



Northamptonshire Safety matters

Northamptonshire Highways

Working together to keep you safe
Safety ~ Prevention ~ Protection



Issue 3: October 2017

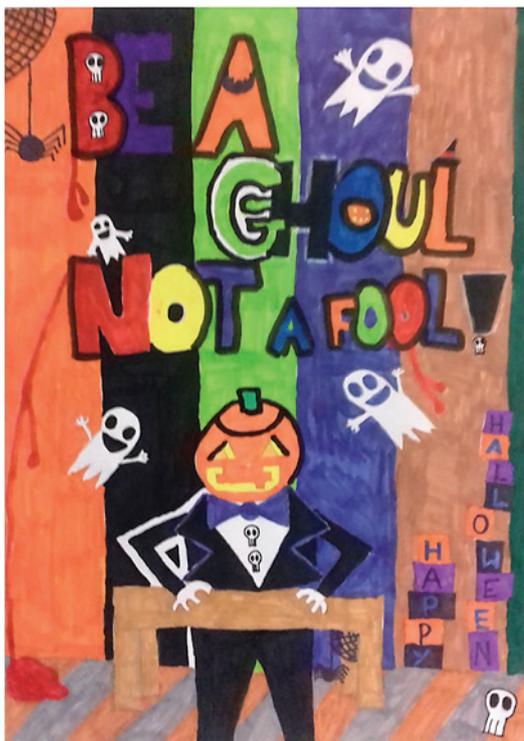
Stay alert when trick or treating!

Although Halloween and Bonfire night can be lots of fun, we want to make sure you keep safe.



Please do...

- ...keep clear of all flames such as candles and lit pumpkins, which could cause costumes to catch fire or cause burns.
- ...be careful how you dress on Halloween. Homemade costumes and some costumes bought in shops can be flammable. Check labels and buy from reputable sources.
- ...plan your trick or treat route beforehand. Only go to houses where you or your friends know the residents. Always go in groups.
- ...be cautious about eating what people give you when out trick or treating. Check with an adult when you get home.
- ...be visible – stay in areas that are well lit with street-lights. Take a torch just in case.
- ...if using candles at home, make sure they are out when you leave the room.



Poster designed by Katrina Form 6c
Oakway Junior School, Wellingborough.



Please don't...

- ...wear masks that restrict your vision. You need to be able to see clearly when crossing roads.
- ...enter any house when trick or treating, stay on the doorstep.
- ...go trick or treating without an adult. Never go alone.
- ...make lanterns from plastic bottles/containers. This would be dangerous and could result in burns and cause a fire.
- ...use real candles in lanterns and pumpkins, use battery operated lights.
- ...leave children alone with candles.
- ...knock on doors where you see a 'No trick or treat' sign.
- ...use your costumes to genuinely frighten people – particularly those who may be elderly or vulnerable.
- ...use Halloween as an excuse for antisocial behaviour by damaging property and throwing eggs

Give children a firework night to remember... ...not one they will want to forget.

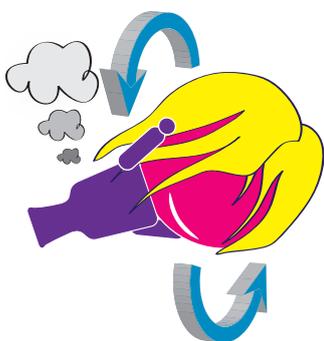
- Sparklers burn furiously and are not suitable for children under five
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Never throw fireworks or put them in your pocket
- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- Keep a bucket of water handy
- Make sure everyone stands clear of fireworks
- Never return to a lit firework
- Fireworks cannot be purchased by under 18s
- Light fireworks at arm's length, using a safety firework lighter or fuse wick

If clothing does catch fire remember: **STOP, DROP and ROLL**

STOP where you are. Don't run, it'll only make the fire worse. Protect your face.



DROP to the ground and lie down flat



ROLL over and over on the ground, with your arms above your head, until the flames are out.



Remember to practice **STOP-DROP-ROLL** so you don't panic if your clothes ever catch fire

Tyre safety month

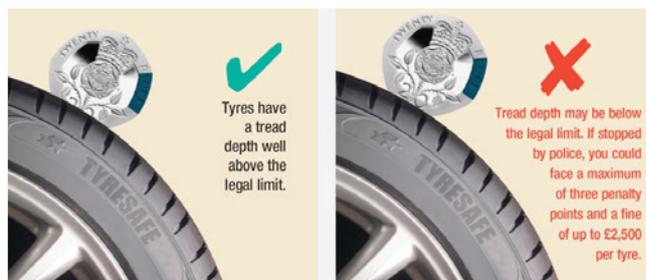
October is tyre safety month. It is your responsibility to ensure your vehicle is road worthy. Tyres are very important as they are keeping you on the road, especially during the wet and icy Autumn and Winter months. Make sure your vehicle is in tip top condition for the school run by following this guide:

How to... check your air pressures

- Tyre pressures should be checked at least once a month or before a long journey. Desired pressures can be found in the vehicle handbook and on a plate which is often located inside the fuel filler cap or on the driver's door sill.
- Check the pressure when tyres are cold.
- If you are carrying a full load of passengers or luggage or will be towing a trailer or caravan, pressures should be increased in line with the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations.
- Ensure an accurate gauge.
- Make sure you use the correct pressure scale for the gauge being used (i.e. Bar, PSI or KPa).
- Check the pressure in all tyres, including the spare.
- Give the rest of the tyre a visual inspection. Remove any stones or other objects embedded in the tread. Look out for any bulges, lumps or cuts.
- Make sure to replace the valve cap.
- If in doubt about your tyres, take your vehicle to an approved fitting centre and speak to a qualified specialist.

How to... check your tread depth with the 20p test

- Tyre tread depth should be checked at least once a month, e.g. during pressure check
- Insert the 20p coin into the main tyre grooves at several places around the circumference of the tyre and across its width.
- If the outer band of the 20p coin is visible whenever you check the tread, your tread depth may be illegal and you should have them checked by a qualified tyre specialist.



For more info see
www.tyresafe.org

HAVING A GOOD OR BAD AIR DAY?



CHECK YOU HAVE THE CORRECT AIR PRESSURE IN YOUR TYRES

Your tyres will last longer • Your fuel will go further
You'll have better handling and braking • You'll improve your safety

SAFE TYRES SAVE LIVES tyresafe.org

#BeBrightBeSeen

As days are getting shorter and the weather is changing, it's very important that all road users, but particularly children, are visible when out and about. If you're a motorist then you'll know how difficult it can sometimes be to see pedestrians wearing dark clothes at night or when visibility is poor. Your child will have been learning the road safety message 'Be Bright, Be Seen' at school, and it's important that you as a parent or carer help your child to be easily seen near traffic. This is an issue for all children, especially as many school uniforms are dark. Most primary schools don't have rules about outer garments, so selecting a bright coat can help, as can providing fluorescent and reflective armbands, school bags etc.

This is a particular issue with 11 year old children who are moving up to secondary school where longer journeys are often made on foot and uniforms are usually compulsory.

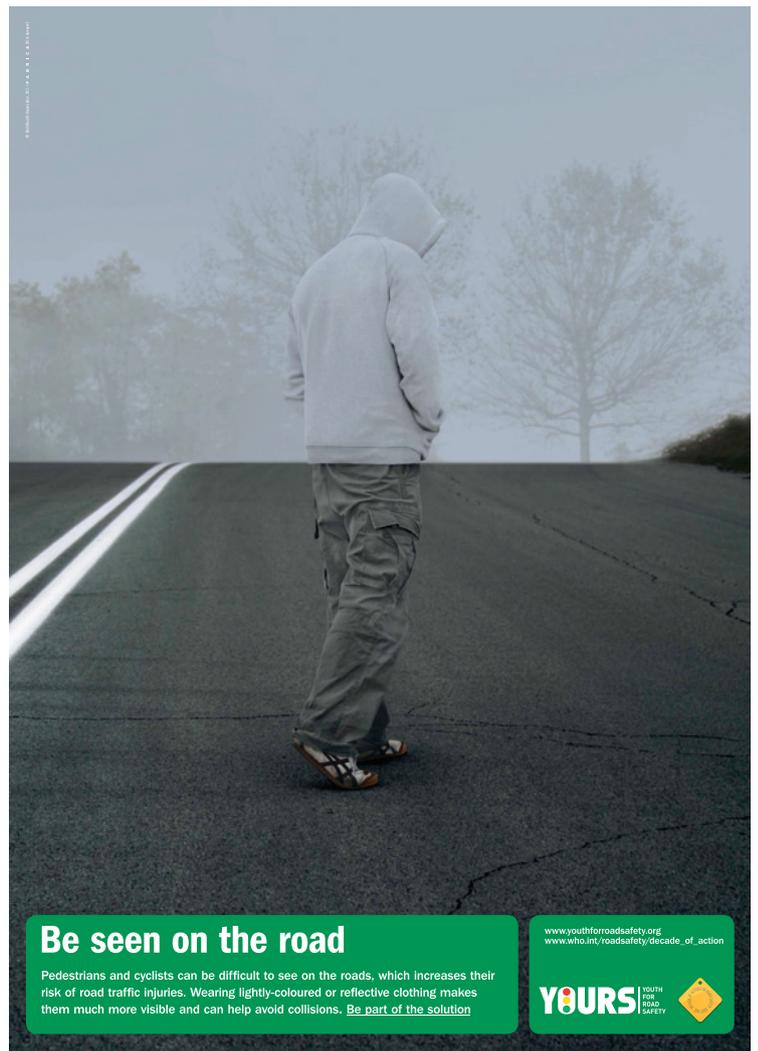
There is a number of things to be done to ensure that children are safer and more visible when walking and playing outside:

1. On dull days your child can wear bright or fluorescent colours

- Special high-visibility tabards and other clothing can be bought from many retailers
- Fluorescent armbands can also be worn over coats and other clothing
- Bags are also available in bright colours or with high-visibility strips

2. If walking near traffic at night reflective clothing is needed

- Reflective clothing reflects light from car and bike headlamps
- Reflective armbands and clothing can be bought for children
- Remember that fluorescent colours do not show up in the dark



For older children who may consider fluorescent and reflective armbands and clothing 'uncool', stickers can be bought which can be put on bags or coats.

This message isn't only for children: make sure you wear bright clothing too!

www.think.direct.gov.uk/education/early-years-and-primary/parents/7-to-11s/Be-bright-be-seen/

If you would like for a member of the Safer Roads Team to visit your school with a road safety talk, please email Kamila Poole on Kamila.Poole@northants.pnn.police.uk

Calling all 11-14 year oldsis your school ready to do the Challenge?



Secondary school pupils across Northamptonshire are being invited to come up with bright business ideas to make the roads safer for children aged 12 to 16. Individuals in this age group are two and a half times more likely to be injured in a collision than children aged under 11.

Run by Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service, the County Schools Challenge (NCSC) sees pupils use a business approach to raise awareness and develop creative ways to tackle this problem.

Tina Collett, chair of the NCSC, said: "We chose this topic because it's a vital one for keeping our young people safe. Great road safety work goes on within primary and sixth form education, and we hope the County Schools Challenge can help support this for children aged 12 and 16.

Educating young people helps to keep them safer as pedestrians, cyclists and passengers, and when the time comes for them to learn to drive also helps them stay safer behind the wheel."

Kamila Poole of the Safer Roads Alliance, a partnership between Northamptonshire's police, fire and highways services, added:

"We are thrilled to be part of this year's County Schools Challenge. Every year pupils taking part in the challenge come up with some fantastic concepts and we're excited to see their ideas on how to improve the road safety of young people in Northamptonshire."

Launched in 2009, the NCSC is open to Key Stage 3 secondary school pupils (Years 7, 8 and 9) across Northamptonshire.

Teachers are encouraged to sign up and run in-school competitions to choose their teams. A semi-final complete with Dragon's Den-style judging panel takes place at Wootton Hall in June, followed by a grand final at The Castle Theatre, Wellingborough in July.

To find out more about the NCSC email henny.cameron@northants.pnn.police.uk or visit the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CountySchoolsChallenge



Images of Kingswood Secondary Academy, Corby, winners of the Northamptonshire County Schools Challenge 2017.

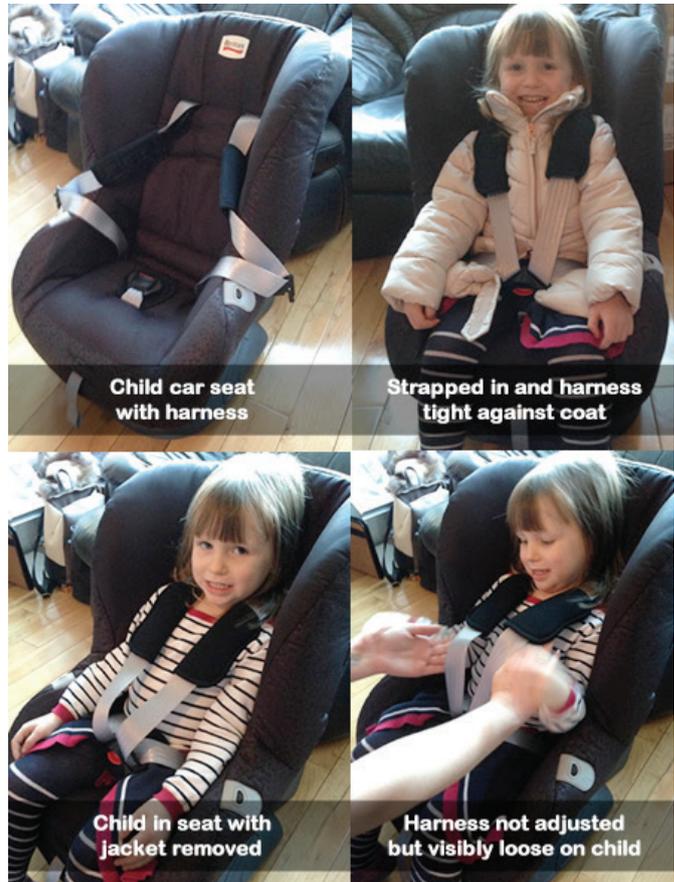
Keeping children safe and warm!

Keeping safe:

The temperature is beginning to drop outside, and children will start to be bundled up in thick winter coats and snow-suits to keep them snug and warm in the colder weather. But did you know that you are supposed to remove your child's coat before you strap them into their car seat, and not doing so may put them in danger?

Leaving your child's coat on in the car is a problem because it creates a gap between your child and their safety harness. In a collision, the harness isn't as close to your child's body as it needs to be to allow it to properly restrain them.

To keep your children safe in the car this autumn and winter, remove their coats and jackets and pull the harness tight enough that you can just get two fingers between your child and the straps.



Keeping warm:

Despite puffy and thick coats being dangerous, children will still feel a chill when they first get in the car! There are several ways you can safely keep your child warm.

Babies

Babies should be dressed in thin layers when in the car seat, and thick or puffy snow-suits will cause the harness to fit incorrectly. Instead, use a cosy toes approved by the child seat manufacturer, or fold a thin blanket in half and tuck it tightly around your baby over the harness, once they are strapped in correctly. Make sure any blankets do not come up higher than arm pit level.

Children

Remove children's coats and jackets, and strap them into their car seat properly - then tuck a blanket around them. Your child will be able to remove the blanket if they get too hot, which they cannot do when they have their coat on, this can lead to them overheating.

Some parents may place the jacket over both their child and harness, however Good Egg Safety do not recommend doing this as it may delay removing a child from their car seat in an emergency.



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More information can be found at www.goodeggcarsafety.com and follow them on Twitter @GoodEggSafety

