

Collective Worship Theme this half term = Loving and Caring



Attendance this week is: **Explorers: 95.4 Adventurers: 92.7 Navigators: 94.4** (Overall: **94.2** Target is 96%)

23 Feb 2023

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

Gillamoor C of E Primary
School



School News and Message from the Headteacher

It is lovely to be experiencing the weather warming up and the days getting longer as we move towards Spring. It has been a busy and exciting week, with our first ever Exhibition of Learning taking place on Thursday. It was wonderful to be able to see the children sharing their learning with parents and other visitors. Miss Burke led the choir in a foot-tapping rendition of Roar to end our event.

We also had the Swimming Gala on Friday, with our school being well represented in all events. We are fortunate to be able to field a full team for each race, which marks the end of our Junior Swimming for the year. Well done all our Juniors, who have made such great progress in swimming and water safety skills since September.

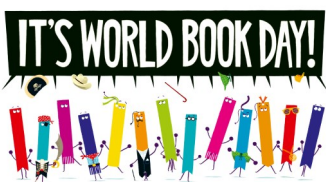
Looking forward to next week, we will start our new unit from the Learning Means the World curriculum, which will be through the lens of Conservation. We look forward to sharing some of the new topics in more detail next week and will be sharing the next knowledge organisers at the start of the week too.

Mrs Elsey

Child Centred Consultations

We are holding our Child Centred Consultations on the 12 and 13 March. Please can pupils also attend the Consultation with their parents, as we look to include children within the discussions about their strengths and next steps at their level. We still have slots available, if you have missed booking your meeting. Please contact the office to arrange this. We do find these meetings to be a valuable part of your child's learning journey.

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!



World Book Day

Due to swimming and PE, we are holding World Book Day on Friday 8 March. Pupils can come to school dressed as their favorite book character. We will be holding a number of different book-related activities during the day.

This week's winning House is:
ASH

Last week's winning House was
ELM

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

28 Feb– Y5/6 Snow Queen, Ryedale

1 Mar-KS2 boys football, Ryedale

8 Mar—World Book Day

8 Mar-KS2 girls football, Ryedale

12 Mar-Child Centred Consultations

13 Mar-Child Centred Consultations

13 Mar—Science Week special session

15 Mar-Y3/4 Netball, Ryedale

22 Mar-Y5/6 Netball, Ryedale
Break up

9 April-Pupils return to school

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL. WE KINDLY REQUEST NO NUTS OR NUT DERIVATIVES ARE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL IN PACKED LUNCHES OR AS SNACKS. .



Welcome back after the half term holiday, we hope everyone had a lovely time. We have a few events coming up this next month so get diaries at the ready!

26th February - PTA meeting - this is re-arranged date from the last cancelled meeting. It will be held usual spot at Royal Oak, Gillamoor, at 6.30pm. As always we welcome new people to come and share some ideas and or just would like to help out.

1st March - Film Night - Last one this school year - Doors will open at 6.15pm film (TBC) to start at 6.30pm prompt. £3.00 per child for popcorn, drink and snack.

15th March - Easter Bingo - Fadmoor Village Hall - Doors open 6pm eyes down for 6.30pm - There will be a non-uniform day on 13th March for which we would like Children to bring along a Easter Chocolate Item for wearing non-uniform.

We have the Kirkby 10k on Sunday 5th May. We are still looking for volunteers to help us on the day with the water stand at school and down in Kirkbymoorside at the finish line. Without the help we won't be able to offer the support that we have done in previous years. This race help provide funding for both ourselves and Kirkbymoorside School. Even if you can only give a little bit of time it all helps.

Leave of Absence Requests

This year, we have so far received eleven Leave of Absence requests for holidays to be taking in term time. This is an extraordinarily high number of requests, and sadly places us in some of the highest percentage brackets for this type of request. Unfortunately, for the first time ever, we have therefore decided to pass repeat requests on to the Local Authority who will begin the process of issuing fines. We would like to stress that the school itself does not profit from this process and it is with a heavy heart that we have made this decision. If you do need to make a Leave of Absence request, please take the time to elaborate on the reason, as we need to know *why* a holiday is being taken, not simply that you are taking a holiday.

School Administrator

We are delighted to have appointed Mrs Featherstone as our School Administrator. Mrs Featherstone will be in the School Office every Friday.

Snow Queen

Y5 and Y6 pupils have been invited to watch The Snow Queen at Ryedale School on Wednesday 28 February. We will be leaving school at 11.50 am, so pupils will require a packed lunch, which they will eat at Ryedale School. We will be back before the end of the school day.



Staff Training/meetings

Finance Conference

Understanding Autism Training

School Lunches

Week beginning
26th Feb is Week
Three of our
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 advice on avoiding age-inappropriate content.

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, where they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many 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 AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

WHERE IS IT FOUND?

SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

CAN WE HAVE A CHAT?

CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

GET SPECIALIST HELP

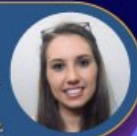
Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.education.gov.za/documents/about/program/bulldozer/innappropriate.pdf> | <https://www.safeschools.gov.au/educators/training-professionals/profession-of-learning-program/teachers/inappropriate-content-factsheet/> | <https://www.wednesdaygoodvibes.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/children-media-use-year7.pdf>



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