

## Newsletter No. 28 2024-25 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### Star of the Week

Well done to our 'Stars' for this week who all received their certificates in assembly today:

**BIRCH CLASS:** Archie Ellis

**WILLOW CLASS:** Emilia Camp

**SYCAMORE CLASS:** Demelza Marshall

**LARCH CLASS:** Kuku Beremauro

**CEDAR CLASS:** Jayden Kaiser

**BEECH CLASS:** Raf Herbert

**OAK CLASS:** Radhya Sood

**REDWOOD CLASS:** Freddie Lansbury

**CHESTNUT CLASS:** Elliana Money

**ROWAN CLASS:** Emily Ford

**MAPLE CLASS:** Inès Dumitru Rico



### Well done Year 6!

We are all so proud of our Year 6s this week. It has been SATs week for them and they have approached each day with a determination to do their very best and a really positive attitude, which is all we can ask of them. They have all worked exceptionally hard and should be very proud of their efforts.

We have started each day this week with our 'SATs breakfast' and all of Year 6 have come in to school early to start the day together and have breakfast – served to them by the staff. This has given everyone a really settled and positive start to the day and has been very successful.

My thanks go to the members of staff who have come in early to help set up and serve breakfast to the Year 6 pupils and to parents and carers for getting your children to school for their early starts this week.

Miss Griggs

### REMINDERS

Next week's MENU will be

**WEEK 2**

Please pre order by  
**TUESDAY 20/05/25** for **WEEK 1**

Attendance this week  
(up to & including Thursday)

Birch Class	89.1%	
Willow Class	98.4%	
Sycamore Class	94.3%	
Larch Class	96.6%	
Cedar Class	98.0%	
Beech Class	94.7%	
Oak Class	95.3%	
Redwood Class	95.0%	
Chestnut Class	93.3%	
Rowan Class	99.0%	★
Maple Class	98.0%	
WHOLE SCHOOL	95.7%	

Check Email and Bookbags  
for...

\* Yr 3/4 Norwich Castle visit letter



## Current Year 5 Parents/Carers

A reminder please that all residential visit instalment payments need to be brought up to date in line with the following:

- by **30/05/25** - total of **£200** paid
- by **27/06/25** – total of **£250** paid
- by **19/07/25** - full payment made of **£320**

Thank you.

### PTA DISCOS

If your child is coming to one of the PTA Discos tonight, please take their coat/jacket home with you as we do not have space to store them throughout the evening.

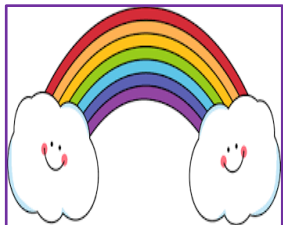
At the end of each disco, we will dismiss children from the **Key Stage 1 playground** in class lines. Please arrive promptly and wait on the playground: **6.00 p.m. for Reception and Key Stage 1** and **7.30 p.m. for Key Stage 2**. Thank you.

### 'FREE TUCK FRIDAY'

**WELL DONE** to **ROWAN CLASS**  
who will have  
**Free Tuck** on  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May



Mrs. Richardson presents her 'Rainbow Award' each week in Friday's Star of the Week assembly. This is given to a child who has made a significant contribution when working in a group with Mrs. Richardson. Well done this week to **DYLAN** in Maple Class.



### ROCKER OF THE WEEK

Each week, Mrs. Carter chooses our 'Rocker of the Week' – this is a pupil who has made significant improvement over the course of the week in any aspect of their times tables knowledge. Well done to **BEAU** in OAK CLASS.



## VIP Table



Each week, one child from each class is chosen by Miss Griggs for their kindness, good manners and sensible

attitude. Well done this week to:

Birch Class	Ardra
Willow Class	Francesca
Sycamore Class	Emily
Larch Class	Ketan
Cedar Class	Joel
Beech Class	Danial
Oak Class	Tanisha
Redwood Class	Arthur D
Chestnut Class	Lucas
Rowan Class	Anisha
Maple Class	Lucien
Windmills	Asher

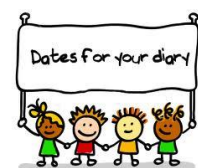
## Diary Dates

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup> May** – PTA Discos

**Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> May** – Last day before half term break

**Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May** – **HALF TERM**

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – Children return to school



## Gardening Club

Gardening Club have been very busy with Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Rose building Bug Hotels. Look at their amazing work!



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

### SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

### GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

### ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

### PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

### ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

### HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

### TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

### RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

### PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College