

Sytchampton Endowed Primary School

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14th March 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

It's been a fantastic week in school as we have celebrated all things science. The children have been involved in lots of experiments in class, as well as taking part in educational visits.

Brambles and Oak Class visit to Bishops Wood

On Tuesday children in Brambles and Oak Class went to Bishops Wood. They had an exciting day learning about different habitats that animals live in. They looked in the woodland, in water and underground to see how different animals adapt to different environments. The children had a great day and were quite tired and very muddy when they returned to school.

Elm and Willow Class visit to EnviroSort

On Wednesday, Elm and Willow Class children went to visit the recycling centre in Norton. They found out about what we can recycle and why, and what happens to our rubbish after we throw it away. It was interesting to learn more about what can and can't be recycled and to discover how our rubbish is sorted once it has left our homes.

Science Week

The children have loved taking part in different experiments this week. We have had mini beast hunters, tea testers and bridge designers. One thing that has really stood out is how well the children have worked together to solve complicated problems, sharing their own ideas and listening to suggestions from other people in their groups. They have enjoyed sharing their learning with their families this afternoon at our science exhibition. Thank you to the PTA for helping us to organise this week for the children, and thank you to our guest speakers who came to share their scientific knowledge with us. We look forward to more theme weeks in the future.

Netball

Congratulations to our netball team who played in a tournament at RGS Worcester yesterday. They put in a brilliant effort and finished in third place! Well done to everyone on the team.

Parents' Evening

Next week is parents' evening on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon and is a chance for you to find out more about your child's progress this term. Appointments are available to book through the eSchools app. If you are having any difficulties downloading or using the app, please come to the office and Mrs Bishop will help you make an appointment.

Red Nose Day

Next Friday will be a non-uniform day. Children can wear their own clothes and/or something red in exchange for a £1 donation to Comic Relief.

Mother's Day and Special Person Gift Room

The PTA will again be organising our Mother's Day and Special Person Gift room. Children will have the opportunity to choose a gift in school at our Mother's Day shop. They will then wrap it and bring it home as a Mother's Day gift. Letters about this will be coming home next week if you would like your child to participate.

Diary Dates (these will be added to over time)

Tuesday 18 th and Wednesday 19 th March	Parents' Evening
Friday 21 st March	Non-uniform day – Wear Red for Comic Relief
Wednesday 26 th March	PTA 'Mother's Day Room' event
Thursday 27 th March	Drumming Workshop – all year groups
Tuesday 1 st April	Year 5 trip to Dodderhill to see Oliver the Musical
Friday 11 th April	Last day of Spring Term
<i>Easter Holidays – Monday 14th April – Friday 25th April</i>	
Monday 28 th April	First day of Summer Term
Monday 28 th April	Free Breakfast Club begins – open to all children
Monday 5 th May	May Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday 2 nd June	INSET Day – School Closed
Tuesday 1 st July	Sports Day (confirmed date!)
Wednesday 16 th July	Whole School Trip

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Miss Templeton and Staff



We have taken part in lots of different activities during British Science Week!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
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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.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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 GAMINGbible.



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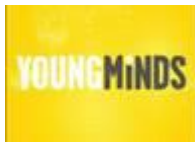
We regularly get sent links to organisations that offer help to parents, children and families going through difficult times. We thought it would be helpful to add these at the bottom of the newsletter each week, in case there is anything you would like to find out more about. As always, please do make an appointment at the office if there is any way we can help. We will keep this list updated with services that get in contact with the school.

- [Family Lives](#)



Phone: 0808 800 2222

Hours: 9am – 9pm Monday to Friday.
10am – 3pm on weekends.



- [YoungMinds Parent Helpline](#)

Phone: 0808 802 5544



- [Action for Children](#)

Phone: 0300 123 2112

Hours: Vary (see website)

- [Gingerbread \(single parenting\)](#)



Phone: 0808 802 0925

Hours: Vary (see website)