



Thursday 20th February 2025 (4 pages)

ATTENDANCE

Well done to those year groups in the **green-a terrific 100% for most!**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE %</u>
RECEPTION	100%
YEAR 1	100%
YEAR 2	87%
YEAR 3	100%
YEAR 4	100%

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

We have had a fabulous Spring 1 half term with great progress, lots of fun and exciting activities. The children have been an absolute pleasure and I know are looking forward to the lighter mornings and lighter nights and hopefully the finer weather!

The staff and I wish you a very happy half term holiday and hope you are able to relax and recharge your batteries ready for Spring 2 and the lead up to Easter.

TEAM POINT WINNERS

Congratulations to this half term's Team Point winners SYCAMORE who achieved an amazing 27,480 points. They enjoyed some Golden Time this morning with some sweet treats and a chocolate egg prize!





CELEBRATING EXTRA CURRICULAR PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Please let Mrs Long know if your child/ren take part in extra-curricular clubs and activities and achieve awards or prizes. We would love to celebrate and share their efforts and successes.

PE KITS

Please ensure children have their PE kits in school on **Monday 3rd March.**

The children in **YEARS 1 and 2 will be doing Invasion Games** and the children in **Years 3 and 4 will be doing Hockey**. Both classes will be outside for PE, weather permitting so please ensure they have trainers and a hoody as well as leggings/shorts and t-shirt.



ELVIS AND TUFFY THE READING BEARS

The Reading Bears are having a rest during the holiday and look forward to coming home with some luck readers soon! Here is a photo of Elvis enjoying a very relaxing weekend with Isla W.



COMING SOON!

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR - MORE INFO TO FOLLOW

HUMSHAUGH FIRST SCHOOL OPEN AFTERNOON-MORE INFO TO FOLLOW



DIARY DATES

Friday 21st February:

Monday 3rd March:

Thursday 6th March:

Tuesday 11th March:

Tuesday 18th March:

W/C 24th March:

Tuesday 8th April:

Thursday 10th April:

Friday 11th April:

Monday 28th April:

Monday 5th May:

Wed 14th-Fri 16th May:

Friday 23rd May:

Monday 2nd June:

Tuesday 10th June:

Friday 18th July:

Teacher Day

Spring 2 starts

World Book Day and Friends from the Village

Class 3 Volcanoes and Earthquakes workshop-in school

Skipping Festival-Class 3-more info to follow

Class 1-The Very Hungry Caterpillar-Queens Hall-more info to follow

Parent Consultations-more info to follow

Be You-Friendship sessions

Easter Service-St. Peter's Church-9.30am-Whole school-everyone welcome

Last day of Spring 2-Break up for Easter

Summer 1 starts

Bank Holiday-School closed

Y4 Residential-Robinwood

Last day of Summer 1

Summer 2 starts

Be You-Resilience sessions

Last day of term-break up for Summer!

ONLINE SAFETY

This information can be found on the National College website under Parental Guides.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users, 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. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

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 they want to message. Therefore, if a 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 the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow 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.

CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature – 'Secret Code' – where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't reopen 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 protection of privacy.

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 is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user'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 & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider whether it 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 a child's WhatsApp settings 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 a 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.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a Locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any View Once content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children 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 that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ONLINE

SECRET CODE

