



Important Dates:

4th July
FS Trip to
Old MacDonald's Farm

5th July
2LQ Parent lunch 11.50am;
5/6 Football game—home;

Y5 Taster Day @
Beauchamps

5th & 6th July
6CG Bikeability

6th July
Y3 Parent Assembly

7th July
6ER Bikeability
&
FS/Y1 Sports Day 9.15am

8th July
Transition Day
(Children spend the day in
their new class.)

11th & 12th July
6DB Bikeability

12th July
Y6 Production
1:30pm & 6:00pm

13th July
FS & Y1 Disco
3 - 4.30pm

14th July
Y2 & Y3 Disco
3.15 - 4.45pm

Y4 & Y5 Disco
5.00pm - 6.30pm

13th, 14th, 15th & 18th
July
6SY Bikeability

18th July
Special Outside Lunch
Menu

20th July
Y6 Leavers BBQ
3-5pm

Sports Days

Sports days at upper school were a roaring success this week but unfortunately rain 'stopped play' on Thursday. However, we hope that the FS and Y1 sports can take place on **Thursday 7th July** instead.

Congratulations to the winning teams and thank you to the Sports Leaders for helping set up, pack away and support the races for younger children.

According to the score sheets at the end of each day, the winners were: 6DB; 5BK; 4SR & Y2/3 Yellow team.

Thank you to the families who came to watch and supported the children.



Transition Days

We had our first of 2 transition days today. Children spent the whole day with their new class in their new classroom.

At the start of the day, there were a few nervous teachers and some nervous children, but by the end of the morning, everyone was happy and confident, ready for next Friday.



Discos

As you will be aware, our PTA have organised end of year discos. For year FS-Y3, these start straight after school. If children would like to change into party clothes, please send them in to school in a named bag and they will be able to change into these in their classroom at the end of the day.



Staff will take year 2 children across the road to upper school. At the end, please come to the Breakfast Club door for FS and Y1 and the main upper school entrance for year 2 & 3.

For years 4 & 5, please drop-off and collect from the main upper school entrance.

For week ending 24.6.22

FS: Teddie Wait, Sophie Hammond

Year 1: Billie-Blue King

Year 2: Marnie Mancini-Allen, Henley Goodey

Year 3: Ronnie Cooper, Osose Arebamen, Charlie Skennerton

Year 4: Jessica Smitheman, Archie Wallbridge

Year 5: Vinnie Reeve, Oliver Stott, Amelia Baker, Jack Brennecke

Year 6: Jack Smitheman, Ryan Cooper, Chloe Botwright



Outside Achievements

Ivy Watson 1SS - passed her 11th KYU in karate and now has 4 tags.

Morgan Greenaway 2AB has completed stage 3 in swimming.

Oliver Armsden 6DB received player of the week with his team Hashtag.

Leo Mancini Allen BB completed stage 1 in swimming and is now in orange hats.

Zara Gowardun 1RV has achieved her green belt in Martial arts.

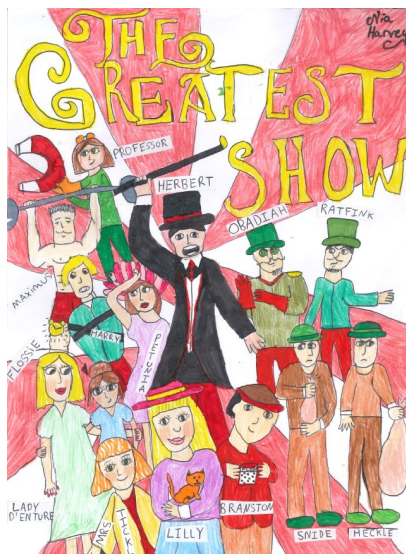
Sem Gowardun 4SB has achieved Brown belt in Martial arts and is training juniors.



Year 6 Production

Rehearsals are well under way for **The Greatest Show** on 12th July. Parents can order their tickets by completing the form [here](#) before Monday 4th July. After that date, payment details will be added to Schoolmoney and any spare tickets will be allocated to those who have requested extra.

Upper school will be watching the dress rehearsal on Monday 11th.



Outstanding Monies

As we are nearing the end of term, please ensure that any outstanding monies are cleared ASAP. We currently have a high number of arrears for dinners, clubs and trips.

If you are struggling to pay please contact the school office or admin@wickford-pri.essex.sch.uk.



Year 6 Residential Trip March 2023

The parent presentation from today's meeting can be viewed [here](#).

If your child would like to attend, please pay the £100 deposit by Friday 8th July via Schoolmoney.

If your child is unsure about attending, please take a look at the presentation with them, the photos on our school website from [previous year's trips](#) and talk to your child's teacher. The residential trip is such a valuable learning experience that whatever your concerns, together we can accommodate your child's specific needs.



Whole School

Attendance

94%

Weekly Winning Class

6DB 99%

w/e 24/06/22

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT

AGE RATING
7+

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying: it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unsettle young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play – so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lots of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

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



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 29.08.2022