



Paulton Infant School

Newsletter No.3 : 20th October 2023



www.paultoninfantschool.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a very busy and happy half term. The children have settled in beautifully into their new classes and there is a lovely feeling of calm engagement as you walk around the school. The children really enjoyed the Harvest Festival and thanks to the donations have been able to donate a large amount of goods to the Paulton Larder. Teachers have also enjoyed meeting with parents this week to discuss the children's progress. A big thank you to all who have attended.

Gem Power Winners

Gem Power Certificates celebrate the Gem Power Behaviours, We display the names of the winners in the hall each week.



Our Gem Power Certificate winners over the last two weeks are: (EYFS will join the Gem Power Certification when they are ready...)

Hazel: Reggie for using his Sapphire Power by showing huge improvements in his phonics, writing and Maths. Lily for using her Sapphire Power by always staying focused in class and everything she does.

Hawthorn: Byron for using his Emerald Power when finding fact families in Maths. Dexter for using Emerald Power by having a go at all learning challenges this week, especially his Little Red Riding Hood 'Prove It' writing!

Sycamore: Miles for using Sapphire Power for increased focus and perseverance to complete learning tasks, Daniel for using Sapphire Power for increased focus and increased completion of English tasks with lots of success.

Maple: Pippy for using her Ruby Power and always helping her friends and the adults in the classroom. Cody for using his Sapphire Power to write a lovely fact file in our literacy work

Magnolia: Tommy for using his Emerald power to write super sentences in phonics. Ellis for using his Emerald power to try his best in phonics.

Holly: Leo for using his Emerald Power for spotting mistakes in his writing and having a go to correct them. Eloise for using Sapphire Power for staying focused and producing a brilliant final piece of writing this term.

RNLI

On Monday, a volunteer from The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) came to deliver an assembly. They shared some wonderful videos that explained what the RNLI does and who deliver the services and how they help everyone who lives in the UK. The assembly also explored water safety and how children can stay safe around water at home but also out in the community.



On-Line Safety Tip of the Week

Are you aware of the PEGI rating of games your children

are playing? A PEGI rating tells us what age the content of a game is suitable for. Did you know, the popular game Roblox has a PEGI rating of 7? This means Roblox is suitable for players aged 7+. Please see the attached flyer.

School Start time

Please can we remind you that the school day now starts at 8.30am. Please arrive promptly so that your child has a nice relaxed start to the day and does not miss any key learning time. The gates will be shut promptly at 8.40am after which children will be marked late and may accrue unauthorised absence.

Flu Nasal Sprays

Please remember the Flu Nasal sprays which are on Tuesday 31st October. Parents/Carers need to give consent at the latest 48 hours before the 31st October. The link can be found in the email that was sent from the school office on Friday 6th October. If you have not received that email, please contact the school office.

NHS
flu: 5 reasons
to vaccinate your child

- 1. Protect your child**
The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia.
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends**
Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family.
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have.
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record.
- 5. Avoid costs**
If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare.

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu immunisation
Helping children, every year.

Art work

Hawthorn and Hazel Classes have been learning about the artist Leonid Afremov and have worked together to make a woodland landscape painting inspired by his work!



Paulton Infant School Open Day

Our school open day primarily for new starters in Reception 2024 is on Wednesday 8th November at 09.30 and 16.30.

Dates to remember:

INSET Day : 20th October

Half Term: 23rd October

Open Day: Wednesday 8th November 09.30 and 16.30

EYFS Nativity: Tuesday 5th December 14.00

EYFS Nativity: Wednesday 6th December 09.30

Year 1 Nativity: Wednesday 6th December 14.00

Year 1 Nativity: Thursday 7th December 09.30

Year 2 Carol Concert; Wednesday 13 December 2023 09.30 at Church (Parents welcome)

As always, please feel free to come and talk to me if you have any questions or concerns. Best wishes Emily Omell

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of 'creative' freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefters and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has genuine friends who they play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.


DEALING WITH STRANGERS


At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with others safely in the digital world.


Meet Our Expert

Clare Codwin (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.

Sources: <https://www.thesage.com/2020/10/20/33349/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-partner-for-life>
<https://www.roblox.com/parents/>

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 National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday