



# Farnborough Road Infant School

'LEARNING, CARING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER'

## Newsletter 7 6th December 2024



## Christmas Concerts

We are looking forward to entertaining all our parents and getting everyone in the Christmas mood next week with our Christmas Concerts.

Monday 9th Butterflies: 2pm

Tuesday 10th Ladybirds Mrs Duckworth: 10.30am

Reception: 2pm

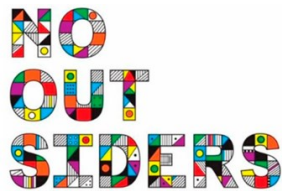
Wednesday 11th Reception: 9am

Thursday 12th Year 1: 9am and 2pm

Ladybirds Mrs Andrews: 10.30am

Monday 16th Year 2 (Grandparents): 10.30am

Tuesday 17th Year 2: 2pm and 6pm



EVERYONE IS WELCOME IN OUR SCHOOL.  
*No one is the same, but everyone is equal.*

Equality and Diversity continues to be a high priority on our School Improvement Plan agenda and for Southport Learning Partnership particularly given the riot that happened in Southport over the summer. Miss Jackson and Miss Webberley and I will be working on new equality objectives which include working with Southport Learning Partnership Schools and Emma Stewart Sefton's Equality Diversity & Inclusion Officer.

We will be incorporating NO OUTSIDERS programme into our PSHE planning from the Spring Term. This is a series of lesson plans based around a book each half term which teaches children that everyone is accepted, there are no outsiders here. The author of 'No Outsiders', Andrew Moffat, visited Farnborough Road Schools on in October doing a series of lessons from Year 6 to Reception. The Junior School will also be implementing the programme too. These resources will be on display in our school hall during our parent's meetings at the beginning of February.

Southport Learning Partnership will also continue to develop a vision, mission and set of equality and diversity values for Southport as a town. Following the commissioning of the local advertising company: AGENT to organise a Research and Engagement Plan.

Agent research showed that Southport is a town with a rich heritage, community spirit and a bright vision for the future. We need to create an environment for all our community to fulfil their potential. The Engagement Plan was developed and views and opinions of each of the stakeholders e.g. staff (school staff and headteachers), pupils and parents, to build a clear picture of the challenges, opportunities and factors that must be considered when articulating a new mission, vision and values for all Southport schools. An Equality Diversity Inclusion (EDI) Slogan for Southport was created 'Stepping up for Southport'

As a school we have already: Developed a celebration of equality and diversity on the school website, developed our curriculum planning with key figures linking to subjects eg Sporting figures including key figures from all the protected characteristics, include EDI features on Newsletters for parents e.g. promoting key calendar events eg Black History Month, Paralympics /Olympics 2024, have an annual Diversity Day celebration. We want to continue to provide resources, knowledge and confidence to ensure staff and children's informed opinions of the world we live in.



## School Council Chosen Charity

This year our School Council have nominated YPAS as their chosen charity of the year. The charity delivers a wide range of wellbeing and therapeutic services for children, and young people aged 5 to 25 years old. Our school council will be organising a number of fundraising events throughout the year.

Their next event is the Christmas Tree Festival at St John's Church.

They have asked the children to make decorations on a positivity theme.

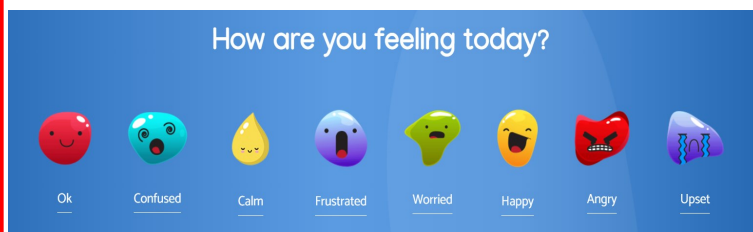
The children in school council thought it would be lovely to spread Christmas cheer by making decorations that would make people feel happy. The ideas the children had were Angels with kind messages in the wings, Hand print hugs, Baubles with a surprise to find, clay stars with festive words printed. Donations will be made from members of the public visiting the church.



The Spring term will see the return of the Toast Shop. Our school council representatives will be selling Toast on 19th and 20th March.

The Summer Term they will be taking part in a Charity Challenge. More details to follow.

By supporting their charity we are spreading the word about their appeal, serving a Merseyside population of over 150,000 children and young people. Their services consist of individual support and open access groups. They are delivered from: three community hubs, primary schools, secondary schools and GP practices and other community education settings.



Come and join us at St. John's, Birkdale for our Year 1 singers this Saturday and see our school Christmas Tree designed by the children. Singers should be at the church for 9.45am ready for 10am start. Looking for to seeing you there!



Our school values are:

**COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE HONESTY RESPECT** and **LOVE AND KINDNESS**



# Oracy challenge!

If you could have any super power, what would it be? Why?



I would talk to animals. If I understood how they were feeling, I would be able to help them.


Do you agree or disagree with Miss Webberly? Have a discussion with somebody in your house using the talk tactics. Remember to speak in full sentences and explain your reasoning.

<p><b>Instigate</b> Present an idea or open up a new line of inquiry</p>  <p>“ I think ____ “ Let's begin with ____ “ I have a great idea, I'll go first ____</p>	<p><b>Build</b> Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea</p>  <p>“ X's idea made me think ____ “ I'd like to know more about ____ “ Yes, and ____</p>	<p><b>Challenge</b> Disagree or present an alternative argument</p>  <p>“ I don't think ____ “ You said ____ but what about ____? “ I disagree with ____</p>	<p><b>Clarify</b> Ask questions to make things clearer and check your understanding</p>  <p>“ Do you mean that ____? “ I think you are saying ____ “ So, what you're saying is ____</p>
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**Deadline for Reception Applications**

If you haven't already made your application on-line for Reception 2025 please don't forget to do so by 15th January 2025.



**Donate your Christmas Jumpers!**

Do you have any Christmas jumpers that no longer fit your children? We would love to give them a new home.

Please send any pre-loved jumpers in to school and through your class teacher. We will put them under the canopy for you to chose from on Wednesday 11th December.

Thank you for continuing to help and support our school community.



Children can wear their Christmas jumpers with their own clothes, trainers and Santa hats on **Friday 13th December.**

Children can wear their own clothes on their Christmas Party Days

**Nursery and Reception Wednesday 18th December**

**Year 1 and Year 2 Thursday 19th December.**



## Does your child use a Dummy?



Babies like to suck, so dummies can help to soothe at bedtime or when your baby is tired or cross. But regular and extended use of a dummy, particularly in toddlers can create problems with your child's speech.

- \* It is important that you try to wean your child away from dummies, preferably by 12 months.
- \* Start to reduce the dummy when your child is 6 months old. Reducing the use of the dummy .....

1. Gives your child a chance to build up the muscles in their mouth (e.g. moving their tongue), babble and talk

Dummies can prevent babbling— and important step in learning to talk.

Remember learning to talk can be tricky and needs lots of practise

Discourage the use of a dummy during the daytime when your child can practise chatting and use their language skills.

2. Is better for the growth and position of your child's teeth

3. Reduces the risk of colds and ear infections

**REMEMBER** always take the dummy out when your child is trying to communicate with you.

If your child is over 12 months old and still has a dummy it is important to try to make a clean break

Christmas is a time of year in which children can be persuaded to give their dummies to Father Christmas or the reindeer .



The Last Noo Noo is a good book to read at bedtime. You can lend a copy of this book from our Caterpillar class or Nursery classes.

### Key points

It's up to you to decide when it's time for your child to stop using a dummy.

Start by limiting the times your child can use the dummy e.g. certain times and places like their cot/ bed

Then use the dummy less and less when re-settling during the night

Set a date for no more dummy. Celebrate and reward your child when they let the dummy go and don't go back!

## Talkie AI App

This app is rated as 17+ by the App store and 12+ by Google Play.

Talkie is an AI chatbot app. Users can use the app to create and interact with AI characters.

You should also be aware that this app includes in app purchases ranging from £4.99 - £49.99.

Talkie does offer a Teenager Mode; however, the content still may not be appropriate for your child. Bark reviews this app here, and recommend that your child should not be using this app:

<https://www.bark.us/app-reviews/apps/talkie-app-review>

## Tips to help you talk about cyberbullying

Internet Matters have collated their tips to help you talk about cyberbullying with your child based on different age categories. The information is divided into four sections:

1. Before you start the conversation
2. Things to talk to them about such as how to deal with cyberbullying
3. What to do next
4. Where to get further help

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/cyberbullying/cyberbullying-conversation-starter-guide>

## New Technology

With Christmas nearly here and with some children receiving new technology or related games, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls.

### Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: look at the PEGI rating of any new games.
- Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check to see if it has any communication elements.
- If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.
- On the device itself, set up applicable controls such as restricting spending limits and managing who they can communicate with. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for some devices here:

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>

PS5: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>



### Tablets/Smart phones

Set up parental controls on the device to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Furthermore, remember to check any apps your child requests to check that they are suitable for their age. Follow the links below to find out more:

iPhones/iPad: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/105121>

Android Device: <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

### Why is it important?

Parental controls are important to help provide a safer experience for your child by reducing/preventing access to inappropriate content, cyberbullying, communication with strangers and restricting purchases.

### Further information

You can find out more about parental controls here:

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parental-controls/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.  
Current as of the date released 01.12.24.

# Roblox

You may have seen the recent investigation about Roblox by Hindenburg, which highlights very worrying concerns about the content that can be seen on Roblox, even when users have listed their age as under 13. You can read the full report here: <https://hindenburgresearch.com/roblox/>

## What is Roblox?

Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. It is free to download (however subscription options and in game/app purchases are available) and can be played across numerous devices. **A lot of the content is user generated, which may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play.** If your child is playing Roblox, it is important to monitor what your child is accessing and set up appropriate parental controls.

PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance label, this is because it is difficult to rate due to the huge level of user generated content.

## What should I be aware of?

**Game content** – as mentioned, users create games so the content/themes may not be appropriate for your child.

**Chat Facility** - Players can chat to each other. You can turn communication off completely or add restrictions, such as only communicate with friends.

**Virtual Currency** - Players can buy Robux (their virtual currency) to buy in-game upgrades or accessories.

## Age Categories

This article discusses the difference in accounts based on age (under age 13 and aged 13 – 17):

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428367965460-What-happens-as-I-get-older-on-Roblox>

## Roblox accounts with Parental privileges - NEW

Roblox have just launched a new system to manage your child's experience on Roblox through 'Roblox accounts with parent privileges.' The new format allows you to view and update parental controls from your own device. Controls include setting content restrictions, managing screen time and setting a spending limit. You can find out more here:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428248050068-Parental-Controls-FAQ>

## Content Labels - NEW

Roblox have begun labeling experiences based on the type of content rather than by age. You can set limits on which content labels are accessible in parental controls. The labels are Minimal, Mild, Moderate and Restricted. You can find descriptions of each here:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428310121620-Parental-Controls-Overview>

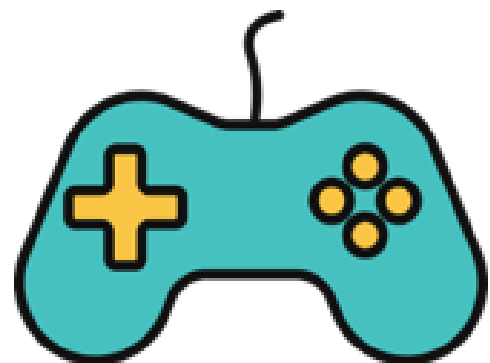
## How do I report abuse and block users?

This article outlines the different reporting facilities:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203312410-How-to-Report-Rule-Violations>

## What else can I do?

Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and as always, remind your child that if anything is worrying them then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.



## Positively online

The NSPCC have published six tips to help you improve your family's online wellbeing. They also provide you with a guide on how to talk to your child about what they are doing online as well as a quiz that you can play together. You can find out more here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/positively-online/>

## The 'Add Everyone' Explicit WhatsApp Group

The INEQE Safeguarding group have issued an alert regarding a WhatsApp group known as 'Add Everyone.' Find out more here:

<https://ineqe.com/2024/10/31/safeguarding-alert-add-everyone-whatsapp-group/>