

# Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

*Caring, Sharing, Learning Together*

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

**1931** The Star-Spangled Banner, written by Francis Scott Key during the War of 1812, was officially adopted as the national anthem of the United States by act of Congress.

**2005** American adventurer Steve Fossett became the first person to complete a solo nonstop circumnavigation of the globe without refuelling.

**2018** English neurologist Roger Bannister, the first athlete to run a mile in less than four minutes, died at age 88.



**Whole School Attendance  
Weekly Attendance figures**

★ Reception = 98% ★

Year 1 = 89.3 %

Year 2 = 92.7 %

Year 3 = 95.5 %

★ Year 4 = 97.3 % ★

Year 5 = 94.9 %

Year 6 = 91.3 %



**Congratulations**

**Well Done Reception** for the best attendance in Lower School and **Year 4** for the best attendance in Upper School up to Thursday this week. We have data for Friday as we are currently changing data systems.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2  
Lower Site West Street

**Mother's Day Lunch**

**Come and join us  
for an afternoon  
tea themed lunch  
on Friday 17th  
March 12- 2pm**

Mums or a special female relative are invited to come and join us for lunch followed by a craft session with your child. The cost of an adult lunch is £2.84. Places must be booked in advance. Please contact the office to book a space.

**Japanese Artist Visit**

I am please to announce that due to additional funding being secured the Japanese artist will be revisiting school to undertake an origami and Japanese culture lesson with each class. Check out the diary list for dates.



**School Meals Price Increase**

I have received an email from County Hall this week notifying that School meals will be subject to a price increase after half term. From Monday 27th February a school meal will cost £2.41 per day.

A further increase to £2.50 will start from September 2023

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## School Dates



### School Holiday Dates

The next school Holiday is the Easter Holiday.



School closes on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March and reopens Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April.

### School dates confirmed so far :

- 7<sup>th</sup> March – Year 2 Trip White House Farm
- 8<sup>th</sup> March – SEND Coffee Afternoon
- 10<sup>th</sup> March – Upper School Japanese Artists – Origami lesson
- 13<sup>th</sup> March – Nursery Sensory Café Visit
- 14<sup>th</sup> March – Year 2 Duck Eggs Arrive!!
- 15<sup>th</sup> March - Lower School Japanese Artists – Origami lesson
- 15<sup>th</sup> March – Golf Day sessions – EYFS and Keystage 1
- 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March – STRIKE on both days
- 17<sup>th</sup> March – Golf Day Sessions – Keystage 2
- 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Nursery Stay and Play
- 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Reception Stay and Play
- 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March – Parents evenings
- 28<sup>th</sup> March – Dragon visit to Lower School!
- 29<sup>th</sup> March – Year 1 Easter Parent Craft Session
- 30<sup>th</sup> March – Year 2 Easter Parent Craft Session
- 31<sup>st</sup> March – School closes for Easter Holiday

### World Book Day

A huge thank you and well done for everyone taking part in World book Day and showing their love of reading and story book characters.

The range of costumes / outfits from children and staff alike was amazing to see. Don't forget to check out class Dojo for pictures from the day!!

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

### Academy Invite

As part of primary transition Consett Academy would like to invite year 6 students to afterschool STEM sessions. This is an introduction to their Beyond25 enrichment programme. Please see the link and QR code below for parents to sign students up and they will allocate students to one of the sessions as per their availability.

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/9UhmLEWen6>

Consett Academy Beyond25- Art Sessions



### SEND Coffee Afternoon

Come and Join Us  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March  
2pm – 3pm

A friendly Chat with a Cuppa at Lower School

Does your child have special education Needs?  
Would you like support?  
Could you offer support to others?  
Share with others in similar situations in a friendly, supportive environment.

All welcome





# E-Safety Update / Information

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](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# NGL

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous – although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

### ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

### PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a 'dummy' account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

### COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription where – for a weekly fee – users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

### INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

1K

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service, informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

### QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating: "NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried." This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

### ACCIDENTALLY GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed – enabling all their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL, without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term – although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

### EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

### BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

### THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

### 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.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: [https://ngl.link/#what-s\\_ngl](https://ngl.link/#what-s_ngl)

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