

# NEWSLETTER

Thursday 11th May 2023

## SUMMER 1 TERM

### A word from the Headteacher

Hello everyone

#### Enhancing our curriculum

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for our King Coronation Celebration last Friday. It was great to see so many of you and the rain did not stop play in the end. This week our oldest pupils are taking on the KS2 SATs with enthusiasm and positivity and our youngest pupils have enjoyed a day out to Wolds Way Lavender farm to celebrate their 'growing' topic.

I would like to thank Rob Allenby for his generous donations of more planters for the school and would ask that if anyone has any donations of soil they would be kindly willing to share with school, we would be most grateful.

This Friday KS2 are looking forward to taking part in a Eurovision music lesson hosted by Mrs Stockill and will be learning about the history of the competition, the different styles of music and learning all about the host city. 10 points to Mrs Stockill!

#### Safeguarding in our Curriculum

Last week we were wowed by a visit from the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service who brought their fire engine and hosted a guided tour for each class. This links in with our PHSE curriculum this half term about safe relationships and trusting adults. It also supported out learning around fire safety awareness.

#### Hello!

This week we welcome Zak to Leavening School who joins us in Oak Trees and would like to welcome his family who have moved to our village.

#### Join our Governor Team

We are looking for a Local Authority (LA) Governor to join our forward thinking and dynamic Governing Body. This could be a parent who takes on the role of LA Governor instead of parent Governor. If you are interested in this or would just like to find out any information at this stage, please have a chat to Mrs Mitchell. It is a worthwhile volunteering role that enables you to make a difference to the local and school community.

Finally, I am pleased to see that pupil's attendance improved last week and we will continue to be vigilant and supportive in ensuring it remains high.

My best wishes

*Sian Mitchell*

#### School Attendance

**Last week our school attendance was 91.86%**

This is below the primary national average attendance of **94.7%**

Attendance **this week** so far: **99.2%**

Attendance **this term** so far: **93.6%**

## DIARY DATES

### MAY

**Wednesday 17th**

Football Tournament

**Thursday 18th**

Stay and Play Morning:

Nursery & Reception class 9-10am

**Let us know if you intend joining!**

**Wednesday 24th**

School photographer in

**Thursday 25th**

Pop-up library in school

**Friday 26th**

Toy Swap Shop (bring items in on the day)

### JUNE

**Thursday 15th**

Pop-up library in school

**Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st**

Norton College & Malton School

Y6 Transition Days

**Wednesday 21st**

Rounders Tournament KS2

**Wednesday 28th**

Malton School Y5 Experience Day

**Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th**

Bikeability (Year 6 children)

**Thursday 29th**

Pop-up library in school

### JULY

**Monday 3rd**

Stay and Play Morning:

Nursery & Reception class 9-10am

**Let us know if you intend joining!**

**Thursday 6th**

Reports home

Yorkshire Air Museum Trip

(Conkers & Oak Trees) Details to follow!

**W/C Monday 10th**

**Transition week**

Any nursery children starting in September are invited to join and stay

**Let us know if you intend joining!**

**Wednesday 5th**

Summer Sports Tournament KS1

Rounders Tournament (mixed)

**Friday 7th**

FOLS Summer Sausage Sizzle 3.30pm

**Thursday 13th**

Pop-up library in school

FOLS Summer Disco 5.30-7.30pm

**Friday 14th**

End of year show 9.30-10.30 and 2-3pm

Please only attend *one* show

**Friday 21st**

Last day of term

End of year assembly 9.30-11am

(all welcome).

Y6 Parents rounders (am) then lunch

together with your Y6 child

## Recent highlights from across school

We had an exciting and informative morning when the Fire Service came to visit us. We had a full tour of the fire engine and even got to sit inside it and watch the hose in operation!



We also thoroughly enjoyed marking the King's Coronation. Everyone looked fabulous in their red, white and blue attire and as part of our celebrations,

children in Conkers class made special King's crown souvenirs!



Acorns children had a fantastic trip to Woldies Lavender and Nature Farm on Wednesday 10th May. They spotted birds, had a train ride, made dens, went on a climbing frame and had lots of fun!

We were very lucky to have some great weather too!



# Toy swap shop: Friday 26th May

To support the pupils learning about 'making a difference' and re-using and recycling items we no longer use or need, the Young Leadership Team will be holding a 'swap shop' for unwanted and used toys and games on Friday 26th May in the afternoon at school.

Please can your child bring any unwanted/used toys or games to school on this day and be prepared to swap them with another. Any left over toys at the end of the day will be sold at home time so feel free to bring some small change to support school fundraising. The children will not need any money in school though as this is a swapping event not a buying and selling event.

## Wrap Around Care: Breakfast and After School Provision

*(Note: the prices below will take effect from 5th June 2023)*

**Breakfast club- Monday-Friday**

**After school club- Monday-Thursday**

### The Big Breakfast!

Breakfast Club will run every day in term time from **7.45am until 8.45am**.

For **£3.50 per day**, you can drop your child at school where they can enjoy a delicious breakfast (cereal, toast, fruit juice, hot chocolate) before embarking upon their school day.

### After School Fun!

In addition to our after school activities schedule, we also offer an After School Provision.

This is split into 2 sessions - **3.15pm - 4.15pm (£3.50)**

or **3.15pm - 5.15pm (£6)**

The price includes a healthy snack.

**Children can join our After School Provision for fun activities and the chance to wind down after a hard day at school.**

### What is the difference between the after school clubs that staff do and this after school club?

The after school extracurricular clubs that staff kindly run are an extension of the school day. However they do not run every week of the school year. Children will attend these based on their interests and so there is no guarantee that this can be used as regular and reliable child care.

The after school provision from 3.15 or 4.15pm is the wrap around care that we are providing to parents and families at a cost. This is a child care service.

### Who will staff these sessions?

Miss Woodcock, Mrs Kemp and Mrs Mitchell will run the breakfast club.

Miss Woodcock and Miss Cooke will run the after school provision. At least one member of staff each session will hold a Level 3 or equivalent child care qualification and will plan exciting, engaging and interesting activities for the children.

### Who will be able to access this?

ALL pupils in school from nursery to Year 6.



**You could learn for FREE!**  
97% of learners receive full funding for their course

## BECOME A TEACHING ASSISTANT

Our programme of learning for those wishing to become a Teaching Assistant is designed to offer recognised qualifications at a level to suit the individual. If you are looking for a worthwhile career that fits in with school hours, then this is the programme for you.

We ask all learners to first complete a short **Introduction to working with children** course, where they will look at the basics of how schools function and determine which future learning pathway is right for each individual.

Upcoming online **Introduction to Working with Children** courses:

Thursday 8 June, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Tuesday 13 June, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Wednesday 14 June, 9:30am - 11:30am

Progression is then to one or more of the following NCFE CACHE qualification courses:

**Level 1 Award in preparing to work in schools**

**Level 2 Award in support work in schools and colleges**

**Level 2 Certificate in supporting teaching & learning**

**Level 3 Diploma in supporting teaching and learning**

For more information phone **01609 536066** and ask to speak with a **Learner Engagement Officer**

Mail: **LearningAdvice@northyorks.gov.uk**

Web: **www.northyorks.gov.uk/adultlearning**



Scan to enrol  
online

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TELEGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION  
**17+**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### LACK OF AGE RESTRICTION

**17+**

Telegram has a 16+ age restriction on using the service, while someone is required to be over 17 to actually download the app. Once that's accomplished, however, there's no need to provide further identification. That means there's no guarantee that under 17s aren't using the app – and no way to confidently verify that any other user actually is who they say they are.

### POSSIBLE CYBERBULLYING

If your child uses Telegram, they could well be in a group with friends and peers on the app. These groups are managed by admins who can remove the option to post replies – possibly leading to instances of cyberbullying in which the victim has no ability to respond. Messages can be forwarded from groups, too, which potentially opens up images and text being seen by people they weren't intended for.

### UNMODERATED CONTENT

Because Telegram relies on users' self-moderation, it can sporadically become a hotbed for illegal or inappropriate content. In the past, the circulation of this material has led to its temporary removal from the App Store. In fairness, the same can be said of several messaging platforms, but Telegram's features (Secret Chats, for instance) certainly present more issues than the likes of WhatsApp.

### PREMIUM COSTS

Telegram is free to use, but it also offers a premium membership (£4.99 per month or £35.99 a year) which increases download speeds, adds translation features, and increases channel and account limits. If your child has access to your Apple ID or Google Pay details, they may be able to sign up for the premium package without your knowledge.

### UNAUTHORISED ACCESS

One of Telegram's major selling points is that it's accessible across multiple platforms. Once the app's been downloaded, users can log in from a phone, tablet or computer. This multi-device availability means increased opportunities for someone else to gain unauthorised access (if your child leaves a computer or tablet at school logged into their Telegram account, for instance).

### SECRET CHATS

Telegram offers a feature called Secret Chats, which allows for messages which self-delete after a specified period of time. There are instances where this can be useful (journalists often use Telegram to protect their sources, for example), but for young people it can make it extremely difficult to prove that someone has been abusive or inappropriate towards them on the app.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### PRIVACY CONTROLS

If your child wants to use Telegram, we'd strongly suggest using the app's built-in privacy settings to restrict who can see when they were last online, their profile photo, and their phone number. This can be set to 'everybody', 'my contacts' or 'nobody'; we'd recommend either the second or third options, depending on how locked down you want the platform to be.

### DISCUSS SECURITY

It's important that your child understands the merits of strong passwords and logging out of devices when they're finished – and the benefits of protecting their personal data in general. This could range from relaxed chats and simple tips like "don't send your bank details" to how to set up passcodes for Telegram so your child's chats stay secure when they step away from their screen.

### REPORT UNSAFE CONTENT

If your child receives private messages which include content that could be considered illegal, unsafe or upsetting, they can of course block the account responsible within the app itself. Be aware, however, that Telegram won't necessarily take any further action unless this offensive content involved a user-created channel, bot or sticker.

### USE THE BLOCK FUNCTION

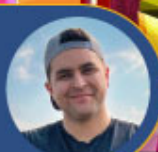
Users can block spam, abusive, or imposter accounts within the app. Blocking stops that account from messaging your child, or viewing their profile and activity. If the user in question is one of your child's peers or friendship circle, it may be worth bringing it to the attention of their school. Also bear in mind that your child can also voluntarily leave a Telegram group at any point if they wish.

### PROTECT PAYMENT METHODS

Apple and Google's storefronts offer family sharing options, but it's also worth double-checking your settings to ensure that a password or two-factor authentication option is set up to prevent any unexpected purchases. If your child does pay for a premium Telegram subscription without your consent, Apple and Google have been known to issue refunds in some cases.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



PREMIUM ACCESS



National Online Safety®

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Source: <https://www.telegram.org/> | <https://www.engadget.com/telegram-explained-2022-183035088.html>

# 10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

## AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

## CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

## BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

## ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

## MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

## TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

## THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

## STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

## USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

## BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *BBC Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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