

Friday 11th July 2025

Dear Parents,

Only one week left! Goodness, where has the year gone? We have had such a lovely year and the children have achieved so much! Mr Short will be holding his Forest school on Wednesday...

As usual, please could all children come into school in casual weather appropriate clothing (no sandals or slip on shoes; practical footwear only.) Please could the children also bring in an additional change of clothes including a change of socks and underwear as water will be involved. If they could also bring a plastic bag for wet clothes that really would also be appreciated!

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 16th July - Forest School (as above)

Friday 18th July: Leavers Church Service, 9.15-10.15 @ St Helen's Church

Friday 18th July: Whole School Picnic Lunch, also school Closes @ 1.30pm for the summer holidays.

Clubs Next Week

Monday – Multiskills with Miss Barnes

Tuesday – Chat and Relax with Miss Ord

Wednesday – Forest School Club

Thursday – Cookery Club with Miss Barnes

Transition Meetings

Miss Barnes will be holding a transition meeting for the parents of children who will be in Year 1 in September. The meeting will take place on **Monday 14th July @ 3.30pm - 4pm.**

Miss Parr and Mrs Thornton will be holding a transition meeting for the parents of children who will be in Year 3 and 4 in September. The meeting will take place on **Wednesday 16th July @ 3.30pm -4pm.**

There will be no meeting for the parents of children who will be Year 2 in September as the routines etc will be the same as this year. We will make

Staffing Update

Just a little reminder that Ms cClark will be leaving us next Friday - We will miss her very much.

Today we have appointed a new Early Years Teacher. Miss Niamh Agnew will be joining us in September and I am hopeful that Early Years Parents and children will be able to meet Miss Agnew next week- More information will follow on monday

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

See you all next week

Mrs Hayward ☺

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.

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/2020/7/21/2133343/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-parties-fortnite>
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>