



EBOR GARDENS  
Primary Academy

# WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 28th March 2025 - Issue 26

## A Message from Mrs Wathen and Mr Spink

Good afternoon everyone.

This week Year 6 have been sitting their final practice SATs assessments before the real ones in May. They have worked incredibly hard on them and there are some very pleasing results.

The Eco-Council have met today to discuss sustainability projects for school. Also, Miss Dosanjh and Ahana (our school representative for the Pupil Trust Board) have met the Trust Board to think of ways that we can improve sustainability across all Wellspring schools.

Next week we have our Easter events in school - the Easter Discos and the Decorate an Easter Egg competition, which closes on Thursday. We break up on Friday and return to school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Happy weekend everyone!

<b>N - 87%</b>	<b>RBT - 94%</b>	<b>RDO - 97%</b>
<b>1AD - 98%</b>	<b>1MM - 100%</b>	<b>2HW - 100%</b>
<b>2RK - 94%</b>	<b>3JH - 97%</b>	<b>3NB - 98%</b>
<b>4CS - 97%</b>	<b>4RM - 93%</b>	<b>5NP/LW - 98%</b>
<b>5HW - 96%</b>	<b>6FA - 95%</b>	<b>6LB - 99%</b>

**Whole School attendance this week is 96%.**

**We are aiming for 96% or above.**

**Biscuit Bears:** 1MM, 2HW, 3NB, 5NP/LW, 6LB

**Extra Play (97%+):** RDO, 1AD, 1MM, 2HW, 3JH, 3NB, 4CS, 5NP/LW & 6LB

**Pizza Party (100%):** 1MM & 2HW



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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.**



## **Picking-up Your Child Early**

**If you need to pick your child up before the end of the day (for an appointment etc), please let the school office know in the morning so that they can have your children ready for you in the main office.**



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# DIARY DATES 2025

**Wednesday 2nd April 2025** - Easter Discos

**Friday 4th April 2025** - School closes for Easter

**Tuesday 22nd April 2025** - School reopens for Summer 1

**Wednesday 23rd April 2025** - Guide Dog visit to Reception

**12th - 15th May 2025** - Y6 SATs Assessments

**Wednesday 21st May 2025** - Yr 3 Trip to Cannon Hall Farm

**Friday 23rd May 2025** - School closes for half-term

**Monday 2nd June 2025** - School reopens for Summer 2

**23rd & 24th June 2025** - Y4 Residential Trip

**7th - 9th July 2025** - Y6 Residential Trip

MARK THIS ON YOUR  
CALENDAR



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# Easter Egg Competition



**EBOR GARDENS PRIMARY IS HOLDING A  
DECORATE THE EGG COMPETITION**

**ON THURSDAY 3RD APRIL 2025  
AT 9:00AM**

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR ENTRIES IN BETWEEN MONDAY 31ST MARCH 2025 -  
WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL 2025.**

**PRIZES FOR EACH KEY STAGE**



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# NATASHA'S LAW

NATASHA'S LAW, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON OCTOBER 1ST, 2021, REQUIRES SCHOOLS TO CLEARLY LABEL ALL PRE-PACKAGED FOOD SOLD/GIVEN OUT ON-SITE WITH A FULL LIST OF INGREDIENTS, EMPHASIZING THE 14 ALLERGENS, TO PROTECT STUDENTS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR SCHOOLS?

SCHOOLS MUST ENSURE THAT ALL PRE-PACKAGED FOOD THEY SELL, SUCH AS SANDWICHES, SALADS, OR CAKES HAVE A FULL LIST OF INGREDIENTS AND THAT ALLERGENS ARE CLEARLY HIGHLIGHTED.

THIS MEANS THAT ANY FOOD GIVEN TO SCHOOL FOR BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS MUST HAVE A FULL LIST OF INGREDIENTS (INCLUDING ALLERGENS) SO THAT THEY CAN BE SENT HOME FOR PARENTS TO DECIDE IF THEIR CHILD CAN HAVE THEM.

YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION FROM THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY AND [THE NATASHA ALLERGY RESEARCH FOUNDATION](#).



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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](https://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**13+**

With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

### NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

### INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

### TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

### DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

### ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

### RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The advanced Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.



### LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.



### ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.



### KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



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

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