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Working together to be the best that we can be

# Hollydale News

**Hollydale Newsletter: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

## **World Book Day**

WORLD BOOK DAY (WBD): It was great to see both the staff and children all in character yesterday, there was a lovely buzz in the air and much talk about favourite books. We all met in the playground and discussed why we have WBD and both the importance and love of reading, which was finished off with each class doing a parade so we could all see each other's costumes. It was a huge success and it was amazing seeing all of the costumes the children were wearing. The children took part in lots of reading related activities throughout the day including reading buddies where older children read stories to younger children - this is something we are hoping to continue to do each week as all of the children enjoyed this. All of the children were given a £1 book voucher, this can be exchanged for a £1 book found in supermarkets and book shops or it can be used against the price of another book. We can't wait to hear which books the children have chosen to buy with their £1 voucher.

## **Ukraine Crisis**

As Ukraine continues to be at the forefront of the news, naturally we are all asking if there is anything we can do. Children have been asking questions, teachers have been supporting their classes through holding discussions and watching Newsround and some classes have come up with ways they would like to support which we are looking into. Now more than ever, our children need to be given access to trustworthy, non-sensationalised news especially curated and written for them. First News has forwarded the link to a special report on Ukraine. It's free for all children anywhere. <http://first.news/ukraineissue>

Well done some of our Y5/Y6 pupils who were featured on **LBC radio live** last week to talk about this issue. Once we receive the link, we will share it with you all to have a listen.

## **Pupil Absence Requests**

Attendance is a key factor in a child's success at school. It is recognised that there may be times a child cannot attend school such as when they are sick, or have an appointment (evidence is required to authorise these absences) and taking this into consideration, it is deemed any attendance over 96% is good. The law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. If an absence in term time is required, permission must be sought in advance and evidence is required. Absence is only allowed to be authorised in exceptional circumstances and we understand that for some this can cause frustration. All children's attendance is monitored both by the school and the local authority as it is important children are at school.

## **Contact Details**

If any details have changed (mobile numbers, emergency contact details etc) please can you make sure you update the school office? It is essential we hold the correct up to date information at all times, you never know when we may need them.

## **KEEPING HOLLYDALE CHILDREN SAFE**

Keeping children safe when using their mobile phones is important. It is our responsibilities as parents to monitor what they access, what they play and who they talk to. It is really easy for children to make comments and be unkind when using their phones. Before they know it, the message has been sent, sometimes to multiple people. This can have an impact on children's mental health and wellbeing and friendships.

## **Gardening Club**

We are pleased to announce that we have launched a number of gardening sessions that will take place throughout the summer term. Last week, groups of children in breakfast club, planted a variety of tomatoes. Thank you to **Mrs Ros Snowden**, one of our wonderful volunteers who is leading on this initiative.

Ms Reid - Headteacher

**Thought of the Week:**  
Today a reader, tomorrow a  
leader - Anonymous

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### Attendance and Punctuality



How quickly another week has flown by!  
This year we are aiming for an attendance target of 97%.

Please note the following:

- 100% Attendance - 0 Days Missed - **Excellent**
- 95% Attendance - 9 Days of Absence, 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed - **Satisfactory**
- 90% Attendance - 19 Days of Absence, 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed - **Poor**
- 85% Attendance - 28 Days of Absence, 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed - **Very Poor**
- 80% Attendance - 38 Days of Absence, 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed - **Unacceptable**

Class	Attendance	Punctuality - Number of Lates
Cherry	94%	3
Elm	90%	2
Oak	94%	2
Cedar	92%	4
Birch	93%	2
Hazel	94%	3
Willow	98%	2

### Oral Health Workshops

Our KS2 pupils participated in interactive workshops facilitated by dental students who are aiming to make a difference in the local community. The sessions were structured around the Key Stage 2 curriculum; focusing on health, tooth structure and function. The workshops included information on dental and oral hygiene, including brushing techniques and what makes up a healthy diet.



### World Book Day Highlights



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0xm9URguI&t=5s>

Please watch the video uploaded on our Youtube channel of the children reciting their own poems inspired by Amanda Gorman's *Change Sings*.

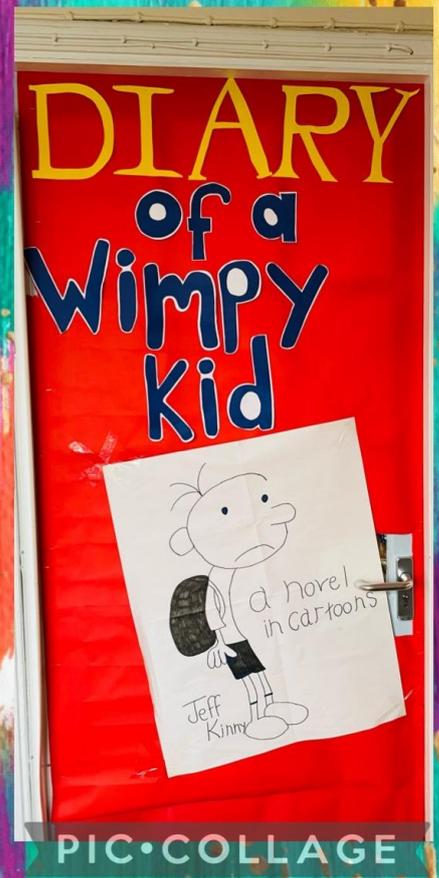
# BOOK DOORS

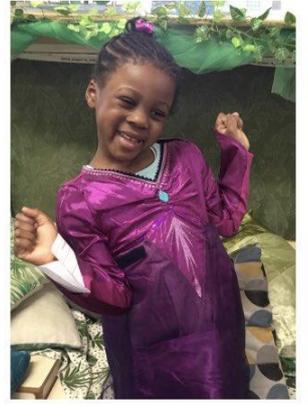
## WORLD BOOK DAY



WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

**BOOK  
DOORS**





PIC-COLLAGE



**AdaTwistScientist**

@andreabeaty

Replying to @HollydaleSchool

What a marvelous celebration of books! Well done, All!

Happy #WorldBookDay 📖!



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# WORLD BOOK DAY



PIC • COLLAGE

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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know About WHATSAPP

16+  
in UK & EU;  
12+ rest of  
world.

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, and making voice and video calls. The app offers end-to-end encryption, meaning messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient(s). Not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 reportedly caused millions of users to leave the app. But the new policy was widely misinterpreted: it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

## 'Prize' Scams

WhatsApp users occasionally receive messages from unauthorised third parties or fraudsters pretending to offer prizes – encouraging recipients to click a link to win. A common scam involves a warning that someone's WhatsApp subscription has run out, aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details. Other scams include instructions to forward a message to earn a gift or reward.

## Enabling Fake News

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India, some outbreaks of mob violence were reported to have been sparked by false allegations shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Connections with Strangers

To start a WhatsApp chat, you need the mobile number of the person you want to message (they also need to have the app). WhatsApp can also access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts use WhatsApp. If your child has given their mobile number to somebody they don't know, that person could then use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

## Disappearing Messages

By enabling 'Disappearing Messages', users can set messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Users are also able to send photos and videos that disappear after the recipient has viewed them. This media can't be saved or forwarded, making monitoring what children are talking about problematic. Equally, if your child is sent an inappropriate message, it makes it difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot, saving the media as a photo.

## 'Only Admins' and Cyberbullying

Group chats and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

## Live Location Sharing

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Indeed, it is a useful method for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. But if your child is in a chat with people they don't know, it means they will be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Report Potential Scams

Advise your child not to engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report that number as spam. They can also report a contact or a group as spam by tapping on the contact or group name to open their profile and scrolling down to 'report spam'.

### Explain about Blocking

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – they would also need to be deleted from the device's address book. The option to block someone is on their contact info screen.

### Create a Safe Profile

Even though someone would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra precaution it's worth altering your young one's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody'. Choosing one of the latter two ensures their profile is protected.

### Leave a Group

If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they no longer want to be part of, show them how to use the group's settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

### Use Location Features Sparingly

If your child needs to use 'live location' to show you or their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives 'live location' options of 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can manually choose to stop sharing their position at any time.

### Delete Accidental Messages

If your child has posted a message in the wrong chat or sent a message that they immediately regret, they can delete it. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' WhatsApp allows seven minutes to delete a message after it's sent – but it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

### Fact-Check Messages

You can now fact-check messages that have been forwarded at least five times in WhatsApp, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was accurate or not. It's a good way to encourage young people to question things they see online.

## Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



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SOURCES: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/250818/number-of-monthly-active-whatsapp-users/#:~:text=As%20of%20March%202020%2C%20WhatsApp%20has%20over%202billion%20February%202020,https://www.statista.com/statistics/258743/most-popular-global-mobile-messaging-apps/>  
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