

Weekly Bulletin

April 24th 2026



Year 6 visit to the Cambridge University Festival

As we begin the second week of the summer term, we are pleased to share some exciting news for our school community.

We are delighted to announce the internal appointment of **Miss Claudia McGinty as our new Deputy Headteacher**. Many of you will already know Miss McGinty in her role as Key Stage 2 Lead, where she has demonstrated strong leadership, dedication, and a clear commitment to both pupil progress and staff development. Her understanding of our school, alongside her passion for high standards and inclusive practice, makes her exceptionally well suited to this role.

Miss McGinty is very much looking forward to continuing her work within our school community in this new capacity, working closely with pupils, staff, and families. She remains committed to building strong relationships and ensuring that every child is supported to reach their full potential.



Alongside this, it has been wonderful to see pupils continuing to engage positively with their learning this term. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and sense of responsibility are evident across the school, and we are proud of the way they contribute to such a positive and supportive environment. Please join us in congratulating Miss McGinty on her new role.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YouTube...

YouTube is a hugely popular platform for entertainment and learning, but its open nature can expose young people to inappropriate or extreme content. Features like recommendations, Shorts, and social interaction can influence viewing habits and sometimes lead to harmful material.

Key concerns include contact with strangers, viral risky trends, and the limits of automated moderation. To help manage these risks, the guide below illustrates tools like YouTube Kids, supervised accounts, and parental controls to support safer, more balanced, and informed use of the platform

Warning to parents and carers about inappropriate online viewing - Poppy Playtime & Huggy Wuggy



We have been alerted to a video game called Poppy Playtime which features frightening images, themes and songs that are paired with toys. The game and related videos are accessible via various platforms including YouTube and TikTok. There are scary creatures in the game including 'Huggy Wuggy' who is a teddy bear with razor sharp teeth. The teddy bear whispers horrible things to people and sings worrying songs about hurting and killing.

Children must not bring any toys into school related to this game. Please continue to talk to your children about being safe online and monitor the games and websites they are visiting. Teachers will also be reminding pupils about staying safe online. Thank you for your support.

Free Webinars for Parents & Carers



Tools and techniques to improve the cyber security of your family

This session will:

- Provide advice on how to improve your personal cyber security.
- Help you to identify and protect your (and your children's) key accounts.
- Identify threats and techniques that cyber criminals may use to target you / your family.
- Highlight the benefits of family accounts.
- Identify parental controls on your router.
- Signposting to useful resources.

These events are free, and you can book your tickets directly

Thursday 14th May 13:00 – 14:00 - [Link](#)

Monday 13th July 10:00 – 11:00 – [Link](#)

Wednesday 30th September 16:00 – 17:00 – [Link](#)

Tuesday 17th November 16:00 – 17:00 – [Link](#)



Preschool News With the beautiful weather this week, both rooms have developed a strong interest in the bugs and insects within the preschool gardens, with many enjoying opportunities to explore and observe them closely.

All preschool children have been taking part in mini sports days, which included a range of fun hurdles and physical challenges, supporting coordination and confidence. In the Butterflies room there have also been many conversations about starting school, with children sharing their thoughts and excitement about this important next step.

A variety of arts and crafts have been created, including flags, paper butterflies, caterpillars, and sunflowers. The paper butterfly creations in the Butterflies room had a particular focus on symmetry, encouraging careful observation and creativity.

It has been a wonderful week of active learning and exploration, with many opportunities to build confidence, develop new skills and follow individual interests.

Tom M	Jaelah R	Layton S	Emma H	Bonnie S	Sadie T
Laila P	Dilys TB	Jamie C	Riley B	Alfie W	Elijah F
Elis X	Victoria-Grace A	Luca R	George T	Connie M	Ellie B
	Fearne W		Felix L		Beth P

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.



CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.



TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.



SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.



EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT

The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.



SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT

YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.



Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.



USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.



WATCH TOGETHER

Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



See full reference list on our website



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