

Weekly News

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026 - ISSUE 4



A Message from Mr Spink and Mrs Wathen

Good afternoon everyone.

What a great start to the week we had with the arrival of Ian's Farm at Ebor Gardens on Monday. Nothing can beat seeing the pure joy on the face of children when they are sat with a range of animals. We had goats, chickens, ducks, donkeys and a pig. The smiles from the children were lovely to see and the smiles from the adults were equally as nice.

On Tuesday, Leeds Rhinos came in to work with year 6 children on refining and developing their rugby skills. The children had a great time and Leeds Rhinos are back next week to continue their skill development.

Today the school was filled with green and purple in support of Macmillan Cancer Care charity. The children enjoyed a bun in their classes. A big thanks to all the parents who came to the coffee morning in support of this charity.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Mr Lee Spink (Head of School) & Mrs Natalie Wathen (Principal)



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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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Diary Dates 26/27

Monday 28th September 2026 – 3RK/4NB Herd Farm Trip

Monday 5th October 2026 – 3JH/4RA Herd Farm Trip

Friday 2nd October 2026 – Year 1 Seed Workshop

Monday 5th October 2026 – Africa Reborn Assembly (Y5/6)

Friday 16th October 2026 – Year 1 Seed Workshop

Friday 16th October 2026 – Wear Red Day

Wednesday 21st October 2026 – Autumn Discos

Thursday 22nd October 2026 – School closes for half term

Monday 2nd November 2026 – School reopens for Autumn 2



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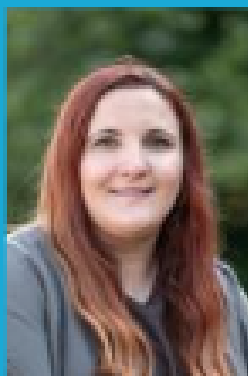
Safeguarding Concerns

Are you concerned about a pupil?

**If you are worried about a pupil, make a written record of your concern (include the date, time, concern and your signature).
You must share your concerns without delay.**



Mrs Wathen



Miss Gallagher



Miss Dooley



Mrs Brooks



Mr Spink

Online Safety Lead

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

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 boasts 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.

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'.

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-judgmentally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

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.



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



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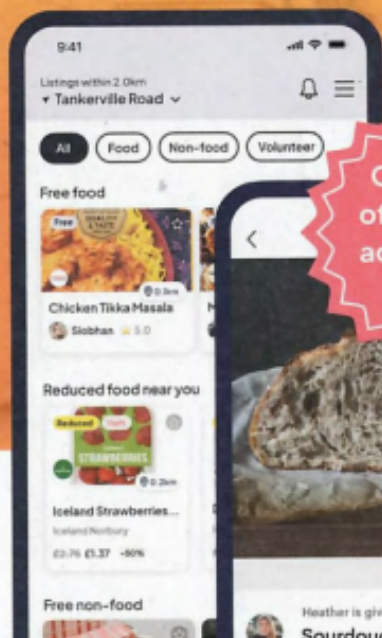


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added each
month!

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Google Play
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Join a community of 5 million people!



Save money

Browse free food from your local shops and discover things your neighbours are giving away for free – books, toys, toiletries and more!



Declutter in minutes

Olio what you don't need and give it away: quick, easy and stress-free. Or sell it for a few quid.



Rescue good food

Volunteer to collect surplus food from local businesses, share it with people nearby – and keep some for yourself as a thank you!

Free food from:

Sainsbury's

★ PRET ★

Boots

Iceland

TESCO

ASDA

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**magic
breakfast**
fuel for learning



**Magic breakfast supports your child's school
to provide nutritious breakfasts each morning.**

**We're pleased to let you know that your child can enjoy a
free, healthy breakfast at school every day.**

A well-balanced breakfast can positively impact learning, well-being, concentration, friendships and much more.

And with breakfast on offer each morning, you can be confident your child has access to the food they need to start their day fuelled and ready to learn.

Ask at school how your child can access their **free Magic Breakfast!**

Did you know?

Children who enjoy a Magic Breakfast every morning are on average 2 months ahead in their reading writing and maths.*

*Based on research carried out by the Institute for Fiscal Studies when comparing children at KS1 over the course of a year

**Find out
more**



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Primary Academy

Healthy Snacks at Ebor Gardens

Lots of children bring snacks for
break times.

These should be healthy snacks
consisting of fruit and vegetables.



Children should also have lots
of water throughout the day.
Please send a water bottle into
school with your child.



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