



EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

Weekly News

FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2025 - ISSUE 3

A MESSAGE FROM MRS WATHEN AND MR SPINK

Good afternoon everyone.

We started this week with a visit from "Rock Steady". The children took part in an assembly about what Rock Steady can offer children who want to develop their musical skills. RockSteady offer fun and inclusive rock and pop band sessions for 4-11 year olds. If you were interested to find out more, you can visit their website (www.rocksteadymusicschool.com). Some of the pictures of the event are on our social media. Music is very important to us here at Ebor Gardens and we are always keen to develop children's musical skills and offer them lots of experiences seeing a range of performers and taking part in performances of their own.

Coming up next week, we have the Macmillan Coffee Morning event in school. You should be receiving a letter today (coming home with your child) about our plans for this annual event taking place on Friday 26th September here at Ebor Gardens Primary Academy.

Also, 5HW will be heading to Leeds Art Gallery next week to be inspired by a range of different types of Art works. What an inspiring couple of weeks here at Ebor Gardens!

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Mrs Wathen & Mr Spink

N - 90%	RBT - 97%	RDO - 90%
1AD - 92%	1MM - 97%	2HW - 97%
2RK - 93%	3JH - 96%	3NB - 97%
4NP/RM - 94%	4RA - 98%	5CS - 98%
5HW - 100%	6FA - 89%	6LB - 98%

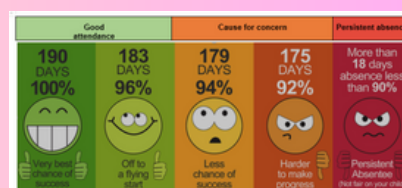
Whole School attendance this week is 95%.

We are aiming for 96% or above.

Biscuit Bears: RBT, 1MM, 2HW & 5HW

Extra Play (97%+): RBT, 1MM, 2HW, 3NB, 4RA, 5CS, 5HW & 6LB

Pizza Party (100%): 5HW



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DIARY DATES 2025

Thursday 25th September 2025 – Y5HW Art Gallery Trip

Friday 26th September 2025 – Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thursday 2nd October 2025 – Y5CS Art Gallery Trip

Tuesday 14th October 2025 – Show Racism the Red Card assemblies

Wednesday 15th October 2025 – Y3/4 Museum Trip

Tuesday 21st October 2025 – Autumn Discos

Wednesday 22nd October 2025 – Y3/4 Museum Trip

Friday 24th October 2025 – School closes for half-term

Monday 3rd November 2025 – Return to school

Monday 8th December 2025 – Pantomime in school

Wednesday 10th December 2025 – Y3 Theatre trip

Friday 19th December 2025 – School closes for Christmas (1pm)



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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

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.



SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.



SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.



SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.



ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.



INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat 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.



Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.



ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. 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.



BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.



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>



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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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