

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday 28th April 2023

1770 British Captain James Cook, aboard the Endeavour, lands in Botany Bay in Australia

1947 Norwegian adventurer Thor Heyerdahl and a small crew set sail from Peru aboard the primitive raft Kon-Tiki and arrived in Polynesia three and a half months later.

2003 Apple launched the iTunes Store, which gave users the ability to purchase and download music from the Internet directly to their iTunes library; in 2010 the store sold its 10 billionth song.



**Whole School Attendance
Weekly Attendance figures**

Reception = 90.2 %

Year 1 = 95.4 %

★ Year 2 = 99.5 % ★

Year 3 = 96.8 %

★ Year 4 = 97.8 % ★

Year 5 = 97.0 %

Year 6 = 94.4 %



Congratulations

Well Done Year 2

for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 4

for the best attendance in Upper School.

**Mica McNeill
(Olympic Bobsleigh Champion)
Visit**

A huge thank you to everyone for fundraising to support the visit of Olympic Bob Sleigh champion Mica McNeill.

Whilst times are hard for everyone we have raised a fantastic £

We cant wait for her visit and the inspiration she will instill in all our children. We are also looking forward to everyone taking part in the sponsored sports events across the day!



Miss Scarr

NEU STRIKE ACTION - TUESDAY 2nd MAY

Dear Parent / Carer

Further to my previous message on NEU Strike action - should the second day of strike action take place on Tuesday 2nd May (Just next week after the Bank Holiday) - We currently expect the following classes to REMAIN OPEN on Tuesday 2nd.

Nursery
Reception
Year 2
Year 4
Year 5
Year 6

As you are aware teachers are not required to inform me of their decision to take industrial action and can make the final decision on the day of strike action so once again I ask that you make alternative arrangements should our position change at short notice.

I appreciate your understanding in this matter.

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School Dates



School Holiday Dates

The next school Holiday is the Half Term Holiday. School closes Friday 26th May and reopens on Monday 5th June.



School Dates and Holidays

Monday 1st May – Bank Holiday School Closed
Tuesday 2nd May – NEU strike Action
Wednesday 3rd May – Team GB Olympic Athlete visits school
8th May – Coronation Bank Holiday – School Closed
9th – 12th May, Year 6 SATS WEEK
12th May – Consett Academy Parental Coffee Morning
15th May – Crazy Creatures visit Reception Class
15th May – Consett Academy Parental Coffee afternoon
15th – 19th May – Keystage 1 SATs tests
17th May – Year 4 Trip to Seaham
18th May Year 6 Visit to Harehope Quarry (TBC)
23rd May – Year 5/6 Consett Cricket Club
24th May – Lower School Non Curriculum Day
25th May – Year 6 Visit Derwent Reservoir
26th May – Upper School Non Curriculum Day
Half term holiday – closing Friday 26th May – reopen Monday 5th June
9th June – Year 5/6 Netball Consett Academy
13th June – Year 2 Visit Tynemouth Aquarium
14th June – Year 4 Kids visit Beamish
15th June – Buddhist Visit to Year 1
16th June – Year 3 and 4 Netball – Consett Academy
20th and 21st June – Adam Bushnell Author Visit to school
22nd June – Year 6 Visit to Hamsterley Forest
27th June – Year 6 Rugby Festival – Consett Academy
28th June – SEND Coffee Afternoon
28th June – Year 5 South Moor Golf club visit
29th June – Year 6 Visit to Blanchland
4th July – Year 3 and 4 Cricket at Consett Cricket
CHANGED TO DATE - 6th and 7th July Year 6 Transition Days at Consett Academy
10th and 11th July Parent report afternoon and evenings
11th July - EYFS Beach Visit
12th July – Nursery Sports Day 9.30
13th July - Keystage 1 and Reception Sports Day
13th July – 1.15pm Upper School Sports day
18th July – Year 2 Moving Up Party
18th July – 1.15 Year 6 Leavers Celebration and Moving Up – Parents to Attend
21st July – School Closes for Summer Holidays

Transition Events

EYFS

19th June – New Reception Parents meeting with Miss Pedro 3.30 – 4.30 including tour of school
26th June – New Reception Children and Parents Stay and Play 1.30 – 2.30pm
3rd July - New Reception Children only Stay and Play
5th July – Early Years Stay and Play

Keystage 1

3rd July - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Transition afternoon
6th July - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Transition Morning

Keystage 2

6th July – Keystage 2 Transition Morning
7th July – Keystage 2 Transition Morning

Year 6 to Year 7

12th May – Consett Academy Parental Coffee Morning
15th May – Consett Academy Parental Coffee afternoon
4th July - Academy staff to visit Year 6 and Teach Computing lesson – pm
5th July – Consett Academy Parent Evening 6-7pm and 7-8pm
6th July – Year 6 Children Full Day at Consett Academy
7th July – Year 6 Children Full Day at Consett Academy
Additional lesson dates for Maths, English and Science taught by Academy staff to be confirmed

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 for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WIZZ

AGE RESTRICTION

12+

12+ App Store
Teen Google Playstore

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Wizz is a networking app which allows users to connect and chat with other people around the world. Its principle is similar to a dating platform: users have a profile with up to three photos, along with optional interests and hobbies tags. This allows other like-minded people to be recommended in searches. If a user likes what they see on someone's profile, they can initiate conversation through the instant message feature; otherwise they swipe on. The app *does* use age verification technology when an account is created and groups users by age.

OVER-SHARING

Immediately after setting up an account, users start receiving friend requests (mainly from the opposite gender). For many young people, this will be exciting and a boost to their confidence. As young people tend to be more trusting online and may believe what others tell them, however, this can lull them into dropping their guard and revealing personal information to strangers.

CATFISHING AND PREDATORS

Wizz uses Yoti, a digital ID system, to verify users' age. The AI only detects approximate age, though – so an older person who looks younger could be grouped with teens (or vice versa). Also, profile pics on Wizz don't have to match the face of the person who did the initial age verification: it would be fairly easy to create a fake account using another person's photos with a made-up name and age.

EXPLICIT CONTENT

During our research, conversations on Wizz very quickly turned sexual. Users frequently suggested 'taking it to Snap' (Snapchat's disappearing image feature can make it conducive to sharing explicit selfies), connecting on other social media, swapping nude or semi-nude pictures, or holding sexual chats. These users created an impression of the platform being sleazy and unsafe for young people.

INTIMATE IMAGES

It's not unheard of for young people to be coaxed into sending suggestive images of themselves over apps of this kind. Given that Wizz connects users with strangers, who may not be honest about their real intentions, a teenager might conceivably be persuaded to share sexually suggestive selfies by someone who they believed they had a trusting relationship with.

NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

The app claims to provide a secure and inclusive environment, but our researcher couldn't find any parental controls or safety features in evidence. If you report another user for inappropriate behaviour, you are offered the option to block them – but there's no indication as to whether the block has actually been successful, and there was no follow-up contact from the developers.

SECRETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Wizz sent our researcher occasional 'mystery' friend requests from a blurred-out profile. To discover the sender's identity, users can either watch a video (usually an ad for a game or app) or take out a monthly subscription. Cynics might suggest this could be a way to exploit young people's curiosity into making them pay for the app, and that the 'secret admirers' are bots rather than real people.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT OUT

If your child has downloaded Wizz, talk to them about why they like it and who've chatted with. Have they shared any personal details with this person or connected with them on other social media platforms? Refresh your child's memory of the various risks that can arise from engaging with strangers online and get them to consider using a similar app with more robust safety features.

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Young people are far more inclined to see the good in others; they often overlook the fact that scammers set up fake accounts on apps like this with the intention of getting money or personal data. Remind them that not everyone online is who they claim to be, how easy it is for someone to create a bogus profile, and why it's vital to think twice about sharing anything on networking apps.

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.



BE SUPPORTIVE

When connecting with strangers on apps like Wizz, seemingly innocent chats can quickly progress to become sexually explicit and lead to nudes being sent. Make sure your child knows to come to you if they're uncomfortable about anything they've been sent or been asked to send. If they've already shared something that they now regret, reassure them that you'll support them no matter what.

KEEP THINGS TRANSPARENT

It might feel awkward, but regular chats about your child's online life can be beneficial. If they seem suddenly anxious or secretive around their phone or tablet, they may have something they need to get off their chest. You could also consider not allowing digital devices in their bedroom, especially overnight – that's when a lot of the riskier conversations on apps like Wizz tend to take place.



National
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Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday