

RECTORY FRIDAY NEWS



Dear Parents and Carers,

We said goodbye to the year 6s on Wednesday as they set off for Whitemoor Lakes on their residential. Thank you to Miss Thompson and Miss Kingham for supervising the children on the trip—I am sure you will all enjoy a long, restful (sleepy) weekend!

The School Council have had their first meeting and are presenting to their classes about how the school can be more sustainable and environmentally friendly. We are excited about the impact the School Council can make this year as we work closely with the University of Northampton, with a trip there later in the year for our councillors!

Library Launch:

The library is taking shape and we are so pleased with how it is looking. We will be holding parent 'stay and read' sessions in the library so please check your child's Dojo as the class teacher will put on more details. This will be an opportunity for parents to come into school to see the library and read with their child. We hope to see you there!

Instagram

Rectory Farm Primary has joined Instagram! This will be used to share photos around school during the day, so you can have conversations about your child's day and celebrate their successes together. Please follow and share with family if they live a bit further afield. Letters around permissions are due to go out soon!

A Royal Letter

We were all very excited to receive a letter from Buckingham Palace addressed to our current year 5s. It was in response to their brilliant persuasive letters about deforestation. We are very grateful for their reply, and will put it somewhere special in school.



Curriculum

Year R — In Reception, they have looked at the different types of houses and which one they live in. Using Google Maps, they have even found their address!

Year 1 — Year 1 have loved having some year 6 helpers in the afternoon. They especially enjoyed when they read stories to them. Their favourite was 'The Queen's Bag' by Anthony Howe. Thank you Enessan!

Year 3 — Year 3 have finished writing and publishing a setting description this week where we focused on expanded noun phrases and similes. Their adults are extremely proud of the effort they have put in and are looking forward to seeing their writing develop throughout the year.



Spelling Shed



1st: Rowan
Class

William – Year 1

2nd:
Sycamore

Igor – Year 4

Evelyn – Year 1

We are launching new homework clubs this half term to support our children with their online learning. Please see the posters in classroom windows for more info about days and times!



1st: Beech



Igor (4) – Super Star Collector

2nd:
Maple

Eduard (2) – Most coins

1st: Willow



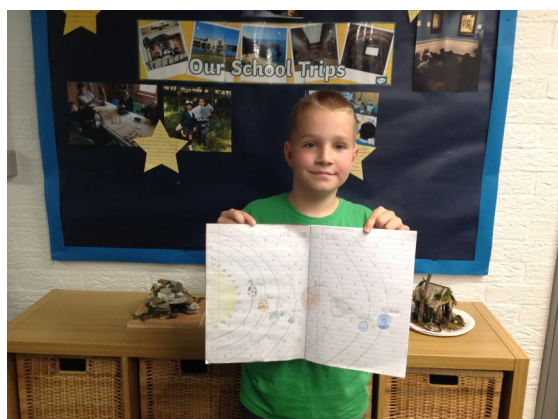
Elliot (2) – Most minutes

2nd:
Sycamore

Irina (5) – Most coins

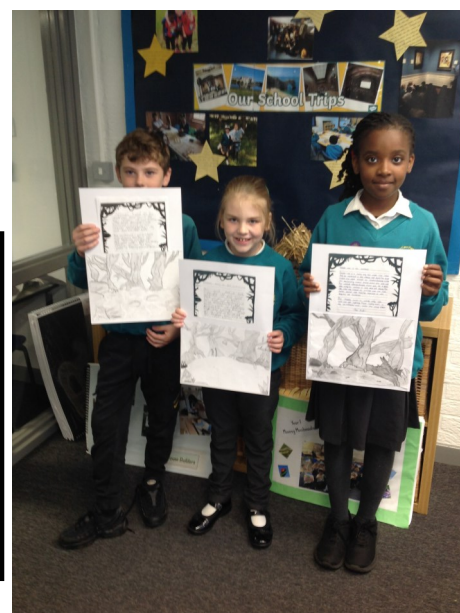
Elsie (4) – Most correct answers

As part of the year 4 topic of Vikings, Autumn has made this amazing longship using hot glue and an old pizza box!>



David has done a fantastic piece of homework, showing the order of the planets. This is linked to the science topic in year 5.

Joey, Ella and Diadem have done some fantastic written work, and illustrated it beautifully. It is based on their text 'Monster Slayer'. >



Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
7th October 2024	Year 3	Harvest Festival assembly—parents welcome
Every Tuesday after school	Year 5 and 6	Homework club with Miss Bick (year 3)
11th October	Year 2	Trip to Northampton Museum
WB 7th October (please check Dojo for individual class dates)	Yr R-6	Parent 'Stay and Read' library launch (3.00-3.15)

Messages from Mrs Llewelyn (our Family Support Worker and DSL)

Hello parents/carers,

Just a couple of reminders from me:

- if you have changed your number over the holidays, please can you update this with the school so we can contact you if needed.
- Please remember, we do sell second hand uniform in the office if you need to support.

Thanks, Sam



Please remember we are a nut free school. Please can children not bring anything containing nuts into school.



Miss Walker-Collins —Acting Deputy Headteacher

Mrs. Williams—Executive Headteacher

Friday 4th October 2024

School Contact details: Tel – 01604 4011820

follow

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Instagram is a highly popular social media platform with over 2 billion active monthly users. The app is continuously updating and adding new features to meet the wishes of its audience, allowing them to upload images and videos to their Instagram feed, create interactive 'stories', go live, exchange private messages or explore and follow other accounts that catch their eye.

ADDICTION

Many social media platforms, Instagram included, are designed to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. They encourage scrolling often and scrolling more in case we miss something important – in essence, a fear of missing out. On Instagram, young people can lose track of time when aimlessly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers and possibly strangers.

UNREALISTIC IDEALS

Children sometimes compare themselves to what they see online: how they look, how they dress, and the way their life is going in comparison to others on social media. However, most people only share the positives about their lives online and many use filters when sharing pictures of themselves. A constant comparison with unrealistic ideals can lead to insecurity over one's own appearance and lifestyle.

GOING LIVE

Livestreaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real time. Risks increase if the account is public, because that means anyone can watch the broadcast, which could result in further contact from strangers. Additional dangers of going live include an impulse to act inappropriately to draw more viewers, as well as being exposed to harmful content or offensive language.

INFLUENCER CULTURE

Social media influencers are sometimes paid thousands of pounds to promote products, services, apps and more. When celebrities or influencers post such content, it often says 'paid partnership' above the post. In April 2024, Ofcom found that over a quarter of children (27%) believed in influencer marketing, accepting their endorsement of products wholeheartedly. So it's perfectly possible for young people to be taken in by this kind of content.

PRODUCT TAGGING

Product tags allow users to tag a product or business in their post. This tag will take viewers directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased. Children may also be encouraged by influencers to purchase products that they advertise.

EXCLUSION & OSTRACISM

Youngsters are highly sensitive to feeling excluded, which comes in many forms: not receiving as many 'likes' as expected; not being tagged in a friend's photo; being unfriended; not receiving a comment on their post or a reply to a message they sent. Being excluded online hurts just as much as offline. Young people have reported lower moods and self-esteem when excluded in this way, feeling as if they don't belong and aren't valued.

Advice for Parents & Educators

AVOID GOING PUBLIC

If a young user wants to share their clothing style, make up or similar and use product tagging to show off the items in their post, they may be tempted to change their settings to public. This leaves their profile visible to everyone, which carries the risk of strangers getting in touch with them. Set a child's account to private and explain the importance of keeping it this way.

USE MODERATORS

Instagram Live has implemented a mechanic called 'Moderators', meaning that creators can assign a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and remove the ability for certain viewers to comment at all. Consider this if a child in your care wants to go live on the platform. It's also recommended to keep devices in communal spaces so you're aware if a child does go live or watch a livestream.

HAVE AN OPEN DIALOGUE

Talk to children about the positives and negatives of social media, including the risks involved and how they can view or create content safely with family and friends. Explain how safety settings will ensure only followers can view them, and why this is so important. Also, if you find a child continuously uses filters on their photos, ask them why and impress on them that they don't need it.

FOLLOW INFLUENCERS

Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to children about who they follow and help them to develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, encourage the child to ask themselves if an influencer is trying to sell them a product when they make a video endorsing it.

MANAGE LIKE COUNTS

Due to the potential impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram allows users to hide the total likes on their posts, to prevent people from obsessing over that number in the corner. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes a person gets. This can be done by going into Settings > Notifications > Posts > Likes > Off.

BALANCE YOUR TIME

Instagram has a built-in activity dashboard that lets you control how much time is spent on the app. Make sure children sign in to the platform with the correct age, as Instagram's 'Teen Accounts' afford much more control for parents and carers over how long they can use the app each day. Talk with young users about how much time they spend on Instagram and work together to set a healthy time limit.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College