

26 June 2023

Edition: 32

## LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and you enjoyed the wonderful warm weather we had over the weekend. The final term of the academic year is always a busy one and we have lots of exciting events and learning experiences taking place. Do look out for dates and ParentMail notifications for various events and visits. With the warmer weather upon us please do send your child to school with their suncream on, a sunhat and drink. We are mindful of keeping the children in shaded areas when they are exposed to longer periods outside.

### Sport and Health Week: Week Beginning Monday 17 July

The week beginning Monday 17 July we will be hosting our annual Sport and Health Week. Mr McKay is working hard behind the scenes to organise various sporting experiences to develop a range of new skills for the children. Sports Day will be held on the final day of term, Friday 21 July where you are invited to come and watch your child/ren's year groups take part, the timings for each phase are below. We will ensure the main blue gate onto the Years 3&4 playground are opened just before the start of each phase race. As you will appreciate, for safeguarding purposes, we are required to lock the gates between each session, so we advise arriving promptly.

Phase	Timings
EYFS: Nursery & Reception	09.15 – 10.15
KS1: Years 1 & 2	10.30 – 11.30
KS2: Years 3&4	13.05 – 13.55
KS2: Years 5&6	14.05 – 14.55

At the end of each phase session, the gates will reopen for you to be able to leave. If you have children in multiple phases, you will of course be able to attend all of these and can remain on the school field. We would advise bringing something to sit on (picnic blanket or camping style chair). Children can wear their school PE Uniform for the whole week.

### The Wellbeing Award for Schools: Reaccreditation

The Wellbeing Award for Schools, developed by the National Children's Bureau and Optimus Education, recognises the outstanding work being done to promote mental health and wellbeing within school communities across England. We engaged with the award to further develop our school's practice in supporting our whole school community with positive wellbeing and mental health. In 2018, we were successfully achieved the Wellbeing Award and since Mr McKay has been working very hard behind the scenes to further refine practice and provide opportunities and develop strategies, through our PSHE & RSE curriculum (and beyond), to ensure that wellbeing and mental health is not stigmatised and that it is very much part of our daily lives. Following on from a very rigorous and in-depth assessment last Tuesday, I am delighted to announce that we have successfully achieved a reaccreditation of this award. Mr McKay, supported by staff, governors, children, and parents did an amazing job of sharing the work of the school and personal experiences. A **big thank you** to Mr McKay for leading this area of the school and to parents who gave their time to supporting this.



Just a few of the comments made by the assessor within her report – which we feel very proud of.

***Pupils are valued and 'seen' as individuals. There is a sense that every pupil is carefully nurtured, and the school will adapt and respond to their individual needs. Parents discussed how pupils were given tools for life to help them thrive.***

### Pupil Parliament Charity Event

Pupils' Parliament have chosen their final charity event for this year and will be fundraising for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. It is a perfect example of the children's courageous advocacy and wanting to promote something close to their hearts. One of their own members has Cystic Fibrosis and they wanted to show their love and support. On Friday 7th July, pupils are invited to wear yellow (the colour for Cystic Fibrosis Trust) to school and contribute up to £2 and bring in bakes for a bake sale after school. We look forward to celebrating this day with you next month.



### Reception Class Stay and Play Curriculum Celebration Event

This Wednesday from 2.30pm, we would like to invite our Reception class parents into school to have the opportunity to spend time in the classroom, see the children's work and share some time with your child taking part in a range of activities. Doors will open at 2.30pm.

## Staffing for September 2023

We are now able to share with you the arrangements for class teachers from September 2023. Please see the table below which outlines which staff members are with which class.

Phase	Class	Class Teacher
Early Years	Nursery	Mrs Green
	Reception: Bumble Bees	Miss Harrison
	Reception: Lady Birds	Mrs Patino-Velasquez
Key Stage 1	Ducklings	Miss Garrison
	Goslings	Mrs Boutayeb
	Cygnets	Miss Allen
Key Stage 2: Years 3&4	Nightingales	Mrs Hanney
	Kingfishers	Mr White
	Woodpeckers	Mrs White (2) /Mrs Coaker (3)
Key Stage 2: Years 5&6	Falcons	Mrs Poole (1) /Mrs Morris (4)
	Kestrels	Mrs Isherwood (4) /Mrs Hipwell (1)
	Red Kites	Mrs Rees

For Academic Year 2023 - 2024 the following outlines the transition of classes:

Phase	Class	Class	Class
Class Transitions	Goslings (Y2) →	Woodpeckers (Y4) →	Falcons
	Cygnets (Y2) →	Kingfishers (Y4) →	Red Kites
	Ducklings (Y2) →	Nightingales (Y4) →	Kestrels

Children in Years 1, 3 and 5 will remain in their current classes.

## Memorial Garden Time Capsule

Last week, Kalina, Kyla, Bertie, William, and Alice beautifully represented the school, by being part of a local time capsule ceremony at the Woodstock Memorial Garden. Each class across the school chose something that represented our school to be included in the time capsule. Four parents joined us for the ceremony – it was a wonderful afternoon for members of our school and wider community.





### Year 6 Residential

THEY HAVE ARRIVED SAFELY! It was lovely to see so many excited Year 6 children with some rather large bags and cases ready to head off on their weeklong residential to the Frontier Centre in Northamptonshire. Updates will be available throughout the week via the school website. Photographs will be posted to the website gallery section as soon as staff have the time to be able to do so.



### Woodstock and Bladon News Art Competition: £50 Prize Money

Following on from the success of the Woodstock and Bladon news art competition earlier in the year, which one of pupils won, they are running a summer art competition to design the August Edition front cover.

#### The design must be:

- Bold and bright in colour (avoid pencil sketches)
- A4 in size
- Portrait in Orientation

The **deadline for all entries is Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023** and they should be submitted to the school office please.

### RSPCA Young Photographer Awards

Love animals? Enjoy taking photographs? The RSPCA are running a competition which is open to anyone aged 18 or under.

<https://young.rspca.org.uk/ypa/about?>

### Curriculum Updates

Thank you to Mrs Isherwood and Kestrels class for their Curriculum Celebration event for parents. The children presented lots of detail about the learning over the term and did a fantastic job of representing the school. Thank you to parents for coming along and supporting your children.



Thank you as always for the continued support you give to our school, it is always very much appreciated and hugely valued.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'a poole'.

Anna Poole  
Deputy Headteacher

## Collective Worship Weekly Theme

Week Beginning: 26/6/23		Collective Worship		
Key Idea: Facing danger, fear, or difficulty				
Biblical Link:	<b>Daniel 6 22:23</b> <sup>22</sup> 'My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty." <sup>23</sup> The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.' (NIV)			
Core Value:	Courage		<div>Invitation prayer</div> <div>Dear God, Thank you for helping us face the things we find difficult or scary, Help us to be brave and courageous and trust that you are always there, Amen</div>	
Understanding Christianity Theme:				
Worship Song:	Be bold, be strong			

## Ready, Set, Read! Summer Reading Challenge 2023:

Children across Oxfordshire can take part in the challenge at their local Oxfordshire Library from **8<sup>th</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. This year's challenge celebrates reading, sports, games and play. Children are encouraged to read at least six library books of their choice over the summer holidays. As they read, they collect stickers (some smelly) and rewards. If they complete the challenge, they will be rewarded with a Ready, Set, Read! medal and certificate. The overall aim is to encourage children to carry on reading over the long summer holiday and at the same time have some fun! In previous years over 8400 Oxfordshire children have taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge.

For more information visit: [The Summer Reading Challenge](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/summer-reading-challenge) and [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/summer-reading-challenge](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/summer-reading-challenge)



## Safeguarding Children Updates:

### What to do if you have concerns about a child

If you have any concerns about a child relating to Safeguarding, please get in touch with one of our Safeguarding Leads immediately by contacting the school directly on 01993 812209 or by email [safeguarding@woodstock.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@woodstock.oxon.sch.uk).

If you are unable to speak to a member of our Designated Safeguarding Team at school and have a safeguarding concern, please contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) directly who will be able to advise you.

**If you have a concern about a child, please call MASH on 0345 050 7666.**

### NSPCC Updates for Parents and Families

The NSPCC have updated some of their guidance on supporting children with mental health issues. Please follow the links to some very useful pages on their website.

**Child Mental Health:** click [here](#)

**The Safeguarding Network:** click [here](#)



## Our World



**What is bravery?**

### Let's look at this week's story

Four children have been found alive after surviving a plane crash and spending forty days alone in Colombia's Amazon jungle. Colombia's president, Gustavo Petro heralded the rescue as a joy for the whole country. The four siblings were the only survivors of the plane that crash landed in the jungle on 1<sup>st</sup> May. They then became the focus of a massive rescue operation, involving soldiers and local people. Speaking of the incredible feat of survival, Gustavo Petro said, 'They were alone, they themselves achieved an example of total survival which will remain in history'

Learn more about this week's story [here](#).  
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).  
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



### UN Rights of a Child

Governments should let families and communities guide their children as they grow up. The Huitoto traditionally learn hunting, fishing and gathering from a young age.



**5**  
FAMILY GUIDANCE AS CHILDREN DEVELOP



### British Values



### Individual Liberty

There are some situations or challenges we face that may be tricky. Learning how to manage risks can help us make choices and take action in response to these.

## PTA NEWS

### Rounders Social - Friday 7th July from 5pm, Woodstock Football Field

Family-friendly, fully inclusive & lots of fun. All families, teachers, staff, friends and dogs are very welcome to join us for a game of rounders. Pre-order a pizza and ice cream available or bring a picnic and enjoy an evening of games and fun! Fully licensed bar available.

Rounders Social Sign-Up Form: <https://forms.gle/RtXtAFcPuBnr3ma3A>

### Summer Festival - Sunday 17th September 1pm to 5pm, Marlborough School

Join us for 4 hours of controlled chaos and good times! We are so excited to be hosting a Summer Festival featuring 3 fully charged Super Pirates for all kids aged 3+. The afternoon of fun will include group games, extreme dodgeball, messy play, talent shows, challenges, glitter tattoos, inflatables, giant parachutes, party hairstyling, a sober bar and tuck shop, a star tent and family rave! All proceeds will go to PTA. Everything included in the ticket price except for glitter tattoos, hair styling, tuck shop and sober bars which are all subject to small additional charges. Wristbands will be available to collect from school the week before the event. This event is for children aged 3 and over.

Summer Festival Booking Form: <https://forms.gle/stBnWKLq2jTsJeQV6>



Family-friendly, fully-inclusive & lots of fun

## PTA ROUNDERS SOCIAL

All families, teachers, staff, friends and dogs very welcome to join us for a game of rounders. Pre-order a pizza and ice cream available or bring a picnic and enjoy an evening of games and fun!



7TH JULY FROM FROM 5.00PM  
FIRST MATCH: 5.30  
THE FOOTBALL FIELD, WOODSTOCK  
ACCESS VIA NEW ROAD



WOODSTOCK PTA PRESENTS A SUPERPIRATES

## SUMMER FESTIVAL



JOIN US FOR 4 HOURS OF CONTROLLED CHAOS & GOOD TIMES

Featuring 3 fully charged SuperPirates

SUNDAY | SEPT 17

FROM 1PM | TO 5PM

OX20 1LP

Group games  
Extreme Dodgeball  
Messy Play  
Sober Bar & Tuck Shop

Talent Shows  
Full Play Area  
Challenges  
Glitter Tattoos

Star Tent & Family Rave  
Inflatables  
Giant Parachutes  
Party Hair-Styling

At Marlborough School,  
Shipton Road,  
OX20 1LP  
Parking on site available



Limited Tickets Available  
Scan The QR Code  
for more information  
& to book tickets



The **Family Campout**® Hill End



Saturday 8 - Sunday 9 July 2023

A wonderful opportunity to stay in our bell tents this summer!  
12 tents, sleeping up to 8 people in each  
BBQ, s'mores, breakfast, activities and games all included

£55 adult / £35 child



[www.hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events](http://www.hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events)



Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NU 01865 863510



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# LIVING WELLwith NEURODIVERSITY



Oxford Health  
NHS Foundation Trust

## A new support service

from **Oxfordshire CAMHS** in collaboration with **Autism Oxford UK Limited**



Is YOUR family open to/  
involved with CAMHS  
NDC services?

Are **YOU** a parent/carer  
of a young person  
awaiting an assessment?



## FREE ONLINE COURSES FOR YOU!

- The virtual sessions will be held in the evenings as an informal space for parents/carers to safely share their experiences/tips.
- It will be facilitated by professionals who will cover the basics of ADHD/Autism and much more!

Scan the QR code to access  
the events and resources!

If you have any questions, please email us on  
[youngpeoplesupport@autismoxford.org.uk](mailto:youngpeoplesupport@autismoxford.org.uk)



Working together to deliver the best for our  
communities, our people & the environment

MISSION

VISION

Outstanding care by  
an outstanding team

| **Caring** | **Safe** | **Excellent** | VALUES



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence – particularly in terms of how it generates natural language – has seen significant development over the last six months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps (such as Snapchat, for example). One form of AI to become especially popular has been the 'AI friend' or chatbot, as children eagerly experiment with these new-found computer-generated companions. There are now numerous apps available with this 'virtual friend' functionality, with the likelihood of it being added to other successful platforms soon.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always be able to recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. So there's a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

### REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could very likely hinder the development of their real-life social skills.

### LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn't always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it's being told or replying insensitively to a young user who's already struggling could potentially impact a child's emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

### UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they've been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour (as many originate from the USA or the UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview). This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours.

### COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child's own powers of critical thinking, creativity and ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.

### PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts are warning that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties, for instance).

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, a relaxed, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they're aware of and how they're using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with your child and perhaps do your own research to ensure you think they're suitable. Once you're totally happy, you could sit with your young one and begin exploring AI chatbots together.

### CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If your child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space at home, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you'll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

### FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside your child to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it's appropriate. It's important to make sure that children are still getting plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

### TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots we'd strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps your child can download and use. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

### RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It's unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it's probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to your child. In particular, emphasise that AI isn't a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally tell them something that isn't entirely impartial or accurate.

## Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



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# HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD THROUGH THE UPS AND DOWNS OF SPORT

Be a positive sport role model for your child



Teach them to respect officials and opponents



Help them work towards their strengths



Be proud of your child's achievements



Praise their hard work and effort



Help them separate sport failure and personal failure



Support your child to have fun



Encourage and support them



Listen to what they have to say



Help them to learn from their mistakes



Don't put pressure on them



Let them play sport for their own reasons



Avoid instructing in games and training



Do not get angry with your child. Be patient



Understand their motivations to take part in sport



Don't coach them when playing sport



@BELIEVEPHQ