



www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk



What a creative bunch you are! It has been fantastic to see all of the children dressed up and taking part in number day to support the NSPCC. You have raised an amazing £250 today! Thank you so much for your support.
Mrs Lamb



Well done to everyone who took part in the Big Pedal. It was a huge success in schools across the country and Sustrans recorded 3,401,272 journeys altogether. We logged an amazing 3,131 journeys and were 8th out of all the schools in the North East! We've also noticed lots more children cycling, walking and scootering to school this week which is fantastic!

Reception September 2021

We are delighted that places have been offered and accepted for our Reception classes starting in September 2021. We have sent letters out to all of our families and are looking forward to meeting up with you all in the Summer term when restrictions allow.

May 7th 2021 Issue 3 Summer Term 1

Dogs on Site

Please remember dogs are not allowed on site without prior permission. If any dogs are waiting with parents/carers outside of school, please make sure these are away from the school gates and do not restrict access for people coming on to site.

Thank you

End of day pick up

If childcare arrangements have changed and you child is going to be collected by someone else at the end of the day, please remember to let the office know who will then pass on any messages to class teachers.

Thank you

Nursery News

We still have a few places available for Nursery in September, if you know anyone who may be interested please encourage them to contact the office and/or submit an application.

Mrs Carrick

Online Safety

Over the next few weeks Miss Coughlan, Computing Lead, will be adding some information for parents about the latest APPS and games and how to stay safe online. See below for this week's which is ...

What parents and carers need to know about Minecraft



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our school is delighted to be taking part in Royal Mail's Heroes Stamp Design Competition, honouring the heroes of the coronavirus pandemic.

Eight pupils from primary and secondary schools across the UK will become the designers of this stamp set, and one could be your child!

Each entry we send in will have the name of each child, plus their age and our school's name and postcode.

Before we submit entries to Royal Mail we need explain how Royal Mail will use these details. Royal Mail will use these details of children who enter (i.e. name, age, school name and postcode) to run the competition, including to contact the winners and distribute prizes. Royal Mail will share this information with iChild Limited and The Education Company Limited, who are helping Royal Mail to run the competition.

Except in the case of the 120 children who reach the Regional Finalists stage, Royal Mail will delete all of this data by 30th September 2021.

As is usual in competitions, Royal Mail may, if requested, tell the Advertising Standards Authority of those winners' surnames and counties. Members of the public will also be able to ask Royal Mail for that information after 30th September 2021. If you object to your child's surname and county being available to members of the public, you should write to Heroes Stamp Design Competition, Royal Mail Group, 185 Farringdon Road, London EC1A 1AA. However, Royal Mail may still need to give this information to the Advertising Standards Authority on a confidential basis.

If your child enters the competition, Royal Mail has what data protection law calls a "legitimate interest" to use your child's details (i.e. name, age, school name and postcode) in the ways described above. However, your decision of what is best for your child takes priority, so if you have any concerns please let your child's teacher know not to include your child's design in the competition.

Please refer to Royal Mail's Privacy Notice at

<https://www.royalmailgroup.com/en/site/privacy-notice/> for more information about how to exercise data protection rights, contact Royal Mail's Data Protection Officer or raise complaints with the Information Commissioner's Office.

If your child is one of the competition winners, Royal Mail will contact you separately, via the school, to discuss whether you would be willing to take part in publicity.

Thank you,

Heroes Stamp Design Competition

iChild

In association with



Our new Gosforth Schools Oracy project with Unfolding Theatre made a welcome return on line this week. KS2 have been creating amazing, magical creatures that only children can see. Over the coming weeks we are going to add to these. Unfolding Theatre are going to be bringing our ideas together to create a brand new fantasy story. I can't wait to share it with you!

Mrs Lambert

PRELOVED UNIFORM INFORMATION AND PRICES

Uniform can be purchased via text followed by a covid safe collection from 6 Burnside Road. Text Kate on 07947846974.

Prices subject to available stock: Jumpers £2.50, Cardigans £2.50, Polos £1.50, Summer Dresses £1.50, Pinafores £1.50 - Skirts, trousers, shorts, PE tshirts, PE shorts sold for 50p.

Kate has a huge amount of school PE shorts for 50p sizes 18/20, 22/24 or 24/26.

Unwanted uniform can be dropped at the door of 6 Burnside Road. No need to knock. However please note, marked red items are unable to be sold. Due to Covid all items should be clean before drop off.

Thanks

Kate Watkins



Wonderful work Yellow Class, our Mathletes of the week again! Sahib Singh Dhaliwal, Mariam Ibrahim, Megan Watt and Malak Al-Ahmar have all worked hard on Mathletics this week - you're all superstars!



Well done to Jemima Bond, Elizabeth Muldoon-Smith, Isabel Gent for holding on to Rock Legend status! David Taylor and Millie Anderson – I know you are both so close to being Rock Legends too – keep trying!

Ms Gasper



Oxford Reading Buddy

Our Oxford Reading Buddy this week is Francesca Whewell in Reception Miss Coughlan, well done! And once again amazing reading from both Reception classes. Keep it up!

Think COVID first

If you or your child are unwell and have any of the following symptoms please do not send them to school. Think COVID first and book a test.

- A new or continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A change or loss in taste or smell





Minecraft is played by millions of children around the world, who can use their imagination to build three-dimensional worlds with virtual building blocks in a digital, pixelated landscape. It is classed as a 'sandbox game' which means players have the freedom to build their own creations with 'blocks' they collect and also have the opportunity to explore other people's creations with their characters. Players can choose from thousands of different 'servers' to join, which are created by other players, making every experience of Minecraft unique.

Minecraft has approximately
74m
users each month

AGE RESTRICTION
10+

What parents need to know about **MINECRAFT**



GROOMING

The majority of users who play Minecraft are children, making it an 'appealing' gateway for groomers. It has been reported that some users have created worlds in Minecraft to lure young people into a conversation to ask for explicit photos. There have even been more serious cases in which children have been persuaded to meet these people in real life.

CYBERBULLYING & GRIEFING

In multiplayer mode, there is a live chat feature which allows players to talk to other players through text. The chat functionality includes basic filtering to block out external links and offensive language being shared, but this varies between each server. Griefing is when someone purposely upsets another player during the game. This can be done by ruining somebody's creation or generally doing something to spoil gameplay for another. Essentially, 'Griefing' is a form of cyberbullying and can be extremely frustrating for players.

COMMUNICATING WITH STRANGERS

There are thousands of servers to choose from in Minecraft which are a single world or place created by the public, allowing users to play the game online or via a local area network with others. No two servers are the same and each server has its own individual plug-ins which are controlled by the creator. This means that some servers will allow communication with strangers.

VIRUSES & MALWARE FROM MODS

There are several websites that offer downloadable 'mods' which modify gameplay in a number of different ways. Most of the mods will be safe to use, but as they have been created by the public, they will often contain viruses that can infect your child's device and potentially try and find personal information from you or your child.



AGE RESTRICTION & 'FANTASY VIOLENCE'

According to the ESRB 'Entertaining Software Rating Board', Minecraft is suitable for users aged 10+. Due to its 'Fantasy Violence', the ESRB states that the rating has been given as 'players can engage in violent acts such as lighting animals on fire and harming animals with weapons. Mild explosions are occasionally heard as players use dynamite to fend off creatures and mine the environment.'

CHILDREN MAY BECOME ADDICTED

As with other games, Minecraft is a game where players can keep returning, with constant challenges and personal goals to achieve. Children may find it difficult to know when to stop playing, becoming absorbed in the game and losing track of time.



National Online Safety Top Tips for Parents



DISABLE OR MODERATE CHAT

To avoid potentially inappropriate comments in a live chat, you can follow these steps to turn live chat off: 1. Select 'Options' 2. Toggle the Chat button to 'Hidden' or 'Commands Only'. Bear in mind that the chat feature is also where your child can enter commands during the game, so this may limit their game play.

MONITOR YOUTUBE TUTORIALS

Many Minecraft users turn to YouTube for video tips on improving their gameplay and discovering new techniques. Although many videos are age-appropriate, some include sexual references and bad language. We suggest watching Minecraft tutorial videos together with your child. If your child is under the age of 13, we suggest installing 'YouTube Kids' which provides a safer platform for children to find the content they want, safely.



SCAN 'MODS' FOR MALWARE

Minecraft 'mods' add content to games to give more options to interact and change the way the game looks and feels. But while 'mods' can bring fun for a child, it's important to consider that downloading and installing 'mods' could potentially infect their device with a virus or malware. In 2017, security company Symantec said that between 600,000 and 2.5 million Minecraft players had installed dodgy apps, which hijacked player's devices and used them to power an advertising botnet. Install a malware scanner on every device that your child plays Minecraft on, and make sure it's up-to-date.

PLAY IN 'CREATIVE' OR 'PEACEFUL' MODE

Even though the age limit is 10+, Minecraft can be quite overwhelming at times, especially for younger players or SEND children. We suggest limiting your child to play in 'creative mode' or 'peaceful mode' which takes away the survival element and removes the 'scarier' monster/zombie characters.

SET TIME LIMITS

With 'Gaming Disorder' becoming an official health condition, we suggest setting a reasonable time limit when playing Minecraft. Parents can use parental controls on devices to limit the time a child is playing games. It is worth having a conversation with your child to understand what 'mode' they are playing on the game. This may help you decide on how much time you would like them to spend playing on it. For example, a mini game will have an 'end', but this will depend on how long the game creator has made the game last. In 'survival mode', the game has no end as there is no goal to be achieved other than the child's own e.g. after they have built something.

CHOOSE SERVERS CAREFULLY

Advise your child to only enter servers with people they know and trust to protect them from engaging in conversation with strangers. Your child can also create their own multi-player server and share this with their friends to join in which is safer and more controlled than joining a stranger's server.

Sources:

<https://minecraft.net/en-us/article/minecraft-multiplayer-server-safety>
<http://parentinfo.org/article/staying-safe-on-minecraft>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-38284216>
<https://support.xbox.com/en-GB/xbox-one/security/cannot-change-my-privacy-settings>
<https://lifelifehack.com/a-parent-s-guide-to-playing-minecraft-with-your-kids-1788022798>

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/tech/new-minecraft-game-needs-caution-11251242>
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/parents-should-consider-10233554>
<https://minicrafttoys.com/is-minecraft-dangerous-for-kids-a-parents-guide>
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<https://www.howtogeek.com/289985/how-to-set-up-minecraft-so-your-kids-can-play-online-with-friends/http://minemum.com/chat-settings>

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