

Wisborough Green Primary School



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 13th March 2026

Focus for this half term - Positivity

A Note from the Headteacher

Congratulations to our Values Champions this week: Aliyah, Henry, Ophelia, Zayn and Emily!

National Year of Reading 2026

Reading expands our world and sharpens our minds, yet fewer people are making time to read. A Department for Education initiative, in collaboration with the National Literacy Trust, the campaign aims to tackle the profound decline in reading enjoyment in the UK and reconnect people of all ages with reading as a relevant and immediately rewarding activity. The campaign asks the nation to Go All In on their passions and interests for 2026 and discover how reading can unlock the things they already love - be that music, football, baking, family-time, sci-fi, or ... anything.

World Book Day

World Book Day was a wonderful opportunity to share our love of reading and bring stories to life across the school. From the moment children arrived, the building was buzzing with excitement—bursting with book characters, costumes, and plenty of imagination. Pupils took part in a range of activities including shared reading, book-themed art and book reviews. It was fantastic to see children discussing their favourite authors, recommending books to friends, and engaging so enthusiastically.



Reading Volunteers

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our regular reading volunteers, including our lovely PAT dogs, Ruby and Rosie. Your time, patience, and enthusiasm make an enormous difference to our children's confidence and progress as readers.



PTA Book Sale

The PTA also held a successful second hand book sale, thank you to everyone who donated and purchased books. They raised £131, well done to everyone who helped.



Reading with your Child

Reading aloud to young children is an important way to help build language skills. It exposes them to new words and ways of using language. Books also help children build empathy and learn how to handle challenging feelings. The sensory experience of sitting together and hearing your voice also engages a child's brain in a way that helps to make learning easier. The most important thing is that books become a part of your child's daily life. Any steps you can take will make a big difference. 'Why is it Important to Read to your Child?' Hannah Sheldon-Dean, Child Mind Institute. Giving your child an opportunity to practise their own reading skills is also vital. Evidence about the benefits of parents being involved in their children's education in general, and particularly in their children's literacy activities, is overwhelming.

Weekly Safeguarding Spotlight!

Our safeguarding spotlight this week focuses on what parents need to know about the App Store, giving top tips to avoid the risks.



National
Online
Safety

Publish date: 24/10/18



'Apps' are designed to run on certain devices and are written for a specific operating system, such as Apple iOS, Windows, or Android. The official store for the Apple iOS operating system is known as the 'App Store' and it's where you can browse and download more than 2 million apps and games to use on the iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch and other Apple devices. When your children are using the app store, you need to be aware of the risks...



What parents need to know about

THE APP STORE

IS YOUR CHILD 13+?

To download and buy apps from the App Store, your child will need an Apple ID. If they have used other Apple services, such as iCloud, they can sign into the App Store with the same Apple ID. If they are aged 13 and under, they cannot sign up for an Apple ID on their own, but an adult can create an Apple ID for a child.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Apps are either free, paid-for or free with in-app purchases. In-app purchases are optional transactions that can unlock extra functionality, virtual goods or unique content. Unless you change the settings, once your child has entered a password to make an in-app purchase, they can make additional purchases for 15 minutes without re-entering a password. This makes it extremely easy for children to accidentally run up huge bills.



LOOKALIKE APPS

Some developers release apps that copy the functionality, user interface and even product names and branding of popular apps, in an attempt to trick unsuspecting users to install them. By downloading an app from an unknown developer, your child could find their device compromised. Experts warn that through app permissions, hackers can potentially take photos using the camera and access media remotely, track your child's location, record any passwords they enter for other accounts, and send text messages from phones.

INAPPROPRIATE APPS

Some apps and games have content that is unsuitable for younger children - even the most popular or innocuous looking apps may feature adult-themed content, violence or cruelty to other people or animals, unmoderated chat, pornographic or sexual content.

THIRD-PARTY APP STORES

Because the official Apple App Store has a very stringent policy about what apps it approves, children may look elsewhere for apps and games they've heard about from friends. As well as the Apple App Store for iOS, there are hundreds of other third-party app stores, but the danger is they may not apply the same level of scrutiny toward the apps they allow to be listed. There's a higher chance of apps that infect devices with malicious codes or put user privacy at risk by extracting sensitive information.



Top Tips for Parents



CREATE YOUR CHILD'S ACCOUNT

You can create an Apple ID for a child under 13 and add them to your family group to keep an eye on their activity. Go to Settings > [your name] > Family Sharing > Add Family Member > Create a Child Account > Next. Enter your child's birthday and tap Next. Review the Parent Privacy Disclosure and tap Agree. With Family Sharing, you can add up to six family members to share App Store purchases, as well as iTunes and Apple Books.

SWITCH ON 'ASK TO BUY'

If you have a child that is over 13 years of age and has their own Apple account, make sure that you only allow them to make purchases with gift cards. You can also activate the 'Ask to Buy' feature if you are using Family Sharing, so that whenever a family member who isn't an adult initiates a new purchase, a request goes to the account organiser. You can also limit what content your child can access on the devices they use.

RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASES

You can restrict your child's ability to make in-app purchases. On an iOS device, open Settings, tap General and then Restrictions. Tap 'Enable Restrictions.' You can put a limitation that requires a password every time there is a purchase made in the App Store or iTunes Store.

BROWSE APPS BY AGE

To find apps and games that are right for your children, check the age ratings. On an iPhone or iPod Touch, this can be found in the information section on an app's product page, and on an iPad or desktop, the age range is near the Buy button. On the Kids page, you can find apps for age ranges, including 5 and under, 6 to 8, and 9 to 11.

AVOID OTHER APP STORES

Put a rule in place that your child can only use the official App Store to download apps and games. Explain why it is wise to only install applications from a trusted source to ensure their device is not affected by security issues or virus attacks.

HOW TO KNOW AN APP IS SAFE TO INSTALL

Advise your child that just because they're downloading an app from an official store, it doesn't make it safe. Fake or copycat apps will often include misspelt words and poor grammar, so always read the app description, and double check the developer name and title for warning signs. Be wary of apps that come with a long list of permission requests. Check the app's reviews and ratings - one star, one-line reviews complaining that an app didn't work on a certain device, or that there was a billing issue, is not a good indication.

SPOT FAKE REVIEWS

When checking the customer reviews within the app store, make sure they aren't vague and generic, or overly effusive, as some developers will try to manipulate their apps' positions by posting fake ratings and reviews. Check the number of downloads the app claims to have - the higher the number, the more likely it is to be safe. Your child can also visit the company's website to see if the app is a



Key Dates

March

- Wednesday 18th - Y5/Y6 Mexican Art Workshop
- Friday 20th - Y5/Y6 Mexican Day
- Friday 20th - PTA Quiz Night
- Wednesday 25th March - Y3/Y4/Choir Spring Concert
- Thursday 26th - Friday 27th - Y5 Lodge Hill Residential
- Friday 27th - End of Term 2.00pm Finish (except Y5 for residential)
- Easter Holidays - Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

April

- Monday 13th - Spring Term 2 Begins
- Friday 17th - Family Reading 9.00 - 9.20am

Congratulations to the
winner of
this week's PTA Cake
Raffle!



HOUSE POINTS

GREEN - 240

YELLOW - 237

RED - 176

BLUE - 171

For future diary dates, please visit our website's [school calendar](#). Thank you.