



"Participate, excel, take pride!"

Newsletter and Diary Dates October 2022

Children in Need, Friday 18th November

Our School Parliament has voted to have a 'Back to the Future' dressing-up theme for Children in Need day. Children may come to school wearing clothing from the past or the future, in return for a donation for Children in Need. Here are some ideas:



Dressing-up is entirely optional. For children who would prefer not to dress up, they are welcome to come in non-uniform in return for a donation.

We will also be having a Talent Show during the afternoon. Each class will hold heats during the week, and there will be two winners from each class who will take part in 'Snarestone's Got Talent' during the afternoon on Friday 18th November. Any children may enter the competition, and this may be individual or as part of a group (although groups must all be in the same class). Class teachers will soon be asking for children to sign up with their talent!

Our MSPs will be selling Children in Need merchandise daily from Monday 24th October. Here is what they will be selling:



Pudsey ears: £2.50



Blush ears: £2.50



Pudsey wristbands: £1.00



Pudsey or Blush pin badges: £1.00



Young Voices

A reminder for all our Herons and Kingfishers parents to return their Young Voices forms, including ticket requests, as soon as possible – **we will be making a school order for tickets on Friday 28th October.**

If you require new forms, please contact Mr Jewitt or Mrs Hearfield.

All our children should be able to access all the Young Voices materials, so they can practice at home, using the log-in details supplied in the information pack given out a few weeks ago. If you have lost this and would like a new one, please contact one of us.



YOUNG VOICES
The largest school concerts in the world!

Christmas Jumpers

You will notice on the diary dates that there are a number of days in December when children can wear their Christmas jumper to school. However, we appreciate that buying a new Christmas jumper each year isn't cheap, so if you have any old Christmas jumpers that are too small, we would really appreciate them being donated to the school so that we can offer them to other children. We are planning on having a Christmas jumper 'swap shop' in the hall after school on Friday 25 November – here children can bring their old jumper and swap it for a 'new' one!

Diary Dates

Please find below diary dates that we currently have for the rest of this term (*new or updated information in red*):

OCTOBER			
Monday 24th	Children in Need merchandise on sale from today!		Years R-6
Wednesday 26th	Open Morning for August 2023 starters	9:30 – 12:00	New starters
Wednesday 26th	Parents' Evening	3:30 – 7:00	All parents
Thursday 27th	Gareth Baker author workshops, followed by book sale at the end of the day	all day	Years R-6
Thursday 27th	Parents' Evening	3:30 – 5:30	All parents
Friday 28th	VIP assembly – parents welcome to attend	2:45	All parents
Friday 28th	FOSS Halloween Party – see separate letter from FOSS	after school	Year R-6
Friday 28th	Last date for Young Voices ticket orders through school		KS2 parents
NOVEMBER			
Friday 4th	Swans and Kingfishers trip to Tamworth Castle	all day	Swans/Kingfishers
Saturday 5th	Unity cross country races at Packington – see separate flyer	10:30 start	Years R-6
Thursday 10th	Whole school visit to the National Arboretum, Staffordshire, including Remembrance service	all day	Years R-6
Friday 11th	VIP assembly – parents welcome to attend	2:45	All parents
Saturday 12th	NWL cross country races at Sir John Moore, Appleby	10am start	Years R-6
Monday 14th	Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week	all day	Years R-6
Wednesday 16th	Forest School Day for whole school (Welly Wednesday)	all day	Years R-6
Friday 18th	Children in Need Day – 'Back to the Future' dressing up theme; Snarestone's Got Talent		
Tuesday 22nd	'Flu immunisations	morning	Years R-6
Friday 25th	VIP assembly – parents welcome to attend	2:45	All parents
Friday 25th	Christmas jumper 'swap shop' in the hall	3:30	All pupils/parents
Tuesday 29th – Wednesday 30th	FOSS Christmas wreath making	6:00-9:00	Parents
DECEMBER			
Monday 5th	School post box opens for Christmas cards – please display the name and class clearly on the envelope		
5th – 9th	Christmas craft week	various	Years R-6
Tuesday 6th	Swans Christmas production – performance to parents/family	2pm	Swans
Wednesday 7th	Forest School Day for whole school (Welly Wednesday)	all day	Years R-6
Wednesday 7th	Swans Christmas production – performance to parents/family	5:30pm	Swans
Thursday 8th	Jolly Jumper Day – children may wear a Christmas jumper in return for a donation to Save the Children		
Friday 9th	Christingle assembly – unfortunately we are unable to accommodate parents for health and safety reasons. <i>Children will make Christingles earlier in the week and will need to bring in a large orange on the Monday of this week.</i>	9:15	Years R-6
Friday 9th	VIP assembly – parents welcome to attend	2:45	All parents
Tuesday 13th	Trip to see Aladdin in Derby – please note that we will be late back to school on this day (between 4:30-5:00)	all day – late back	Years R-6
Wednesday 14th	Christmas dinner day – children may wear Christmas jumpers, tinsel, hats etc.	lunch	Year R-6
Wednesday 14th	Jingle Jog – all participants will receive a medal!	pm	Year R-6
Thursday 15th	Christmas carol service in St. Bartholomew's Church – all welcome	2pm start	All welcome to attend
Friday 16th	Christmas jumpers to school for the last day of term!		
19th Dec – 3rd Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY		



JANUARY			
Tuesday 3 rd	Teacher training day		
Wednesday 4 th	School opens to pupils		
Friday 13 th	Young Voices at Resorts World Arena, Birmingham – full details to follow	all day until late	Years 3-6

Cross Country

It has been great to see a good turnout at our recent cross-country races, but we would love to see even more Snarestone children taking part!

These races are extremely inclusive and are open to all primary ages and abilities. The next races are as follows:

Saturday 5th November: Unity cross country league at Packington Recreation Ground (see flyer), 10am start.

Saturday 12th November: North West Leicestershire Cross Country League at Sir John Moore School, Appleby Magna. The race order is as follows:

Reception Girls 10:00am	Reception Boys 10:05am
Year 1 Girls 10:10am	Year 1 Boys 10:15am
Year 2 Girls 10:20am	Year 2 Boys 10:25am
Year 3 Girls 10:30am	Year 3 Boys 10:35am
Year 4 Girls 10:40am	Year 4 Boys 10:50am
Year 5 Girls 11:00am	Year 5 Boys 11:10am
Year 6 Girls 11:20am	Year 6 Boys 11:30am

Refreshments, sausage rolls, bacon butties and drinks will be on sale – proceeds to Appleby School PTA. Parking is available on the surrounding roads and at the Appleby Inn public house but please allow room for other road and footpath users and park responsibly. Access to the field is from Top Street only as we want the children to have the course to themselves.

Other dates we already have for cross country races:

Saturday 21st January: NWL races at Hugglescote Primary School, 10am start

Saturday 28th January: Unity races at Woodstone Primary School, 10:30am start

Saturday 11th February: NWL races at Measham CE Primary School, 10am start

Saturday 18th March: Unity races at Snarestone Primary School, 10:30am start



Packington Church of England Primary School



Cross Country

Saturday 5th November 2022
at Packington Recreation Ground

First race begins at 10:30am

Runners will require shoes for both grass/mud and tarmac!

Refreshments

Hot food and drinks will be available thanks to Packington School Association.

Parking will be a challenge!

Please use the school playground and surrounding roads and we kindly ask that you park with consideration for our neighbours and local residents.

Please also be aware....

We will have a restricted spectator area to make a safe course for the runners. Marshals will be on hand to guide you and we would greatly appreciate your support on this matter.

Just a few extra reminders to help the day run more smoothly.

1. KS2 races will go along a tarmac track for part of their race so can spectators please leave this clear.
2. The field the children run around is privately owned so please NO pacing.

Term Dates for 2022-23

Autumn Term 2022

School Closes: Friday 16th December

Spring Term 2023

New Year Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd January

Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils): Tues 3rd Jan

School Opens to Pupils: Wednesday 4th January

Mid-Term Break: Monday 20th to Friday 24th Feb

School Closes: Friday 31st March

Summer Term 2023

School Opens: Monday 17th April

May Day: Monday 1st May

Mid-Term Break: Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June

School Closes: Thursday 13th July

Note: For 2023-24, the first day of school for pupils is Tuesday 29th August 2023



National Online Safety

We subscribe to National Online Safety, award-winning online safety education for the whole school community. In each newsletter, we shall display one of their useful information leaflets. This one is about Roblox.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

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.

PEGI RATING
7+

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 some genuine friends to 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 other people online safely.

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.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/11/21/21333431/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-are-using-virtual-purse-forthite>
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

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