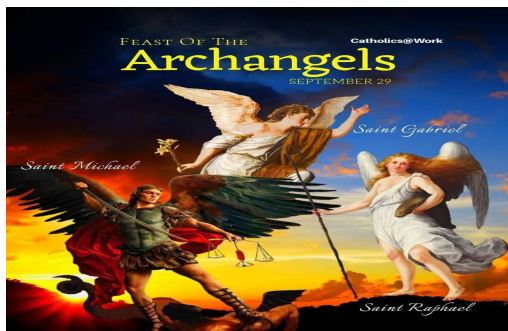




NEWSLETTER 29/09/2023

Opening Prayer



Feast of the Archangels - Sts. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael

*Heavenly King, You have given us archangels
to assist us during our pilgrimage on earth.*

*Saint Michael is our protector;
I ask him to come to my aid,
fight for all my loved ones,
and protect us from danger.*

*Saint Gabriel is a messenger of the Good News;
I ask him to help me
clearly hear Your voice
and to teach me the truth.*

*Saint Raphael is the healing angel;
I ask him to take my need for healing
and that of everyone I know,
lift it up to Your throne of grace
and deliver back to us the gift of recovery.*

*Help us, O Lord,
to realise more fully the reality of the archangels
and their desire to serve us.
Holy angels,
pray for us.
Amen.*



Heads News

Dear Parents and Carers,

There has been a real buzz of excitement in school this week after we received 8 eggs from the Living Eggs Programme. Miss Langston even managed to capture one of the eggs hatching which you can see on our Facebook and Instagram pages. All 8 eggs hatched and the chicks are doing well. Mrs Knight is kindly taking the chicks home this weekend so they can have the proper care and attention they need, they will be back in School on Monday until Friday when they will be collected by the Living Eggs Programme. There is an opportunity for you to adopt some chicks, if you are interested in this please let the office know before Wednesday.

Our Parent Hub app was launched this week and all classes have now posted updates on learning. Going forward the newsletter will be shorter as class updates will be on the app and not in the newsletter. Most families have now signed up, if you have not already completed it please do so as soon as possible as this is the way school will be communicating with parents and carers from now on. If you are having any difficulty please pop into the office and we will be happy to help you.

Thank you to all parents who have brought their children's medication to school. If you have not, then kindly do so as soon as possible. All medication in school must come with clear instructions in writing on a pharmacy label and left at the school office, teachers are not able to accept it directly. A form will be provided to you at the school office. If you have any issues, please speak to the office staff. We cannot administer any medication that has not been prescribed by a doctor, we are also unable to administer ear or eye drops even if they have been prescribed.

Kindly note that telephone calls to the office at the start and end of the school day may not get answered as this is a very busy time in school. If there are changes to your child's pick up then please inform the office as soon as you can. We cannot release children to another adult unless we have had parental confirmation of this change.

We are looking forward to the fundraising quiz this evening. Please come along and help us raise money for our school and church.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Every blessing,

Julieann



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

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Notices and Information

Place2Be

Place2Be provide mental health support in our school through one-to-one and group counselling using tried and tested methods backed by research. In addition, they also offer expert training and professional qualifications.



Birthdays: If it is your child's birthday, they can come to school in non-school uniform.

If their birthday falls on a weekend or in the holidays, they can come to school in non-school uniform the following school day.

OXFORD UNITED
IN THE COMMUNITY



Girls Only Football Camp October Half Term 2023



GIRLS ONLY 4-13 YEARS OLD
£99 FOR 5 DAYS
£30 PER DAY
9AM - 3PM

23rd - 27th October 2023

Venue:

The Oxford Academy (indoor sports hall / dome)
Sandy Lane
Littlemore
Oxford OX4 6JZ

Book Now: <https://ouitc.org/course/holiday-courses/>



SEN SQUIRRELS

Drop-in group for children with additional needs, aged 0-5 years and their families (with or without a diagnosis)

**CRAFTS QUIET ROOM BOOK CORNER
OUTDOOR PLAY SENSORY TOYS SNACKS
TEA & COFFEE SINGING-TIME FRIENDS!**

Fridays
10am-
11.30am

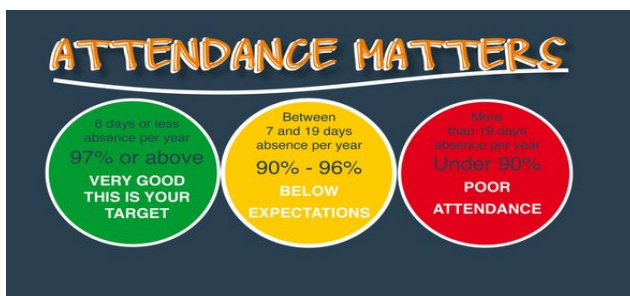
£2

St John's
Church
Hall

email: kidlington.communityhub@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/kidlinksuk
www.kidlinks.org.uk



Attendance



How does being late to school affect children?

A child who enters a classroom late often misses the principle objectives for the day and must start to catch up so will start the day from a place of disadvantage. Their late arrival is also likely to disrupt the class and delay learning for all. Learning starts promptly at 8.45am in all classrooms.

Children who are often late have trouble settling in and mastering routines. Lateness can throw off their whole morning or even their day, especially if the late commute to school was stressful. They can often feel self-conscious about entering the classroom late.

Frequent lateness is associated with lower grades and lower scores on standardised tests. In addition, children who are routinely late at the primary school level are more likely to struggle in secondary school.

Parental Responsibility

Parents/Carers must comply with Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 that states that:

"(1) If a child of compulsory school age who is a registered pupil at a school fails to attend regularly at the school, his parent is guilty of an offence."

Oxfordshire County Council School Attendance Guidance & Legislation September 2018 states that "Parents/Carers are responsible for making sure their child attends school regularly and punctually."

What will the school do?

The Department for Education document "School Attendance: Guidance for Schools 2018" states that "Schools should actively discourage late arrival, be alert to patterns of late arrival and seek an explanation from the parent."

In partnership with the Education Welfare Service the school will be monitoring children who are late for school. Parents/Carers of children who are regularly late for school will be invited in for a School Attendance Meeting. If lateness persist then further involvement from the Education Welfare Service will be requested. In cases of persistent lateness (at least 10 session of unauthorised lateness over a period of 12 weeks, not including school holidays) Truancy Penalty Notice (also known as Fixed Penalty Notices) warnings can be issued.

Gates open at 8.40am. Children go straight to class and lessons start at 8.45am.



Internet Safety

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 games 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

ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a "sandbox" title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scamming, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called "Oders" and are quite common in Roblox. An Oder is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter Oders. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Clara Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2010, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55333433/roblox-one-half-of-us-kids-play-virtual-party-fornite>
<https://corporate.roblox.com/en-us>

NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday





St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

With Christ we Achieve, Believe and Create.



Values Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to all of these children who showed one of our school values this week. We are very proud of you all!

Reception- Paddington Family

Mimi for showing our value of Determination

David for showing our value of Respect

Yanis for showing our value of Respect

Francisco for showing our value of Determination

YEAR 1 - Matilda Family

Lorena for showing our value of Determination

William for showing our value of Humility

Iris for showing our value of Humility

Hugo for showing our value of Respect

YEAR 2 - Muggle-Wump Family

Kiyan for showing our value of Fairness

Nicola for showing our value of Determination

Patrik for showing our value of Respect

Olivia for showing our value of Determination



YEAR 3 – Mr Fox Family

Filip for showing our school value of Determination

Jonathan for showing our school value Determination

*Harvey for showing our school values of Respect, Fairness and
Determination*

Sofia for showing our school value Fairness and Determination

YEAR 4 – Malala Family

Shiloh for showing our value of Unity

Stephanie for showing our value of Respect

Shauna for showing our value of Humility

Jonni for showing our value of Determination

YEAR 5 – Gates Family

Zachary for showing our values of Fairness & Unity

James for showing our values of Respect & Fairness

Isaac for showing our values of Respect & Unity

Giulia B for showing our values of Determination and Unity

YEAR 6 – Potter Family

Callum for showing our value of Unity

Isla for showing our value of Determination

Ada for showing our value of Humility

Marcus for showing our value of Determination