



EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

Weekly News

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2025 - ISSUE 9

A MESSAGE FROM MRS WATHEN AND MR SPINK

Good afternoon everyone.

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term here at Ebor Gardens.

This half-term is an exciting one as it leads us up to Christmas in school. **An important date to note is that on Friday 5th December, school will be closed for a staff training day (INSET).** This week Year 1 headed off to Halifax to experience the Eureka museum. This is always an exciting trip as there is so much to do and learn at Eureka. The children had a wonderful time and were excitedly telling us all about it upon their return to school. Year 2 are heading to the same place next week. We will find out how they get on next week.

Just a reminder about uniform.... Please remember that our policy is on the website should you need to refer to it. Please remember that nail varnish/polish, makeup and false nails etc are not allowed to be worn in school and children will be asked to remove these if worn.

We have updated the dates for your diary section below. More information will follow regarding Christmas events/Winter Fair etc as the half-term progresses.

Have a great weekend everyone - see you all on Monday.

Mrs Wathen & Mr Spink

N - 87%	RBT - 87%	RDO - 76%
1AD - 89%	1MM - 96%	2HW - 98%
2RK - 95%	3JH - 97%	3NB - 99%
4NP/RM - 97%	4RA - 99%	5CS - 92%
5HW - 100%	6DD - 97%	6LB - 97%

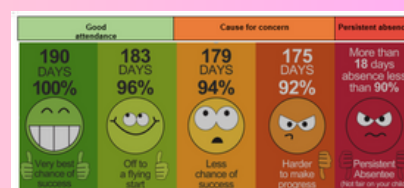
Whole School attendance this week is **95%.**

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

Biscuit Bears: 2HW & 5HW

Extra Play (97%+): 2HW, 3JH, 3NB, 4NP/RM, 4RA, 6DD & 6LB

Pizza Party (100%): 5HW



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DIARY DATES 2025

10-14th November 2025 - Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 11th November 2025 - Year 2 Eureka Trip

Tuesday 11th November 2025 - Parent Consultations

Wednesday 12th November 2025 - Parent Consultations

Friday 14th November 2025 - Odd Socks Day

Friday 14th November 2025 - Children in Need

Wednesday 3rd December 2025 - Winter Fair

Friday 5th December 2025 - **School closed for INSET**

Monday 8th December 2025 - Pantomime in school

Wednesday 10th December 2025 - Y3 Theatre trip

Wednesday 10th December 2025 - Christmas Dinner Day

Wednesday 10th December 2025 - Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 15th December 2025 - EYFS Christmas Performance (pm)

Tuesday 16th December 2025 - KS1 Christmas Performance (pm)

Wednesday 17th December 2025 - LKS2 Christmas Performance (pm)

Thursday 18th December 2025 - LKS2 Christmas Performance (pm)

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



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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 ARE EXPECTING YOU - THANK YOU.



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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about POKÉMON TCG POCKET

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE PACK OPENING

Booster packs rely on probability to provide rare or powerful cards. The excitement of opening them – and the dopamine rush when finding a sought-after card – can become addictive. Unlike purely cosmetic loot boxes, the cards here are integral to competitive gameplay, adding extra pressure for serious gamers to collect more.

QUICK BUT ABSORBING

Card battles last around five to six minutes, making it easy to fit in "just one more game". This quick format, combined with the drive to win, can lead to prolonged play sessions and increased screen time without noticing. With limited-time Ranked Match seasons constantly being refreshed – an opportunity to accumulate points and earn profile emblems – players may find themselves drawn into this game mechanic repeatedly.

PREMIUM PASS PRESSURE

A monthly subscription gives players access to exclusive missions, rewards, and an extra daily booster pack. Missions and rewards are replaced each month, providing an incentive to stay subscribed. While some premium rewards are exclusive, others are available through free play – making the pass more about faster progression and obtaining cosmetic items than true necessity.

ENDLESS PACK LOOPS

New themed sets of cards are released each month, ranging from around 85 to over 370 cards per expansion. This constant cycle encourages players to keep opening packs in an effort to complete collections or improve their battle decks, potentially promoting unhealthy spending habits. With the introduction of limited-time booster packs, some players may feel increased pressure to collect these cards while they're still available.

COST OF BOOSTER PACKS

Although free to play, with set rewards and two free booster packs given daily, players can exchange Poké Gold if they wish to open more, and a small amount of Poké Gold is rewarded for free as the player levels up. Poké Gold is also sold in bundles that are often just short of what players need to open extra packs, encouraging them to buy additional bundles.

COMPETITIVE ONLINE PLAY

Interactions in Pokémon TCG Pocket are relatively safe – there's no messaging between players, friend requests require player approval, no real names are used, and card trading is restricted to fair trades between friends. On the other hand, the competitive nature of online play can still cause frustration, over-investment, and isolation if children spend too much time focused on the game.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR SPENDING HABITS

Set clear boundaries around in-game purchases. Treat Poké Gold as an occasional rather than routine reward, helping children develop healthier attitudes towards digital spend.

SET REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Talk about the unpredictable nature of booster packs and prepare children for disappointment when duplicates appear or rare cards don't surface. Understanding probability can help minimise disappointment – use the game's built-in offering rates guides to find out more about it.

PLAY TOGETHER

Card battles can help children learn tactics, problem-solving, and rule-following, as well as numeracy skills. Playing alongside them is a great way to share in their enjoyment, while also modelling balanced play and keeping an eye on how much they're investing in the game.

TEACH FAIRNESS

Losing a battle can be discouraging, especially when money has been spent on collecting the cards to build a deck. Support children in recognising the importance of fairness, learning from both wins and losses, and making considered choices when trading cards.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and children's book author with over 15 years of experience. Specialising in technology and gaming, he has written extensively on how digital platforms affect young people and has been playing games for more than three decades.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

**EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy**

**Nursery and
Reception Places
available from
September 2025**

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