



LITTLE WALTHAM
C.E.V.A. Primary School

WEEKLY NEWS

Aspiring to inspire others towards excellence

Autumn Term – Edition 8 – 3rd November 2023

Dear Parents,

Firstly, let me express how impressed we have been with our pupils' incredible effort in writing the 500 word stories. We are currently reading through each and every one of them. It's been wonderful to witness the creativity and imagination of our young pupils and in the coming weeks, we will provide opportunities for pupils to share their stories within our school and showcase their work in a special display.

The week began with a focus on Black History Month during our morning worship. It was a fantastic opportunity for our children to learn about the contributions and accomplishments of significant individuals. We believe it is crucial to celebrate diversity and learn from the past. I'm pleased to share that our Year 6 pupils concluded the week with a remarkable performance of Maya Angelou's famous poem, 'Caged Bird.' Their rendition was inspiring and we are immensely proud of their hard work and dedication.

Yesterday, our Year 4 pupils embarked upon a fascinating journey into the world of Ancient Egypt with an immersive theatre workshop provided by West End in Schools. The workshop allowed them to step back in time and experience the life of ancient Egyptians first hand. It was brilliant to witness their enthusiasm and engagement in their learning. We will continue exploring this history topic throughout the term.

On a different note, I kindly remind all parents to park with great care outside the school grounds. Please refrain from parking on the double yellow lines as it poses a risk to our children's safety. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated, ensuring that our school remains a safe environment for everyone.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events scheduled for next week. On Tuesday morning, we are thrilled to host an early number workshop for Reception and Year 1 parents. This workshop will provide more information and an insight into how to develop early numeracy skills in our young learners.

Additionally, we will be holding a special Remembrance Day service in school next Friday at 9 am to reflect and pay our respects to those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. We look forward to welcoming parents to school for this service.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a great weekend.

Warm regards,

Mr S. Saunders

Headteacher

Lunchtime Fun

Crafts, Storytime, sporting activities and games



Inconsiderate Parking

'Think before you park'

We have recently been made aware of an incident involving a parent parking directly on the pavement outside of the school which resulted in a child being put in danger.

Please can we remind parents/carers that parking on the pavement, the loading bay and across double yellow lines is dangerous and illegal. We do not want to be in a position where a child is injured as a result of irresponsible parking.

There are no parking restrictions in the surrounding area of the village and therefore we request that parents/carers park away from the school premises and walk to school.

We have been in contact with Essex County Council and Essex Police who will be making unannounced visits.

Please think about how and where you are parking, you have a responsibility to keep our children safe.



The Big Question

'Is it sometimes easier to tell a lie rather than the truth?'

Chestnut

If you tell a lie it might hurt someone's feelings so you shouldn't do it- *Jimmy*

Telling the truth is the best option because it shows that you are a good person- *Jessica*

Telling a lie is wrong, the truth is right- *Lilly*

If you lie people will know and they won't be happy – *Albert*

Elm

It is better to tell the truth even if it is difficult. *Lilly*

You might get into trouble if you tell a lie. *Group discussion*

Sycamore

No because if you always tell the truth God will always love you.

It is better to tell the truth otherwise people will not believe you in the future. - *Saba*

Yes because if you lie you might get found out and get into trouble.

Willow W

Yes, because if it was a lie to stop hurting someone's feelings. It's better to lie rather than risk your friendship – *Lolly*

I think it's easier to tell a lie when the time is right, for example a present or a surprise that will make someone happy. Everything else you should tell the truth. - *Dolly*

No, because people will always find out and it will look bad on you if people consider you a liar – *Phoenix*



This week's value is forgiveness.

Dear God,

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross so that we can have our sins forgiven. Thank You for forgiving my sins. Please help me to forgive others as You forgive us.

Amen

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16



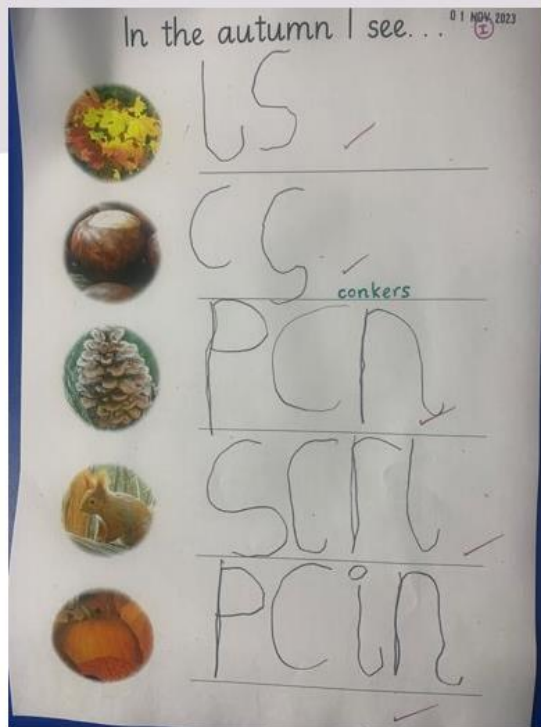
Work of the Week

Ash Class

Work of the Week

Ash Class

Charlie



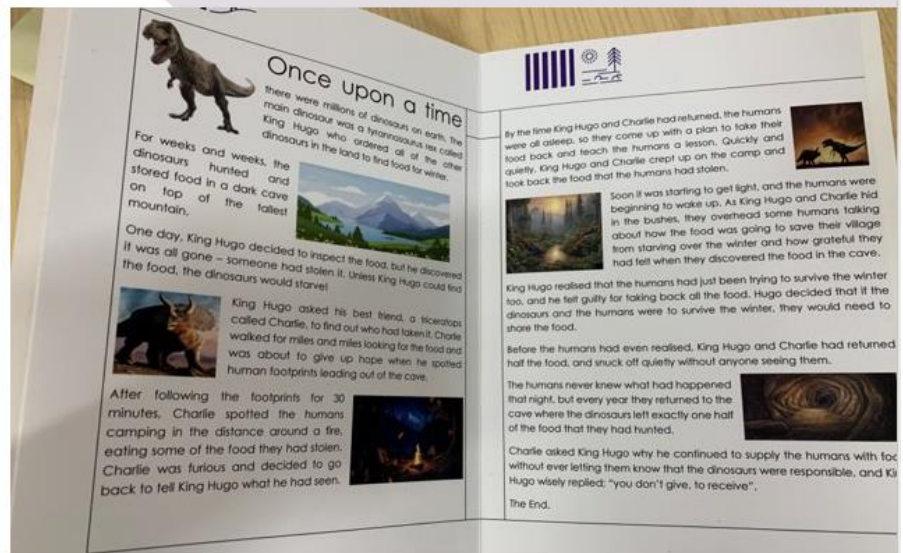
Work of the Week

Chestnut

Work of the Week

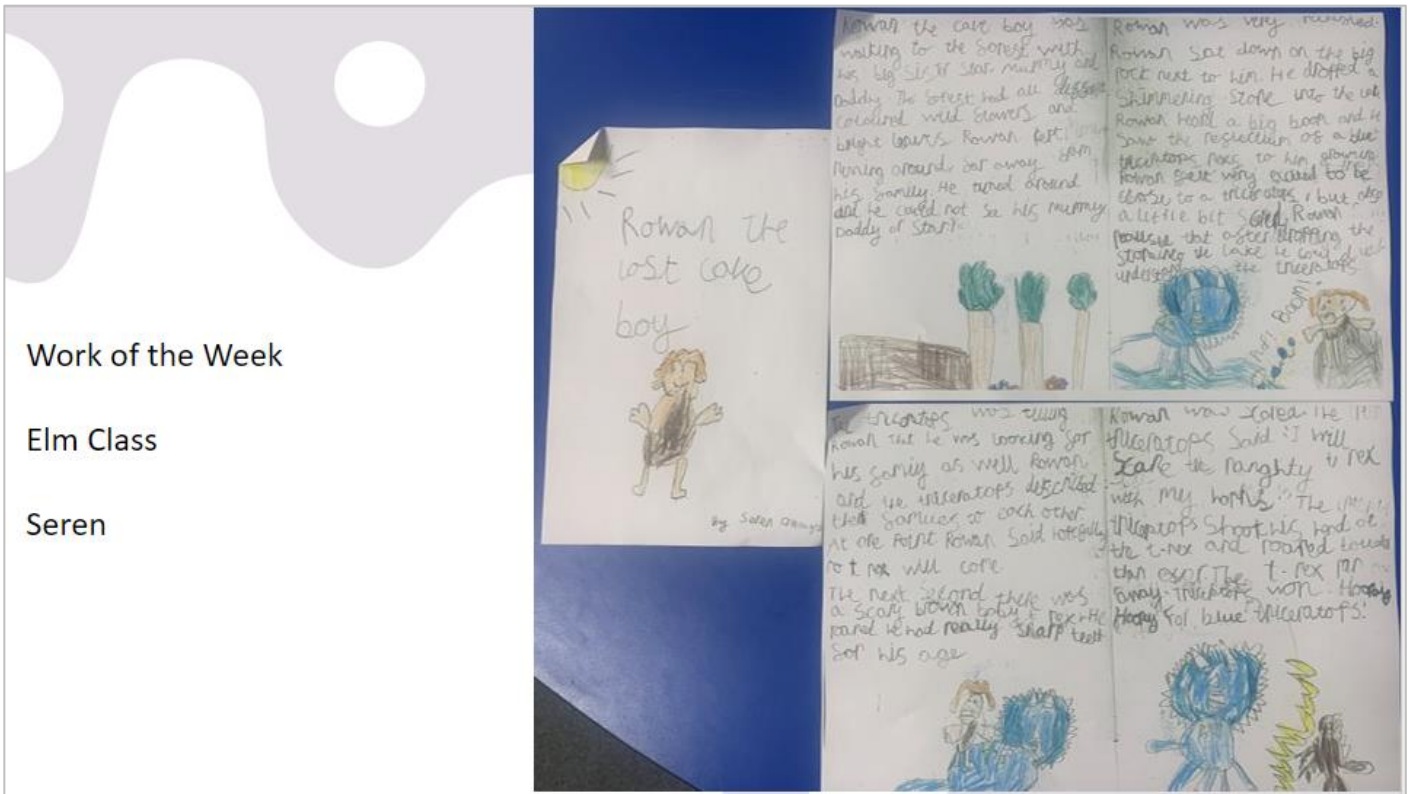
Chestnut Class

Hugo



Work of the Week

Elm



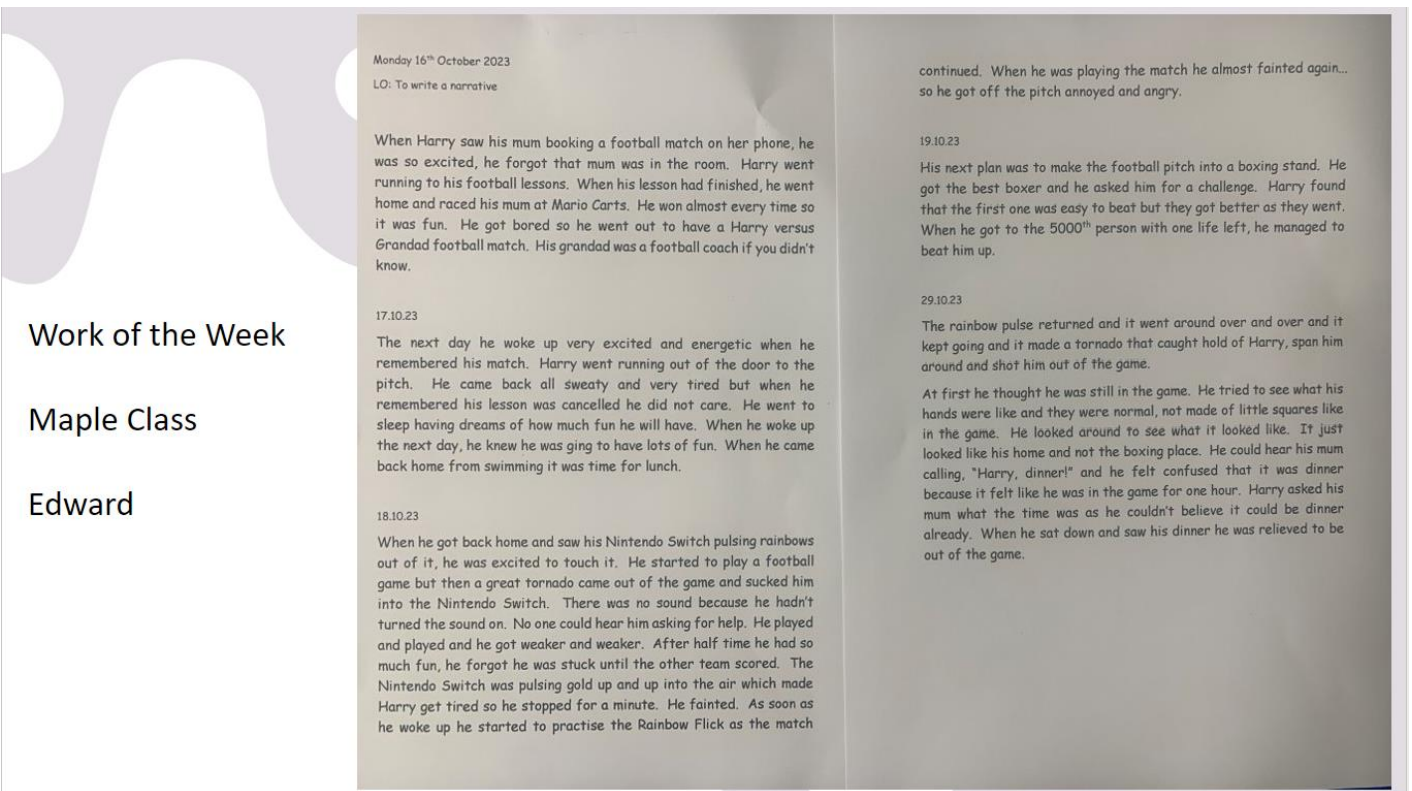
Work of the Week

Elm Class

Seren

Work of the Week

Maple



Work of the Week

Maple Class

Edward

Work of the Week

Oak

Work of the Week

Oak Class

Amalie

Meet Strawberry, she's a very adventurous ice cream who lives in Topping Town, an ice cream world.

One day, she came across a poster on a lamp post which read – *Topping Town needs your help! Everything's melting, only the magical crystal can save us! Can you take on the challenge?* Then, "OOF! I'm sorry," said Strawberry. She had bumped into someone!

"Oh, it's fine," said a young blue ice cream.

"What's your name?" Strawberry asked.

"Bubblegum," she said quietly.

"I love your blue colour!" said Strawberry, and they became firm friends from that moment on.

After reading the shocking news of their world melting away, Strawberry and Bubblegum decided to take up the challenge of finding the magical crystal.

The crystal was apparently on a tropical island called Swavey Swirls and could only be reached by helicopter. The journey took them beyond the reef until they hit a gigantic storm. The ice creams were petrified and felt so sick being thrashed about in the helicopter, but it didn't compare to the blue, dark tsunami looming in front of them. "GO THROUGH THE TSUNAMI!" Strawberry shouted, and they crashed through the giant wave. A few seconds later they found themselves on a beautiful tropical island with birds and all kinds of different animals.

"This must be Swavey Swirls," gasped Bubblegum in astonishment.

They both walked along looking at the beautiful surroundings then saw something surprising, some other ice creams up in the trees! "Hi, are you both here to find the crystal too?" asked Strawberry. "Hello, yes! We are Chocolate and Vanilla, we can team up and work together if you like?" And so off they all went together. They climbed the gargantuan mountain and followed a path. Rocks started

crumbling and breaking and the ice creams were scared. They finally made it to the top where a big, long, unstable bridge waited for them. Strawberry went first but the ropes started to rip and the planks started to break. "RUN!" she shouted. They needed to get to the other side and fast! Something shimmered in the distance, it was the crystal!

Cheeky little monkeys then appeared from nowhere and started to scratch and climb on them, it was horrifying. The air was hot and the ice creams were beginning to melt, leaving drips behind. Were they running out of time? Thankfully, the monkeys slipped on the melting ice cream puddles and fell into the river below floating away – phew!

They made it to the other side and grabbed the crystal. "Hoorah!" the four ice creams cheered, their beloved Topping Town would be saved.

Now for the journey home. Would they all make it home intact, or would they all be delicious puddles?...

You'll be pleased to know that Bubblegum, Strawberry, Chocolate and Vanilla all made it back safe and sound and everybody was so happy to see them. The magical crystal was placed where it belonged, in the waffle cone gazebo and Topping Town was saved.

By Amalie

Work of the Week

Sycamore

Work of the Week

Sycamore Class

Poppy R

LO – To develop writing over several paragraphs.

As the trickling, frothy waves drift across the hazelnut-coloured sand, the soft, warm wind blows a delicate feather round and round. The sky was lit up flamingo pink and rays of amethyst and lavender shot across the beach below.

In this tranquil setting a new life was beginning. Through the crumbly, luscious sand this new life first appeared. As the sapphire and teal waves pushed softly against the surrounding rocks the sand gently parted and a tiny, emerald head appeared and was kissed by the sun rays. The glistening beach twinkled in her eyes as she popped her tiny armoured body onto the new world. This new life was a tiny, fragile turtle called Twyla and she was all alone.

Twyla tried weakly to pull her shell over the jagged rocks to find a sign of life, but all that she could see around her was pearly, fluffy-cotton white clouds. She looked across at the deep blossoming pink and purple sea and started to make her way across the smooth, caramel sand. Her voice was a gentle squeak as she tried to call out to see if there was anyone around but it was as silent as a graveyard. The amber and honey sunset started to close in as she realised that the steep, cinnamon mountains were towering over her and she started to feel panic and despair.

As she was beginning to feel like there was no hope, a shadow cast over her head. With a whooshing sound, a great seagull swooped towards her, making her scurry towards the safety of the rocks in fright. As the seagull landed, it tickled Twyla's shell comfortingly with its giant feathery wings. Just then it spoke in a comforting voice and said "Hello my name is Sasha are you lost?" "Yes, I can not find my family and also are you going toeat me?" Twyla said trembling. With a chuckle Sasha said "Well of course not." "I am going to help you I see that all the sea turtles drift on the waves of the rosey-pink shimmering sea. I think that's where you belong and I can help you get there if you like?" Nervously Twyla thought about the sea, the deepness, the crashing waves and worst of all sharks but if she could find her parents that she would work so hard to get to it was worth the dangerous risk. So she

took Sasha up on her thoughtful offer and said "maybe if I don't find my family we could be family".

Sasha smiled kindly and said "now that we are friends we will always be family" and with that she flipped Twyla on to her broad back and over towered what seemed like the entire world. In the distance they spotted what looked like one hundred copper coins floating on the water as they closer they realised it was Twyla's turtle family. So she swooped down and gently placed Twyla on another turtle's back said their goodbyes and she soared off into the distance.

Work of the Week

Willow W

Work of the Week

Willow W

Phoenix B

Phoenix B

Bella's Guitar

Once upon a time, in a tranquil meadow where wildflowers danced to the whispers of the wind, there lived a curious and colourful butterfly named Bella. Bella was unlike any other butterfly; she had a deep longing to do something extraordinary. While her friends fluttered and frolicked, Bella dreamed of creating music. But how could a delicate butterfly like her make music in a world of meadows and streams?

Bella spent her days observing the world around her. She watched the birds sing their melodious tunes and the frogs croak in harmony by the pond. It was then she discovered a beautiful guitar lying beneath a tall, majestic oak tree.

The guitar was almost as big as Bella herself, with strings that seemed to shimmer in the sunlight. She felt a strange pull towards it. The enchanting instrument whispered to her, promising that she could learn to play. Bella knew it was a challenge, but she was determined to pursue her passion.

As Bella perched on the guitar's wooden body, she realized there was a problem. Her delicate wings were far too fragile to pluck the strings. Each time she tried, her wings only created a gentle breeze, producing no sound from the guitar. Bella felt disheartened and wondered if she would ever create the music she longed for.

Pg1

Despite the initial setbacks, Bella didn't give up. She observed the other animals in the meadow and how they overcome their challenges. The wise old owl taught her to use her legs instead of her wings. With perseverance and the guidance of her newfound friends, Bella began to strum the guitar's strings with her tiny legs.

At first, the notes were all out of tune. But Bella's determination drove her to practice tirelessly, day after day, as she watched the sun rise and set over the meadow. The other animals would gather around, fascinated by Bella's unwavering spirit. The guitar melody slowly started to match the rhythm of her heart.

Over time, Bella's music began to touch the hearts of all who listened. The frogs by the pond croaked in harmony with her guitar, and the birds in the trees joined in with their sweet serenade. The meadow itself seemed to sway to the enchanting tunes Bella created.

One day, Bella's beautiful melodies reached the ears of a young girl named Emily, who was passing by the meadow. She was captivated by the enchanting music and approached Bella. Emily could hardly believe her eyes when she saw the tiny butterfly playing the guitar. She decided to take Bella with her to share the music with the world.

Phoenix B

Bella travelled with Emily to the bustling city, where they performed in parks, schools, and cafes. Bella's music touched the hearts of many, and she became a sensation. People from all walks of life flocked to hear her play, and her music united hearts in a world that needed a little more harmony.

Bella had overcome her physical limitations, turned her dreams into reality, and touched many lives with her music. She had shown the world that even the smallest of us can achieve the extraordinary when they have the courage to pursue their dreams.

In the end, Bella's wings, which once seemed fragile, had carried her on a journey of self-discovery, determination, and inspiration. She had learned that true strength was not only in size but also in her heart and power of her dreams.

And so, the amazing tale of Bella, the butterfly who learned to play the guitar, became a symbol of hope and bravery for all who heard her story. It was a reminder that no dream was too big or no obstacle too great when fuelled by passion, perseverance, and the courage to embrace their uniqueness.

Phoenix B

Pg2

Work of the Week

Willow B

Work of the Week

Willow B

Mattie

Mattie Sato
Year 6, Spangore B - Missing

It was the first day of summer break and Leah and her friends were going to the circus, which came to town on Sunday. The claustrophobic atmosphere carried the smell of candied apples and the sound of children's screams. Leah checked her phone confidently; the time was 3:07, she had 3 minutes to get to her slot to watch the circus. "Welcome to the Prairie circus!" the Compe announced. A wave of applause shot across the audience. As quick as a flash, Leah's ears started to ring from how loud it was. "This is our first date for the circus this year, Friday, Ben October 2000!" the Compe shouted to the crowd. Leah rolled her hazel eyes. She didn't need to hear the date, she just wanted to watch the circus perform. "Oh what's this news coming in, we can't do the show!" uttered the Compe. Leah roared as loud as she could. Eyes slowly locked themselves into a position facing her.

After a while, Leah and her 2 friends had left the performing department of the circus and were now heading to the rides. "Leah, we should probably get home. I mean it's Friday, Ben and I think has already gone wrong, something else could happen," suggested Cynthia, one of Leah's friends. "Oh, come on Cynthia you're not scared of some stupid superstition," laughed Leah. Although Leah thought Cynthia's worry was incredibly idiotic, thoughts were whizzing through her teenage mind. Thoughts like, "Should we go home? What if something does happen? Will something happen?" She couldn't let them thoughts get to her, she was staying and that was that. Leah said rapidly,

"I'm staying I don't know about all you but I want to stay, full stop." "But ...", "uh no but I'm staying," interrupted Leah. "Fine, but if you're staying, were staying too!" said Kay.

After what seemed like an eternity, they finally got to a decision on what ride to go on. The tea cup ride. Leah felt the graceful ride going normally, then super fast, then backwards. Without noticing, Cynthia and Kayla got off the ride. Then suddenly, "Where's Leah?" asked Kayla. Well, Leah was nowhere to be seen, that was the answer to Kayla's question, nowhere.

After looking everywhere, they heard a "Help I'm stuck; it was obviously stuck. Leah had weirdly gone missing then found."

	Value Award	Super Skill Award	Work of the week
Ash	Service <i>Sophia</i> for kindly helping her friends zip up their coats.	Being Enthusiastic <i>Arthur</i> for asking lots of questions when looking at the Incarnation image from The Big Bible Freeze.	Charlie for fantastic independent writing about autumn. Charlie used his 'segmenting fingers' to segment the words. Great work Charlie! 😊
Chestnut	Service <i>Jimmy</i> for going out of his way to be a kind and welcoming friend to Noah this week.	Adaptable <i>Noah</i> for joining a new school and adapting so well to the change, it's as if he's always been part of the class!	Hugo for an amazing story which obviously took a lot of time and effort!
Elm	Creation Logan for continually being creative and thinking of lots of good ideas when working.	Being Inquisitive Jake for asking some really good questions during our science lessons.	Seren for an excellent short story called Rowan the Lost Cave Boy
Maple	Jacob – aiming high – for pushing himself in English this week and talking on board feedback.	Ellah – koinonia - always being a kind and caring member of the class and looking for ways to help and support others.	
Oak	Wisdom <i>Samuel</i> for always showing wise choices in the classroom and being a great role model for others.	Keep on going <i>Isla</i> for not giving up even when you found some maths a little bit trickier this week.	Amalie A brilliant, creative 500 word story and making good use of techniques we have used in class.
Sycamore	Wisdom Ezra for making wise choices with his learning this week 😊	Aiming High Jenna for great maths work this week.	Poppy for excellent use of vocab in her 500 word story!
Willow B	Endurance Sonny - Being determined to learn a poem from memory in English.	Aiming high- Anusha- For reading well with expression and confidence in reading lessons this week.	Mattie- For a spending time to write and edit a 500-word story independently.
Willow W	Creation Leo- for his creative ideas in Reading lessons, Science lessons and when discussing the Maya Angelou poem in English	Aiming High Gracie- for always pushing herself to improve and refine her ideas in Reading lessons	Phoenix B- For an amazing, thoughtful and really engaging 500 words story!



This week's lunchtime awards go to:

KS1 – Rowan in Ash class for being super polite.

KS2 – Sasha in Maple class for always displaying good manners.

Dates for the diary

Non-Pupil Days

Wednesday 20th December

Monday 3rd June

November 2023		
Tuesday 7 th Nov	9am	Early Numbers Workshop
Thursday 9 th Nov	9:45	Reception & Yr6 NHS Health checks
Thursday 9 th Nov – 14 th Nov		Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 10 th Nov	9am	Remembrance Day Worship
Friday 17 th Nov	3pm	Football Match v Great Waltham
Friday 17 th Nov		Children in Need TBC
Friday 24 th Nov		Faith Day - Festival of Light
Wednesday 29 th November	9am	Year 6 Assembly
December 2023		
Friday 1 st Dec		Christmas Tree Dressing Assembly
Friday 1 st Dec		Save the date – Christmas Bazaar
Thursday 7 th Dec		Year 6 - WW1 Flight Simulator
Tuesday 12 th Dec		KS1 Nativity to School
Wednesday 13 th Dec	9:30am	KS1 Nativity to Parents
Thursday 14 th Dec		Christmas Dinner
Friday 15 th Dec		Reports out to Parents
Wednesday 20 th Dec		INSET DAY
Thurs 21 st –Wed 3 rd Jan		CHRISTMAS BREAK
January 2024		
Friday 12 th Jan		Take One Picture Exhibition
February 2024		
Mon 5 th – Fri 9 th Feb		Children’s Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6 th Feb	AM	Yr4 Superstars
Thursday 8 th Feb	9am	Year 2 Assembly
Tuesday 13 th Feb	TBC	Parents Evening
Thursday 15 th Feb	TBC	Parents Evening
Mon 19 th – Fri 23 rd Feb		HALF TERM
March 2024		
Wednesday 6 th March	11am-6pm	Yr5 Wicked Trip
Thursday 7 th March		World Book Day
Friday 17 th March		Comic Relief TBC
Wednesday 20 th March	9am	Year 4 Assembly
Tuesday 26 th March		Faith Day – Easter Faith Day
Wednesday 27 th March	2pm	Speech Festival
Wednesday 27 th March		Reports to Parents
Friday 29 th – Mon 1 st April		BANK HOLIDAY
April 2024		
Tuesday 2 nd – Fri 12 th April		HALF TERM
May 2024		
Wednesday 1 st May	9am	Reception Assembly
Monday 6 th May		BANK HOLIDAY
Mon 13 th May – Fri 31 st May		SATS Week

Friday 17 th May		Faith Day - Pentecost
Monday 20 th – Fri 25 th May		KS1 SATs Week
Wednesday 22 nd May	9am	Year 3 Assembly
Monday 27 th May		BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 26 th – Fri 31 st May		HALF TERM
June 2024		
Monday 3 rd June		INSET DAY
Tuesday 4 th – 14 th June		Time Table Screening
Wednesday 5 th June	AM	Yr2 Minigames
Thursday 6 th June	9am	'Sex & Relationship Education' Parent Meeting
Monday 10 th – Fri 14 th		Phonics Screening Week
Thursday 20 th June	9am	Year 1 Assembly
July 2023		
Wednesday 3 rd July	9:30am	Sports Day and family picnic
Tuesday 16 th July	9am	Macbeth Production Year 4
Thursday 18 th July	2pm & 6pm	Year 6 Production
Monday 22 nd July		Reports to Parents
Monday 22 nd July	TBC	End of Year Presentations
Tuesday 23 rd July	TBC	Leavers Assembly

Class Assemblies		
Wednesday 29 th November	9am	Year 6
Thursday 8 th Feb	9am	Year 2
Wednesday 20 th March	9am	Year 4
Wednesday 22 nd May	9am	Year 3
Wednesday 1 st May	9am	Reception
Thursday 20 th June	9am	Year 1

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who promote denial and hatred.

LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user doesn't already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.



Advice for Parents & Carers

PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow; this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and experts site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



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