



Important Dates:

17th February

Federation Consultation
Deadline

14th - 18th February

Half Term

w/b 21st February

Y6 Parent Consultations

22nd February

Yr 6 African Drumming &
Dance Workshop

22nd February

Year 5/6 Boys Football trials

24th February

Cross country finals here

25th February

Rainbow Friday

1st March

Year 5/6 Boys Football match

3rd March

World Book Day
(come dressed as a word)

8th March

Year 5/6 Boys Football match

18th March

Red Nose Day

w/b 21st March

FS Parent Consultations

w/b 28th March

Y1-5 Parent Consultations

Road Safety

Unfortunately, due to the demolition of the old library & community centre, there has been a constant flow of HGV lorries passing school. Although we have requested this does not happen at school drop-off and pick-up times, it will not always be possible to avoid these times. Please be extra vigilant walking near school as lorries have been mounting the pedestrian walk way. You will also have noticed that the safety barriers have still not been repaired on the corner of Irvon Hill Road and Market Avenue.

We have complained to both the building company and council and will keep you updated about this situation.

Goodbye Miss George

Today we said goodbye to Miss George who has been a Learning Support and Midday Assistant since last July. We thank her for all she has done to support year 6 in the classroom and all year groups at lunchtime. We wish her luck as she moves on to a new school closer to home.



Year 5/6 Girls Football

Congratulations to the Year 5/6 Girls Football team, who competed in their first match this year. They played incredibly well and it was great to see the comradery between the team. It was a fantastic game, which ended in a 4-1 victory to us.



Well done girls!

Clubs

After half term, Miss York and Mrs Newell will be starting a **year 3/4 choir**. This will take place after school on Fridays. Please complete the form [here](#) if your child would like to join this club. Further information is available on the letters page of our website.

11+ club will start after half term on Tuesday mornings 8.00-8.30am, from Tuesday 1st March. This club is for children in **year 5** who are considering applying to grammar school in year 7. Please complete the form [here](#) if your child would like to join. Confirmation emails will be sent after half term.

Window Replacement Update

Y4 windows are being replaced next week and Y3 will be replaced after half term. During half term, scaffolding will be erected at the front of upper school but this should not affect any entrances. The upper school staff car park is still out of use as an entrance, so please continue to come around the swimming pool side.

Swimming - Yr 3 & 4

After half term, year 3 & 4 will be swimming every Tuesday. Payment of £18 is now due on SchoolMoney.

Comic Relief 2022 - 18th March 2022

Red noses will available in school after half-term they are £1.50 each. They are available now to purchase via School Money in **Shop Item**.



Denim For Dementia

We have raised £267 so far for the Alzheimer's Society. SchoolMoney is still open if you would still like to make a donation.



Outside Achievements

Sean Biggs 2LQ has received his Green Blue Peter badge.

Cai Skeggs 5SB has passed his Stage 4 in swimming

Kaleb Sharp 1RV has passed his Stage 2 level in swimming and achieved his 5m swimming badge

Henley Goodey 2AB was invested into Beavers and also got Beaver of the week.

George Beard BB Scooty Woody's horse riding rosettes.

Ellen Lane 2LQ achieved her first ever Beaver's badge for Science and has gone up to Green Hat in swimming.

Megan Ings 3YF has completed stage 4 in swimming and is now in Blue hats.

Zachary Champness 4SR has been awarded his bronze trophy at Kip McGrath and Man of the Match in football on Sunday.

Ayooluwa Mosadomi 6ER has moved up to stage 5 in swimming.

Harriet Baker 3LG has been successful in her audition and has been selected for a part in The Billericay Theatre's summer panto Robin Hood.



Covid PCR Tests & Isolation

Reminder: asymptomatic children who test positive on a lateral flow device (LFD) do not need to take a confirmatory PCR test but must immediately [isolate](#). The result should be reported to [NHS Test and Trace](#) and school.

On day 5 and 6, they should take an LFD test. If both of these are negative, children can immediately return to school. If the test is positive, they should continue isolating and daily testing. As soon as two negative tests are achieved, isolation can end. After day 10, isolation can end and children can return to school, even if the LFD test is still positive.

Note: The day you test positive is day zero and the following day is day 1. If your child has symptoms, then a PCR test is still necessary.

We have had confirmed cases this week in the following classes: **3LG, 5KH, 4AH, 1SS**. Children from these classes should carry out daily LFD tests for 7 days after receiving the letter from school.

ActiveAte

For half term activities, which are free for Pupil Premium pupils and chargeable for others, click the link above.

Or click [here](#) for Crafty Katie, [here](#) for Jack of Allsports and [here](#) for Nerf Games.



World Book Day

On **Tuesday 8th March**, we will be celebrating World Book Day. Our focus again this year is broadening children's vocabulary, so Children can come dressed as a powerful word. During the day, children will be learning a class poem to perform at the end of the day. Click [here](#) for costume ideas.

Walk-In Vaccinations

16th February

Covid jabs for 12+ and flu vaccinations for primary-aged children are available at Wickford Community Centre. No appointment necessary. Click [here](#) for further information.

Walk-In COVID-19 Vaccinations



Become our superhero!

Come along and take part in fun superhero activities! Find out what is happening at your local library on our events listings.

libraries.essex.gov.uk/events



FS: Saisiya Balamurugan, Sophie Hammond

Year 1: Zara Gowardun, Isabelle Green

Year 2: Rory Fenn, Morgan Greenaway

Year 3: Reggie-Lee McKay, Willow Miller, George Nolan, Harriet Baker, Isla-Rose Barrett, Preston Flynn, Charlie Hart

Year 4: Vinnie Young, Teddy Rolph, Stanley Hallybone

Year 5: Alfie Allison, Lily Crittenden, Jack Brennecke

Year 6: Lexie Draper, Freya Allix, Brooke Harris



PE Days

There are 2 PE lessons each week.

Monday	Y2, 4AH, 4TS
Tuesday	Y2, Y4
	Y5, Y6 Swimming
Wednesday	FS, Y1, Y3
Thursday	Y3, Y6, 4SR
Friday	Y1, Y5



Week 2

Whole School Attendance

94%

Weekly Winning Class

6CG 100%

(w/e 4/2/22)



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ROBLOX



With more than 150 million users worldwide, Roblox is one of the most popular video games of recent times. Roblox allows users to create their own gaming experiences using Roblox Studio: building levels and games then allowing other people to play them. Similarly, players can play each other's creations, either on their own or with other people online. While it's a tool that can help foster creative thinking, Roblox is also intermittently in the news amid concerns over young users' safety.

No Age Rating

Roblox is rated 7+ by PEGI, but the platform itself doesn't have a minimum age requirement. It does ask for a date of birth when registering, but this can be easily fabricated. The sheer quantity of games available on Roblox means that some will fall into teen/adult categories. Users can also interact with each other freely – and the game has, historically, attracted scammers, griefers and online predators.



Chat Functionality

Users can join group chats with almost anyone through the Chat & Party function. While the chat has some filters, predators still try to find ways around these to prey on young children. There have been recent reports of adults pretending to be children, attempting to groom younger players and encouraging them to chat privately in an unmoderated environment away from the game.

In-App Purchases

Robux is the in-game currency used to buy things like special outfits or emotes, and to play certain sections of the game. A subscription service (costing £4.99 per month) called Roblox Premium offers more privileges and more in-game currency. Robux can also be purchased in batches, for up to £4.99. Children can easily pay for these, or purchase a membership, without realising it.



ODers

An 'ODer' (online dater) joins Roblox to find someone to 'date' online. While there's nothing inherently wrong with finding love on the internet, it becomes an issue in a space that's populated by children and young teens, like Roblox. Online dating is against Roblox's community guidelines, but certain player-built games on the platform are specifically for 'ODers' and should be avoided by children.

Online Predators

Roblox's developers aim to maintain a safe place for children; they employ human moderators for their players' protection. But there will, sadly, always be individuals who try to bypass these safeguards so they can chat to children and attempt to communicate outside the game. Anyone asking for your child's personal information or to talk privately should be blocked and reported.



Advice for Parents & Carers



Take Note of Ratings

Recent press reports drew attention to Roblox's issues with potentially offensive content. Some players were using Roblox Studio to create games featuring nudity, sexual activity and extreme political views. In response, Roblox is introducing a ratings system which will rank content by age appropriateness, with clear warnings if a game is not suitable for younger players.



Set Parental Controls

Roblox has controls that allow parents to moderate who their children can talk to and which games they can play. To enable these, add your email address to your child's account through the Security menu, and create a secure PIN to stop settings being tampered with. Then head into the Privacy menu where you can apply moderation to in-game chat, personal messages, invites and more.

Disable Messages

It's advisable to block all messaging if you have concerns over your child's safety. If they're playing with friends they know in real life, encourage them to chat in another way (like on the phone), so you know exactly who they're talking to and how. Accounts can be tweaked to allow messages from specific groups of people, such as friends or users that your child follows.



Block and Report

To report players in a game, find the Roblox symbol on screen (or the 'Settings' button on some devices). Identify the offending player and click the flag icon. Clarify why the player is being reported by choosing a reason from the list. If you think a particular game is inappropriate, you can also flag it for a moderator to check by following the same steps but selecting 'Game' instead of 'Player'.



Encourage Creativity

It could prove a little too complex for younger children, but Roblox Studio is a great place to start learning the fundamentals of game design. Many budding developers have created Roblox games which have become popular among the community. There are plenty of tutorials on making games on sites like YouTube. You never know, your child's creation might be the next big thing!



Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-55555555>