

Date: 16/05/25 Issue: 31 Principal: Miss Rebecca Smith

Hello, I hope that you have had a lovely week.

## A fantastic achievement!

Congratulations to Darcey and Ralphie who completed a sponsored abseil to raise money for Living without Abuse. We are so proud of your courage and contribution to community.

# Leicestershire Dyslexia Association.

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 pm Doors open to view information and resources: 6.45 Business meeting: 7.00 Talk and question time: 7.30 **More information attached below.** 



Please find below a link to access free mental health courses for parents. Free wellbeing online courses in Leicestershire – inourplace More information attached below.

Be Kind. Work Hard. Strive for Excellence.

### A huge well done 😊!

We want to say a huge well done to the Year 6 children for their excellent attitudes and effort in their end of Key Stage 2 assessments. They have all worked really hard and should be so proud of themselves for how they approached the tests.

A big thank you to all of the staff involved – we appreciate the time and dedication that you put into preparing the children and supporting them to strive for excellence. Also, a massive thank you to the parents for their support in preparing the children for the tests!

Have a good week, Miss Rebecca Smith.

Congratulations to our badge winners this week...

Lansdowne – Sukhmani, Emily, Leo, Kyrell, Neive, Joanna, Juana. Richmond – Dania, Mariam.



Hughenden – Amelia, Ava, Becky, Isaac, Lano, Timmy, Eloise, Millie. Macaulay – Haneefah, Laura, Levi, Malakai, Uloaku, Nusaybah, Bella, Connor.



### Search: KnightonTMET https://twitter.com/knightontmet

Please make sure that you follow us on X formerly known as Twitter to keep up to date with news and events but also see what your children are up to whilst in school!

### Enquiries: office@knighton-tmet.uk



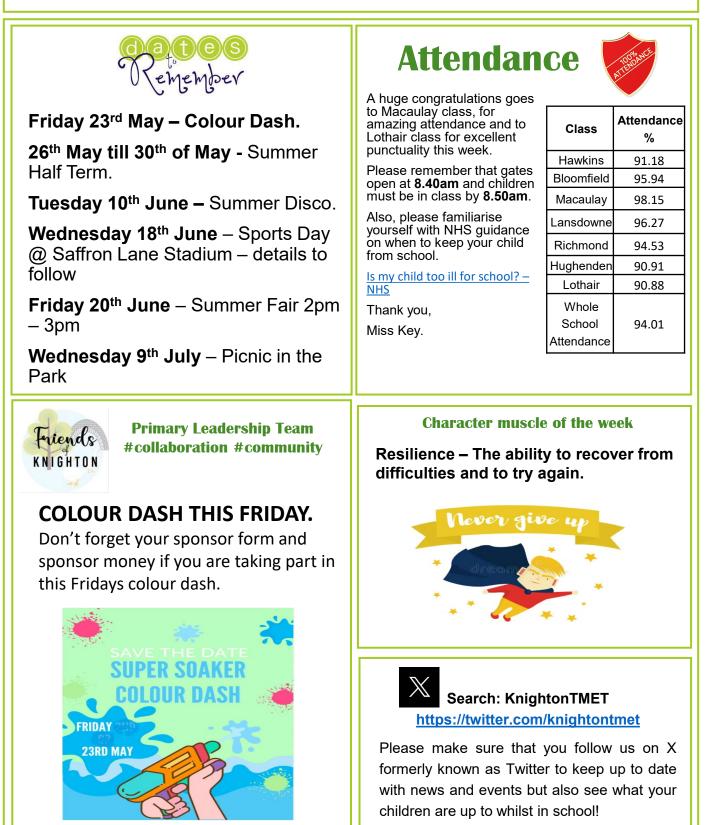


# Be Kind. Work Hard. Strive for Excellence.

Date: 16/05/25

Issue: 31

### Principal: Miss Rebecca Smith



# FRIENDS OF KNIGHTON





# SUMMER DISCO TUESDAY 10<sup>Th</sup> JUNE YEARS 1,2&3: 3.00 – 4.00 YEARS 4,5&6: 4.00 – 5.00 TICKETS: £2.50 EACH

(AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON MCAS)



# Leicestershire Dyslexia Association.

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual General Meeting Speaker: Arran Smith, LDA Chair.

'Using Assistive Technology to Empower Learners'.

# Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm

Doors open to view information and resource: 6.45 Business meeting: 7.00 Talk and question time: 7.30

# Venue: Stoneygate Baptist Church 315 London Road LEICESTER. LE2 3ND Parking available but limited, so come early!

Admission free, donations to our work welcome. Booking not required. Refreshments available.

# **Background Information.**

Arran Smith was diagnosed as dyslexic aged nine and later attended the Saturday Teaching Workshop run by the LDA. He worked his way up from student to computer tutor and is now Chair of the LDA. In 2009 Arran was awarded the British Dyslexia Association's Young Achievers' award for his work as a volunteer with the LDA and he then became involved in the work of the BDA, first as a volunteer and later as Membership Development Officer. Arran has also worked with other charities in roles covering development and operational management. He now runs his own consultancy business, the LVA Group, which supports other businesses and charities, and he also runs the SEND Group, a company which helps to raise awareness of dyslexia and offers training webinars and consultancy in all areas of SEND within the educational community.

For further information, please contact: Fiona Hossack on 0116 2415153 or email: <u>fionah@ldadyslexia.org.uk</u>



A Guide for Parents: How to understand and support your child's mental health

# About this guide..

Growing up can be challenging for children and adolescents. They experience a variety of emotions, pressures and the stress that everyday life can bring.

As a parent, it can be difficult for you to know how to best support your child during these times.

We have created this leaflet, with the support of Parent Practitioners who work for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), to provide advice on how to help your child navigate life's challenges and what to do if you are concerned about their mental health.

# 



# Leicestershire Partnership

What's in

NHS

this guide?

The following topics are covered:

- <u>An explanation to</u> mental health
- <u>Mental health</u>
   <u>statistics</u>
- <u>Developing healthy</u> <u>habits</u>
- Tips on talking about mental health
- <u>The decider skills</u>
  <u>When to seek</u>
- professional support Useful resources



# - What is mental health?

Mental health refers to our emotional, psychological and social wellbeing.

Emotional wellbeing is how we manage our emotions and cope with challenge.

Psychological wellbeing is about feeling happy or content, having a sense of meaning or purpose and being able to function day to day, for example to go to school or college.

Social wellbeing is being able to create and grow healthy relationships with others.

#### 

Our mental health can affect our thoughts, feelings and behaviour so it's important that we understand and look after our mental health as well as our physical health. Mental health is a complex matter as every individual is unique. Life can present challenging times, such as receiving undesirable exam results, experiencing a break-up or the loss of a loved one. Each person reacts differently to such events. If you have good mental health, you have a greater capacity to deal with these experiences than someone who struggles with their mental well-being.

Mental health is a universal aspect of human life but it varies from person to person and can change over time. We all encounter positive and negative experiences throughout our lives and we may react differently to these events based on our unique mental state.



of us will experience mental health problems

young people said they had experienced stigma and discrimination when reaching out for receiving support with their mental health 50% of all mental health problems start by the age of 14 

## **Healthy habits**

Developing and maintaining healthy habits are essential for your child's physical and mental health. Consider trying some of the following tips:



# Encourage healthy communication

Creating a safe and comfortable space for your child to share their thoughts and feelings is essential.

- Begin with open-ended questions such as "How was your day?" or "Is there anything on your mind?"
- Listen attentively without judgment and make sure they know that you're there to support them.



#### Be an approachable parent

- Let your child know that they can come to you with anything at any time.
- Listen to your child when they do talk to you.
- Share your own stories or experiences to encourage them to open up.
- Do not be afraid to give boundaries so children feel safe.



- Keep yourself up-to-date with the school's counseling services and available resources.
- If you have any concerns about your child's well-being, don't hesitate to contact their teacher or school pastoral team.



- Prioritise regular <u>sleep</u>. Encourage a minimum of 8 hours of sleep every night.
- Eat nutritious meals
- Encourage <u>physical activity</u> for at least 1 hour per day
- Emphasise the importance of <u>self-care</u> and taking breaks when necessary.
- Ensure phones and screens are put away during meal time and family activities

#### Validate their feelings

- Recognise their emotions and reassure them that it's perfectly normal to feel that way.
- Avoid negating their feelings but instead, show empathy by saying, "I understand that you're having a difficult time."
- Be understanding and patient, showing empathy for their concerns,

# Monitor screen time

- Monitor their online activities and social media usage.
- Encourage offline activities that help balance screen time and promote faceto-face interactions.
- Discuss the benefits and risks of using online platforms
- You need to be at least 13 before you can join most social media platforms (as stipulated by social media companies themselves including Instagram, Snapchat, Tik Tok, Youtube and Facebook)

# Talking about mental health with your young person

It can be difficult to determine if your child is experiencing issues relating to their mental health but there are signs to watch out for. Keep an eye out for the following:

- significant changes in behaviour
- ongoing difficulty sleeping or getting to sleep
- withdrawing, especially from social situations
- not wanting to do things they usually like
- self-harm or neglecting themselves
- Continuous low mood
- Frequent tearfulness
- Feeling irritable or intolerant of others

It's important to talk to your child about mental health. According to the <u>World Health</u> <u>Organisation</u> around 14% of 10-19-year-olds experience mental health conditions like anxiety, OCD and depression.

Keep in mind that every child is different. While these tips can certainly help guide your parenting, remember to trust your instincts and continue encouraging a supportive and communicative relationship with your child.

<u>Click here to view a conversation guide on talking to</u> young people about mental health "I wish someone would just listen" -*Young Person*  "I sometimes feel embarrassed and ashamed. I am worried my parents might think differently of me if I talk about my mental health" - Young Person





The Decider Skills use Cognitive Behaviour Therapy to teach children, young people and adults the skills to recognise their own thoughts, feelings and behaviours, enabling them to monitor and manage their own emotions and mental health. The Decider Skills are used within specialist mental health services such as Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

The Decider Skills has a free mobile app that's perfect for both young people and their parents and carers. It provides practical tips to help children regulate, distract and understand their emotions. The app also includes short video clips and instructional guides for families to follow.

#### www.thedecider.org.uk/

# 

As a parent you know your child's behaviour better than anyone. If you're concerned about changes in your child's behaviour it might be worth considering what may have caused them. Try to think about:

- Where their behaviour changes occur? Are they at home, school, with friends?
- Has there been a significant change in their life that may be encouraging these behaviours?
- Have you tried to talk to your child to see what may be causing these changes in their behaviour?

Talk to your child about their behaviour and try to support them using some of the tips provided.

If you or your child would benefit from discussing this with a professional, It may be helpful to note some of these behaviours down. You and/or your child can talk through these notes with someone from your child's school or your GP.

Useful resources

You can also share our poster!

Place Improving mental her

Place2Be (a children's mental health charity that provides counselling and mental health support and training in UK schools) has a page dedicated to 'Supporting your child's mental health' with links to specialised support, such as bereavement and autism. <a href="https://www.place2be.org.uk/">www.place2be.org.uk/</a>

#### 

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust has partnered with the <u>Solihull Approach</u> to offer free access to expertly designed online courses for parents, carers, grandparents and teens living in the region. <u>www.inourplace.co.uk/free-online-courses/</u>



PAPYRUS has a guide for parents and carers who are concerned that a young person might be experiencing thoughts of suicide or self-harm. Click here for more information on PAPYRUS. <a href="https://www.papyrus-uk.org/">www.papyrus-uk.org/</a>



Every Mind Matters has a page dedicated to 'Looking after a child or young person's mental health'. Click here for more information on Every Mind Matters. www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/

# Gr Families

MindEd for Families has lots of useful resources, including support on 'Parenting The Child With Issues'. Click here for more information on MindEd for Families. <a href="https://www.mindedforfamilies.org.uk/">www.mindedforfamilies.org.uk/</a>

# YOUNGMINDS

Young Minds is a charity which supports not only young people experiencing mental health difficulties but also their parents and teachers. Click here for more information on Young Minds. <u>www.youngminds.org.uk/</u>



Scan the QR code on the left for more advice about mental health support in Leicester, Leicestershire and<sup>®</sup> Rutland.



# Hey, how are you feeling?...

There are lots of things you can do to keep yourself well and feeling good, like:

- Getting a good night's sleep
- Doing something you enjoy like playing games
- · Spending time with friends and family
- · Exercising and eating well to look after your body
- Learning a new skill or taking on a challenge
- Helping other people
- · Spending time outside in nature



 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{lt}}\xspace^{-1}$  is normal to feel this way. We all experience lots of emotions and these can change over time.

Try some of the things in the box above and talk to someone about how you're feeling. This could be your friends, a parent or carer or a teacher or adult at school.

If you're struggling, it's important to speak to someone. People want to help you. If you need it, you or your parents or carer can support you to get professional help. A good place to start is by talking to a mental health and wellbeing lead, a trusted adult at school or your GP.

- You can also find free and safe support on these websites: • Kooth: www.kooth.com
- · Health for Teens: www.healthforteens.co.uk

... I am so upset or overwhelmed that I need help now

**3302** or **NHS 111.** The lines are open 24/7. If there is an immediate or life-threatening emergency, call 999 or attend A&E. People are there and ready to help you now.

If you need to speak to someone urgently, you or a parent or carer

can call the Mental Health Central Access Point on 0808 800





NID

111111111111111111111

. I feel great! I

am happy and

healthy

.. I am

struggling and

need some help