

4th October 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

It was lovely to see Year 2 out and about this week on their visit to Hall Hill Farm. Not even the very wet weather could dampen their enthusiasm and they had an amazing day getting to meet (and feed) the animals on the farm.

I have also been impressed this week with the amazing sewing which has been going on in Year 4 and how much Reception know about keeping healthy by washing their hands!

I know that the teachers have been getting a number of questions from both parents and children about being in their new classes. In order to answer the most common questions and to provide you with information about what the expectations are for English and Maths by the end of each year group we have created a series of videos. These are about 15 minutes long and there is one for each class in school. These will be uploaded at the beginning of next week onto our YouTube account which can be found by [clicking here](#). I will send information and a direct link to you once they are published.

This week our football team had a hard fought game against Darras Hall Primary Team A. Despite a valiant effort we unfortunately went down to a narrow defeat. Nevertheless the children kept their heads up and are looking forward to the next game.

The school continues to work with both Northumberland County Council and Heddon Parish Council around parking in the village. I have been informed that the Council Camera Car is active and visiting schools across the county at pick up and drop off times and that fines are being issued when parking restrictions are ignored. Please check out [this video](#) for more information. I would ask that all parents park responsibly and safely to protect the children and other pedestrians.

As we move towards Harvest we are starting to collect for both the People's Kitchen and the West End Foodbank. Please see later in the Flyer for more information.

Well done to Year 4 with the best attendance this week: 99.6%.

Well done to Year 2 for the best attendance for this year: 97.9%.

I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and have a relaxing weekend.

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher



'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14

Attendance Matters



ATTEND today...
ACHIEVE tomorrow...
ATTENDANCE matters.

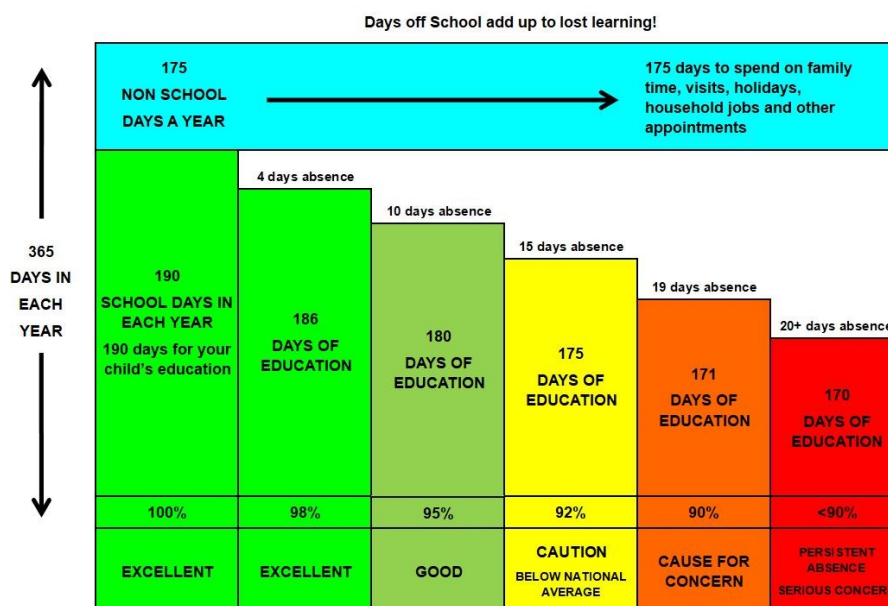


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

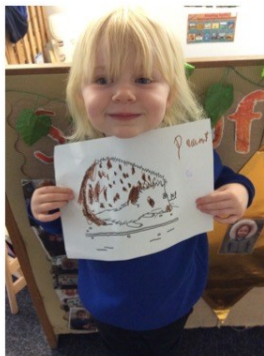
Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	97.2%	96.1%	Year 3 (Gibside)	97.5%	97.2%
Reception (Owls)	94.1%	94.1%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	99.6%	96.8%
Year 1 (Wallington)	99%	97.4%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	99.2%	97.8%
Year 2 (Cragside)	95.8%	97.9%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	93.1%	96.1%

Please see the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time.

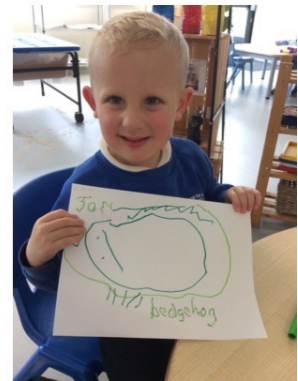
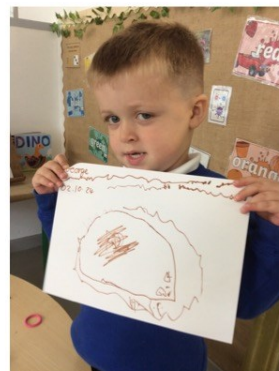
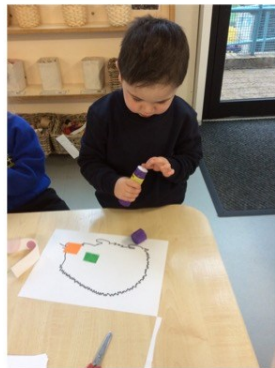


'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14



This week, we have been learning that we are the 'Hedgehog' class! We have enjoyed making our own Hedgehogs and learning facts about them.



Learning

This week we have been thinking about how to keep our bodies clean.

We have been learning how important it is to brush our teeth twice a day.



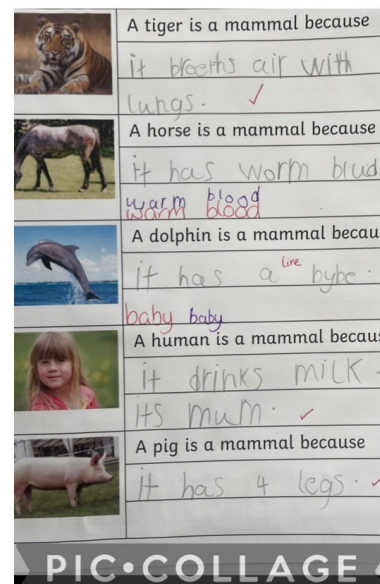
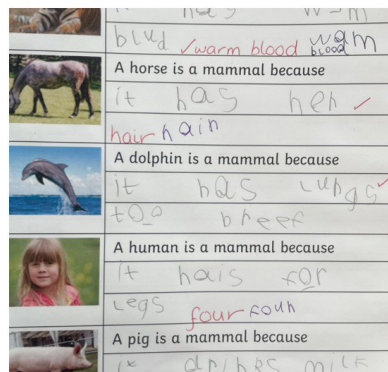
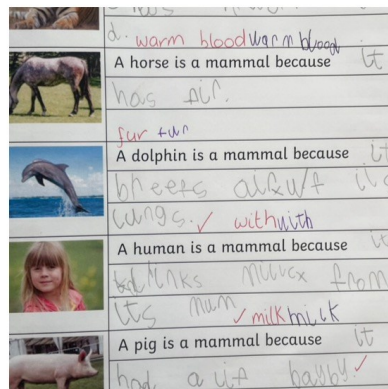
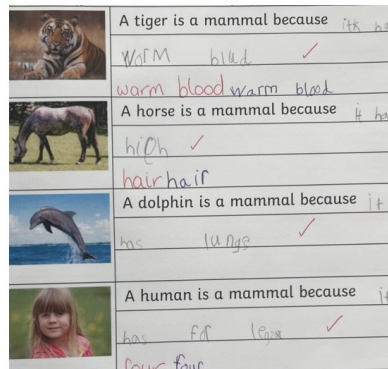
We carried out a science experiment to find the best way to wash 'germs' off our hands. We discovered soap and warm water is the most effective way to kill germs.



PIC•COLLAGE

Learning about Mammals in Year 1

In Science, Year 1 have been continuing to look at animals including humans. This week we started to look at mammals. We named animals that are mammals, discussed the characteristics of mammals and sorted a selection of animals into groups of mammals and not mammals. We then wrote about what makes an animal a mammal.



PIC • COLLAGE



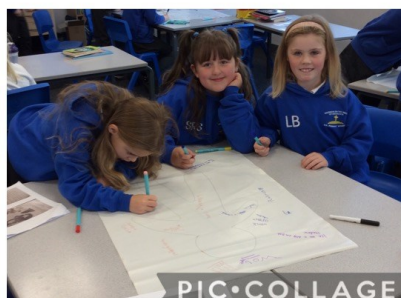
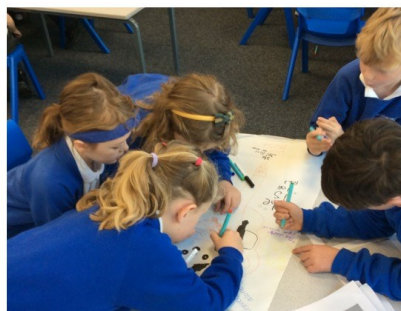
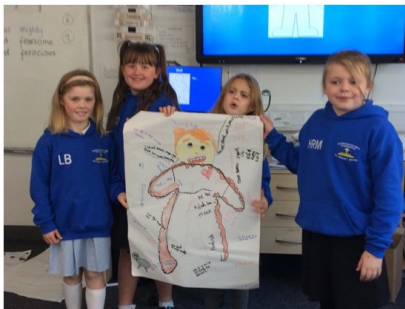
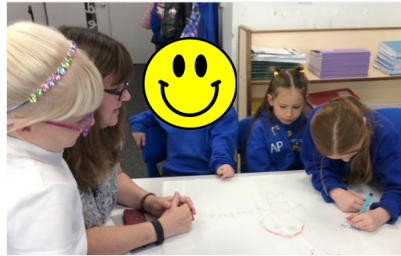
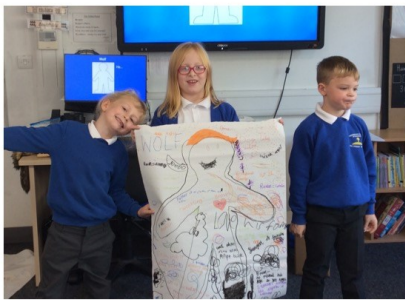
At Hall Hill Farm with Year 2

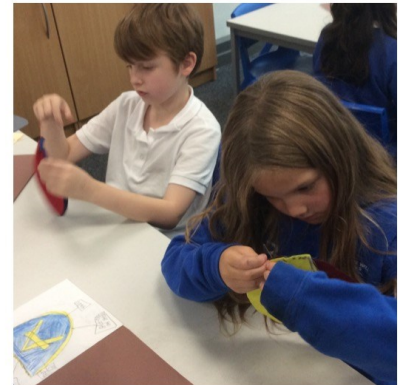
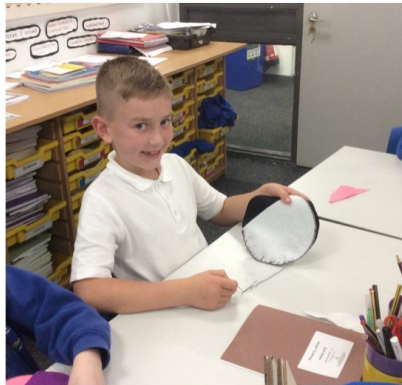
Year 2 had a wet and windy, but fabulous, time at Hall Hill Farm on Tuesday. We loved learning about the different breeds of sheep, the Highland cattle, the llamas and donkeys and fed the goats, sheep and ponies. We carefully held the chicks, rabbits and guinea pigs; held on tight for a windy tractor ride and even managed a quick play on the soft play!



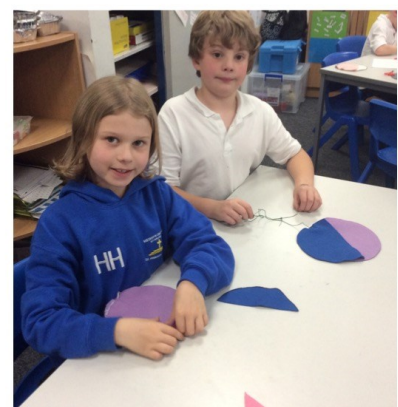
The Stolen Spear with Year 3!

Year 3 are enjoying our new text, 'The Stolen Spear' and we have read up to chapter 4 this week - it's so exciting! Today, we have been doing a 'Role on the Wall' activity to explore the key characters' thoughts, feelings perspectives and motivations. We are not yet sure as to whether or not we trust the new stranger in the village...





In Year 4, we have designed a Roman Bulla and this week we started to sew it together. We have practised running stitch, back stitch and oversewing stitch. We chose to use the one we thought was best to hold our fabric together.



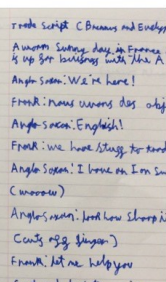
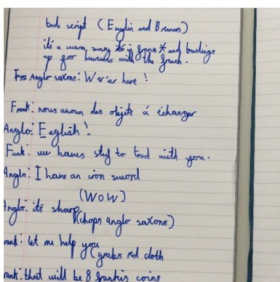
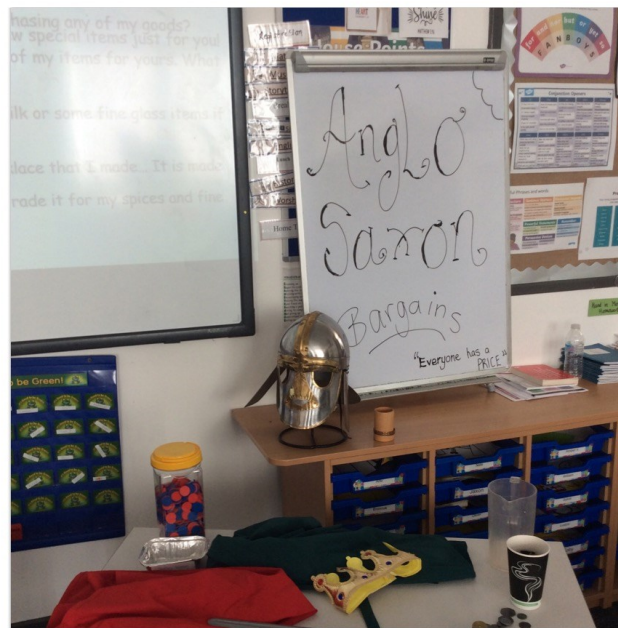
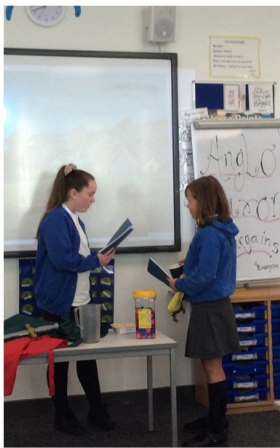
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Learning

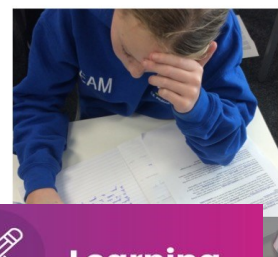
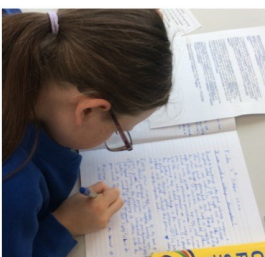
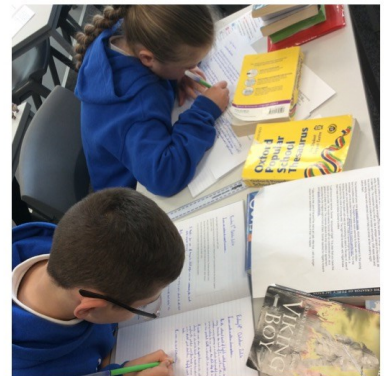
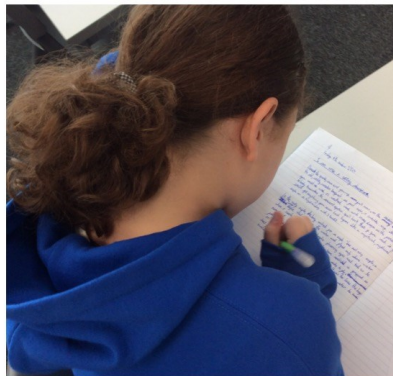
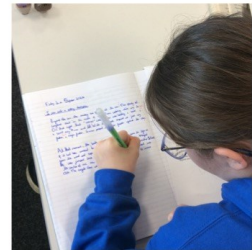
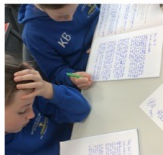
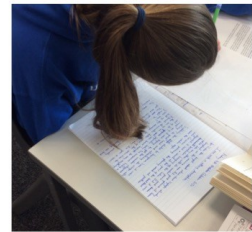
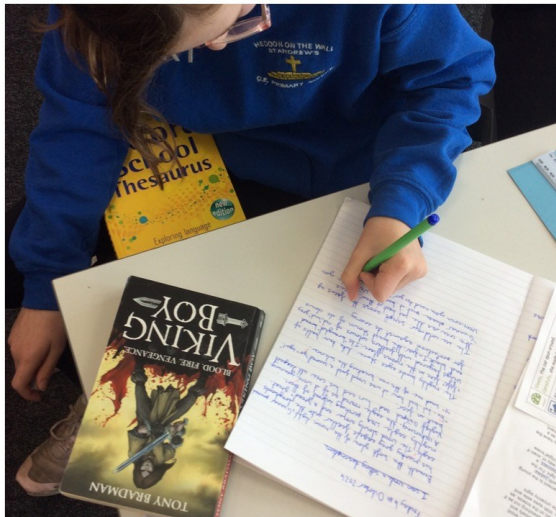
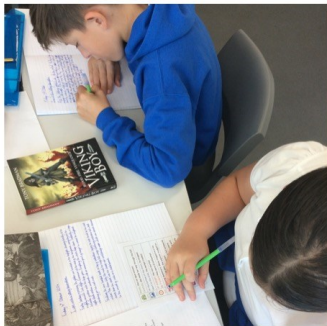
Anglo Saxon Trade with Year 5

This week, we have really enjoyed learning all about Anglo-Saxon trade. We talked about how the Anglo-Saxons traded with the Franks and what sort of items they used to buy and sell. Year 5 children thoroughly enjoyed creating and devising scripts that highlighted the key items that would have been traded among the Anglo-Saxons and Franks. As you can see from the pictures, all of the children enjoyed performing their pieces to the class.



A Busy Week in Year 6

The children in Year 6 ended the week with a great piece of incidental writing. It was wonderful to see their creative flair when describing a setting from our class text. This week, the children have also accessed Times Table RockStars in school, to help aid their tables recall and fluency. This will be vital when we tackle a new long division method in Maths next week. Please encourage your child to use the website to practise their times tables at home.





Meet our OPAL Play
Ambassadors!
This fabulous group of children
have been working with Mrs
Cubbage and Mrs Ziolkowski
on designing and developing
our very own school's Play
Charter! Their amazing ideas
have been sent off to the
printers! Watch this space
we can't wait to unveil their
work!
You are such an asset to the
team with your fresh ideas 💡



PIC-COLLAGE



Harvest Festival

This year we are collecting for the People's Kitchen and the West End Foodbank. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to donate we can take them from Monday 7th October until Tuesday 22nd October. Thank you.



**THE PEOPLE'S
KITCHEN** est. 1985
NEWCASTLE

FOOD FRIENDSHIP FUTURES

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN

Our work is only made possible thanks to your kindness and generosity. The People's Kitchen is run entirely by volunteers, so every penny donated goes directly to helping our vulnerable Friends who might be homeless, at risk, unemployed, lonely, or living in poverty.

Items we need	Examples
Tinned Vegetables	Tomatoes Plum and Chopped, Peas, Carrots, Sweetcorn, Potatoes, Baked Beans
Tinned Fruit	Peaches, Pineapples, Fruit Cocktail, Pears, Mandarin Oranges
Soup	Tinned or Instant Vegetable, Tomato, Chicken, Broth, Lentil, Potato & Leek
Cooking/ Baking Ingredients	Sugar, Self-Raising Flour, Plain Flour, Jam, Cocoa, Porridge Oats, Desiccated Coconut, Dried Fruit, Cooking Oil, Lentils, Broth, Pulses (Chickpeas, Kidney Beans, Butter Beans)
Snacks	Pot Noodles, Crisps, Biscuits, Chocolate, Sweets
Drinks	UHT Milk, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Cartons of Juice, Fruit Squash
Desserts	Rice Pudding, Jelly, Angel Delight, Instant & Tinned Custard, Evaporated Milk, Golden Syrup
Tinned Meat	Ham, Corned Beef, Chilli, Curry, Minced Beef, Bolognese, Stewing Steak
Cooking Sauces	Indian, Thai, Chinese, Italian, Mexican, Coconut Milk
Condiments	Tomato Ketchup, Brown Sauce, Mayonnaise, Salt, Pepper
Pasta & Rice	Lasagne, Egg Noodles, Rice
Stock and Gravy	Vegetarian, Beef, Chicken and Onion
Toiletries	Soap, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shower Gel, Razors, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Toilet Roll
Cleaning/Other	Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder, Spare Carrier Bags
Pet Food	Dog and Cat Wet and Dry Food



THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN LIMITED The Alison Centre, 56 Bath Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5SQ
T: 0191 222 0699 E: info@peopleskitchen.co.uk www.peopleskitchen.co.uk

Others



Safer Parking around our school



As a driver you have a responsibility to park
in a safe and considerate manner.

Park with care and help make the area near and
around our school a safer place for everyone.



Others



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 IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won't play, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat

@wake_up_weds

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@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.10.2024

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT WORKSHOPS

Are you ever worried about your child's behaviour and aren't sure how best to help?

Do you want to better understand their needs and support them through those tricky times?

These workshops help parents think about strategies and to come up with a plan that focuses on a good life for your child and your family.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Thursday 17th & Wednesday 23rd October,
10am - 2pm
Prudhoe Family Hub, Broomhouse Ln, Prudhoe NE42
5FT

I wish it was available to all parents.

I loved hearing other people's stories about their own families!

I felt valued and supported.



If someone in your family is under 18, and is autistic, has a learning disability or is waiting for a diagnosis, please come along.

Please get in touch with **Jillian** or **Jen** at **Skills for People**.

Tel: 0191 281 8737 or e-mail: information@skillsforpeople.org.uk

Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



Monday 7th October 2024	Year 4 visit to Arbeia Roman Fort
Tuesday 8th October 2024	Exploring God and the Big Bang at Newcastle Cathedral for Year 6
Wednesday 9th October 2024	Year 6 visit to Beacon of Light
Tuesday 15th October 2024	Year 1 Walk around the Village
Wednesday 23rd October 2024	Safer Relationships workshops in school run by Northumberland Domestic Abuse Service
Thursday 24th October 2024	Non-Uniform Day
Friday 25th October 2024	Early Years and Key Stage 1 Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church - 9.30am
Friday 25th October 2024	Key Stage 2 Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church - 10.20am
w/c Monday 28th October 2024	HALF TERM
Monday 4th November 2024	TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 5th November 2024	Nasal Flu Vaccinations - Reception - Year 6

Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



Tuesday 5th November 2024	Parents Evening
Thursday 7th November 2024	Parents Evening
Thursday 5th December 2024	Choir Christmas Concert in School Hall at 5pm
Friday 6th December 2024	School Christmas Fair
Friday 13th December 2024	TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 17th December 2024	Early Years Nativity in School Hall at 10am
Tuesday 17th December 2024	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance at St. Andrew's Church at 1.30pm
Wednesday 18th December 2024	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance at St. Andrew's Church at 10am
Friday 20th December 2024	Key Stage 2 Carol Service at St. Andrew's Church at 9.30am
w/c Monday 23rd December	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS