



NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,



Welcome back to you all and to the wonderful sunshine at last! Hopefully, spring has now sprung, and we can all enjoy more bright and sunny days. Having said that, can you please ensure that your child does still bring a coat to school as we know our weather can change very quickly and the mornings are still rather chilly. The children have, as always, settled back in really well to the new half term and their new topics. Year 5 also had the additional opportunity shared with them to apply to be a Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) for the school to support us with road safety and active travel planning. Watch this space to see how those that applied got on and how they will be actively involved in upcoming school events. (Please remind your

Year 5 child that the deadline for their application poster is Monday.) Finally, the new lunchtime routine is up and running – see below for more information. Next week, we look forward to taking part in World Book Day and supporting the theme of ‘Read your way’.

Next Week

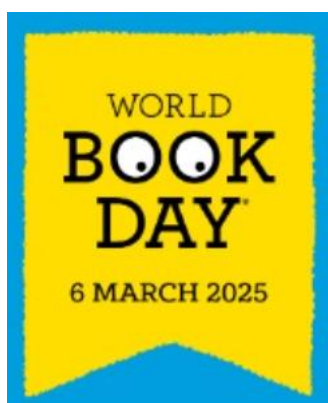
| Date | Event |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 5 th | Year 5 Swimming |
| 6 th | World Book Day – See below |
| | Year 5 Pompey Pirates |

Reading in class continues...

Don't forget that ‘Reading in Class’ continues every **Wednesday** between **8.35 am and 8.55 am**. It is lovely to see so many parents and children reading together. We look forward to welcoming you back in again next week.



World Book Day – Thursday 6th March 2025



A quick reminder about World Book Day next Thursday. As Wednesday's letter explained, the theme this year is ‘Read your way’. We are inviting the children to come into school dressed as a character from a book they have enjoyed reading or in something they feel comfortable to read in such as pyjamas, comfy clothes etc.

During the day, our whole school will be able to enjoy a variety of learning activities themed around books and authors and will also have the opportunity to share books with children from other year groups. Furthermore, every child will receive a £1.00 World Book Day voucher, which they can use towards the purchase of a book of their choice in a selection of booksellers.

To coincide with WBD, Caterlink have provided a themed menu on this day. **If you have already pre-ordered your child's meal for this day this will be cancelled. Please go into your child's ScoPay account and reselect from the themed menu.** Children with special dietary requirements will receive a copy of their menu to choose from.



HIVE Portsmouth is hoping to make World Book Day magical for local children and are asking the people of Portsmouth to raid their fancy dress boxes so they can kit out local children in literary-themed costumes for free.

They would be grateful for any outfits in good condition, whatever size, character or theme.

Donations can be dropped off at any Portsmouth library, simply pop them in a bag labelled 'for HIVE Portsmouth' and they'll make their way to the charity. The outfits will then be distributed ahead of the big day.

School Nurse Drop-In appointments

The next school nurse drop-in appointment date is **Tuesday 11th March** from **9-11am**. Parents can book via the school office for a 20 minute appointment regarding any health concerns as well as any diet, toileting, sleep and anxiety-related issues.



Beep Beep Day



Beep Beep Day is a road safety day to teach important road safety basics to very young children.

On **Wednesday 19th March**, the children in **EYFS** will learn about the importance of holding hands with a grown up when walking near roads, crossing roads at safe places and always using a correctly sized and fitted child seat when travelling by car, using lots of fun activities organised by their teachers and the road safety charity, Brake,

As parents, you do not need to provide anything for the day but just please keep a lookout for leaflets in your child's book bag with more information. This day will also be supported by our Year 5 JRSOs, once they have been appointed! An exciting first activity for them all.

New basketball nets have arrived!

A big thank you to Portsmouth Force Basketball for kindly donating a pair of basketball nets for our playground posts. The children love playing basketball at lunchtimes and are really pleased with the addition. We would also like to thank Mrs Carauna for climbing the ladder to get the nets attached!



Portsmouth SLS Literacy Quiz



On Thursday 27th February ten keen readers from Year 5 and 6 set off to the Mountbatten Centre along with several other schools from across the city. Our pupils were given a selection of novels to read at the start of Autumn term in preparation for the Portsmouth SLS Literacy Quiz. The authors of these novels were at the Quiz and our pupils were able to meet them. Throughout the morning, there were nine rounds of questions about a wide range of books that our children would have read at some point in their school journey. Our pupils represented Copnor with pride and did exceptionally well throughout the morning.

House Points

Unfortunately due to staff sickness (of the House Point Monitors!), the house points were not collected this week.

Do not worry, all those house points that your children have collected this week will be added to next week's total.

Booksy Bear Winners



The KS1 class with the most children who have read 4 times or more at home is... **Gravett Class!**

They will keep Booksy Bear in their book corner this week.

Well done, Gravett Class!

Golden Child

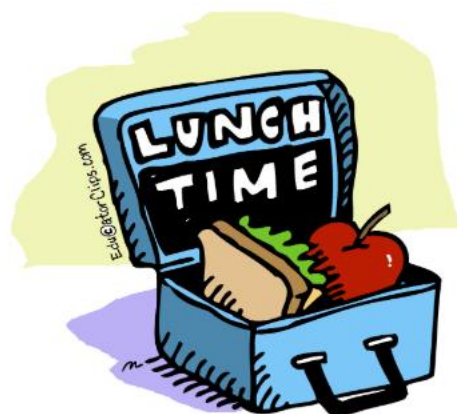


I am delighted to share the names of this week's Golden Children they are:

| Year Group | Class | Golden Child |
|------------|-----------|--------------|
| EYFS | Rosen | Elcy-May |
| | Hart | Oscar |
| | Donaldson | Jesse |
| 1 | Adeola | Isaac |
| | Field | Hardy |
| | Gravett | Amber |
| 2 | Steadman | Mason |
| | Simmonds | Betsy |
| | Jenkins | Starr |
| 3 | Adele | Pearl |
| | Sheeran | Anaya |
| | Murs | Amaya |
| 4 | Thompson | Kiki |
| | Rickman | Teddy |
| | Elba | Mollie |
| 5 | Peake | Molly |
| | Hawking | Amber |
| | Franklin | George |
| 6 | Hussain | Sophia |
| | Roots | Amelia |
| | Berry | Zoey |

EYFS/KS1 and **KS2** have all been recognised as someone who strives to be the kindest version of themselves.

Lunchtime Trial



As mentioned in the newsletter before half term, we have been trialling a new system at lunchtime this week. So far, so good! The new system has only left us to deal with a few, very minor, teething problems, it has been embedded really well and met with many favourable and positive comments from children and staff alike:

Staff – *'It is so calm and happy at lunch times.'*

Children – Year 5 – *'I love playing outside and having so much choice about what to do.'*

Year 2 – *'It is great going on the MUGA at lunch.'*

Year 4 – *'Sitting in the hall altogether and then going outside is great!'*

Ever thought about a career in teaching?

If you are interested in teaching and want to find out more about our Post Graduate teacher training programmes, then please join us at our next virtual post graduate open event which is being held on the 26th of March. You can register by contacting studyhere@chi.ac.uk.

You can also email Debs Wilkinson (d.wilkinson@chi.ac.uk) to talk about the primary courses and Jeremy Smith (j.smith@chi.ac.uk) to discuss the secondary routes.



UNIVERSITY OF
CHICHESTER



Want to make a real difference
and inspire the next generation?

STUDY A PGCE AND BECOME A TEACHER

- Qualify as a primary or secondary teacher in just one year and start fulfilling your career.
- Gain the skills and experience to secure your first teaching job with qualified teacher status (QTS)
- We work with a range of excellent partnership schools across West and East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Surrey
- It's a well respected, varied and challenging career, where you can have a positive impact on the lives of young people
- It is not as expensive as you might think, and in some subjects, you can even get a bursary of up to £28,000
- Earn a qualification for life, where you are always in demand



To find out more contact:
+44 (0)1243 816000 | primaryPGCE@chi.ac.uk | secondaryPGCE@chi.ac.uk

#chiuni      

TEF Teaching
2023 Excellence
Gold Framework

Keeping our children safe online

Continuing our sharing of the informative posters from #WakeUpWednesday, National Online Safety. Please take the time to read through all the tips that will help to ensure that your children are safe online.



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. Firmly 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 MINECRAFT

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming, still boasting over 160 million players who happily return to it at least once every month. The game has also been used in schools to teach coding, science and other skills. Encouraging creativity, Minecraft has plenty to offer, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

7+ ABERATING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public Minecraft server lets children potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to playing mini-games or competitive modes that pit players against each other. Anyone can join a public server and connecting to one is relatively simple. A public server's IP address is easy to find with search engines and can potentially be used to determine the host's location.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creations. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying. It intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and seeing the result of hours of resource gathering and building can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's no mature content in the game. However, some enemies might prove scary for younger players. In the game, certain creatures come out at night and are accompanied by spooky audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may be unnerving. There are also enemies called 'creepers' which sneak up silently and explode, which could startle and upset young users.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Additionally, Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription service that lets users run their own private server to play with their friends. Some game consoles also need a separate active subscription – such as PlayStation Plus – to enable online play, so multiplayer Minecraft can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Educators

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lot of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate videos to share with children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of zombies attacking you, or creepers exploding and damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. However, hosting a private server will cost a monthly fee.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while a child is playing Minecraft, so remind them to take regular breaks. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. Ensure that a child knows to never tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 18 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 90 games and products over the past year.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds) www.thenationalcollege.com [@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday) [@wakeupweds](https://www.youtube.com/wakeupweds)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 23.06.2022 Last reviewed: 11.05.2024

Enjoy the sunshine and have a great weekend. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday.

Matt Johnson
Headteacher