



Warboys Primary Academy



Welcome to our summer half term newsletter!

It's been a busy but exciting few weeks, with so many fantastic practical lessons, activities, trips and more. I am very proud of all our pupils, who try their best in their lessons and display excellent behaviour around school, following our new values of; Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to our Year 6 children, who have worked so hard in preparation for their SATs this term. They have demonstrated amazing determination, resilience and commitment to their work, and have all made great progress. I'm sure they will reap the rewards of all their hard work.

As you know, we welcomed a visit from Ofsted last week. We are now waiting for the official report and will share that with you when it arrives.

Our dedicated staff members have worked tirelessly to create a positive learning environment for our pupils, and their commitment has not gone unnoticed. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of them.

Additionally, I would like to express our appreciation to the Trust, our parents, and the wider community. Your unwavering support plays a crucial role in our success. We are fortunate to be part of the Warboys community and the TDET family.

Overall, this half term has flown by! I hope you enjoy reading about a few of the highlights in our newsletter. I'd also like to wish you all a fun and relaxing half term, and look forward to seeing everyone back again soon!

Stuart Mallott, Principal



*Mr Stuart Mallott,
Principal*

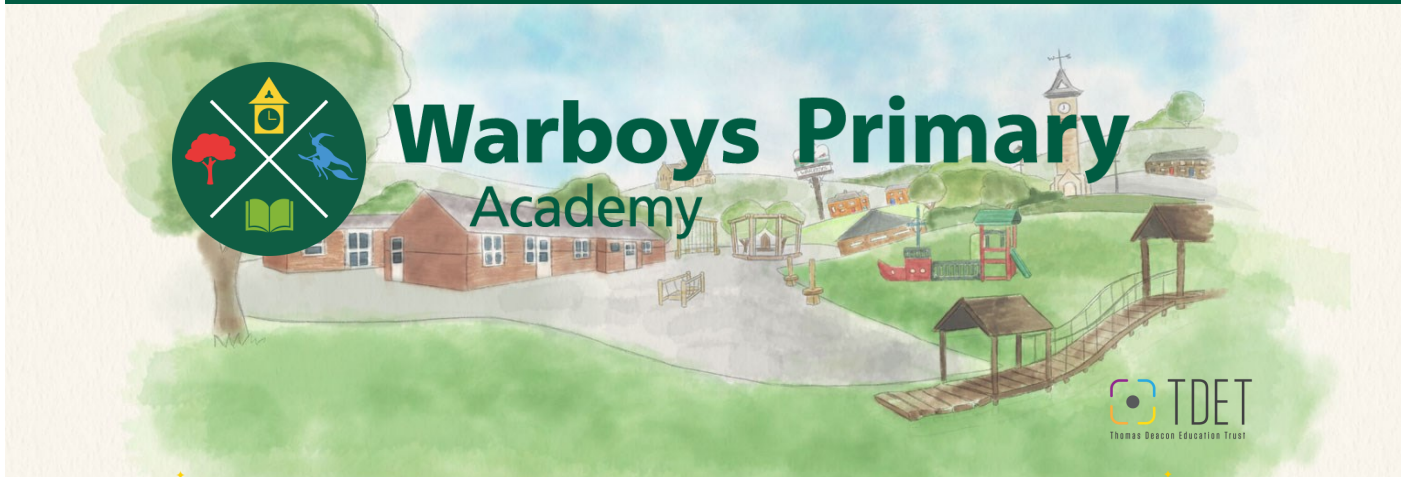
Sports round-up!



It's been brilliant to see our various sports teams making the most of the warmer weather with lots of outdoor matches and tournaments.

Massive congratulations to our football team, who won the finals at their recent tournament! They played so well together as a team. Well done to our goal scorers; Harley, Stanley and Callum!

And, well done to our NFL Flag Football team for coming 8th in their tournament. They showed fantastic commitment and team spirit!



Achievement Award Winners



And congratulations also go to these fantastic pupils too; Rose, Emilia, Bethany and William!



Warboys Primary Academy

Dinosaur discovery for Turtles class!



Our Turtles class have been very enthusiastically learning about dinosaurs over the last few weeks. We've had fun finding out more about fossils, palaeontologists, what type of environment dinosaurs lived in and what they liked to eat. We used salt dough and dry pasta to make our very own dinosaur fossils! We rolled out the dough, put the pasta pieces in place and then carefully peeled them away to leave a fossil imprint on our dough.



Enrichment fun for Years 5 and 6



During the Spring Term Enrichment Week Years 5 and 6 focused on local enquiry, with a visit to the church and using map reading skills to explore the village. Year 5 also enjoyed trying to crack Mr Jordan's Shape Escape Room which proved to be a great challenge, but was also engaging and enjoyable!

Some children have taken home their clay pots this week, thanks to the support of A&M Potters. The other pots will arrive with us after half term!

Our Owls class enjoyed sitting in the Bishops chair when we visited the church!



Warboys Primary Academy

Learning about life in Roman times



Our Pumas class all thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Verulamium Museum.

We explored the displays learning about Roman life and handled genuine Roman artefacts.

The highlight was the mosaic in the park, which was beautiful and surprisingly huge!

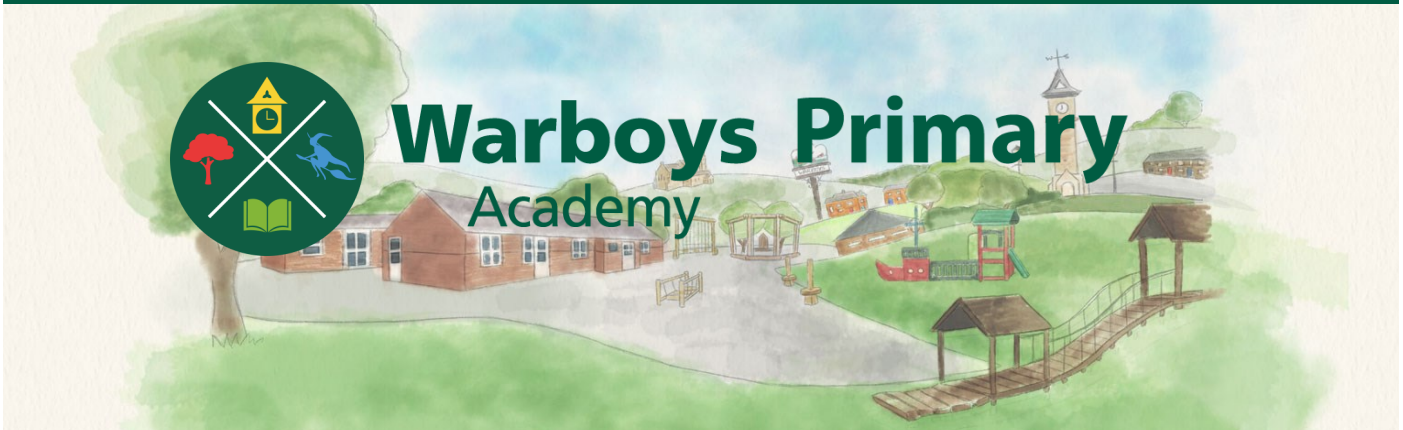
Dolphins enjoy creative baking!

We've had a gingerbread man theme this half term in our Dolphins class! In Literacy, we have been making Gingerbread men with salt playdough.

In art the children explored a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function while making gingerbread men.

In Maths, we have been counting to 20, adding to 10 using objects and Numicon shapes. What a busy few weeks!





Attendance achievements!

Thank you to all our families for your support with attendance, which is so important for children to reach their full potential at school.

A big WELL DONE to Seals and Tigers, our two classes with the highest attendance this term!

In addition, 184 out of 321 children have achieved 100 per cent attendance so far this academic year! Great work everyone!

100% ATTENDANCE!



Warboys Primary
Academy

Important safeguarding message

At Warboys Primary Academy, we are fully committed to safeguarding our pupils and staff. We take notice of and adhere to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Safeguarding is summarised as protecting children from harm, preventing damage to children's health or development, making sure that children grow up safely, and taking action to make sure all children have the best start in life.

Are you worried about a child's safety?

If you think a child is in immediate danger, phone 999 or ring Social Services on: 0345 045 5203.

* Public - Reporting safeguarding concerns - If you are not a professional involved with the child or family, you do not have to give your name and your conversation will be treated confidentially.

Please note that we now have a dedicated safeguarding/concerns email address for emergency purposes only:

emergency@WPA.education

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is an instant messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' 24 hours after they've been viewed; however, this content isn't as temporary as many believe - with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. This year, Snapchat added 'My AI': a customisable chatbot with which people can chat and share secrets, as well as asking for advice and suggestions of places to visit.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends - but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have anyone behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse - so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations - creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely - but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature: users can now receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.

CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up - and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life - especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.

BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).

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

Sources: <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/articles/20557635892-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it> | <https://www.snap.com/en-GB/safety/learning-from-the-world-of-online-safety-enhancements> | <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/articles/7020448644>



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
16+
in UK and Europe;
rest of the world 13+

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

...MSG ME...

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

ONLINE

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message 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.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your 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.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to 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 to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could 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.



...HEY OSCAR...



Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://iq.whatsapp.com/10704839982332> | https://iq.whatsapp.com/381008890189245/?helprf=he_inav
<https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private>
<https://www.curo.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>



Warboys Primary Academy



Key Term Dates: Summer Term 2024

Half Term	Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May
Term Ends	Friday 19th July
Staff Training Day	Monday 22nd July
Staff Training Day	Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th September
Term starts for pupils	Thursday 5th September



To keep up to date with Warboys Primary Academy, please follow us on social media:



@PrimaryWarboys



@WarboysPrimaryAcademy