visit the people of Congleton again this year, where he'll be waving to everyone, blasting his festive music and having photos taken with the sleigh, but he asks that you keep a safe distance and don't try to board the sleigh. As usual, Santa's elves will be bringing some good cheer and handing out treats as they collect for all the local good causes.

Santa plans on visiting come rain, shine or snow, and any route alterations will be posted on Santa's Facebook page and website. You can find detailed 'routes' at [congletonsanta.org.uk](http://congletonsanta.org.uk) and under 'events' on Facebook @congletonsanta. If your street is not listed, please come find Santa by using our Santa Tracker, which can be found on the website.

Santa and his elves have been planning the routes (and checking them twice...), This year we aim to visit the following areas:

Sun 26 Nov	West Heath Close/Longdown/Somerford Grove/Loachbrook Meadow
Mon 27 Nov	Somerford Reach/Black Firs Park/Somerford Gate/Turnstone Grange/Blossom Gate
Tues 28 Nov	Ullswater/Spenn View
Weds 29 Nov	Solly/Westville/Meadow/Hornby/Birch Road/Melton
Thurs 30 Nov	Elmwood/Marsh Farm/Mount/Ennerdale
Fri 1 Dec	Bankyfields/Crescent/Astbury St/St James/Ruskin
Sun 3 Dec	Lower Buglawton/Tall Ash/Hudson Meadows
Mon 4 Dec	Upper Buglawton
Tues 5 Dec	Belgrave/Woodlands/Forge Lane
Weds 6 Dec	Havannah/Eaton Meadow/Lower Heath
Thurs 7 Dec	Daisybank/Hillfields/Wellington Close
Fri 8 Dec	The Green/Giantswood Grove/Westlow Heath/Cranberry Gardens
Sat 09 Dec	Alderley Gate/Round Hill Gardens
Sun 10 Dec	Henshall Hall/Reade's Lane/Southlands
Mon 11 Dec	Grangelands/Derwent/Isis
Tues 12 Dec	Astbury Lane Ends
Weds 13 Dec	Canal Road
Thurs 14 Dec	Leek Road
Fri 15 Dec	Townsend Road/Astbury Place/Brunswick Street/Bromley Road/Shaw Close/Bath Vale
Sun 17 Dec	Bromley Farm

Your donations help support all of Clause's Causes, and keep Santa's tour happening. Please consider donating to Congleton Santa. There's lots of different ways to help, such as at Santa's website [congletonsanta.org.uk/donate](http://congletonsanta.org.uk/donate), or via Facebook Donate. You can even donate by texting SANTA to 70450 with the amount you wish to donate (e.g. SANTA 2 will see you donate £2).

If you have any loose change to give, what about dropping it off at a Congleton Santa donation point? They can be found in Lower Heath Chippy, Jolleys, Iceland, Leek United, Astbury Garden Centre Cafe, Bargain Booze West Heath, High Town Post Office and Bromley Co Op. On Santa's 'nice list' so far this year are: Alpha Street Legal Tyres has been kind enough to check the sleigh over, while Dave and the fantastic team at Pooles Towing & Recovery have once again generously provided Santa's towing vehicle, fuel and driver. Also on Congleton Santa's nice list this year are Congleton Town Council (who store the sleigh), Dane Housing, Congleton Chat's back, Congleton Radio, Congleton News & Views, Entwistle Group, Arch Publications and the Congleton Chronicle.

*Be good, and we'll see you soon, Santa and his Elves.*



  [congletonsanta](https://www.facebook.com/congletonsanta)  
[congletonsanta.org.uk](http://congletonsanta.org.uk)  
Congleton Christmas Collection.  
Registered Charity Number 1180237.



