

Welcome

A warm welcome back to you all after the half term break - I hope you all had a lovely break. In our assemblies this week, we have been following up our work on the Jubilee by reminding the children about British Values and how they impact upon us all. We have been focusing on the Rule of Law and we are launching a new set of school behaviour rules. Further information on this can be found in this newsletter.



PLEA FOR DONATIONS

Mrs Jenner would like some wool and materials for handmade worry monsters.

If you have any materials that you would like to donate, please bring them to the school office

Thank you.



Music Tuition

Next academic year, all music tuition with NMPAT will be payable a term in advance.

Therefore a payment of £78 will be required in August, December and March for your child to continue with their music tuition for the following term.

We are giving as much notice as possible to ensure parents have the time to budget for this change.

We are still working through outstanding invoices for this academic year, if you have contacted the office, we will respond to your query as soon.

KEEP THE DATE...

KS2 Quad Kids Athletics	Tuesday 14th June	Invite Only
Year 2 Celebration Assembly	Tuesday 14th June at 2:30 pm	Y2 Parents / Guardians welcome to attend
Open Morning - Whole School	Friday 17th June 9:00 am to 10:15 pm	Come and see your child's work from this year. Parents / Guardians welcome to attend. Details will follow.
Red Team Sports Day	Monday 20th June 2022	1.30pm
White Team Sports Day	Wednesday 22nd June 2022	1.30pm
Blue Team Sports Day	Friday 24th June 2022	1.30pm
Annual Reports out to parents and guardians	Thursday 30th June	
Reception Celebration Assembly	Tuesday 5th July @ 2.30pm	Reception Parents / Guardians welcome to attend
Y6 Leavers' Production	Monday 11th July Daytime performance at 2:00 pm Evening performance at 6:00 pm	Y6 parents and guardians welcome to attend
KS2 Change4Life Celebration Festival	Tuesday 12th July	Invite Only
Year 1 Celebration Assembly	Tuesday 12th July at 2:30 pm	Y1 parents and guardians are welcome to attend
Transition Afternoon	Friday 15th July	Children will spend the afternoon with their new teacher.
Year 6 Leavers Party	Friday 15th July 6pm - 8pm	More information to follow
Meet The Teacher - School Halls - 3.30pm - 4.00pm	Friday 15th July	Parents / Guardians welcome

KEEP THE DATE...

The Parker Transition Week - Year 6	Monday 18th July -Thursday 21st July	Invite only
Year 3 Celebration Assembly	Tuesday 19th July @ 2.30pm	Y3 Parents / Guardians welcome
WHOLE SCHOOL FUN DAY INCLUDING YEAR 6 LEAVERS' DAY LAST DAY OF TERM	Friday 22nd July	School closes at 3.15pm to all children.



This is the time of year when we start to look at classes for next academic year.

We would like to give you the opportunity to provide any comments you would like us to consider before we make class selections for next academic year.

Please ONLY use this form to provide your comments. Emails, phone calls, conversations or Class Dojo messages will not be considered.

Closing date for comments is Monday 13th June at 5pm.

Thank you.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XFowVI_IcRu9NDFSTwexHXE3kc70qlvxvOOAZYtm5ll/edit

The children are learning about how the British Values influence the way in which we live in our school, in our community and in Britain today.

British Values

- The Rule of Law
 - Democracy
- Individual Liberty
 - Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.



New Nursery Opening Hours

From September, nursery will open from 9am - 12pm, this change is due to a slight change in our staffing structure.

This change will also help for those who transition to Messy Hands in the afternoons.

******NO NUTS POLICY******

As we have some children in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy, we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that our school has a "No Nuts Policy". This means that the following items SHOULD NOT be brought into school:

Packs of nuts

Peanut butter sandwiches

Nutella sandwiches

Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts ie tracker bars

Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts

Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)

Cakes made with nuts

You spoke! We listened!

For a long time now, you have been asking why the children can't wear small, stud earrings to school. We have been told often that every other school allows this. A while ago, we changed our rules to allow retainer studs to be worn. In addition, there has always been a grace period for fresh piercings.

With this in mind, we are changing our uniform policy while we **trial** allowing the children to wear **small, stud earrings**. This will be at your own risk as the parent making the decision. The school accepts no responsibility for any injuries caused by the wearing of earrings.

Earrings should not dangle from the ear in any way and should not be too large against the ear lobe. They should also not contain sharp points. Any infringement of these rules will result in you being contacted and the child being asked to remove the non-compliant earrings. We retain the right to decide what is and isn't appropriate.

Your support in this matter is very much appreciated.



SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIAL NEEDS



Courses for parents and carers

SEND Support Service offer a range of virtual courses and workshops run by our practitioners to help empower parents to feel able to understand their child's Special Educational Need (SEN) and gain understanding of how to effectively support that need.

SEND Support Service have now successfully converted all courses and workshops to be delivered virtually. It gives parents and carers flexibility to be able to attend whilst still delivering effective support and advice.

Courses and workshops

Anger and Emotions - understanding how social communication difficulties affect anger

Anxiety - support with anxiety in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Food - understand more about difficulties surrounding food and ASD

Sensory - gain a basic understanding of sensory processing

Spectrum and reflections - understanding social and communication difficulties and / or autism

Toileting - supporting children with toileting issues

Puberty - support with discussing matters related to puberty

To book on to a course or workshop please visit -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/northamptonshire-county-council-specialist-support-service-12262405155>

If you are interested in attending one of our virtual courses or workshops and there are no dates showing or bookings have closed on Eventbrite please email us at SSS.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk with the name of the course or workshop and your contact details. We will then add you to the waiting list and contact you with details of the next available sessions.

All courses and workshops will be arranged subject to demand, if there are insufficient numbers to make any course viable, the event may be cancelled, and you will be informed in advance of the start date.

PRIMARY SEVEN SOUVENIR ISSUE
THURSDAY 16TH JUNE 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

The Northants Chronicle & Echo is delighted to be producing a special Primary Seven souvenir edition on Thursday 16th June 2022, marking your son or daughter's all-important step up to secondary school.

The special supplement will feature full colour pictures of Primary Seven classes from schools across the area. I am sure you will agree that they will be popular and we are delighted to be able to offer you the chance to purchase copies of the newspaper.

Parents can now pre-order copies via our contact centre on 0330 403 3004 or via our Event partner website chronandecho.eventbrite.co.uk at £3.00 per copy (inc P&P). There are fees applicable to website payments which are controlled by Eventbrite and we have worked hard to minimise these fees if parents wish to buy multiple copies.

Copies will be posted first class to your address on the day of publication via Royal Mail*.

Alternatively, copies will be available in your local retailer from 16th June 2022.

Yours faithfully

Northants Chronicle & Echo

*Please allow 7 days for delivery.

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about The Metaverse

'Metaverse' is a relatively new term to many, however the concept has been around for some time. Videogames, for example, use many aspects of the metaverse; avatars, digital currency, mini-games, and open communication. A metaverse can also take many forms; Fortnite can be seen as a metaverse, as is Roblox. Put simply, a metaverse is an online environment where people interact, play games and express themselves. Away from traditional videogames, there are newer and more 'dedicated' metaverses such as Decentraland, The Sandbox and Somnium Space which are akin to Second Life.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as anonymity, psychological impact and unsafe areas.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

THE METAVERSE

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNSAFE AREAS

Many metaverse platforms feature little to no moderation. This is due to the decentralised nature of the metaverse - as there is no one company overseeing the platform, users can create and build with freedom. This can be a minefield for younger users as adult material or sensitive topics can feature on a parcel of land seen by everyone.

VOICE COMMUNICATION

The freedom found within creation is also found in communication. Most metaverses use proximity VoIP communication (Voice Over Internet Protocol) and users can approach any other user to start a conversation. It is necessary for avatars to be quite close to another in order to talk and once they are, anything can be said. While a chat box can be moderated, voice chat cannot.

ANONYMITY

As with almost every other form of online interactions, anonymity features heavily within the metaverse. The concept for the metaverse is to live any type of life digitally. This could mean that 'bad actors' (those with malicious intent) can take advantage of others with ease. Reporting and monitoring these users is becoming easier on the more popular platforms, but others struggle to police these situations.

AGE RATING

Varies per metaverse platform

VIRTUAL REALITY

Not all metaverse platforms are VR enabled, in fact less than 10% feature VR interactivity. However, it's always worth monitoring the amount of time younger users spend in virtual reality. A VR metaverse differs greatly to VR gaming in user interaction. Approaching each other in a VR metaverse attempts to represent 'reality' and can result in a greater impact if experiences are negative.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT

Whether in virtual reality or not, interactions and experiences in the metaverse can often carry more weight because they mimic 'real life'. Oftentimes, due to the freedom in avatar creation, younger users may open themselves up to bullying, prejudice or an unrealistic idea of reality. For instance, female-orientated avatars may find themselves targeted by bullies or inappropriate users.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TRY IT OUT FIRST

This may sound like an obvious tip, but by entering the metaverse and exploring on your own, you'll be able to see what your child might. You can explore the busier areas and even the quiet sections to see what users are building or advertising. You'll also learn first-hand how users communicate with each other. Many metaverse platforms will feature an entry area which showcases the busiest areas. Check them all out and see what's happening.

CREATE AN AVATAR TOGETHER

If you decide on allowing your child into the metaverse, set up their initial avatar together. This way you can ensure the avatar is age-appropriate and keeps their identity private. You can also advise on aspects which may result in attracting bullies or unwanted attention. It will also allow you to see which avatar items cost money, and talk to your child about in-game spending.

LEARN ABOUT NFTS, WALLETS AND CRYPTO

With the metaverse comes Web3 technologies such as NFTs, cryptocurrency and wallets in which to store them. If you have a crypto wallet, do not connect it to your child's metaverse. One simple click could result in loss of cryptocurrency. If you are unsure what these technologies are, try to research them as these terms will appear in the metaverse.

START WITH THE FAMILIAR

There are already metaverse experiences with children in mind; explain to your child what a metaverse is and have them recognise similarities between those and games like Roblox, Fortnite and Minecraft. Unfortunately, there is no 'child safe' metaverse option as yet, though Epic Games and LEGO are currently developing a family safe metaverse.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a father to two girls, aged 14 and 12. Before Dan began his Web3 metaverse journey, he worked as a videogame journalist and author for a decade; reviewing games, talking to creators and writing about videogame trends. Dan has also written fifteen guide books about Fortnite, Minecraft, Roblox, Apex Legends and Valorant for HarperCollins and Bonnier Books.



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#WakeUpWednesday