

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

- Friday 14th Celebrate Dictionary Day in Costume
- Monday 17th Years 1 and 2 Super Citizens Assembly 9:00am
- Tuesday 18th Years 3 and 4 Super Citizens Assembly 9:00am
- Wednesday 19th Years 5 and 6 Super Citizens Assembly 9:00am
- Wednesday 19th Year 1 Pollocks Toy Museum in school
- Thursday 20th Individual Photographs
- Friday 21st Year 1 Teddy Bear's picnic
- **Monday 31st Inset Day (school closed to pupils)**

November

- Tuesday 1st Reception Open Day 09:00am-10:00am
- Thursday 3rd Year 1 and 2 Maths Workshop
- Tuesday 8th Year 4 visits Pizza Express
- Wednesday 9th Parents' Evening 3:30pm – 7:00pm
- Thursday 10th Parents Evening 3:30pm – 6:00pm
- WB: Monday 14th Anti-bullying week (Odd Socks Day on Monday 14th Day)
- Tuesday 22nd Nursery Open Day 10:00am – 11:00am
- Wednesday 23rd Year 3 Natural History Museum

Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start by thanking everyone for their understanding on Friday of last week when we needed to close the school due to no power or water for reasons beyond our control. The early closure went very smoothly. Some have been asking about the recent Ofsted inspection. I am unable to disclose the outcome now, but I will be sure to let everyone know when we receive the final report and it 'goes live' – this take about 6 weeks so please do be patient with us. I will say though that the children were amazing and I was so proud of them all.

It's coming up to individual school photo time. These will be taken next Thursday, 20 October, so please make sure that your child comes in full school uniform.

Thank you to those who have started to put money into their child's trip fund (this was explained in the last communication with all parents). Please do continue to add to this. It can be paid in full or in instalments until the £20 amount has been reached.

Finally, I have included the term dates for 2023 – 2024 for those who like to be super organised! It is important that any holidays are taken during the 13 weeks school holiday. I hope you all have a lovely October half term and don't forget that the children are back on

TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2022

Angela Anterkyi

Cake Sale Friday 14th – Support the Choir

We are raising money with a cake sale on Friday, October 14th to provide all choir children with a torch and Young Voices logo t-shirt to wear for their performance.

This academic year, the KS2 choir has some exciting concerts to look forward to. Everyone has worked extremely hard, practising and learning the vast list of songs for their first concert on January 23rd which is the largest children's concert in the world – Young Voices at the O2 Arena.

The children are a great credit to their committed and enthusiastic choir teachers and the unending support from their parents. The effort and support will certainly pay off on the night and it will be a performance to remember.

We would appreciate your support by buying cakes and or donating to our choir fund on parent pay.

Thank you for your support. 😊

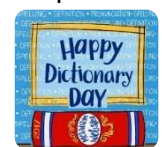


Dictionary Day

On Friday 14th Oct we are celebrating Dictionary Day in school. Children can come dressed as a word they have chosen from the dictionary. They must be able to tell their teacher what the word is and what it means.

You do not need to buy costumes - just get creative if you can!

There are lots of examples if you google 'dictionary day' for you to get inspired by. If you do get stuck just make sure your child is wearing the word they want to be - it could be pinned or tied to their top for example.



Reception Toilets Makeover

The reception toilets have long been a source of concern to staff, parents and children so it was with great joy that we welcomed the builders in over the summer to design and build light, bright and welcoming facilities.

Boys' toilets:



Girls' toilets:



Romans at London Museum

Year 4 went to the London Museum as part of their history topic: 'The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain.'

The children were able to explore Roman artefacts and learn more about Roman life and the effect it had on the Britons.

As well as exploring the exhibition the children took part in a 'hands on' workshop investigating Roman artefacts.

It was a great day!



ATTENDANCE

The ideal attendance at school is 100%, but anything above 96% is on the right track.

Classes where there has been 100% attendance in the previous week get a very special certificate presented to them at assembly, and teachers proudly put them on the classroom door.

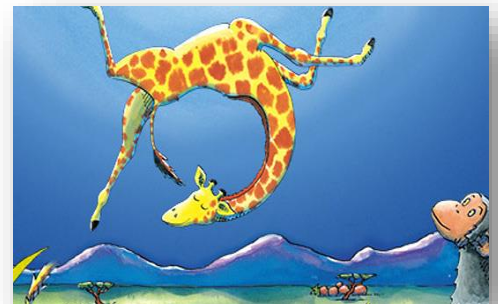
In the month of **September** the classes with the highest attendance were:



5I – 98%

3K – 97%

Well done!



"We all can dance when we find music that we love."

Giraffes Can't Dance

by Giles Andrea and Guy Parker-Rees

ROBLOX

A QUICK-GUIDE FOR PARENTS

What is Roblox?

Roblox is an online platform where anyone can create and share games. There are literally millions of user-generated 3D game worlds on Roblox. Some games are free to play, while others cost "Robux," the online currency that players use to buy games and items such as clothes or accessories.

Parents should know that most Roblox games include social features, like in-game chat and filtered messaging, though you can turn off these features. Roblox may be your child's first experience with online socializing, which gives you a hands-on opportunity to help your child develop good digital habits that last a lifetime.

How can I help my child stay safe on Roblox?

As with all online social experiences, everyone should be respectful of themselves and others, be mindful of what they post, and understand how to use any privacy settings, security tools, or blocking and reporting features. Roblox also provides parents with tools to restrict certain activities, like chat, within the platform, and to monitor their child's account activity.

Should my child play with people they don't know?

There isn't a single answer for every child or family. Roblox does give you a lot of control over who can interact with your child and how. You can choose who can message them, and who can chat with them. But there can be positive aspects to interacting with new people, as long as your child is careful not to reveal

What kids want parents to know about... Roblox

"It's really easy to see what your kid is playing."

"There are games for different ages."

"Pay attention to game classifications (e.g. fantasy, role playing, military, horror) to get games that are fun and comfortable to play."

"Most people on Roblox are very nice. If someone is being mean, people will respond. There's a great community."

"Kids can 'mute' people who are annoying them."

"Roblox doesn't let little kids play games aimed at older kids."

"It's easy to report people who are breaking the rules."

"There are a lot of friendly games."

"Any games with bad content will be taken down in a heartbeat by Roblox administrators."

"Chat doesn't let you share bad words or personal information (street addresses, phone numbers are blocked)."

"Most games encourage teamwork and some require it."

personal information, get into inappropriate conversations or get together with people they meet online, except with parental supervision. Access these controls within the **Privacy** tab in **Account Restrictions**.

How much screen time is best?

This is a harder question to answer than it may seem. The American Academy of Pediatrics has recently revised its screen time recommendations and no longer recommends arbitrary limits. Of course, no online

activities should interfere with sleep, exercise, homework, or family time and it's best for children to have set-times when they are allowed to "play" online. And just as with soccer or any other types of games, it's best for children to know when they can and can't play rather than being arbitrarily kicked off by their parents without notice.

>> More advice for parents

Play Roblox with your child.

Whether your child plays Roblox on a computer, smartphone, tablet, or gaming console, we recommend kids (especially younger ones) play with you or another trusted adult nearby, and ideally in a public area of the house like the den or kitchen. You'll want to see what kind of games they're playing, how they're playing (sportsmanship matters online, too), and with whom they're interacting. Better yet, make an account for yourself so you can play games together. This will give you a better sense of how Roblox works and it might be fun for you, too.

Read and discuss Roblox's Community Rules.

Review Roblox's Community Rules with your child, especially the "guiding principles" which are easy to understand. Also consider drawing up a family agreement that outlines your expectations for their online behavior. Make it a discussion (never a lecture) and remember to explain to your child that along with rights and privileges come responsibilities. You'll find examples of family contracts at [ConnectSafely.org/contracts](https://connectsafely.org/contracts).

Use parental controls.

Roblox defaults to more restrictive settings for users under 13. For additional parental controls, go to **Settings** (gear icon) and **Parental controls**. Here parents can disable chat or messaging, restrict access to a curated list of age-appropriate games, and set a monthly limit on how much money, if any, the child can spend on Roblox's in-game currency. Parents can also enable an account PIN which requires a 4-digit code to make any changes to settings. We recommend parents use these features for very young or new players, but for most families, the goal should be to help children learn to make good decisions on their own as they mature.

Passwords and other personal information.

Starting at an early age, talk with your kids about the importance of keeping passwords and other personal information private. Friends can become ex-friends, and use your child's account in mean or inappropriate ways. Scammers can also lure kids into giving private information in exchange for "free" Robux. Help your child get into the habit of creating unique passwords with a combination of numbers, letters, and special characters, and updating all passwords regularly. More on this at [ConnectSafely.org/passwords](https://connectsafely.org/passwords).

Reporting and blocking.

Players can use the **Report** links located throughout the platform and in the **Report** tab of every game menu (click the flag next to the offending player's name). Talk to your child about what to report (including bullying, inappropriate behavior, scams and other violations) and how to make a report. Or, ask your child to come to you if they experience a problem so you can report together. You can block players by going to the three dots in the upper right corner of the player's profile and selecting **Block**.

Term Dates 2023-24

Autumn Term 1	Dates
Inset Day (School closed to students)	Monday, 4 September 2023
Inset Day (School closed to students)	Tuesday, 5 September 2023
First Day in school for students	Wednesday, 6 September 2023
Last Day in school for students	Friday, 20 October 2023
Half Term Break	Monday, 23 October – Friday, 27 October 2023

Autumn Term 2	Dates
First Day in school for students	Monday, 30 October 2023
Last Day in school for students	Thursday, 21 December 2023 (1pm finish)
Term Break	Friday, 22 December 2023 – Friday, 5 January 2024
<i>Additional Information:</i> Sunday 12 November 2023 (Diwali) Early finish of 1pm on Thursday, 21 December 2023 Bank Holidays: Monday, 25 December 2023 Tuesday, 26 December 2023	

Spring Term 3	Dates
First Day in school for students	Monday, 8 January 2024
Last Day in school for students	Friday, 9 February 2024
Half Term Break	Monday, 12 February – Friday, 16 February 2024
<i>Additional Information:</i> Bank Holidays: Monday, 1 January 2024	

Spring Term 4	Dates
First Day in school for students	Monday, 19 February 2024
Last Day in school for students	Thursday, 28 March 2024
Term Break	Friday, 29 March – Friday, 12 April 2024
<i>Additional Information:</i> Wednesday, 10 April 2024 (Eid – ul – Fitr) Bank Holidays: Friday, 29 March 2024 (Good Friday) Monday, 1 April 2024 (Easter Monday)	

Summer Term 5	Dates
First Day in school for students	Monday, 15 April 2024
Early May Bank Holiday (Students not in school)	Monday, 6 May 2024
Last Day in school for students	Thursday, 23 May 2024
Inset Day (School closed to students)	Friday, 24 May 2024
Half Term Break	Monday, 27 May – Friday, 31 May 2024
<i>Additional Information:</i>	
Bank Holidays: Monday, 6 May 2024 (Early May Bank Holiday) Monday, 27 May 2024 (Spring bank holiday)	

Summer Term 6	Dates
First Day in school for students	Monday, 3 June 2024
Last Day in school for students	Tuesday, 23 July 2024 (1pm finish)
Inset Day (School closed to students)	Wednesday, 24 July 2024 Thursday, 25 July 2024
Term Break	Wednesday, 24 July 2024 – first week September TBC
<i>Additional Information:</i>	
Monday, 17 June 2024 (School closure day)	
Early finish of 1pm on Tuesday, 23 July 2024	