

West Heath Primary News

Week beginning: 9th May 2022



Our leading values class
last week was **Class 7** !



Dates for your diary:

16.05.2022 - Year 2 SATs week
17.05.2022 - Summer Term Clubs begin
17.05.2022 - Young Voices
23.05.2022 - PTA Meeting in school 5pm
23.05.2022 - Jubilee Bake Off
24.05.2022 - Queen's Jubilee Street Party*
27.05.2022 - School closes for half term
06.06.2022 - School reopens

Well done to year 6 this week! They have worked so hard to complete their SATs. We could not be prouder of all you have achieved! Fantastic effort!



Best attendance this week goes to... **Class 14**

Most improved attendance, goes to... **Class 1**

For everyone's safety . . .

- Bikes and scooters should be walked while on site.
- Once children have been collected from their teachers at the end of the school day, they are the responsibility of their parents/carers and should be supervised accordingly.
- All children should stay with their parent/carer, as the school gates are not staffed at the end of the day.

Some children, who are running freely around various areas of our school site at home time, are causing a number of safeguarding concerns.

Senior leaders will be on the playground each day to monitor a safe, calm end to the school day.



Medical Reminder

Any medication that needs to be brought to school, whether prescribed or over-the-counter, should be brought to the school office by an adult, so the relevant paperwork can be completed.



Year 2's Secret Agent Training Service (SATs) is back!

Next Week our year 2's will be putting their skills to the test. They will be cracking codes and finding clues. By the end of the week, we may have 60 new Secret Agents!



Mathletics

We would like to celebrate the fantastic home learning that the children are completing on Mathletics each week. As well as the activity set by their class teachers, some children are developing their learning even further and exploring other areas of the site.

We will share the class points and time totals as well as the class superstar.

Class	Total Points	Total Time	Star Performer
1	720	0hr 33min	Ameena
2	1200	0hr 27min	Arhaan
3	6970	4hr 47mins	Nehemie
4	8070	5hr 9mins	Louie
5	6680	8hrs 40mins	Rowan
6	6141	3hr 18 mins	Mason
7	5090	6hrs	George
8	7177	9hrs 56mins	Mark
9	4777	4hrs 18mins	Harley
10	7587	5hrs 1min	Hayden
11	4150	4 hrs 20mins	Scarlett
12	9970	14hrs 13mins	Erin

Wow class 12! What a turn around! 14 hours and 13 minutes and almost 10k in points! You were clearly very motivated last week.

Well done everyone!



	Week 1	Week 2	+/-
Class 5	35	35	0
Class 6	35	35	0
Class 7	44	44	0
Class 8	26	27	1
Class 9	66	66	0
Class 10	104	104	0
Class 11	75	75	0
Class 12	86	86	0
Class 13	93	93	0
Class 14	110	110	0

SEND BRIEFING PARENT WEBINAR

May 2022



Occupational Therapy Fine Motor Moves

Speakers

Ellie Steer & Sarah Gallagher
SEND Occupational Therapists

This Family Webinar will help you to identify if your child is having difficulties with their fine motor skills. You will learn strategies that you can build into your Child's daily routine to strengthen their fine motor skills thus supporting them with dressing, toileting, using cutlery, handwriting and much more.

Wednesday 18th May 2022 - 9:30am - 10:30am

Fine Motor Moves for Primary

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/fine-motor-moves-for-primary-18th-may-930am/>

Thursday 19th May 2022 - 1:30pm - 2:30pm

Fine Motor Moves for Secondary

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/fine-motor-moves-for-secondary-19th-may-130pm/>

Speech and Language Therapy & Occupational Therapy

School Readiness

Speakers

Annie Loftus
SEND Speech and Language Therapist
&
Ellie Steer
SEND Occupational Therapist

Find out how to help your child have a successful transition into school.

Tuesday 24th May 2022 - 10am - 11am

School Readiness - Starting Primary School

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/school-readiness-starting-primary-school-24th-may-10am/>

Wednesday 25th May 2022 - 2pm - 3pm

School Readiness - Starting Secondary School

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/school-readiness-starting-secondary-school-24th-may-2pm/>

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

PLATINUM JUBILEE

1952 2022



Monday 23rd May 2022

£1 to enter

**BAKE
OFF**

WEST HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

You are invited to enter our Platinum Jubilee Bake Off!
Create your best Queen's Jubilee themed cake to bring to school.

Prizes for the best entries.

You can even take your cake again at the end of the day to enjoy at home.

£1 entry fee can be made on Parent Pay from Wednesday 18th May.

* * Please remember that we are a nut free school * *

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Source: <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/parents-carers/keeping-online-safe/social-media/group-chats>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FACEBOOK MESSENGER

Facebook Messenger is a communication app through which users can exchange messages and send photos, stickers, and video and audio files. Messenger allows both one-to-one and group chats, has a stories feature and – via its latest addition, Rooms – can host a video call with up to 50 people. As of 2021, the app had 35 million users in the UK alone (more than half the population!) among its 1.3 billion users worldwide. Whereas Messenger is integrated into Facebook on desktops and laptops, it has existed as a standalone app for mobile devices since 2011.

AGE RATING

13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Messenger's numerous features can encourage children to spend more time on the app – and therefore on their phone, increasing their levels of screen time. It also invokes FOMO (the Fear of Missing Out), especially among older children, who will almost certainly have a high proportion of their friends communicating via the app.

LIVE STREAMING

The new Rooms feature lets Messenger users hold video calls with up to 50 people. A young person can join any room they see, but the other people in these rooms don't even necessarily need to be Facebook account holders. This live streaming development heightens risk factors around privacy, security and the possibility of exposure to inappropriate content.

REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS

If the Facebook profile which accompanies their Messenger app is set to public, there's a possibility that young people will receive message requests from individuals they don't know. There have previously been reports of grooming attempts on Facebook, with predators using fake profiles to engage children in conversation.

OVERSHARING PERSONAL INFO

If the app is given access to their device's photo library or location services, young people can unintentionally share sensitive information (private photos, videos, their number or current whereabouts) with people on Messenger who they don't know. Even among friends, shared photos or videos don't always stay private: the recipient(s) could save and re-share them with others.

CYBERBULLYING

Like many communication apps, Messenger can be an avenue for cyberbullies or trolls to target children. This might take the form of harassment, abusive messages or being purposely excluded from (or targeted in) group chats. A 2021 Ofcom report revealed that more than half (55%) of 12–15-year-olds had suffered such negative experiences online in the preceding year.

SECRET CONVERSATIONS

The Secret Conversations function lets Messenger users have encrypted exchanges that no-one else can read. Unlike regular chats on the app, these can only be viewed on the device being used at the time. Messages can also be set to delete once read (although screenshots can be taken), so a child could chat privately with someone without any record of that conversation having taken place.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE ADDITIONAL SECURITY

Messenger's App Lock feature uses your child's fingerprint or face ID to ensure that nobody else can access their messages without permission. Messenger has also added a variety of optional tools to increase young people's safety on the app, including two-factor authentication, login alerts and filtered message requests.

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

If your child experiences anything negative on Messenger, you can help them report it. Facebook can then take action such as disabling the offender's account, limiting their ability to send messages or blocking them from contacting your child again. If your child doesn't want to display to others that they're online, they can switch off Active Status in the app's settings.

ADJUST PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make your child's Messenger stories visible only to their friends. Avoid adding your child's phone number (so they can't be found by someone using their number to search for them), and not syncing contacts lets your child choose who to add (or not) individually. Via Settings, you can control who appears in your child's chat list, who goes into the message request folder and who can't contact your child at all.

REVIEW THE CHAT LIST

Some parents regularly check their children's Messenger conversations (to see who they're talking to, rather than what they're talking about). While this is certainly safe, it can seem intrusive. If approached in a sensible, collaborative way, however, it can help parents and carers to keep an eye on exactly who their child is communicating with.

DISCUSS LIVE STREAMING

Talk with your child about safe and secure video calling. When setting up calls on Messenger Rooms, only invite people who your child knows and trusts. Show them how to lock a room if they don't want other people joining – and how to remove anyone they don't want on the call. Remind them about behaving responsibly during a live stream, even if it's with people they know.

ENCOURAGE SAFE SHARING

Ensure your child knows to send pictures and videos only to family and trusted friends, and not to publicly share images which compromise their location (showing a landmark near home or clothing with identifiable logos, like a school or local club crest). Encourage them to pause before sharing anything – if there's a chance it could harm their reputation (or someone else's), don't send it.

Meet Our Expert

Alex Wright is a former Facebook employee and social media expert with more than 15 years' experience in digital media. He has worked with some of the biggest organisations on the planet and has a vast understanding of how social media platforms work and how they engage their audience.



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