



Springmoor Grange School Newsletter

Volume 3 - Friday 19th September 2025

Nursery Parent/Carer Consultations

In Nursery, there will be opportunities throughout the year for parents/carers to meet with Nursery staff to talk about your child and their learning. If your child has just joined Nursery for the very first time, staff will spend a few weeks getting to know them and finding out what their next steps are. You will then be invited to a Parent/Carer Consultation to talk about how your child has settled into nursery and we will look at the child development milestones together. This will take place during October.

When your child reaches their birthday, or 6 months between, you will be invited to another Parent/Carer Consultation to share your child's learning and development so far and discuss with staff what they will be working on developing next.

Primary Parent/Carer Consultations

Working and communicating with parents and carers is very important to us. Class teachers are looking forward to meeting you all at our first Consultation Evenings on the following dates:

Tulip – Mr Crowther	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Rose – Mrs Woods	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Oak – Mrs Paxton	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Elm – Miss Robson	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Maple – Mr Webb	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Birch – Mrs Shepherd	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Swallow – Mr Cummings	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Owl – Mrs Payne	Monday 13 th and Wednesday 15 th October
Kingfisher – Mr Bache	Monday 13 th and Wednesday 15 th October
Kestrel – Mrs Cox and Mrs Elliott	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Raven – Miss James	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Eagle – Miss Todd	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October
Falcon – Miss Day	Monday 13 th and Tuesday 14 th October

Parent/Carer Consultation appointments can be booked via Arbor from 2pm on Monday 22nd September.

Springmoor Grange Christmas Fair

We are excited to let you know that we will be hosting our very first Christmas Craft Fair this year to raise funds for school. We intend to hold with towards the end of November (a date will be confirmed at a later date) and would like to give you the opportunity to be the first to grab a stall. If you would like to take part as a vender or host an activity stall, the charge is £20 to secure it. Any takings on the day will then be yours or donate into school fund if you would like. To express an interest in having a stall (no fees to be paid yet) please let Mrs Woods or Miss Simpson know via direct message on the SeeSaw app. More details about the fair will be communicated in due course.

Book Fair

We are delighted that the Scholastic Book Fair will once again be visiting Springmoor Grange this term, from Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th of October. This is always a very popular event and we look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. For those who have yet to experience the book fair, and for families returning once again, further details of visit times and ordering processes will be sent out in the coming weeks. Save the date for your diary and in the meantime, if you have any questions, feel free to send a message to Mrs Shepherd via SeeSaw!

Gates

Please remember that parents and carers are not allowed through the gates on a morning due to safeguarding reasons. If you need to pass a message on to your child's class teacher, please speak to a member of staff on duty at the gate or pop round to the Main Office to see Mrs Ozturk or Mrs Hunter.

School Car Park

Please note that this can only be used by people who are in receipt of a Blue Badge or are using our Wraparound Care service. We have numerous people trying to use it this week and this is not allowed due to safeguarding reasons. Mr Richardson, our Caretaker, and Ms Jackson, our School Business Manager, will be monitoring this.

Important - Nut Free School

Please remember that we are a nut free school and children should not be bringing these in for snacks or as part of their packed lunch. We have children in school who have allergies to nuts so it is important that this is followed for the safety and wellbeing of all.

Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers

Year 1	Violet J	Year 4	Heidi C
Year 2	Luca B	Year 5	Paisley P
Year 3	Warren P	Year 6	Ritaj K

Attendance and Punctuality

Overall attendance for the week is 95.9% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 1 with 98.9%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 96.2% for the whole school and 97.1% for children in Reception to Year 6.



The Primary starts at 8:30am, with the gates opening from 8:20am. Please ensure that your child is at school on time so that they do not miss out on any learning. This week, we have had 114 late minutes and lost learning time.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 1 st October	2pm – Year 6 Performance of Anti-Social Behaviour Project
Thursday 2 nd October	8:30am – Y2 English Workshop
Wednesday 8 th October	8:30am – Y1 Phonics Workshop
W/C 13 th October	Primary Parent Consultation Evenings
Wednesday 15 th October – Friday 17 th October	Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 16 th October	Y1/3/4 Harvest Service at St Andrew's Church
Friday 17 th October	Y2/5/6 Harvest Service at St Andrew's Church
Monday 20 th October, Tuesday 21 st October and Wednesday 22 nd October	Adam Bushnell (Author) working with Y1 – Y6
Monday 20 th October	8:30am – Y3 Maths Workshop
Monday 20 th October	2pm – Nursery Spooky Stories and Halloween Crafts

Tuesday 21 st October	2pm – Reception Spooky Stories and Halloween Crafts
Wednesday 22 nd October	10:20am and 2pm – Buttercups Halloween Stay and Play
Wednesday 22 nd October	8:30am – Y4 Maths Workshop
Thursday 23 rd October	School Photographs
Friday 24th October	Close for Half Term
Wednesday 5 th November	PM - M and M Production – Robin Hood
WC 10 th November	Anti-Bullying Week – Power for Good
Monday 24 th November	Reception – Year 6 Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 27 th November	Friends of SGS Non-Uniform Day
Friday 28th November	PD Day – School Closed
Monday 1 st and Tuesday 2 nd December	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 visiting Santa at Spennymoor Town Hall
Wednesday 3 rd December	1:45pm – Nursery Christmas Stay and Play and Crafts
Thursday 4 th December	1:45pm – Reception Christmas Crafts
Friday 5 th December	10:20am and 1:45pm – Christmas Stay and Play
Wednesday 10 th December	9:30am and 2pm – Reception Christmas Performance
Thursday 11 th December	9:30am and 2pm Year 3/4 Christmas Performance
Monday 15 th December	9:30am and 2pm Nursery Christmas Performance
Tuesday 16 th December	9:30am and 2pm Y1/2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 17 th December	9:30am and 2pm Year 5/6 Christmas Performance
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 19th December	Close for Christmas Break
Monday 5th January 2026	Open for the Spring Term

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2023, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

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.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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This week in Rose Class



Our topic this half term is Marvellous Me - we have been talking about ourselves and our families. This week we are talking about where we live, building our houses and talking about who lives in our house.



We have begun to learn some new phonemes in our Phonics sessions. We do lots of activities to practice hearing, saying and writing the phonemes we learn - Little Wandle Phonics is a hit in Rose Class!



We have been reading a story called Kind - it teaches everyone how to be kind and the difference that it makes. We can all make the world a better place by choosing kindness.

