



Wesley Methodist Primary School



Weekly Newsletter: WC 16th June 2025

As we approach the end of this final half term at Wesley Methodist Primary School, we couldn't be prouder of the incredible effort and progress our children have made. Their hard work and determination are truly shining through, and it's been a joy to watch their confidence grow each day. The recent multiplication and phonics checks have showcased just how far they've come, and the development of both their dedication and resilience has been impressive. It has been wonderful to see the progress these children have made and to be able to celebrate all of their hard work. This term has been filled with achievement, growth, and a real sense of pride in all they have accomplished.

Well done to all our shining stars, we are very proud of you!

Worship

This week we have been aiming to shine like a star as a child of God in all that we do. We have focused on: joy! This looks at how we celebrate our achievements no matter how big or small, but also focus on others achievements too. This has been a lovely week, where children have been able to share their achievements with one another and it has been fantastic to see children championing one another. During our celebration assembly, I was blown away by all of the incredible achievements that we could share from; Iron Kids, to swimming, dance, football and many more. It is wonderful that our children are able to have that opportunity to be celebrated in front of the whole school!



Wesley Warriors this weekend!

We are all looking forward to our exciting *Wesley Warriors* event taking place tomorrow, Saturday 21st June, from 10am to 12pm! This much-loved annual event is designed to raise money for Edukid, a fantastic charity that helps children living in poverty access education. At Wesley, we are proud to be in our fourth year of supporting Edukid, and currently sponsor two children from a school in Uganda, helping them through their educational journey.

Children will take part in a range of fun obstacle challenges—including a slip and slide—before ending in a colourful burst of powder paint! Please remember to send your child in a white

t-shirt, and don't forget to bring along any completed sponsor forms and the money raised on the day. There will also be a BBQ and tuck shop available, so families can enjoy a bite to eat—please note that these will be cash only. We can't wait to see everyone there for what promises to be a fun-filled and meaningful morning!



PGL – Year 6 residential

Next week, our Year 6 pupils will be heading off on their much-anticipated PGL residential, and excitement is building! From Friday morning to Monday afternoon, the children will take part in a wide range of adventurous activities including raft building, rock climbing, fencing, and much more. It's set to be a weekend full of challenge, teamwork, and unforgettable memories.

Residential experiences like this are incredibly valuable for children. They help to build confidence, develop independence, and strengthen friendships in a way that classroom learning simply can't replicate. It's a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to try new things, step out of their comfort zones, and return feeling proud, capable, and ready for their final weeks at primary school. We can't wait to hear all about their adventures when they return!



Attendance

At Wesley we see Attendance as crucially important to the success and progress our children make. The more time our children are in school the better progress they will ultimately make. We celebrate attendance on a weekly basis and each class has the opportunity to earn money for their end of year treat. Attending school more gives all children the best possible chance to keep up with their work, achieve better results and the possibility of developing further friendship and social skills.

Our attendance winners this week are: Year 5 Boyle with 99.6%

Class name	Average attendance this week
Reception Sissay	95.2%
Reception Neville	87.5%
Year 1 Peel	97.4%
Year 1/2 Wood	93.8%
Year 2 Rashford	92.9%
Year 3 Garvey	95.4%
Year 3/4 Walsh	90.1%
Year 4 Lowry	93.5%
Year 5 Boyle	99.6%
Year 5/6 Turing	96.6%
Year 6 Pankhurst	87.1%

Online safety – what parents need to know about group chats!

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.

56

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

64

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they can be great for connecting with others, there are several risks posed by these tools.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Teens are often trying to find their place in their social group. Unfortunately, group chats can sometimes lead themselves to unkind comments being shared freely, putting people down to make their peers laugh – often creating a vicious circle that encourages others to join in. Being bullied so publicly – in front of friends and acquaintances – can also amplify the hurt, embarrassment and anxiety that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: for instance, starting a new group, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one person doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss events that exclude them – for example, sharing photos from a day out that they didn't attend.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by a child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some apps have features that cause messages to disappear after they're viewed, so children may be unable to report something they've seen, as it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

Group chats can feel more private and protected, allowing children to share inside jokes and video calls with a smaller group of friends. It's important to remember that while the chat's content is private between those in the group, individual users can easily share material with others outside of the group, or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something a child intended as private becoming public is higher if there are strangers in the chat.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely for children to communicate with people they don't know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly towards everyone present. It's wise for young people to avoid sharing personal details and remember that they have no control over what others do with the material they send into the chat.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications they tend to generate. Every time someone sends a message, each member's device will be 'pinged' with an alert. This could result in hundreds of notifications a day. This is often highly distracting, and young people's fear of missing out (FOMO) can cause increased screen time as they try to keep up with the conversation.

74

Advice for Parents & Carers

117

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for young people to compete for social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse which could upset others. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave in this way. If the child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block whoever sent the material, report that person to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could put a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise that it's OK for children to simply leave any group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure children understand the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school, or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their identity to gain a child's trust and serve their own ends – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure the child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and why they should never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a device bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of the group chat while disabling notifications – and that it would be healthier for them to do so, avoiding a situation where they could feel pressured to respond.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Sources: <https://www.thenationalcollege.com/what-to-know-about-creating-online-group-chats/> | <https://www.npsoc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>



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