



**SPRING TERM 1:
WB- 26TH JANUARY 2026**

NEWSLETTER

CALLOW END CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Building a foundation for Love and Learning

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to see such a fantastic turnout for the Saplings Stay and Play session on Wednesday. It was lovely to welcome so many parents into school, and my thanks go to Mrs Eggerton and the Early Years team for organising such a thoughtful and enjoyable session. We received lots of positive comments about how welcoming the school feels and how happy the children are here, which is always a pleasure to hear.

I have also been on several learning walks this week and have been delighted to see children excitedly engaged in their writing lessons, alongside excellent behaviour across all classrooms. It is clear how proud the children are of their learning.

There are lots of school trips and on-site visits coming up over the next few weeks, which the children are very much looking forward to. More details will be shared soon.

A gentle reminder that no cars are permitted on site, including during wraparound care, except for staff or where express permission has been granted by the school. We are not insured for cars on site and have a strict risk assessment in place for our small car park. Thank you very much for your understanding and support with this.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Miss Curtis



STAY AND PLAY

**FROM THE
CLASSROOM**

CELEBRATIONS

From the Classroom...

Saplings class

Saplings had a fantastic Stay and Play session this week, and it was wonderful to welcome so many parents into the classroom. The children were busy exploring a whole range of activities — from ice hammers and coloured water play to playdough, painting, and plenty of construction fun. One of the highlights had to be the scarf dancing, which brought lots of smiles and giggles. Even the grown-ups couldn't resist joining in, adding to the lovely, lively atmosphere. Thank you to everyone who came along and got involved. It made the session feel extra special for the children.



Ash class

Ash Class have been busy creating their own beautiful Easter gardens as part of our RE learning. The children have been exploring the meaning behind Easter, thinking about why it is such an important celebration for Christians and the different ways people mark this special time of year.

Each week, the children are adding new elements to their gardens as their understanding grows, and they are so proud of how their creations are developing. They're already looking forward to bringing them home at the end of the term to share with you.

It's been a lovely, hands-on way for them to reflect on the Easter story and the themes of hope and new life.



From the Classroom...

Holly class



As part of their RE unit "Who is a Muslim and how do they live?", Holly Class enjoyed a fascinating visit to the local mosque in Worcester. The children had the opportunity to explore the building, learn about daily prayer, and discover how Muslims show respect and devotion in their everyday lives. They asked thoughtful questions and listened carefully as they learned about important features of the mosque and key Islamic beliefs. The visit helped bring their classroom learning to life and encouraged curiosity, respect and understanding of different faiths and cultures. It was a memorable and valuable experience for everyone involved.

Oak class

As part of our 'Why did the Romans invade and settle in Britain?' history topic, Oak Class have been learning about the Roman army. After learning some Latin instructions we headed to the playground to see if we could "Cuneum formate!" (Form the wedge!), one of the Roman army formations. As you will see from the pictures, we're not sure Oak Class would have had the discipline to be in the Roman army and take on Boudicca at The Battle of Watling Street in AD61!



From the Classroom...

Willow class



Willow Class are busy scientists this term as they are exploring forces through hands-on experiments. The children investigated air resistance by designing and making their own parachutes. They chose to change just one thing at a time – the material, size or shape – and discussed how to keep a fair test. It was exciting to see which parachutes floated gently and which fell more quickly!

They also explored water resistance by shaping plasticine into different designs and timing how long each one took to sink to the bottom of a container. This helped them learn about streamlined shapes and how they move more easily through water. They linked this to how some animals are shaped to glide through the water.

Willow Class showed great curiosity, teamwork and scientific thinking, and they have loved learning how forces affect the world around us!

Spring Term Clubs



Week 2 of our clubs has now come to an end, and it's been another brilliant week. The children have shown fantastic commitment, turning up with enthusiasm and really throwing themselves into their activities.

Club	Staff	Day	Year Group
Multiskills	Miss Christopher	Tuesday	Yr 1-4
Homework and Hot Chocolate	Miss Brooks	Tuesday	Yr 4-6
Lego	Mrs Widdrington	Wednesday	Yr 2-4
Netball	Mrs Lindsey	Thursday	Yr 4-6

Gold Book

Saplings Class Mrs Eggerton	Rupert for super independence.
Ash Class Mrs Lindsey	Alfie for always being a kind friend.
Holly Class Mrs Fuller	Tallulah for being a thoughtful, curious and engaged learner. Eli for throwing himself into every challenge with enthusiasm!
Oak Class Mrs Widdrington & Mrs Scanlon	Thomas R for fantastic descriptive writing. Aaron for great effort and progress in swimming.
Willow Class Miss Brooks	Poppy L for always putting in 100% effort. Layla for beautiful presentation across all subjects.



Well done to all of our Gold book award achievers this week!

Times table ROCKSTAR of the week

Well done to our Times Table Rockstar champions—
keep practicing and boosting your speed!



Year 1	George
Year 2	Elijah
Year 3	Bailey
Year 4	Paddy
Year 5	Amelia
Year 6	Hattie

Diary Dates



2 nd February	Week 3 clubs
3 rd February	Willow class trip to the Tudor Museum
5 th February	Oak class swimming
11 th February	Diwali experience day
16 th February	Half term

Please see class dojo for further updates about calendar events.



ClassDojo



Pre-School

We are so pleased to see the growing interest in our Early Years provision, it's wonderful to welcome so many new families who want to be part of our community.

If you have a child who is hoping to join our pre-school, please make sure you register them as soon as possible, as we currently have an extensive waiting list. You can do this via the pre-school page on the website or email preschool@callowend.dowmat.education.

Early registration helps us plan ahead and gives families the best chance of securing a place.

We also really appreciate all the word-of-mouth recommendations that have come our way, it means a lot to know you're sharing such positive experiences with others.



Internet safety

We're asking all parents and carers to please take a moment to read the internet safety posters included in this week's newsletter. They highlight simple but important ways to help keep children safe online.

It's also a great opportunity to talk with your child about the risks they may come across on the internet and how they can make sensible, safe choices. These conversations make a real difference and help children feel confident about what to do if something doesn't feel right.

Attendance

Whole School attendance last week:

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

97.9%

Ash Class	100%
Holly Class	98.1%
Oak Class	97.8%
Willow Class	95.3%



We're really pleased to share that our school attendance has been even higher than last week, a fantastic achievement from each class.

Thank you again for your continued support in keeping attendance strong!

Contact us:

Callow End CE Primary School
10 Upton Road
Worcester
WR2 4TA
Tel: 01905 830337

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGible.



The National College

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

WhatsApp is a free messaging service owned by Meta which allows users to send text and voice messages, make video calls, share multimedia – such as images, videos, documents and polls – and have group chats. WhatsApp messages are encrypted, meaning only the sender and the recipient can view what is sent. While this privacy may sound attractive on paper, this app comes with several associated risks that must be considered – especially for younger users.

GROUP CHATS

Group chats let friends talk together but can pose problems for young users. They might feel excluded – like discovering events they weren't invited to. Hurtful comments can also escalate quickly, as more people join in, amplifying the impact through a wider audience.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it attractive to scammers. Tactics include impersonating a child in an 'emergency' to request money, or triggering a login code, then pretending to be WhatsApp and asking for it – giving them access to private messages and personal data.

CHANNELS

'Channels' let users follow topics anonymously, interacting only through polls or emoji reactions. However, fake channels can mimic real ones, spreading misinformation, hate speech, or phishing for personal data. WhatsApp may also collect and share channel-following info with third parties, raising privacy issues.

DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Disappearing messages help share sensitive info, but young people may wrongly assume they're fully private. Senders can opt for their message to vanish after 24 hours, 7 days, or 90 days – or for media, after one view. However, recipients can still save them by bookmarking or taking screenshots, reducing their privacy.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's simplicity makes sharing news quick – accurate or not. To help curb misinformation, messages forwarded over five times now show a 'Forwarded many times' label with a double arrow. This alerts users that the message isn't original and may be unreliable.

CHAT LOCK

The new 'Chat lock' feature lets users store specific messages in a separate passcode- or biometrically-protected folder. While useful for privacy, it could be misused by younger users to hide conversations or content they know parents and educators might find inappropriate, including age-restricted material.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature helps friends meet up or parents check a child's route home. However, anyone in a child's group chats can track their location, potentially revealing their home address or regular travel patterns to strangers.

AI INTEGRATION

Meta AI on WhatsApp poses risks to children, including exposure to misinformation, inappropriate content, and data privacy issues. AI responses may be inaccurate, and kids might share personal information unknowingly. It can also hinder critical thinking by offering ready-made answers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution. Get them to consider, for example, whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content sent to one user to then be shared more widely, and even publicly on social media. Encourage them to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. To do this, go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups'. You can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if the child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Have a conversation with youngsters about how they're using WhatsApp, emphasising that it's for their own safety. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of messages that are in there, who they're with and why they have been hidden. Also, if a young user has sent any 'view once' content, discuss their reasons for using this feature.

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.



#WakeUpWednesday®

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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/whatsapp-2025>

Community Links



Football Development Sessions

EXPERT COACHING, TOP FACILITIES ON A NEW 3G PITCH, AND A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT, FOSTERING TEAMWORK.

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10:30 - 11:30 - Reception
11:30 - 12:30 - Year 1 Boys
12:30 - 13:30 - Year 2 Boys
13:30 - 14:30 - Year 3 Boys

FIRST
SESSION
FREE

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THE NEXT
NUNNERY
TEAM

Sundays

9:30 - 10:30 - Years 3 & 4 Boys
10:30 - 11:30 - Years 5, 6 & 7 Boys
11:30 - 12:30 - Advanced - Invite Only

NO NEED TO BOOK ~ £4 PER WEEK

John Bateman - Boys - 07554 426544
Emily Davies - Girls - 07539 435707
Blessed Edwards Catholic College, via Evendine Close, WR5 2DB
www.nunnerywoodfc.co.uk



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