

Monday 27th March 2023

Newsletter No. 25



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Charlie W. played his first two proper tag rugby matches last weekend. His team (Rochdale U7s) played against Bathesda. Rochdale lost, but Charlie scored two tries!
Well done Charlie!



Each class did their sponsored run last week, each class ran a total of:

- Green Class: 307 laps
- Blue Class: 309 laps
- Pink Class: 301 laps
- White Class: 317 laps
- Red Class: 522 laps
- Yellow Class: 1050 laps
- Orange Class: 910 laps
- Lime class: 1108 laps
- Turquoise Class: 658 laps
- Gold Class: 1109
- Purple Class: 1431 laps

From **Friday 31st March** onwards, all school meals and nursery bookings must be made through the School Spider app, which will be easier for parents. **Please don't pay/book for anything beyond 31st March on ParentPay. School meals and additional nursery hours will only be bookable through the School Spider App from after the Easter holidays.**

School will not be able to access ParentPay after **Friday 31st March**. This means that we **cannot issue ParentPay refunds from Saturday 1st April 2023.**

It is very important that you download and ensure that you can log into the School Spider app as soon as possible. Please contact the school office if you have any difficulties.

Please remember to visit our website for long term dates. Thank you.

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|-----------------------------|---|
| Thursday 30th March: | Spring Disco. |
| Friday 31st March: | Easter Egg Raffle. |
| Friday 31st March: | School Closes for Easter Holidays-3:30pm. |
| Monday 17th April: | School reopens for Summer Term 1– 8:50am. |
| Tuesday 25th April: | Orange class parents' assembly– 9am. |
| Monday 1st May: | May Day Bank Holiday– School closed. |
| Thursday 4th May: | Polling Day– School closed. |

Star Pupils



Nursery:	Oliver L. & Zahra B.
Green Class:	Noah A.
Blue Class:	Phoenix A.
Pink Class:	Billy P.
White Class:	Erin H.
Red Class:	Arnie T.
Yellow Class:	Francesca T.
Orange Class :	Skye G.
Lime Class:	Ben F.
Turquoise Class:	Melody B.
Gold Class:	Lola-Mai S.
Purple Class:	Harry M.

We aim for at least 97% attendance each week; here are the attendance figures for last week:

Green Class:	95%	Yellow Class:	97.9%
Blue Class:	99.1%	Orange Class:	92.1%
Pink Class:	97.9%	Lime Class:	96.2%
White Class:	98.7%	Turquoise Class:	98.5%
Red Class:	97%	Gold Class:	98.9%
		Purple Class:	92.5%

Our overall school attendance figure for week ending Friday 24th March 2023 is 96.6%



Friendship and Kindness



House Points

Dolphin:	188
Octopus:	186
Seahorse:	197
Starfish:	204

Well done
to the Starfish Team who are this week's winners.



Orange Class have been clearing out the allotment and planting potatoes in our community allotment raised beds.

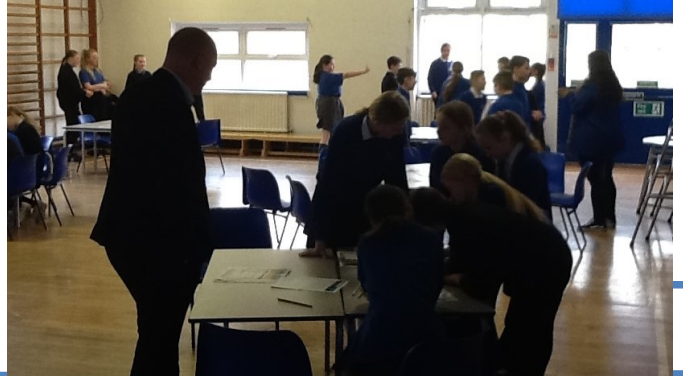


“Surrounding yourself in nature is extremely grounding and nourishing for the soul. Take the time to enjoy the outdoors.”



On Monday 27th March, Year 6 took part in a ‘Money Sense’ workshop by Natwest Bank. They took part in scenarios relating to fraud and by the end of the workshop, delivered a presentation. These sessions were supported by volunteers from Natwest.

The Forest School allotment site is progressing well. We have two more raised beds and a composting station up and running. If anyone would like to help with planting after Easter, please speak to Paul (the caretaker).
With the evenings being lighter, some jobs can be done after the end of the school day.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about LOOT BOXES

Marketed as increasing a player's enjoyment of a game, loot boxes are usually purchased or given as rewards. When opened, they unlock items for use in the game, such as better weapons or new characters to play as. Loot boxes feature in many games and are therefore available to various age groups. They have often been criticised for emulating gambling: the odds of unlocking certain items can seem astronomical, while the money being spent is often high compared to the potential reward. It's imperative that trusted adults understand the risks that loot boxes can pose.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MOUNTING COSTS

Loot boxes can be bought with in-game currency or earned as rewards for completing tasks – but many of them are paid for with real money. Prices vary from game to game, and purchases can stack up quickly. It's easy for children to overspend on loot boxes, especially if they really want the item on offer – a recent study found that 31% of young gamers were unaware loot boxes actually had a cost at all.

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

The sense of anticipation, and the feeling of joy when unearthing a rare or badly wanted item, can make opening loot boxes very addictive. As the boxes give out semi-random items which vary in usefulness or rarity, players often end up striving for the 'less common' items – as well as chasing the 'buzz' of finding one. Loot boxes can be compared to scratch cards, delivering similar highs and lows.

NORMALISING GAMBLING

Because loot boxes cost money for the chance – but no guarantee – of scooping a big reward, it's easy to see the link to gambling. Players spend a set amount of money, with no idea of what they'll get in return once the loot box is open: it could be the best item in the game, or the worst. Many games are beginning to phase out loot boxes completely to avoid breaking local gambling laws.

ADVANCED SCAMS

Most games don't let players trade the items they get in loot boxes, but a few titles do allow exchanges with other players. This could lead to young gamers being tricked or harassed into trading items they paid for or won fairly. Rare items from some games can be quite valuable and are bought and sold on the 'grey market', using external sites – leaving children vulnerable to being scammed.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER THE ODDS

It's a smart move to check the odds on the items in the loot boxes, to see how hard it is to find a particular reward. Show your child and explain to them whether it's likely (or not) that they'll find the item they want inside the box. Of course, there's a sizeable element of chance – but if an item says it's likely to drop once out of every 10,000 boxes, it's wise to adjust your child's expectations.

RESTRICT SPENDING

Even if you're happy for your child to purchase loot boxes, it's safest to restrict how much they can spend. Options include adding a temporary payment method, or making sure they ask permission first. If a credit or debit card is linked to the gaming account, excited young players could soon run up an eye-watering bill. Ensure your child recognises how much each box costs and understands that they're using real money.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most video gaming consoles, as well as the individual games, allow parents and carers to place purchasing restrictions on the child's account. This is an effective way to avoid overspending or prevent children from buying any loot boxes in the first place. Not all games offer this feature, so it's best to investigate your options on each new game before your child starts playing it.

DISCUSS THE RISKS

Be open with your child about how much loot boxes (and individual item purchases) cost and how the system works, in terms of probability. If a child realises it's unlikely they'll get that rare reward, they may prefer to spend their money on a guaranteed item – like a skin in the online store – instead of gambling on a loot box. Outline how other people might try to exploit online trading systems to steal their valuable items.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



NOS
National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



Term Dates – 2023-2024

September 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
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29	30	31				

November 2023						
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26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023						
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31						

January 2024						
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February 2024						
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March 2024						
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31						

April 2024						
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28	29	30				

May 2024						
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June 2024						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July 2024						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2024						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

	Training Days (children do not attend school)
	Holidays