

WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 29th November, 2024 - Issue 12



A Message from Mrs Wathen and Mr Spink

Good afternoon everyone.

This week, Year 3 went on a trip to the Carriageworks theatre in Leeds to see “Beauty and the Beast” an exciting pantomime. Pantomimes are a musical comedy stage show that are a core part of British culture and are so often a person’s first experience of live theatre. This was the case for many of our Year 3 children and they absolutely loved it! It is playing until the 5th January if you wanted to go and experience a pantomime.

In other news, we were visited by Piteu Cruz – a football player who used to play at Leeds Academy. The children in Years 5 and 6 really enjoyed listening to his story and could relate to many of his experiences and up-bringing. We also decorated our school Christmas tree this week and you can see it in all it’s glory in the main school hall. As always, check out our social media for photographs of the things that have happened in school this week.

Have a lovely weekend.

N - 83%	RBT - 86%	RDO - 87%
1AD - 97%	1MM - 97%	2HW - 97%
2RK - 91%	3JH - 97%	3NB - 89%
4CS - 95%	4RM - 96%	5NP/LW - 92%
5HW - 96%	6FA - 96%	6LB - 97%

Whole School attendance this week is 94%.

We are aiming for 96%+

Biscuit Bears: 1AD, 1MM, 2HW, 3JH & 6LB.

Extra Play (97%+): 1AD, 1MM, 2HW, 3JH & 6LB.

Pizza Party (100%):



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DIARY DATES

Tuesday 5th December 2024 – Y4 Residential Meeting

Monday 9th December 2024 – Pantomime in school

Wednesday 11th December 2024 – Christmas Fair

Thursday 12th December 2024 – Christmas Dinner/Jumper day

Tuesday 17th December 2024 – EYFS Christmas Performance

Wednesday 18th December 2024 – KS1 Christmas Performance

Thursday 19th December 2024 – KS2 Christmas Performances

More information regarding performances to follow

Friday 20th December 2024 – Christmas Class Parties

Friday 20th December 2024 – School closes for Christmas (1pm)

Tuesday 7th January 2025 – School reopens for Spring term



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★ PROGRAMME IS BACK FOR CHRISTMAS,
★ SO JOIN US FOR SOME FESTIVE FUN!



23RD, 27TH AND 30TH DECEMBER
AND
3RD JANUARY



**THIS IS OPEN TO MEANS-TESTED FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBLE
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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

DAYS

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger *does* connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

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.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

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Community Pantry

With thanks to our charity partners, we have been able to open our Community Pantry again on **Wednesdays** at **2:30pm**.

Please come along to our Parent/Carer sessions at 2:30pm and then you will be able to access our pantry.



Contact the school office if you need support at another time: admin@eborgardensacademy.co.uk or speak to a member of the team.



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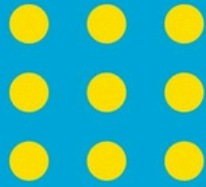
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Reception Places for September 2025

The application dates for Reception
places in Leeds for September 2025

are:

1st November 2024 -

Applications open

15th January 2025 -

Application deadline

16th April 2025 -

National Offer Day

For children born between 01.09.20 - 31.08.21

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-school>



Contact the school office if you need support with your
application: admin@eborgardensacademy.co.uk or speak to
a member of the team (0113 248 2750).



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