



## NEWSLETTER – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear parents and carers,

With another week passed, I cannot believe we only have 3 weeks left of this academic year. The days are passing by quickly, but there is still so much for the children to look forward to with our summer fair, Joseph performances, DT end of the day open doors, school discos, end of unit experiences and of our final assemblies.

At the end of this term, we say goodbye to Mr Spencer, who has been a part of the Year 6 team since January. We wish Mr Spencer the best of luck as he continues on his teaching journey.

Looking ahead to the new academic year 23/24, I am delighted to announce after a recent interview, Ms Connor has been appointed as our new Deputy Head. Ms Connor will still remain as our school SENCO whilst also stepping into the Deputy Head position from September. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms Connor.

Joining the George White team in September is Miss Potter who will be teaching in Year 3.

One of our school priorities for the year ahead is reading. Part of our strategy to prioritise and develop a love of reading and embed a deep reading culture and love of books is to rename our classes after significant authors which the children will learn about as they journey through our school. Mrs Eaglen, our school English lead has been working with staff to create new author class names which will be implemented from September. The chosen author class names are:

### **Year 3**

Lewis  
Hughes  
Kitamura

### **Year 4**

Tan  
Pullman

### **Year 5**

Almond  
Ho-Yen  
Johnson

### **Year 6**

Palacio  
Ness  
Morpurgo

Ahead of our transition week, this coming Thursday your child will be told who their new class teacher is and what class they will be in. This can be a time of mixed emotions for some children as they prepare to move up into their new year group, but we hope with a full week of transition events planned, your child will feel confident as we head into the new academic year.



## OUR LEARNING THIS WEEK

### YEAR 3

This week Year 3 have been carrying out assessments. The children have worked so hard and tried their very best during these. We have been learning about Settlements in Geography. We learned about what early settlers looked for when they came to Britain and where they needed to best be placed. We really enjoyed

Science day and carried out some really fun experiments in class.



### YEAR 4

It has been a busy week of celebrating for Year 4!

It was George White's got talent on Tuesday and we were so impressed with those who shared their talent on stage - well done!

In Maths we have been recapping on the methods to use to solve the four different operations.

In History we learned what the Romans did for us and in partners made a calendar for a specific month of the Julian or Pre Julian calendar, which will become a whole class Roman calendar when completed. They also wrote the dates on their calendar in Roman numerals.

Science day yesterday was jam packed with three different experiments...making helicopter seeds, testing invisible ink AND learning about Isambard Kingdom Brunel, which led them to design and build a bridge using straws. They thought about how they could make it more sturdy next time.



### YEAR 5

Year 5 has had such a busy week! It has been assessment week for the children, and they really persevered. Well done to all the children for working super hard! In our PE lessons we played rounders on the school field. Wednesday afternoon was George White's Got Talent, a huge well done to all those children who had the courage to perform in front of both Year 5 and Year 6. Yesterday was Science Day, Year 5 spent the morning researching David Attenborough and creating a timeline of events from his life. In addition, we had a really interesting live Zoom event with PPMA BEST who taught us all about robots and renewable energy. In the afternoon, we had an author visit from Nazneen Ahmed Pathak who came in and spent part of the afternoon talking to us about her new book. She even signed some copies of the books too! Finally, we learnt about converting millilitres to litres and millimetres to meters in math's. In history, we learnt about the evacuation of children during World War II. What a busy week!



## YEAR 6

In English, children are compiling their non-chronological reports about the Himalayas.

We have had an author visit the school on Thursday, where we joined Year 5.

In Maths, we have been looking at data including using the mean.

In Geography, we have looked at the price of fashion in the world; what globalisation means and where different products are made in the world.

In Science, children enjoyed Science Day where they took part in a variety of different Scientific activities including finger printing.

Some Year 6s have been helping Mousehold children with their Maths on Fridays and numerous high school staff have been visiting the children as part of our transition process.

Finally, Year 6 are working hard on the musical, Joseph. They have also been making things for the set. Please help children learn their lines over the next two weeks if you can! Thank you.

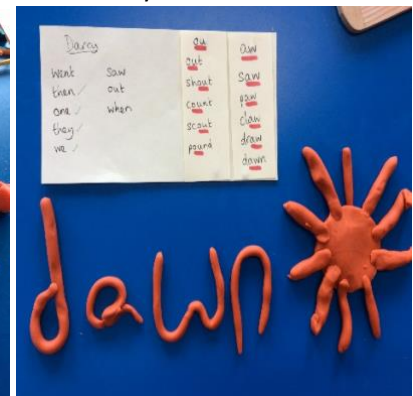
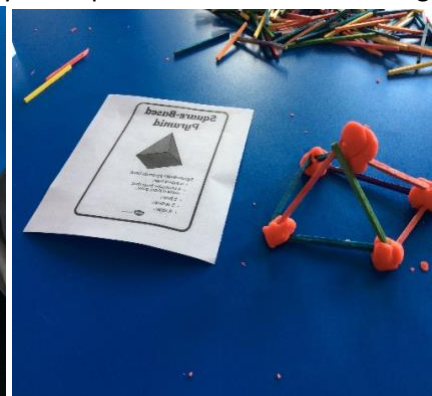
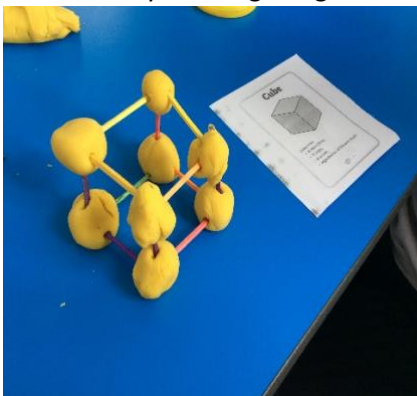


## Apple Class

This week, Apple class have been exploring different ways to help us with our learning. In maths, we made 3-D shapes out of sticks and playdough and used this to help us to identify and count vertices and edges.

In history, we used magnetic letters to make key words which we will use in our writing. We all have our own target sounds and high frequency words to work on and we used playdough to create a model of meaning for different words. We also used sandpaper letters, chalkboards and pipe cleaners!

Multisensory learning is a great way to help us to visualise our learning when we try to remember it.



Our attendance certificate for the highest class attendance this week goes to

**6 Larch** with **97 %** Well done



## What's On

JULY 2023	
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Dress down day – children are allowed to wear non-school uniform, please bring an item for the summer fair raffle.
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Welcome meeting for new year 3 parents at 5.00pm in the hall.
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Teacher strike day
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	DT open doors for all year groups from 3:15pm. Parents and carers are welcome in to school to look at the DT product made this half term.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Teacher strike day
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 & 4 end of year disco from 3:20 – 4:45
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 end of year disco from 3:20-4:45
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fair from 3.15 on the school playground (weather permitting)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports out to all parents and carers
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Joseph and the technicolour dream coat performance for parents and carers at 1.30pm
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Joseph and the technicolour dream coat performance for parents and carers at 5.30pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 end of year Disco 3:20-4:45
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Whole school final assembly at 11:30am
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 leavers assembly – parents and carers of year 6 pupils invited from 2:30pm to watch
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Term ends at 3.20pm
September 2023	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	School year 23/24 begins from 8:40am

## Summer Fair 2023

We are pleased to announce our Summer fair is taking place on Friday 14th July from 3:15pm. We are renting stall tables at £5 per table and all businesses are welcome.

We are having a **dress down day on 4th July**, this is an opportunity for children to come to school in non - school uniform, and in return we ask for a small donation to put towards the Summer Fair raffle. Donations could be:

- Chocolates, sweets, crisps, popcorn, biscuits
- Drinks – alcoholic and non-alcoholic
- Toiletries
- Books
- Vouchers



## No Smoking On the School Site

Please can we remind all parents and carers that smoking is not permitted in any part of the school at any time. This includes all school buildings and the outside areas of the school including playgrounds, sports field or car parks.

## Silver Road Community Centre

Large Collection of School uniform & Food bank - Open: Thursdays 10.30 - 12.15

Community Fridge Saturdays & Food Bank Fresh food & bakery - Saturdays 11.00 - 12.15. To Book an Appointment Please call [07786694325](tel:07786694325)

## Healthy Snacks

Please can we remind all parents and carers that children are to have only healthy snacks for playtimes. Items such as fruit, rice cakes, bread sticks and cereal bars are great but no crisps or chocolate thank you, these should be kept for lunchboxes.

## End of Year Discos

From Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June, Mrs Chester and Mrs Watts will be selling tickets for the school disco in the office at break time and lunchtime for any child who would like to attend. Tickets cost £1.00. As part of our Year 6 leavers celebrations, Year 6 students do not need to purchase a ticket but instead inform their class teacher that they will be attending.

Dates for our discos are:

**Year 3 & 4 – 11<sup>th</sup> July 3:20-4:45**

**Year 5 – 12<sup>th</sup> July 3:20-4:45**

**Year 6 – 20<sup>th</sup> July 3:20-4:45**

## SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Derer is on our school playground every Thursday and Friday morning from 8:45am. Mrs Derer is our school Parent Support Advisor, and you may already recognise her as she works at Mousehold every Monday and Tuesday. Mrs Derer is always happy to talk to you about any worries or concerns relating to your child at home or any further support we may be able to offer or signpost you to.

Our school Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

**Mrs Petchey, Mrs Stolworthy, Mrs Eaglen, Miss Alderton, Ms Connor, Mrs Derer and Mrs Burman**

Please speak to one of these members of staff if you are worried or concerned about the safety of a child at school.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child out of school hours,  
the number to ring is:

**CADS – Children's Advice and Duty Service – 0344 800 8020**



## ONLINE SAFETY



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

PETS

# AMINO

AGE RESTRICTION  
12+

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Amino is a social media platform offering a large group of subcommunities under one digital 'roof'; it was envisaged as the online version of a convention, where fans gather to celebrate a shared interest like comic books or sci-fi, for example. While many such platforms are harmless spaces for devotees of a certain TV show or video game to congregate, there are still some aspects that trusted adults should be aware of. With a focus on sharing user-generated content, the idea of Amino is for users to communicate with like-minded individuals – but even that can create plenty of hazards.

## MODERATION GAPS

Amino has a 12+ classification in the App Store and a 'Teen' rating on Google Play. However, certain communities on the platform have little to no moderation in place – increasing the potential for more adult-themed content to reach young users. It's also possible to create an account without proof of age, raising the possibility of even younger children finding their way onto the platform.

## UNSAFE CONTENT

The central concept behind Amino is for users to share content, then make and receive comments on these uploads. The level of anonymity that the platform offers (someone's true identity can be completely obscured behind their username, for instance) means that it would be extremely difficult to stop suggestive or outright predatory comments and messages being sent to young people.

## INAPPROPRIATE IMAGES

Like most social media, Amino offers easy sharing of images. Its community guidelines state that any suggestive photos of under-18s will be removed immediately, but of course this doesn't prevent inappropriate pictures being seen by a young person. Not all of Amino's communities are rigorously moderated, so there's a chance that some unsuitable images could temporarily evade detection.



## MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Amino+ is a premium membership for the platform, offering a bevy of customisable options such as stickers, mood to display and an exclusive profile badge. Users can also purchase one-off cosmetic items including different styles of the bubble or profile frames. If your child has payment methods available via their device, they could potentially make these in-app purchases without you realising.

## REPEATED USAGE

As a social media app, Amino is focused on keeping its communities engaged and coming back for more. Part of this approach is encouraging people to build up 'streaks', as users are awarded 'reputation points' for logging in regularly. This type of mechanism, of course, always carries the risk of young people feeling a compulsion to repeatedly check in with the app, further increasing their screen time.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK ABOUT IT

If your child is old enough and chooses to download and use Amino, it's probably wise to remind them of some online safety basics – such as how not everyone in the digital world is who they claim to be, for example, or not to give out personal information online. It might also be a good idea to go into the app's settings and disable incoming chat requests from users that your child doesn't know.

### STAY UPDATED

Ensure that your child knows to report any upsetting or worrying online content they might see to you. As much as possible, try to stay aware of which communities they're joining on Amino. Most of these areas are well moderated and full of innocent conversation about common interests, but on any platform of this breadth, there's always the potential for chats to veer off into potentially harmful places.

### MEMBERSHIP MEDIATION

If your child asks for an Amino+ membership but you're not entirely comfortable with that, be prepared to explain your decision in depth. Young people's sense of injustice can naturally become inflamed when their friends have things that they don't. Parents of older teens, meanwhile, might actually decide to agree to the membership request but continue to monitor their child's activity on the app.

### MONITOR SCREEN TIME

If you haven't already, you might want to consider setting up controls such as Family Sharing (on iOS devices) or Family Link (on Android) so, from your own device, you can keep an eye on how much screen time your child is having – and what apps they're spending it on. This can be extremely useful with regard to platforms such as Amino, which can be quite addictive and reward repeated use.

## Meet Our Expert

Joyal Coleman is Editor in Chief of gaming and experts site DCFusion and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular columnist to the App Store to try out new apps, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published in a number of sites including IGN and TechRadar.



National Online Safety

#WakeupWednesday