

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024

Dear Parents,

Goodness these Fridays are coming around so quickly! What a wonderful, fun packed week we have had. The children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Beamish on Wednesday and our Year 4 leavers enjoyed a wonderful leavers assembly yesterday.



## **School Day**

Thank you to all of you who have submitted your responses to the extension of our school day. We will let you know the outcome next week.

## **Library**

From next week, we will be taking the children in their classes to the school library. This will be on a different day of the week for each class and will run as follows –

- Early years - Thursday
- Class One – Monday
- Class Two – Wednesday

The children will be bringing a library book home on their day which they may need help with at home, but essentially it is to share with yourself. Please can this book be returned every week on your child's library day.

### Attendance Ladder



**Attendance Matters!**

### Facebook



Thank you so much to everyone who has submitted their response to our Facebook questionnaire.

We are still waiting for one or two so by next week we should be up and running.

In the meantime, if you would like to follow our page, please type in Whitley Chapel C of E and the page should appear. (It's not too fancy at the moment but we will start to add photos etc next week.) We will also be able to advertise events like our Summer Fair on other local pages (not photographs of the children) and this should hopefully build our profile amongst other local communities. We will of course respectfully honour the wishes of parents who did not give consent for their children's photographs to be shared.

## Summer Fayre – A message from Mrs Kellett and staff ❤️

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024

You may have spotted our poster for the Summer Fayre on Classdojo!

We are in the process of planning and prepping some exciting activities and stalls, it would be great to see you all there!

We are hoping for some kind donations to help us make this event a success.

Specifically, we would appreciate contributions towards:

- Bottles for the bottle pull (anything in a bottle, soft drinks, alcohol, smellies etc.)
- Small Toys aimed towards children for the Lucky Dip
- Confectionary for the Tombola (Variety of sizes of Chocolate and Sweets for prizes)
- Cakes and baked items for the cake and refreshments stall

Donations can be dropped off at the school office anytime running up to the event.

If you would like to help out on the day in any way please let me know.

Thank you so much for any gift or time you can offer! It really does make all the difference to raising funds for our small rural school.

## Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – HMS Rounders event (Year 4)

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Whole school end of year photo / Unscripted Photography

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June – School fair 10am-12pm

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Sports Day – All families should know which colour team their child(ren) are in, but if not, please do not hesitate to ask.

– Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July Transfer Day to HMS (Yr 4)

## Staying safe online

### ... Did you know About Roblox

<https://nationalcollege.com/categories/online-safety>

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Mrs Hayward 😊

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX**

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

**CONTACT WITH STRANGERS**  
Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility), this could expose children to risks such as spammers, online predators, harassment, griefer and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

**ONLINE DATERS**  
These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

**PUBLIC SERVERS**  
Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

**IN-APP PURCHASES**  
Roblox is actually free to download and play, but even in mini-games, there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

**SET PARENTAL CONTROLS**  
Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as this allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

**DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING**  
Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

**PRIVATE SERVERS**  
If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is on Roblox for fun, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

**MONITOR SPENDING**  
If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

**DEALING WITH STRANGERS**  
At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunavox) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunavox Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

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