

NEWSLETTER Thursday 10th October 2024

Dear Parents,
It's been a busy couple of weeks, please read on for all the latest news.

LANDSCOVE LEARNERS CLASS 1

All the children in class 1 had a super day last Friday, not only did they deserve a big well done for their super singing and behaviour during our Harvest Festival, but they also had a fabulous time during their outdoor explorer session.



CLASS 2

Class 2 have been rather busy, from art, to maths, to science investigators – it's all been happening! In art the children explored different materials to print with and then discussed which ones worked best and why. Year 1s have been working practically to understand number bonds within 10, alongside Year 2s who have been tackling some harder missing number problems. And... Scientists in Class 2 went on a minibeast hunt to discover different microhabitats. Great job everyone!



CLASS 3

Eco actions! Class Three visited MMV, an Energy from Waste plant in Plymouth, to learn about their process of turning waste from Devon into energy. The children did a carousel of activities including a site tour, EfW team quiz and a scientific activity focusing on different resources and energies. This was a super experience and will go towards their Eco action planning.

CLASS 4

What amazing William Morris home learning class 4. The children researched interesting facts and started to explore his designs – your studies are fab!



Science lessons have also been brimming with reflections and exploration, as children looked at the force of friction. They started by comparing how jelly cubes and ice moved on the table (great fun!) then moved on to the serious business of planning a fair test. The investigation was designed to discover which surface offered the least friction, using their shoes and Newton meters. Lots of Scientific vocabulary was used as they made predictions, controlled variables and recorded their results in tables. I wonder what the findings will show.



SAFEGUARDING & ATTENDANCE

Attendance: (Our school target is 96.8%)	
Whole school	97.1%
Class 1	96.8%
Class 2	97.8%
Class 3	97.5%
Class 4	96.1%
Well, done to Class 2!	

This free guide offers expert advice on the issues that may arise when using in-game chat, and lets you know how to safeguard the children in your care as they make use of this technology.

<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat>

If you are concerned about a child's wellbeing, please: contact the school or in non-school hours contact MASH on 0345 155 1071. Our designated safeguarding officer is Mrs. Ryder, and the deputy safeguarding officer is Mr. Ansermoz

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat, a group voice conversation that some users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will also use a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is often open to all players in the game. Many games default to making an open-in-world chat, so anyone can see what you're saying. This isn't necessarily a bad thing, as it allows people to meet and talk to others who are playing with them. However, it does mean that anyone can see what you're saying, regardless of whether they're playing with you. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some examples where it's inappropriate when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It has been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a peer, only to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending them to an online messaging platform. It's good to advise young people to avoid opening to strangers' messages that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can be fun because of how a match plays out, others find that they're harassed by people who engage in trolling – in essence, bullying in an online context. It's often very easy to troll people or get to the end of someone's patience by talking to them about their team or their skills. Some trolls will use other forms of harassment, such as insulting and other forms of abuse. They normally feel most confident prying on players in more competitive games.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like to re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat to invite them. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to potentially attempting to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, let alone losing unfairly, or they're just a bad team. This can lead to unpleasant messages that may come from playful trash talk and spread into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on young gamers' emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Just chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take quick glances and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what they should do if they're online, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a report means of reporting other players, so you can help to reduce any potential harm. This normally leads to the account being banned or deleted in the future. It's important to note that this is done within the game's rules. They may be banned from playing anymore. This is done within the game itself, so each title or platform will have different rules, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and avoid any risk of other's company when using different games. It's safer for more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by someone in leading the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the difference between online being competitive and being abusive. Talk about when someone is being unkind or insulting, but make sure they know that if anything ever occurs or worries them, they should talk to an adult as soon as possible. Encourage children to identify the needs of in-game chat as well as the importance and approval from their own. Get involved by seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coleman is the Editor in Chief of GOFOR and has been working in the games industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published in sites including iD, TechRadar, and plenty more.

Wake Up Wednesday

The National College

@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

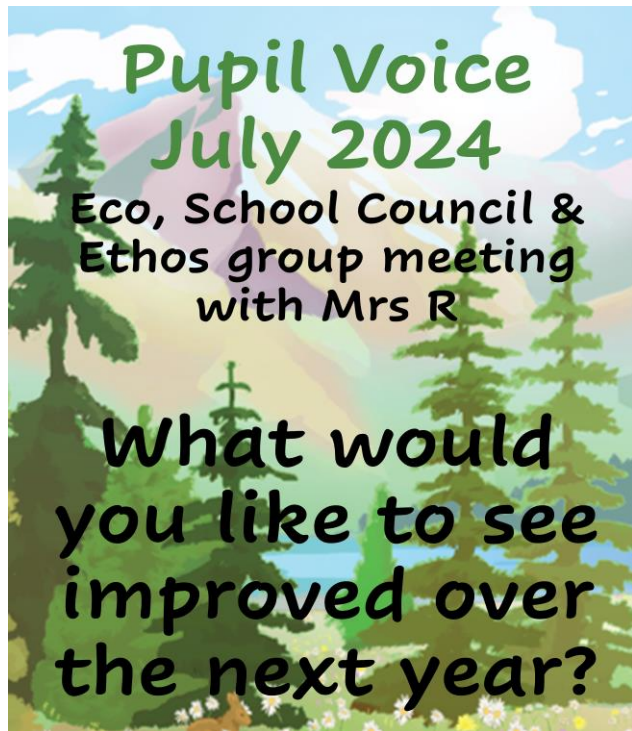


ETHOS, VISION & VALUES

Thank you to everyone who attended and donated to our Harvest Festival last Friday. The foodbank are very grateful to be receiving your donations as this will be of real help to families in need.



PUPIL VOICE IN ACTION- I firmly believe that we work in partnership with our whole school community. Last summer whilst working with the children to collect thoughts for our school improvement plan the following was raised by nearly every one of the 35 children who met with me.



- “Our forest area needs protecting; people don’t respect it.” (Mrs R shared that she has been discussing this with FOLS)
- “Can Y1&2 also do WWL /Outdoor explorers like we used to?”
- “Can we have a forest school person?”

In response I have been able to feedback what we have already achieved to meet their request. I cannot take all the credit for this, FOLS have been an amazing support to realise the first part of this project – over the last year we discussed the revamping of our woodland area on numerous occasions and concluded that to support pupil voice was the correct thing to do. It has also been invaluable in terms of teacher time - they no longer have to set up lessons more than once, or search for equipment that has been removed or broken, as the site is secure. I want to say a huge thank you to the Pearse family who spent a whole weekend putting up the fencing and securing the site for us. **THANK YOU!**



- Miss Capaldi has completed an outdoor learning course and shared her learning with all the teachers.
- All teachers have received training from Learning through Landscapes.
- Our amazing FOLS have secured the area to prevent the area from being mistreated.
- We have bought new equipment to run WWL afternoons alongside KS2 doing forest school at the Beacon in Broadhempston.
- Staff are now going to set up the area with a shelter and fire pit ready for use this term.

FOLS – from Michelle

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped and supported Bags2school.

Silent Disco / Movie night is coming up next week, many of you have already bought tickets but there are still spaces left. We hope that this is going to be a lovely treat for the children, it is only £10 including mufti all day, disco, movie, hot dog, and a drink. Friday the 18th of October 3:30pm – 6pm. Email fols@outlook.com to get your ticket.

You should have all received your IQ Christmas card order details, thank you to those who have already ordered, please note that the online ordering system will close on the **17th of October**.

Big thanks to everyone who have been working hard to source some prizes for the Christmas Fair raffle, it has been a struggle so far with many companies feeling the pinch. Please do let us know if you can help in anyway by donating a raffle prize or if you work for / know a company who could help, please get in touch via fols@outlook.com

Thank you all for your continued support.

- 17th October – Deadline for online ordering for IQ Christmas Cards.
- 18th October – Silent Disco / Movie (Mufti all day)

After half term -

- 6th December – Christmas Fair.
- 16th December – ‘Santa Run’ during the school day.

COMING UP- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16 th Oct	Art Workshop for Class 3 ~ Courtney Arnold
14 th - 18 th Oct 15 th Oct	We are authors week. Simon James visiting – author workshops for all classes
23 rd Oct	Hindu speaker- sessions with classes 3&4
25 th Oct	Break up for half term
2 nd Nov	Song Machine performing at the breakfast market in Landscope

- Advance notice!

5 th & 7 th Nov	Parent consultation evenings – Bookings will be available later this half term
13 th Nov	Class 4 Morwellham Quay educational visit
14 th Nov	Class 3 Forest school day @ community woodland in Broadhempston
21 st Nov	Class 4 Forest school day @ community woodland in Broadhempston

FOLS brings you ~




Friday 18th October 3:30pm ~ 6pm

£10

- Silent Disco, Movie, Hot Dog and Drink -
- KS1 & KS2 will take turns at the disco and then swap to movie and food -
- Parents welcome to join in the fun -
- Mufti at school all day to save changing clothes -
- DJ battle of the teachers - children's vote -
- Book your child's place via fols@outlook.com -
- Payment via bacs with ref 'disco' and your child(ren) name(s) -
- Bank details -

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Unfortunately, due to nature of this event we cannot cater for any dietary requirements.
If you would like to send your child in with packed food and we can adjust the price accordingly.

We would like to make this event inclusive for everyone and finance should not prevent anyone taking part and if there are any financial constraints then please come to the FOLS team in Confidence.



29th Nov	Song machine performing in Trust Choir concert. Details TBC
4th Dec	EYFS/KS1(classes 1&2) Nativity @ St Matthew's 2pm 6pm KS2 Christmas performance 1 for Class 3 families
5th Dec	KS2 Christmas Performance 2 for Class 4 families
20th Dec	End of term carols in church – bring your singing voices and join us at 2:45pm for a good old sing song!

I think that's all for now.

Have a good weekend.

Jill Ryder.