

It has been another fantastic week in school and the children have been working extremely hard! I am so proud of the way the children can talk about their learning and explain how their new learning links to the knowledge from previous years.



It was brilliant to celebrate our school with our visitors this week; the children were exceptional in demonstrating our school values and ethos. As soon as we have the report to share, we will be sending it out to parents.

Please read our curriculum newsletters that are sent on parentmail and published on our website to keep up to date with what your children are learning each term. If you would like a paper copy, please ask the front office.

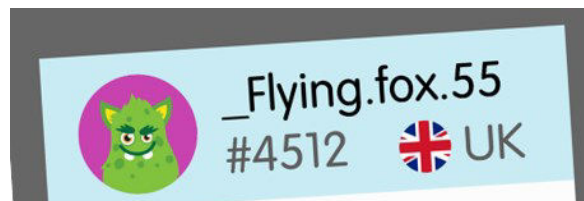
Online Safety Half Term Strand -



Self Image and Online Identity

This strand explores the difference between online and offline identity and how important it is to keep parts of your identity confidential online.

We discussed how avatars can be used instead of real photographs; we also discussed why we should avoid using our name, when creating usernames! The children had excellent responses and worked as pairs or trios to work out which usernames and profiles were the most sensible.



Clubs:

Our clubs are up and running again from this week. Parentmail invites have been sent out so please sign your child up. For children in Years 5 & 6, please state whether they will be collected or have permission to walk home. When the clocks turn back, children will need to be collected due to the darkness.



Monday 3:15-4:15—Years 4, 5 and 6 Football club

Tuesday 3:15-4:15—Years 1,2 and 3 Multi-sports

Tuesday 3:15-4:15— Tennis

Wednesday 8am—Hotshots basketball club (taster sessions ran this week in school)

Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
25.09.23—29.09.23	Whole School	We will be sending out a voting slip for parents to choose which charities they would like us to celebrate within the school year.
10.10.23 (9:30am-10:30am)	Year R parents starting Sep 2024	First open evening for prospective parents of Reception children for September 2024
3.10.23	1	Animals in Mind experience, linked to their science topic
From Monday 2.10.23	Whole School	Harvest— Donations for The Hope Centre—dried food and toiletries
4.10-23- 6.10.23	Year 6	Residential trip to Whitemoor Lakes
28.09.23	Year 3 Harvest Assembly	Year 3 parents welcome to attend
17.10.23 & 19.10.23	Whole School	Parents evening 3:30pm—6pm, please book an appointment.

Secondary School Places 2024:

The application portal is now live for parents/carers to submit their school preferences for a secondary school place at

www.westnorthants.gov.uk/admissions

If you are unsure, please go to the class teachers or front office for support.

Deadline for Secondary Applications:
Tuesday 31 October 2023



West Northamptonshire Council

Is your child currently in Year 6?




Apply for Year 7 at Secondary school

Application Deadline:
31 October 2023

www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions

Message from Mrs Llewelyn (our Family Support Worker and DSL)



Welcome back to school to all of our parents and carers. It has been lovely seeing lots of you on the playground in the mornings. If you do have any worries or concerns, please come and find me on the playground and I'm more than happy to chat.

Family Learning Courses—keep your eyes peeled for more information coming soon!



Mrs. Turner—Deputy Headteacher

Mrs. Williams—Executive Headteacher

Friday 22nd September 2023

School Contact details: Tel – 01604 4011820

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

...MSG ME...

AGE RESTRICTION
16+

In UK and Europe;
rest of the world 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers

...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



...HEY OSCAR...



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

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