

Collective Worship Theme this half term = Honesty & Trust

Attendance this week is 93.13 % (target is 96%)

27 Oct 2023

School News and Message from the Headteacher

What a busy final week to the half-term we have had! Our Wrens had a fantastic trip to Pickering Castle on Wednesday, and loved their banquet on Thursday dressed as Knights and Princesses, all of which brought their topic for this half-term to an amazing conclusion. The Juniors spent some time with Reverend Bridget for worship in the Church on Wednesday, reflecting on the words from the very beginning of Genesis, thinking about being the image of someone and how that makes us feel.

Well done to many of our Junior girls, who have been working hard on their **football skills in preparation for their matches this Friday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole community, who have welcomed me so warmly**

Mrs Elsey

Careers Session We' are still looking for volunteers for our Careers event. If you are willing and able to join us for a short session to talk about your job, which skills you need for it and some of the rewards and challenges, please do let us know.

Children in Need

On Friday 17 November, we are supporting Children in Need. Pupils can come dressed in spots and bring a minimum donation of £1.00



New Staff

Following interviews we held last week, we are delighted Ms Johnson will be joining our School Office every Friday. Welcome Ms Johnson!

Jewellery

Jewellery is not allowed to be worn for Health and Safety reasons. **Small stud earrings may be worn but must be removed for PE and swimming.**

Hair

Long hair should always be fastened back for school, especially for PE/swimming.

Parentpay Parent Pay Debt – There is **£1394.85 debt** on Parent Pay today for lunches, swimming, transport and clubs. This is causing problems for our very tight budget. Accounts should always be in credit. As soon as there is any money outstanding, the amount is taken from our school budget, which means this money cannot be used for your children. Please check your accounts and pay any outstanding debt. Thank you so much to everyone for putting credit on your accounts and paying in advance. If you are unable to make payments in advance for any reason, please let us know. School cannot afford to subsidise parents which means any accounts not in credit for clubs, pupils will no longer be able to attend.



*First the blade, then the ear,
then the full grain.*

@SchoolGillamoor

Gillamoor C of E Primary School

This week's winning House is Elm

Last week's winning House was Oak

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 27 Oct-Break up
- 6 Nov—Return to school
- 7 Nov—Ryevitalise Project Tile Design Workshop (Juniors)
- 9 Nov—Remembrance Service, The Memorial, Gillamoor
- 10 Nov-Y3/4 Boys Football, Ryedale
- 13 Nov—Friends of Gillamoor School AGM 7pm
- 15 Nov-Stay and Play 1.15pm-2.45pm
- 17 Nov-Children in Need
- 17 Nov-Scholastic order deadline
- 17 Nov-PE session with Mr Jackson
- 21 Nov-FOGs AGM
- 24 Nov-Y5/6 Boys Football, Ryedale
- 26 Nov-Wreath making
- 1 Dec—Bags2School
- 5 Dec—Stay and Play 1.15pm-2.45pm
- 6 Dec-Stall on Kirkbymoorside market
- 12 Dec-FGB meeting
- 15 Dec-After School Clubs finish





Thank you to everyone who attended the domino drive.

Our AGM is on the 17 November to which everyone is welcome.

Reception places for 2024

We are holding some stay and play sessions for anyone who is considering applying for a place for their child for September 2024 entry to Reception.

Wednesday 15 November 1.15 pm—2.45 pm

Tuesday 5 December 1.15 pm—2.45 pm

Please call to book a place and pass on to friends who may be interested.

Applying for a Reception Place from September 2024

If your child is due to start school in September 2024, you will need to apply for a school place on line.

www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions

15 January is the deadline for applying. 16 April is National Offer Day

New School Lunch Menu

All pupils have been given our fabulous new menu. **The menu starts on Monday 6 November with week 3, home-made pizza.**



School Clubs

Clubs will remain the same for the next half term. After school clubs finish on Friday 15 December. If pupils who are not attending a club would like to, please email school.

Please ensure clubs are paid for in advance. If there are any payments outstanding, then unfortunately, your child will be unable to attend clubs next half term. Please contact school if you are experiencing difficulties in making payments.

Scholastic Book Club

We have created a school account for the Scholastic Book Club—they have a fabulous range of new books, as well as some classics. All books are delivered to the school and we have timed our order window to arrive in plenty of time for Christmas Presents.

<https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/gillamoor-ce/digital-book-club>

School receives money from every purchase which we can put towards our own school-book purchases. **Closing date 17 November**



Starting Primary School

Staff Training/meetings

SEND training

Safeguarding training

School Lunches

Week beginning 6 November is week 3 of our new menu.



Online Safety is a serious subject and as teachers, we are keen to help parents understand ways they can act to keep their children safe online. Each week, I will share a link to materials from the National Online Safety organisation. This week's topic is about TikTok.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-18 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18

CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact with strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people: compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the "TikTok Now" feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs: increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS
National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday