



EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

WEEKLY NEWS

Thursday 13th February, 2025 - Issue 21

A Message from Mrs Wathen and Mr Spink

Good afternoon everyone.

It has been a busy final week of the half term here at Ebor Gardens. We have had two trips out of school this week. Year 1 headed to Skipton Castle as part of their topic work. They had a cold but wonderful day looking around the castle. On Wednesday, the Young Voices choir travelled to Sheffield for our annual trip to the spectacular Young Voices concert. They were joined by over 4000 children from other schools to take part in an afternoon's rehearsing followed by a spectacular evening performance. Take a look at our social media pages to see photographs of their time at the Utilita Arena. We arrived back to school at 10pm, so there are a few tired children around school - they all expressed how they thoroughly enjoyed the day though! We break up today for a week. The children will return to school on Monday 24th February for the Spring 2 half term. We are officially half way though the academic year!

N - 82%	RBT - 99%	RDO - 96%
1AD - 98%	1MM - 97%	2HW - 99%
2RK - 95%	3JH - 100%	3NB - 99%
4CS - 95%	4RM - 99%	5NP/LW - 99%
5HW - 97%	6FA - 96%	6LB - 94%

Whole School attendance this week is 96%.

We are aiming for 96% or above.

Biscuit Bears: RBT, 2HW & 3JH
Extra Play (97%+): RBT, 1AD, 1MM, 2HW, 3JH, 3NB, 4RM, 5HW & 5NP/LW
Pizza Party (100%): 3JH



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DIARY DATES 2025

Thursday 13th February 2025 – School closes for Half-term holiday

Monday 24th February 2025 – School reopens for Spring 2

Thursday 6th March 2025 – World Book Day

Friday 21st March 2025 – Red Nose Day

Thursday 27th March 2025 – Class Photos

Wednesday 2nd April 2025 – Easter Discos

Friday 4th April 2025 – School closes for Easter

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – School reopens



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Please be sure to park very safely and sensibly around school at Breakfast Club, morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. On some occasions, the main gate has been blocked by parents/carers cars. Parents/carers and visitors must not park in front of the main gate so that cars (including emergency service vehicles) can get in and out at all times.



Child Friendly Leeds City Centre Map

Find out what activities and events are going on in the city centre
www.breezeleeds.org/places-to-go-and-things-to-do

Covered Picnic Area	Bowling (Members Only)	Big Screen	Public Piano (Some places only available to registered)
Food Stalls	Cinema	Art Gallery	Community/Library Hub
Play Area	Escape Room	Indoor Golf	

Car Park	Cycle Rack
Park & Ride Stop	Free Wifi
Water	ATM
Taxi Stop	Toilets
Hospital	Changing Places

Museums/Art Gallery/Library
Shopping Centre
Transport
Education
Theatre & Area
Status & Landmarks
Pedestrianised Area

LOVE EXPLORING™
 Love Exploring is a FREE fun app that uses the magic of augmented reality to bring to life amazing local sights – opening up magical worlds including Dinosaur Trails, Bug Hunts, Fairy Walks and more.

www.wearechildfriendlyleeds.com
[@childfriendlyleeds](https://twitter.com/childfriendlyleeds)

Scan this QR code for local bus and train info.



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Last chance: Invite to win a share of £1,000!

easyfundraising

Ebor Gardens Primary Academy
has raised

£149.29
so far

easyfundraising → Sign up



WE'VE HAD SOME GREAT FUNDRAISING THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS ON #EASYFUNDRAISING! IF YOU'RE NOT SIGNED UP YET, PLEASE JOIN TODAY AND RAISE FREE DONATIONS EVERY TIME YOU SHOP ONLINE. SIGN UP TO SUPPORT US TODAY AND WE COULD WIN ONE OF FOUR £250 DONATIONS:

[HTTPS://JOIN.EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK/EBOR-GARDENS-PRIMARY-ACADEMY/1PHQ34/C2S/FZ9UP2AC/CE957/FACEBOOK/](https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/ebor-gardens-primary-academy/1PHQ34/C2S/FZ9UP2AC/CE957/FACEBOOK/)



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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 ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the 'hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DMs' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages and sexual comments.

SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a 'loan' to cover a train ticket).

UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A TikTok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 30 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

SKewed PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

VERIFICATION STAMPS

Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

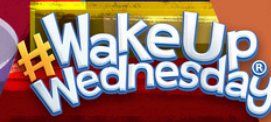
Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE (www.raiseducation.org.uk) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safety and healthy relationships.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/online-relationships-dating-apps>



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World BOOK

Day

Thursday 6th March

DRESSING UP

On the day, your child may dress up as their favourite character from a book OR they may come in their cosy pyjamas. Please ensure they are appropriate for wearing all day at school.



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Bedtime story reading competition.

Each class will have a competition to find the best story reader. If your child wants to take part, they will have to read their favourite part of a bedtime story for no more than one minute.



World Book Day Book Donations

If you have any unwanted children's books at home, please bring them in on World Book Day. They will be sorted and we will distribute them to children in need.



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THURSDAY
6TH MARCH

3.20PM - 4.00PM



EBOR GARDENS
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big bedtime read



COME ALONG WITH AN ADULT TO THE SCHOOL HALL TO SHARE SOME BEDTIME STORIES, DRINKS AND BISCUITS.

YOU CAN CHANGE INTO YOUR PYJAMAS BEFORE THE EVENT IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO.

ENTRANCE THROUGH THE HALL DOORS AFTER YEAR 5 AND 6 HAVE LEFT. ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.



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