

Moulton Primary School Newsletter

Friday 18th October 2024



The Classroom News

Reception



Our Early Years children have settled beautifully into the setting and have enjoyed learning all about Autumn over the past few weeks.

Year 4



This week in Year 4 we have been exploring persuasive writing using the book *The King Who Banned the Dark*. The children have been exploring the pros and cons of an argument: specifically, 'Should we ban the dark?' and they have then taken part in a formally structured debate. They formed their individual opinions, used facts and figures to support their ideas and then presented their views to their peers before a final vote took place to determine the outcome of the debate. Throughout the week, we have further explored persuasive devices, in preparation for writing a persuasive speech next week, so if the children are being extra persuasive this weekend: now you know why!

Harvest

A quick reminder that this week we will be collecting donations of tinned or non-perishable food items, which will be donated to the Hope Centre to support those in need. The Hope Centre is a charity in Northampton that supports those facing hardship, hunger and homelessness. This coming Wednesday (23rd October) there will be an assembly led by Kyra Williams from Northampton's Hope Centre who will talk to the children about the charity and how their donations will be used to help others.



Please may any contributions arrive at school between Monday 21st October and Wednesday 23rd October. We thank you sincerely, for anything you can offer. Thank you for your continued support.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 25th October!

FOMPS have arranged with school for a non-uniform day on the last day of this half term - Friday 25th October in order to support FOMPS with our preparation for the Christmas Fair.

Wear your own clothes for the day in return for a contribution towards our Christmas hampers or chocolate tombola for the Christmas Fair. Simply bring along either something chocolate for the tombola or a non-perishable gift for our hampers – this could be anything from chocolates or savoury snacks to a nice packet of biscuits or even a nice Christmas decoration or festive gift – it does not need to be anything expensive! We will then be holding a hamper raffle at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November with hampers put together with our lovely donations. Please bear in mind that this is for Christmas, so best before dates should be after December 25th! Volunteers from FOMPS will be at the driveway / reception class gates to collect your donations as the children go into school on 25th October.

Save the date - the FOMPS Christmas Fair and Winter Market is on Saturday 30th November 11am-3pm, please come along and join the fun!!

After half term we will also be putting out the link to request for helpers to support the running of the Christmas Fair - please consider donating an hour of your time to support us with this.

Many Thanks for all of your support with FOMPS events!

Team FOMPS

Dates in the Diary

DATE	YEAR GROUP	EVENT	TIME
21st October	Whole School	Flu Vaccines	Normal School Hours
22nd October	Whole School	Flu Vaccines	Normal School Hours
23rd October	EYFS and Year 6	Height and Weight Check	Normal School Hours
24th October	Year 1	Storytelling Session	2.45 - 3pm
25th October	Whole School	Muffi Day	
5th November	Year 3	Flag Fen Archaeologic Park	Arrive normal time, pick up 4pm
6th November	Prospective Pupils	EYFS Tour for 2025	6pm
7th November	Whole School	Individual School Photos	Normal School Hours
11th November	Year 6	Remembrance Event	Normal School Hours
12th November	Prospective Pupils	EYFS Tour for 2025	10am
16th November	Year 6 Strictly	Strictly Competition	
28th November	Year 6	Windrush Workshop	Normal School Hours
30th November	All	FOMPS Christmas Fair and Winter Market	11 - 3pm
17th December	EYFS, Y1 & Y2	Derngate Panto	Normal School Hours
18th December	Y3, 4, 5 & 6	Derngate Panto	
13th January	Year 2	Storytelling Session	2.45 - 3pm

17th January	Young Voices Choir	Young Voices Concert	
20th January	Year 1	Storytelling Session	2.45 - 3pm
29th January	EYFS	Storytelling Session	2.45 - 3pm
12th May	Year 2	Storytelling Session	2.45 - 3pm
12th - 14th May	Year 4	Residential	TBC
14th May	EYFS	Storytelling Session	2.45 - 3pm
2nd June - 6th June	Year 6	PGL	TBC
5th June	Year 1	Storytelling Session	2.45 - 3pm

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

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

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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.

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 console 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 chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers, emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These trolls often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident prying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts 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, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's 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. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the danger themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, 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 even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media 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 at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



WakeUp
Wednesday

The
National
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Source: See full reference list on guidance page at nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat

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MENU



Fresh Start



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Veggie Caribbean style curry and rice (VG)	Spaghetti carbonara	Braised beef casserole, roast potatoes and Yorkshire pudding	One pot chicken and rice	Fish fingers and chips
Cheese & tomato pizza (V)	Moroccan vegetable and chickpea tagine (VG)	Mediterranean vegetable tart with roast potatoes (VG)	Spinach and pesto pinwheels (VG)	Fishless fingers and chips (VG)
Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)	Jacket potato with a selection of toppings	Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)	Jacket potato with a selection of toppings	Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)
Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings
Yoghurt, peaches and fruit coulis (V)	Sticky ginger cake (V)	Jelly (VG)	Chewy oat and sultana cookie (VG)	A selection of home baking (V)

Fresh fruit is served every day. Seasonal vegetables are available with all meals as well as access to the salad bar along with our fresh bread. Where possible, we buy locally sourced produce. All our meat is high welfare and our eggs are responsibly sourced and free range. Our spreads and cooking fats are vegan.



MENU



Fresh Start



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Singapore noodles (VG)	Beef bolognese with pasta shapes	Toad in the hole with roast potatoes	Chicken korma with 50/50 rice	Breaded fish and chips
Cheese & tomato pizza (V)	Butternut burger in a bun with a rustic tomato sauce (VG)	Vegetarian toad in the hole with roast potatoes (V)	Bean and root vegetable casserole with fluffy dumplings (VG)	Vegan sausage and chips (VG)
Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)	Jacket potato with a selection of toppings	Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)	Jacket potato with a selection of toppings	Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)
Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings
Berry mousse (V)	Dorset apple cake (V)	Cheese and crackers (V)	Chocolate orange cookie (VG)	A selection of home baking (V)

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MENU



Fresh Start



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Vegetable hot dog with winter slaw (VG)	Beef and onion puff with baby potatoes	Roast chicken with roast potatoes and Yorkshire pudding	Aromatic mild lamb curry with 50/50 rice	Breaded fish and chips
 Cheese & tomato pizza (V)	Pesto pasta (VG)	Winter vegetable & lentil bake with roast potatoes (VG)	Macaroni cheese (V)	Rainbow veggie wrap and chips (VG)
 Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)	Jacket potato with a selection of toppings	Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)	Jacket potato with a selection of toppings	Pasta shapes with a choice of topping (V)
 Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings	Deli option with a selection of breads and fillings
 Chocolate swirl (V)	Lemon drizzle cake (V)	Banana flapjack (VG)	Vanilla shortbread (VG)	A selection of home baking (V)

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