



Autumn term CARE values:

Every term we focused on 4 of our CARE values across school. I mention these in assemblies and the children and staff try to use these values throughout the term.

Our new CARE values are; COMPASSION, ACTIONS, RESPONSIBILITY AND ENDEAVOUR

KEY DATES

MARCH – CAREERS MONTH

30th Year 5 Hancock Museum Trip

APRIL

2ND April – Colour Run PM

3rd – Bank Holiday (school closed)

Easter Holiday – Break up Thursday 2nd return 20th

Week of 27th Mock SATs Y6

27th – Fast Feet Taster Sessions Girls Y1-Y4

30th – Year 4 trip – Life Centre

MAY

4TH – Bank Holiday School Closed

Week of the 11th - Year 6 SATs

Week of the 18th – Walk to school week

20th – Year 4 ‘Meet A Scientist’

22nd - Break up for half term holiday

Hello Everyone,

There has again been lots of exciting and enriching activities across all year groups in school. From the excitement of our Chicks and caterpillars in Reception growing and the pupils learning about life cycles, to Class 1’s trip to Christ Church at Eastertime. Class 5 also had a fantastic time at the Beacon of Light- developing their digital learning and programming skills, cooking fajitas and construction.

Congratulations to our extremely talented Year 3 (Class 5) pupils for performing their curriculum learning assembly this week for the school, parents and delivering such a polished and energetic performance all about Ancient Egypt!

We have also celebrated across school, our love of maths, numbers, number facts and the joy of this subject. Finally, on Friday, we have celebrated the end of our March Careers month with ‘When I Grow Up Day.’ The pupils across school have further developed their knowledge of careers. They aspire to have many different careers from a children’s author to surgeon and a scientist to a bus driver (photos in this week’s newsletter).

A week of monitoring, review and progress meetings:

Many thanks for the high attendance to our Spring term learning review meetings. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings school hosted our class open day meetings. These meetings are excellent opportunity to speak with staff about how your child is progressing, discuss their attainment and learning behaviours and see their work and classroom.

Easter Egg competition:

Congratulations to all pupils who have designed and created ‘eggcelent’ egg designs this year. Every year the design ideas show humour, topical events, fun and brilliant imagination. It is always so difficult to choose a winner. Find out the winners in next week’s newsletter.

School monitoring and reviews:

Monday evening, School Governors, Senior leaders held our Spring Term Full Governors’ meeting. Reports and updates were shared alongside Governor monitoring reports.

On Tuesday school hosted our local authority development partner. They visited all classes (N-Y6) and saw calm, purposeful learning across all areas. They praised the behaviour of the pupils in school and commented on the pupils’ happiness, enthusiasm and engagement towards their learning.

Mrs Scothern



HERE’S THE IMPACT OF
READING 20
MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads 20:00 minutes per day	A student who reads 5:00 minutes per day	A student who reads 1:00 minute per day
will be exposed to 1.8 MILLION words per year and scores in 90 th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 282,000 words per year and scores in 50 th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 8,000 words per year and scores in 10 th PERCENTILE on standardized tests



REMINDER

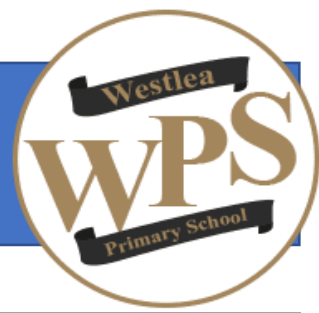
Thursday April 2nd

Whole school Colour Run

Celebrate Spring, Easter and Eid

All pupils can wear old clothes and shoes in readiness of adding extra colour!

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE



	WE 27/03/26
Class 1	97.8%
Class 2	89.3%
Class 3	97.6%
Class 4	95.8%
Class 5	97.4%
Class 6	98.4%
Class 7	98.4%
Class 8/9	96.2%

Attendance Update

We will continue to use our Attendopoly board with the classes to encourage great class attendance. Your child's class rolls the dice if they collectively have an attendance over 96% (which is our school target).

The pupils really enjoy participating with the game and finding out what space they will land on and what extra treat that might be for the class!

This week 6 classes reached 96% or above.

Keep up the great work!

Our whole school attendance for WE 27/03/26 is **96.8%**

Our attendance for the year to date is **95.5%**

Our target for this half term is **96%** we are currently at **96.2%**



Well done to Ella and Averlyn for winning 2 tickets to watch Sunderland women's vs Newcastle women's team on Sunday!



SAFE GUARDING AND ATTENDANCE TEAM:

Mrs Scothern is our Designated Safe Guarding Lead with Mrs Davey and Mrs Simmons as Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. Please get in touch with any queries or concerns.



ATTENDOPOLY OUTCOMES THIS WEEK

Classes who rolled the dice this week won;

Class 1 – Art Session

Class 7 – Cookery

Class 3 – Mindfulness session

Year 6 – Fruit Platter

Class 5 – Extra PE

Class 6 – Board games

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS



Head Teacher's Award

Congratulations to **Ollie F (Class 1)**- being the nicest friend, **Grace K (Class 6)**- showing respectful behaviour and politeness to all, **Addison (Year 6)**- displaying increased self-confidence, resilience and a great mindset to all of her work.

INDIVIDUAL CLASS STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

	WE 27/03/26
Class 1	Otis
Class 2	Riah-Daisy
Class 3	Charlotte
Class 4	Holly K
Class 5	Mia
Class 6	Emily
Class 7	Eva
Class 8 and 9	Zuzanna and Gracie

RIGHTS RESPECTING AWARDS

	WE 27/03/26
Class 1	Arthur
Class 2	Tyson
Class 3	Mitch
Class 4	Heidi
Class 5	Elliot
Class 6	Ijaz
Class 7	Ivery
Class 8 and 9	Averlyn and Theo

This week's Right of the week- Careers Month – Article 14 the right to follow your religion

Character values: CARE		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Community	Compassion	Cooperation
Ambition	Actions	Achievement
Respect	Responsibility	Resilience
Enjoyment	Endeavour	Empowerment



Pupil discussions: ALL THINGS MATHS!

Discussions involved how we learn in maths. What do you enjoy about Maths? What type of career needs maths skills? How do you know how to get better at maths? See the word cloud 'World Maths Day'



Head teachers awards: Our CARE values this term are... COMPASSION, ACTIONS, RESPONSIBILITY AND ENDEAVOUR

These are given to pupils in school who have shone outside of the classroom. It maybe they have shown excellent manners and held a door for a visitor or a friend or have shown our WESTLEA CARE values in some way. Perhaps they have cooperated with each other to play a game or complete a group activity or shown resilience to keep going when a task or a learning activity has been a challenge. Visitors and other members of staff can nominate these students so it is very special if you are recognised for your efforts or for just being you!

In other news... Reader, Writer and Mathematician of the week



Well done to these students. They will all be entered into the end of term draw. **NEXT WEEK!**

Keep up your great learning attitude.

Reader of the week:

- Class 1 – Amelia
- Class2 - Lewis
- Class3 - Alma
- Class4 – Violet
- Class5 - Bowie
- Class6 - Charlotte
- Class7 - Kray
- Year6 – Lewis and Bronson

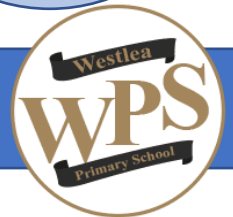
Mathematician of the week:

- Class 1 - DJ
- Class2 - Indy
- Class3 - Deana
- Class4 - Jayden
- Class5 - Alex
- Class6 – Oscar R
- Class7 - Luna
- Year6 – Amelia and Blake

Writer of the week:

- Class 1 - Poppy
- Class2 – Kayden
- Class3 - Koen
- Class4 - Frankie
- Class5 - Maleko
- Class6 - Arthur
- Class7 – Aria
- Year6 – Nirvana and Dylan

In other news... Open nights



My mam said I was brilliant, I love coming to WPS! – Joshua C1



I got all green! – Chloe C8



This week, open nights were held across three evenings. Parents/carers were invited to school and received a short report as well as having a discussion surrounding progress, attainment and learning behaviours with their child's class teacher.

Thank you for showing your support at these important events. Strong school/home links help to support your child in their educational journey.

My mam was amazed with my work – it was great to show my parents it was lovely. – Jacob C7 and Heidi C4

My mam was very proud! - Maggie C8

I saw the cute chicks – one is called chicken nugget. –

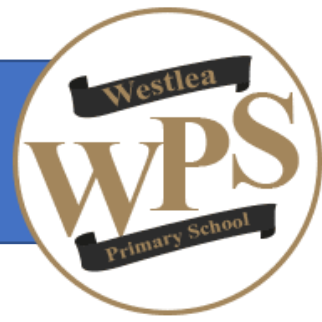
Kenzi C9

I liked showing my work to my mam – she looked at my English and maths. – Charlotte C3

In other news...

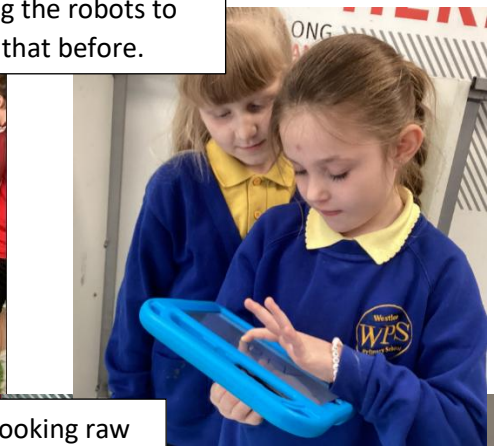
Curriculum and learning

Beacon of Light



Y3 attended the Beacon of Light for their careers trip. They experienced programming robots, making them move, jump and then talk. The children took part in team games and activities. They worked together to design and construct something that could carry a box without it dropping. Each child also got to cook their own chicken fajita wrap, chopping and mixing the ingredients with a partner.

Dakota – I loved getting the robots to talk. I'd never done that before.



Maleko – It was excellent. I enjoyed programming the robots.



Morgan – It was my first time cooking raw meat and it tasted so good.



Myla – I really liked the cooking. It was fun and tasted nice.



George – We went to the Beacon of Light and got to build. It was so good.



Charlie – It was a great day. I liked making the robots jump.

In other news...

Curriculum and Learning

Curriculum Assembly: Class 5



Class 5 have been working really hard practising their class assembly. They are presenting lots of their learning about Ancient Egypt in a fun way and have really enjoyed doing it. They especially enjoyed learning the songs and dressing up as Ancient Egyptians.



In other news...

Attendopoly prizes



Congratulations to classes 1, 2, 7 and year 6. They collectively achieved our target attendance figure of 96% or above for a week's attendance. They then rolled the dice and landed on some exciting enrichment activities.

No Homework!



Hot chocolate treat!



Extra free cookie club



Lego/construction afternoon



In other news...

Quality of Education



Every month we will be sharing information about recognised artists, musicians, and scientists through our newsletter and also during lessons and assemblies. This is one of many strategies used to enrich the curriculum and broaden student horizons, building cultural capital and representation.

Banksy is a famous street artist from England who creates clever and funny artworks that often make people think about important issues.

Banksy is an anonymous Artist- he is known for keeping his identity a secret. No one knows exactly who he is, but he has been creating art since the 1990s.

He paints on walls, buildings, and bridges all over the world, using a special technique called stencilling. This means he cuts out shapes and sprays paint over them to create his art quickly.

Banksy



Banksy's factfile

Date of birth:	Unknown
Place of birth:	Unknown
Type of art:	Graffiti / stencilling
Known for:	Art in public places



Artist of the Month

March

Ever wondered who invented the X-Ray machine?

Marie Curie (born November 7, 1867 – died July 4, 1934) was a brilliant [Polish](#) and French [physicist](#) and [chemist](#). She is famous for her ground breaking work on [radioactivity](#). Marie Curie was the first woman to become a [professor](#) at the [University of Paris](#). She was also the first woman ever to win a [Nobel Prize](#). Even more amazing, she was the first person to win *two* Nobel Prizes! She won one in physics in 1903 and another in chemistry in 1911. Her physics Nobel was for her research into [radiation](#), which was first discovered by [Henri Becquerel](#). Sadly, Marie Curie died because she was exposed to too much radiation in her [laboratory](#). At the time, scientists didn't know how dangerous radiation was, so she had no protection.

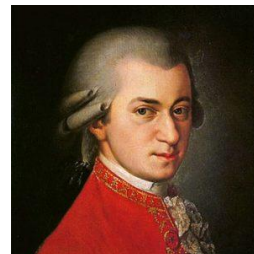
Scientist of the Month

March

Marie Curie (1867-1934)



Musician of the Month



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Classical Music

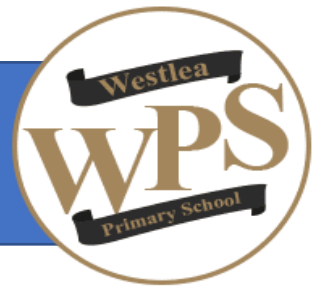
March

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria, where his father Leopold was a violinist and composer. Wolfgang (or Wolfert, as his family called him) was a child prodigy. He composed his first piece of music at age five; he had his first piece published when he was seven; and he wrote his first opera when he was twelve. By the time Wolfgang was 6, he was an excellent pianist and violinist. He and his sister Maria Anna (known as Nannerl) traveled all over Europe performing for royalty.

When he grew up, Mozart moved to Vienna, and tried to earn a living as a pianist and composer. But he had a lot of trouble handling the fact that he was no longer a child prodigy. Mozart was still a musical genius, but after he stopped being a cute kid, people stopped making a big fuss over him. Back then, musicians were treated like servants, but Mozart did not, and could not think of himself as a servant.

Mozart was only 35 when he died. During his short life, he composed in all different musical forms, including operas, symphonies, concertos, masses, and chamber music. Today, he is still considered a genius!

In other news...
Class 1 @ Christ Church



Class 1 walked from school to visit Reverent Anita at Christ Church to learn about Easter. We had a wonderful time as always and were welcomed to enjoy songs, dancing and stories. We crafted some crosses to take home and decorated eggs for the Easter service. We had an Easter egg hunt with a treat for every child and shared juice and biscuits before walking back. We look forward to Rev. Anita joining us in school next week's assembly.

It was brilliant because we did fun stuff. - Joshua



I liked the candy. - Skye

It was good. - Theo



We walked to the church. - Alfie



I made an egg, I decorated across. - Paisley

I liked when we coloured eggs. - Willow

I had so much fun. - Matthew T

We sang songs. - Everlyn

We watched a video about Jesus, he was on a donkey Hee-Haw - Eleanor



It was fun when I coloured my egg. - Ollie F

In other news...

Personal Development 'When I grow up day'

'Ready for the next step'



BIG DREAMS- CAREERS CURRICULUM

We value the importance of childhood experiences and believe children should build life-long lasting memories and have a background of experiences to draw upon. We create links to the pupils learning to careers and discuss skills and attributes needed for certain jobs.

By introducing children to positive childhood experiences, we are giving them the necessary tools they will need for long-term success, happiness, and resilience. For example, developing; relationships with peers and building secure attachments; genuine interests; a sense of belonging; increased resilience and good mental health and growing aspirations.



Throughout the month of March, we have had a particular Careers focus and we have ensured every pupil has had an employer encounter, visit or experience. We also share our aspirations with each other in our during 'When I grow up day'.

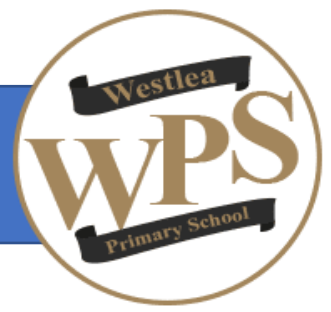


Across the academic year, our pupils also have employer encounters and visits linked to careers, ensuring our 'Ready for the next step' and providing our pupils with aspirations and careers ideas and pathways from Nursery and beyond.



These encounters allow our pupils to gain insights into jobs and careers from real like experts – learning about the roles, responsibilities and also able to ask questions too.

In other news... Egg competition and chicks

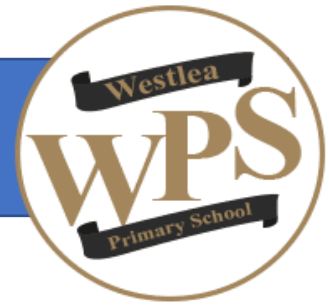


Parent/carer entries



In other news...

Chicks



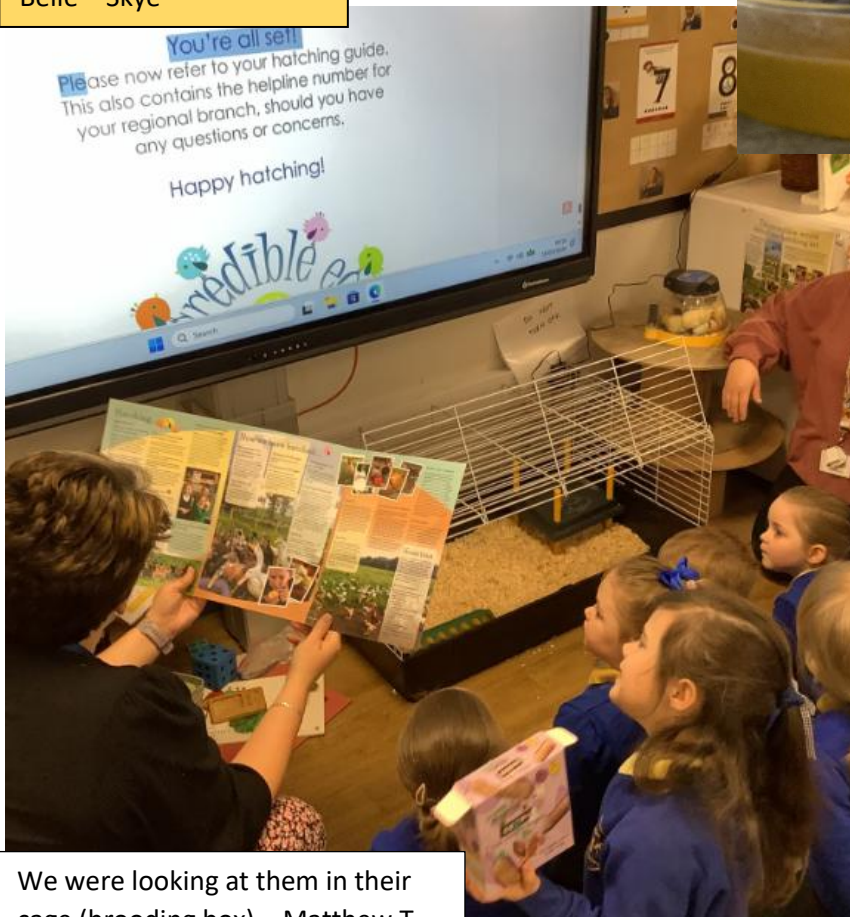
The eggs were hatching in the incubator – Willow

2 girls and 4 boys

We named our chicks...

- Rose - Eleanor
- Milk – Misty
- Princessa – Paisley
- Hot chocolate – Ollie F
- Cup – Reuben
- Belle – Skye

I love the chicks. – Poppy

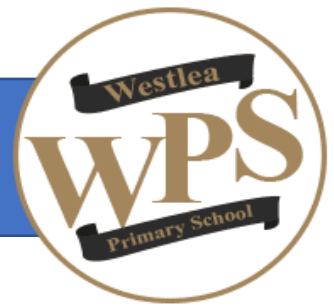


We were looking at them in their cage (brooding box) – Matthew T

I was putting the food in the chick's home. – Joshua



In other news...
Career spotlight



<https://youtu.be/homDAbWhT0w?si=QglPJXHQGsuEj-Qi>

A CAREER AS A DOG GROOMER



QUALIFICATIONS

- GCSEs (or equivalent)
- College course

ROLES

- Washing and drying dogs
- Trimming dog fur
- Combing and brushing coats
- Styling fur in different ways
- Clipping nails

PATHWAYS

- Work experience and Apprenticeships
- Enrolling on a course
- Applying directly for the role

WAGE

- Starter: £14,000
- Experienced; £24,000

| TOGETHER THROUGH SPORT |

NO CHILD SHOULD BE LEFT ON THE SIDELINES



GIRLS FOOTBALL SHOWCASE

11.30AM-1.30PM



TOURNAMENT ON OUTDOOR
PITCHES

YARD NINE CAFE

FAN ZONE FOOD MENU

WIN SIGNED SHIRT

MATCHDAY LOTTERY

**ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT
TOGETHER THROUGH SPORT**

Join us ahead of the Women's Wear-Tyne Derby!

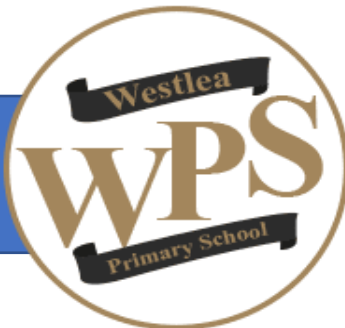
Beacon of Light will shine a spotlight on female football as Sunderland AFC Women take on Newcastle United in the Wear-Tyne Derby.

Our free 'Girls Football Showcase' will take place from 11:30am until 1:30pm on Sunday 29 March, offering a range of pre-match activities before The Lasses kick off at the Stadium of Light at 2pm.

Come along and show your support to the girls as they take part in a small-sided tournament on the Beacon's outdoor pitches, celebrating grassroots girls' football in the region.

Visitors can also enjoy food and refreshments from the Yard Nine café, the perfect place to fuel up before heading across to the stadium to watch another Sunderland side go in search of a derby day win.

In other news... Online 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 apps 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 FACEBOOK

AGE RATING
13+

With 2.9 billion users, Facebook, owned by the recently rebranded Meta, is the world's most popular social media platform. It encourages interaction with other people by (among other things) adding them as friends, reacting to or commenting on their content, sharing images and videos, posting status updates, joining groups and playing games. Facebook is free, and anyone over 13 can join – but with no age verification, younger children can easily create an account: it's likely your child is already familiar with the platform, even if they don't yet use it themselves.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Facebook's quick reward cycle of likes and comments on shared posts can be hugely addictive. It encourages users to keep returning to post things and increases FOMO (the Fear Of Missing Out), which leads to people checking the app even more frequently and finding themselves endlessly scrolling through content.

CYBERBULLYING

A 2021 Ofcom report found that around one in four UK 12–15-year-olds had been cyberbullied or trolled (intentionally antagonised online). On Facebook, this can happen through private messages (on Facebook Messenger); hurtful comments on their profiles and posts; pages or groups set up purposely to torment a victim; or exclusion from pages or groups.

FUTURE IMPACT

Like most social media platforms, anything posted on Facebook leaves a permanent 'digital footprint'. This can have future consequences for young people: many universities and employers, for example, now review someone's Facebook timeline during the application process.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Just like in the offline world, there are people on Facebook with malicious intentions. Ofcom reports, for instance, that 30% of 12–15-year-olds have received a friend request from a stranger. This, sadly, can include individuals seeking to take advantage of impressionable youngsters.

OVERSHARING

Facebook encourages you to post "what's on your mind", but children should be wary of revealing too much about themselves online. Users can give away their location by checking in or using Facebook Live, for example, while some photos can also be traced using file data.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Facebook monitors and removes material like hate speech or extreme political views, while adverts on the platform are now forbidden from targeting under-18s based on their interests. Offensive content isn't always taken down instantly, however, so there's still a risk of children encountering it.

VIDEOS AND STREAMING

Facebook Live lets users stream video live to their friends or watch others' broadcasts. Viewers can comment in real time, which is problematic to moderate. Short, user-created clips called Reels can now also be displayed on profiles and feeds. These video features could contain unsuitable material or allow children to be coaxed into doing something on camera that they wouldn't normally do.

Advice for Parents & Carers

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

In the settings area, you can choose whether a Facebook profile is public or private. By far the safest option is to switch your child's to private, so they can only interact with people who they are friends with on the platform. Facebook's settings can also prevent your child's personal information (such as contact details, school name or date of birth) from appearing publicly.

ENCOURAGE SAFE FRIENDING

Facebook can help your child to stay connected with the people and the things that they care about. However, it's important for them to understand that they should only accept friend requests from people who they know. The key questions to consider are "has your child met them in person?" and "do they know and trust them enough to feel comfortable accepting them as a Facebook friend?"

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your child watch you using Facebook – this will demonstrate how it can be used safely and appropriately, reducing the risk of them encountering harmful content themselves. Teach them the habit of thinking before sharing anything online and try to follow the same rules that you set for them – so if you agree time limits on your child's Facebook use, then you should stick to them, too.

SAVVY SHARING

Make sure your child realises that what they share online with friends can end up being shared again by others. It's important that they think about what they share online and who they share it with. Facebook's 'Audience Selector' gives users the option to filter who sees what they are sharing, whenever a status is updated, photos are uploaded or anything is posted.

RESPECT BOUNDARIES

Once you've talked about Facebook safety with your child, give them some space and trust them to make smart choices. Make it clear, however, that you're always open to discussing social media if they need to. In the early stages, you could occasionally review your child's social media activity with them to put your mind at rest – but take care not to become reliant on checking it every night.

BLOCK AND REPORT

On Facebook, you're able to report harmful content and block particular people or groups so they can't contact your child or view their profile. Before they start spending serious time on the platform, show your child how these features work and explain why they might need to be used. Facebook's Bullying Prevention Hub offers advice on dealing with harassment on the platform.

Meet Our Expert

Alex Wright is a former Facebook employee and social media expert with more than 15 years' experience in digital media. He has worked with some of the biggest organisations on the planet and has a vast understanding of how social media platforms work and how they engage their audience.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: www.facebook.com/theywinying