



Friday 3rd May 2024

Halwin Headlines

Everyone has been hard at work in Halwin this week. Every time I have walked around the school this week, children have been focused on their learning, asking brilliant questions, working hard on their handwriting and enjoying their new books. Owls have begun their next Art topic where they will be looking at Ancient Egyptian collars and creating their own. With a little help from Mrs Roadley's Mum they've all had a practise at sowing and we have some budding tailors and seamstresses within the class. Thank you for all your decoration donations, Owls can't wait to add them to their creations. As Scientists, the year 5 and 6s created their own 'blood' with different components representing the white cells, red cells, plasma and platelets. Meanwhile, the year 4s were busy testing conductors and insulators in electrical circuits. Robins have been and investigating what toys were like in the past in History and creative writing based on The Storm Whale story. There is lots of excitement in the Robins classroom as the tadpoles have legs!

Thank you to everyone who attended the online safety meeting on Monday. It was great to see so many families attend. I will continue to add regular online safety posters to the newsletter each week. Thank you also to those who joined us for our reading café with Alice Mills, our family support worker. Thank you to the Friends of Halwin for their continued support with cakes and uniform. You may notice we now have a selection of second-hand uniform on a rail in the front entrance. Please make a donation for any uniform you would like to take and please do drop off any used uniform in good clean condition. We are happy for the school logo hoody to be worn as alternative to the school jumper/ cardigan any day—not just for PE.

Congratulations to Maddison for achieving her CMST Mastering Music Award and to Lerryn and Kerra for their rugby festival achievements. Well done again to Owls for their super ukuleles performance last week. Genevieve will be continuing to be in school on Friday afternoons offering Violin lessons through the CMST. Please do pop into the office for a form if you are interested. The CMST do have some violins available to borrow and if you are in receipt of Pupil Premium you may be entitled to free or a reduction on the cost of lessons. Well done to all the children in this week's Maths Whizz Hall of Fame: Amelia B, Catori, Connor, Eli, Jowan, Sam, Torron (Kingfishers) and Amber, Benjamin, Marley, Poppy, Rupert (Owls).

We hope you all enjoy the bank holiday weekend.



Next week's lunch menu **week 1**



Get in touch

You can contact us via phone or email.

01209 860329

halwinsecretary@croftymat.org

Wrap-Around Care
Booking Link attached.

Attendance

We aim for all our children to have at least 97% attendance throughout the year.

Overall attendance for this week was 91.8%

See below for the attendance for each class last week.

Robins: 95%

Owls: 91.9%

Kingfishers: 91.3%

Congratulations

Robins

Halwin Heroes

This year we will be celebrating our Star of the Week and CARE champions every week!



Confidence Aspiration Resilience Enjoyment

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
|  | Star of the Week |
| Robins | Ruby |
| Owls | Coco |
| Kingfishers | Kai |

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Confidence | Gabriel |
| Aspiration | Hudson |
| Resilience | Amber |
| Enjoyment | Aimee |

Team Points

Blue — 350

Red — 493

Green — 447

Yellow — 452



Ruben

For being an all-round amazing
Halwin Citizen

Notices and Events



Head Lice

Unfortunately, we have several cases of head lice in school. Please check your child's hair regularly and if there is evidence of lice in your child's hair, please commence treatment immediately. The most effective method is the wet combing method because it interferes with the life cycle of the louse. Wash hair as normal. Rinse and apply a generous amount of conditioner. Then, using a head lice detector comb (available from pharmacies), comb hair in sections, always starting at the scalp through to the ends of the hair. After each stroke, wipe comb onto paper towel to check for lice/eggs. After combing the entire head, rinse conditioner out. Repeat regularly for two weeks. Also dry comb every day at regular intervals.

Sun Cream and Water Bottles

As the weather improves, please ensure your child wears sun cream to school each day, brings a sun hat and a water bottle. If you wish to provide your child with additional sun cream, please ensure it is in a named container. Staff will remind children to apply it before going outside at lunchtime. If you think your child may need help to re-apply, please speak to your class teacher to give permission.

Outdoor and Adventurous Education

As part of our PE curriculum this term, we have arranged for Owls and Kingfishers to have two water sports sessions at Elemental UK who are based at Swanpool Beach—Thursday 13th June and Friday 21st June, travelling by coach. Please ensure you make payment via ParentPay and complete the online medical form: <https://forms.office.com/e/GpqLvjVTAg>

Pupil Premium

We are currently updating our Pupil Premium information. If you have not completed a Pupil Premium eligibility form, please pop into the office. You may be entitled to Free School Meals and/or the school may be able to secure additional funding to support all children. Please do not worry if you are not sure about the criteria, we are able to use a checking service to see if you should apply.

Diary dates



| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Monday 6th May | School Closed—Bank Holiday |
| Wednesday 8th May | Menu Change—Pasties (pre-order) |
| w/c Monday 13th May | Y6 SATs |
| Monday 20th May | Y5 Careers Event at Helston 2-3.15pm |
| Tuesday 21st May | EYFS Trip to Godolphin House |
| Friday 24th May | Magic Maths Assembly & Workshops |
| w/c Monday 27th May | Half Term |
| w/c Monday 3rd June | Y4 Multiplication Tables Check |
| Thursday 6th June | Kingfishers Trip TBC |
| Wednesday 12th June | Multi-Skills Fun event |
| Friday 14th June | Sports Day |
| Monday 17th June | INSET day—school closed to pupils |
| Thursday 20th June | Sports For School Sponsored Event |
| Friday 28th June | FoH Summer Disco |
| Friday 5th July | FoH Summer Fair |
| Wed 10th July—Fri 12th July | Y5/6 Bristol Residential |
| Tuesday 16th July | Y4 Trip to Book Festival |
| Tuesday 23rd July | Last day of term for pupils |



**“THIS MORNING,
HE HAD A
RUNNY NOSE...
BUT LOOK AT
HIM NOW!”**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

Search NHS school illness guidance to find out more.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) 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 Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18

CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact with strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people: compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the "TikTok Now" feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
16+

in UK and Europe;
rest of the world 13+

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.

...MSG ME...

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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.

ONLINE

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...



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