



Friday 9th February 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As this half term draws to a close, I wanted to take a moment to extend my sincere appreciation to all the families who actively participated in our recent parent evenings.

Your presence at these events not only demonstrates your commitment to your child's education but also strengthens our school community. These discussions provide valuable insights into your child's progress and help us ensure they receive the support they need to thrive academically and socially.

This week was the first of our Performing Arts Concerts and it was great to see such an array of instruments being played. Moreover, your attendance in Chapel added to the magic of the evening and showcased the incredible talent of our pupils. It is a wonderful opportunity for our young performers to shine on stage, and your encouragement made the event memorable for everyone involved. A huge thanks to Mrs Simmonds and Mrs Cooper for organising such a wonderful evening.

I am thrilled to announce the relaunch of our Wow-Park and Stride scheme, which was incredibly well-supported by our pupils and parents last academic year. After a temporary halt due to funding constraints, I am delighted to inform you that we have secured full funding to restart this initiative.

The Wow-Park and Stride scheme encourages our students to walk, bike, or scooter to school, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle while also reducing traffic congestion and emissions around our school site. By choosing alternative modes of transportation, our pupils not only contribute to a cleaner environment but also experience the benefits of regular physical activity.

As an incentive for participation, pupils who walk, bike, or scooter to school twice a week will receive special badges to proudly wear on their blazers. These badges serve as a tangible reminder of their commitment to sustainable travel and will be a source of pride for our environmentally conscious students.

Hope you and your families, have a wonderful half-term break.



Parent ICT WORKSHOP

Positive Online Behaviours

Discuss the current risks and harms.
Cut down on online risks to your child.

Who could be involved in online issues?

Do children hide online issues from parents?
How to have open conversations with them..

How to support your child being an independent learner online.

How to report harmful behaviour online and who to contact..

The impact of technology on children's mental health.

**Monday 19th
February
5PM - 6PM
Primary Hall**

 More Information



ASSEMBLY

This week, in our assemblies we were joined by guest speaker who ignited the spark for the revival of our Living Streets 'Let's Walk to School' campaign. All pupils actively participated, displaying genuine enthusiasm as they eagerly anticipate earning a special badge each month. These badges serve as a monthly accolade for students who commit to walking, park and stride, scooting, or cycling to school at least twice per week consistently every month.



Diary

- Friday 9th February – HALF TERM COMMENCES returning to school on Monday 19th February 2024
- Tuesday 20th February – Reception African Drumming Workshop
- Wednesday 21st February – Yr 3 Severn Trent Water Assembly
- Thursday 22nd February - Y2- 4 Performing Arts Concert
- Friday 23rd February Year 1 Baby Dinosaur Workshop

Sporting Fixtures

- Wednesday 21st February Year 5 & Year 6 Netball v Birchfield (H)
- Wednesday 21st February YR 6 Rugby v Old Hall (A)

Housepoints

Balmoral	1830
Sandringham	1505
Buckingham	1605
Windsor	1590

Dance Festival

On Wednesday we hosted the Primary School City Dance Festival at the Royal. The performances from all schools who attended were fantastic!!

Year 5 and Year 6 dance groups performed and took part in a dance workshop, led by our Year 10-13 dance leaders. The primary school groups also taught each other their dances. It was a very fun morning! Well done to all the dance groups who performed amazingly!

Videos to be sent after half term.

Thank you to our dancers, dance leaders, Year 13 tech support, Mercue and Mrs Simmonds and to all the parents for the costumes!





Year 4 visited Mrs Jefferson this week with their amazing homework projects on Vikings.



Gurisher A & Bradley F 4LD



Cole F & Roop D 4CC



Thomas N 4CC

Attendance Week Commencing Monday 5th February 2024

Week Beginning 5th February 2024																				
3KM	RAR	6LS	2AT	5KG	1KN	2HD	4CC	2GB	4HE	1ER	6SH	4LD	6EP	3KH	3RC	5ED	IAC	5RK	RAG	RSD
100%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	97%	97%	97%	96%	95%	95%	95%	94%	94%	94%	94%	94%	93%	91%	90%

Donations Required



We are seeking your generous contributions for our Community Food Project. Donations can be dropped off at Reception, or in Year 5 & Year 6 classrooms. WC 29 th January 2024	Pasta, rice, tinned potatoes/Smash, cereal, baked beans, spaghetti, pasta sauce
WC 5 th February 2024	Tinned meat/meals (eg curry or chilli), canned fish, pasta sauce, tinned sweetcorn, tinned carrots/peas
WC 19 th February 2024	Jam, honey, tinned puddings, tinned custard, biscuits, chocolate and other treats.
WC 25 th February 2024	Tea, coffee, UHT milk, sugar, squash, juice (non-refrigerated).

Mrs Kaur's ICT CORNER

Gaming Boundaries LEVEL UP your conversations about Gaming!

Establish clear boundaries

Discuss the amount of time children are allowed to spend playing games each day and set realistic expectations. Be firm but also open to negotiation, considering the child's age and responsibilities. Having clear rules helps children understand their limits and fosters a sense of responsibility.

Monitor Content and Age Ratings

Stay informed about the content of the games your child plays and pay attention to age ratings. Many video games are designed for specific age groups, indicating the level of maturity required to engage with the content. Be proactive in discussing any concerns you may have about the games your child is interested in.

Encourage Balanced Activities

Promote a balanced lifestyle by encouraging a variety of activities beyond gaming. Encourage outdoor play, sports, hobbies, and social interactions. Setting aside time for homework, chores, and other responsibilities before gaming can help establish priorities.

Lead by Example

If you want your child to develop healthy screen-time habits, demonstrate responsible technology use yourself. Be mindful of your own screen time and engage in activities that don't involve screens. Show an interest in your child's gaming experiences, and be open to playing together or discussing their interests.

 **Any questions contact us**
rk@theroyal.school

 **More Information**
www.theroyalschool.co.uk





We extend our heartfelt gratitude to a valued member of our school community, whose business generosity has granted us access to the enriching Bumbles of Honeywood Programme. Crafted by a team of enterprise and education professionals, this programme aims to ignite youthful curiosity while nurturing essential life skills, empowering our students to realise their fullest potential.

The programme's debut in 1ER this week was a resounding success. Guided by a skilled member of the Honeywood team, the workshop brimmed with interactive enterprise activities, seamlessly integrating classroom resources with the invaluable support of our esteemed Business Partner. Pupils delved into the realms of networking, mastering the art of making impactful first impressions in the realm of business.



WE NEED YOU!



As you may already know, we are organising a Careers Week at The Royal Monday 4th March to Friday 9th March 2024 to provide our pupils with valuable insights into various professions and career paths.

We have received enthusiastic responses from many mums willing to volunteer their time and share their expertise, but we're keen to ensure that our dads are equally represented in this initiative.

We believe that your unique experiences and perspectives could greatly enrich the learning experience for our pupils. Whether you're in a traditional profession, self-employed, or pursuing a passion project, your involvement can make a significant impact on the career aspirations of our students.

The commitment would involve participating in class discussions, or simply a video sharing your career journey in an informal setting. Your contribution, however big or small, would be immensely valuable in shaping the future of our pupils.

If you're interested in volunteering for Careers Week or would like more information about the event, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at sholdsworth@theroyal.school. Your support is crucial in making this event a success, and we truly appreciate your willingness to give back to the community.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to inspire and guide the next generation of professionals.

Mrs S Holdsworth

Primary Assistant Head
Careers and transitions

COMPETITION TIME



Get involved in one of the UK's biggest design competitions for children this half term.

For this year's WOW badge design competition, the theme is Walk with Imagination. Living Streets would like pupils to imagine a different walk to school and draw where their imagination takes them!

This half term, encourage your child(ren) to think big and see where in time it takes them. Living Streets will turn each winning entry into more than 300,000 badges to be awarded to WOW pupils who walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or Park and Stride to school across the UK next academic year.

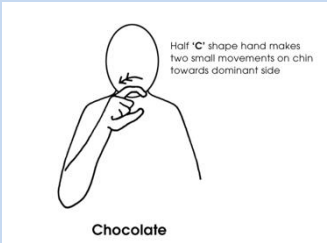
Your child can unleash their creativity on the badge template they received today. Kindly ensure it's returned to Mrs. Green by Friday 23rd February. We'll select the top three designs to represent The Royal School in collaboration with Living Streets.

In preparation for their new topic 'Playlist' after half term, Year 4 walked into Wolverhampton town to visit The Halls on Tuesday.

The children watched a performance called 'An Orchestral Adventure Through Time'. This allowed them to see the structure of an orchestra and hear a range of musical instruments, travelling all the way from 1712 to 2024! The children thoroughly enjoyed their experience and were particularly excited when they heard the Super Mario Bros theme tune.



Makaton Sign of the Week



Thank you for your support in our recent book fair. We raised a massive £745.00.

Congratulations!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED OUR SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR.

Together we have raised **£745**.....
for our school to spend on **FREE BOOKS**

SCHOLASTIC

The first week of the new catering contract at The Royal School, Accent Catering are very pleased to announce that both the Senior and Primary Schools have been awarded.

Five Star's Hygiene Rating following a routine visit from Environmental Health Officer. Pictured are both teams celebrating their success.

The EHO commented that she was very impressed with our Food Safety Management System and processes that had been put in place.



Five Star Club

Congratulations

Name The Royal School Wolverhampton – Primary School

on your achievement of a five star rating for outstanding
food hygiene, standards and procedures

Date 6th February 2024



Ian Crabtree

Accent

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MONKEY

Also known as Monkey Cool, this platform aims to fill the gap left by Omegle (which has now shut down) by placing users in random video chats with strangers. Participants use their mobile number and Snapchat username to connect to the service, where they can make matches, message other people and join group chats. The mobile version has been removed from the App Store due to safety concerns, but iPhone owners can still access the site via their web browser. The app remains available on Google Play, where its listing claims that Monkey has more than 30 million users worldwide.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The app claims to use AI to detect sexual content or activity that violates its policies, along with having a 24/7 moderation team. However, reports in the media continue to indicate that explicit content remains commonplace on Monkey (including sexually graphic or violent material) and is therefore accessible to anybody who uses the app – including those aged under 18.



CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

The obvious risk in accepting random video chat partners is that users cannot know what or who they will see on their next connection. Talking to strangers is, of course, potentially dangerous – especially for children who might be persuaded to meet up with these people offline. The app lets users find each other by location, increasing the chances of a child being matched with a stranger from their local area.



IN-APP SPENDING

While Monkey is free to download, it nevertheless offers in-app purchases promising to unlock access to premium features. For example, users who wish to make use of 'Knock Knock chat' (Monkey's text-based messaging option), rather than the app's Chatroulette-style random video calling feature, will need to pay to be able to do so.



INTRUSIONS ON PRIVACY

According to Monkey's privacy policy, personal information (such as name, profile picture and date of birth), user-contributed content (any photos, texts, videos and screenshots shared) and each user's browser and IP address are collected. That is a considerable amount of data for Monkey to gather on its users – and all of this information is shared with third parties.



Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Even if you're comfortable with your child using Monkey, it's still important to talk about the potential dangers. It's crucial, for instance, that young people recognise the risks that stem from video chatting with strangers; that they understand not to share identifying information (like their street or school name); and that they know what to do if they are exposed to inappropriate content.



RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASING

If your child is accessing Monkey via an Android device, you can prevent them from making in-app purchases through the device's settings. If you do allow your child to use the site, we'd recommend that you enable this feature: young people have been known to spend significant amounts of money in their desire to unlock more features in apps such as this.



REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Monkey states in the safety section of its site that "people are given the power" and that, to a large extent, Monkey is "self-governing." If a user is exposed to sexually explicit or inappropriate content on the platform, they can select the 'police' emoji in the top right corner of their screen to submit a report for Monkey's moderation team to review.



SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Monkey – or that they may have been exposed to inappropriate or distressing content – it's important to watch for potential indications that they've been affected emotionally. They could be unusually irritable or unable to concentrate, for example, or failing to complete their homework or even to eat regular meals.



Meet Our Expert

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



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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[@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national_online_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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Online video calling with random strangers It's hardly a new internet phenomenon – but the recent demise of Omegle has prompted the creation of several similar platforms bidding to fill the vacuum. One such contender is Monkey – a service that randomly connects its users for video calls, using their mobile numbers and Snapchat account details.

Monkey has surged in popularity since Omegle's shutdown in November 2023: visits to the site more than doubled within a month and have been climbing steadily ever since. Regrettably, it also seems that Monkey suffers from many of the same pitfalls as its notorious predecessor.