



Friday 10th May 2024

Halwin Headlines

The sun is shining and we are making the most of the good weather and our amazing grounds with lots of outside fun this week. Please remember to ensure your child wears sun cream to school each day and they bring a sun hat and water bottle. You may wish to send your child with a named bottle of sun cream so they can re-apply before going outside.

On Wednesday, we learned about Flora Day and enjoyed a pasty lunch. In the afternoon, Mrs Tamblin taught us all some Cornish dancing to celebrate Flora Day. Well done everyone! This week, Robins have produced some beautiful sketches in the style of Beatrix Potter and in Science Y1 and 2 enjoyed experimenting in Science how far they could drop eggs! Kingfishers class have been busy evaluating Maya inventions (such as the calendar and farming) and comparing them with our modern day versions. Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed coding using Scratch—you can try this at home on the online version. In English, Owls class have been researching Singapore and the UK as they learn about fact files.

Congratulations to the following children who reached the Maths Whizz Hall of Fame this week:

Kingfishers: Alex, Amelia B, Catori, Charlotte, Connor, Dennis, Eli, Lloyd, Penny, Sam, Torron

Owls: Benjamin, Lerryn, Marley, Poppy, Rupert

Congratulations to the following children who have shown excellent reading skills and have reached their Accelerated Reader Target for Summer Term 2: Amelia B, Kai, Bryn, Penny, Connor, Lerryn and Rupert.

Finally, a huge good luck to Year 6 for their SATs next week. We are super proud of all you have achieved already. This weekend please rest and enjoy the sunshine so you are ready to do your best next week. You are all fantastic! Year 6 are invited to a SATs breakfast in the hall from 8.15am each morning (Normal wrap around care will be held in the library).

Have a great weekend.

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 81.5%

See below for the attendance for each class last week.

Robins: 75%

Owls: 81.3%

Kingfishers: 82.5%

Congratulations

Kingfishers



Next week's lunch menu **week 2**




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	Zephyr
Owls	Hugo
Kingfishers	Amelia B

Confidence	Finn
Aspiration	Alfie M
Resilience	Oscar
Enjoyment	Sorrel

Team Points

Blue — 143

Red — 177

Green — 182

Yellow — 166



Thank you to all the children, parents and staff for your continued hard work and support.

Notices and Events



Year 5 / 6 Bristol Residential

Polite reminder that the second instalment was due 27th March and the final payment is due on 14th June.

Pre-School 2 Year Olds

Final call for any expressions of interest for 2-year old places from September. Please contact the office if you are interested so we can decide if we can go ahead.

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.

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



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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is an instant messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' 24 hours after they've been viewed; however, this content isn't as temporary as many believe – with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. This year, Snapchat added 'My AI': a customisable chatbot with which people can chat and share secrets, as well as asking for advice and suggestions of places to visit.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends – but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have anyone behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely – but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).



CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature: users can now receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.



DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.



CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up – and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.



KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life – especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.



BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).



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.



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<https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/325678835932-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-to-use-it> | <https://values.snap.com/en/ct/how-to-keep-your-account-private> | <https://www.nos.gov.uk/what-is-snapchat> | <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/702320496844>

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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 scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers 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.

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.

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.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that 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 that 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 genuine friends who they 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 a Roblox fan, 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 others safely in the digital world.

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.

Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/7/21/2333431/roblox-over-hal-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-parties-for-tito>
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>

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