



Remembrance



We observed a 2 minutes silence today at 11am. We have been talking in school about the importance of this. We have loved seeing all your children in their various uniforms today and hope that all parades are successful on Sunday!

Diary Dates

- Wednesday 15th Nov- Individual photographs and Parents' Evening 4pm -7pm
- Thursday 16th Nov - Parents' Evening 4pm -7pm
- Friday 17th Nov Mufti – Children in Need
- Monday 20th Nov- EYFS RKD Parent drop-in 2.45pm
- Tuesday 21st Nov- EYFS REP Parent drop-in 2.45pm
- Wednesday 22nd Nov- EYFS RHC Parent drop-in 2.45pm
- Tuesday 28th Nov - Year 2HR Inspire Workshop 9.15am
- Wednesday 29th Nov- Year 2AB Inspire Workshop 9.15am
- Thursday 30th Nov Year-2RA Inspire Workshop 9.15am

Forest School for Year 2

Clothing

Children can come in non-uniform on their Forest School days – long trousers please and preferably long sleeves. As the weather becomes colder, please ensure children have a jumper or fleece, a waterproof coat and a hat and gloves. **Please also send wellingtons and extra socks in a carrier bag.** We will have a few spares but not many. We do have waterproof dungarees which we can loan out if necessary but if your child has their own waterproofs, they can bring them and put them on before we leave the classroom. We serve Galaxy hot chocolate and may toast marshmallows (vegan option available) so please remind us if your child cannot have these items.

Session	2RT	2RA	2AB
HALF TERM			
5	Thurs 9/11	Mon 13/11	Thurs 16/11
6	Mon 20/11	Thurs 23/11	Mon 27/11

Photographs



Don't forget individual / sibling photographs are being taken on Wednesday! If your child has well-being day on Wednesday, then they will need to bring their PE kit to school to change into after their photograph has been taken.



Happy Diwali to everyone celebrating this weekend!

Attendance

6th – 10th November 2023

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
REP	93.00	RHC	95.00	RKD	89.42
1HH	96.12	1LI	92.92	1SB	93.33
2AB	97.60	2RT	97.77	2RA	99.07
3EG	100	3KR	94.76	3LO	93.97
4GO	93.15	4HG	99.17	4LH	99.57
5LW	98.39	5RF	90.83	5SM	98.75
6BR	90.42	6EG	100	6ES	90.95

Worker of the Week 10th November 2023

Well done to all of these children who have been noticed for their hard work throughout the week!

Class	Name	Class	Name	Class	Name
REP	Rory T Theya	RHC	Soleia Jack F	RKD	Jaxon Jeona
1HH	Logan W	1LI	Albie M	1SB	Albie F
2AB	Harry T	2RT	Noah	2RA	Ruby May H
3EG	Phoebe P	3KR	Lewis J	3LO	Niamh H
4GO	Lyla P	4HG	Oliver-Lewis J	4LH	Freya H
5LW	Harry T	5RF	Ella Jade C	5SM	Katie C
6BR	Eliza B	6EG	Zach M	6ES	Timothy B

Each week we will share a handy parent guide on a range of online safety topics. These are also available free to you if you sign up to National Online Safety. Check out our feed on X as we use this regularly too! Keep your children safe by staying up to date!

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 issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalonline.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example) microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a \$10 V-bucks fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. Irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech website TheInquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

