



Dear Parents & Carers,

Continuing to keep our children safe- and equipping them to safeguard themselves and each other- is central to what we do at Pilgrims' Cross: From our youngest pupils in Year R, learning to let an adult know when they have a worry, to our School Council children raising issues in their meetings, to our oldest children learning about safety online.

This week, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed training from the *Bikeability* team. They learned about cycle safety and the checks needing to be made before setting off on their bikes. After this, they developed confidence on their bikes, leading to some rides around Picket Twenty, practising signalling.

In addition to this, we also had a visit from our wonderful Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), who lead Year 5 & 6 pupils in some sessions about online safety. They reminded our children that they should have their Roblox settings set to under 13. **Parents/carers, please can you check your children's accounts and ensure that they are not set to the default settings of 13+?**

WhatsApp can also be a minefield- please check out the guide at the bottom of this newsletter for more information so that you can keep your child safe.

Next week, you are warmly invited in to school to enjoy the Class Celebrations. As you can see from the weekly round-ups from your children's class teachers, our pupils have learned a LOT this term! We look forward to sharing their learning with you.

Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...	Love	Courage	Trust
<i>Oak</i>	Athena B	Rosie J	
<i>Willow</i>		Sophie S	
<i>Sycamore</i>		Laura O	
<i>Maple</i>			Arianna Y
<i>Hazel</i>			Willow T
<i>Lime</i>	Oliver C		
<i>Chestnut</i>		Cleo S	
<i>Elm</i>	Sydney P		
<i>Ash</i>	Thea R		
<i>Beech</i>		Ellis B	
<i>Pine</i>		Max G	
<i>Hawthorn</i>			Lacey T
<i>Aspen</i>	Lacie L		
<i>Juniper</i>		Marina W	

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

It has been a fun, bright and colourful week. We loved seeing the children in their bright colours on Wednesday. We have started to look at the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff and the children have loved reciting "Who's that's trip-trapping over my bridge?" They have role-played the story with masks, puppets and toys. They have used collage techniques to create their own trolls.

On Welly Wednesday, they planted sweet pea seeds and made their own plant pots using recycled paper.

In phonics, they have been applying their phonics to read longer words and, in maths, we looked at odd and even numbers.

What a wonderful fun week we have all had. Well done Oak and Willow

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

We are looking to improve many of our areas in Year R both inside and out

If anyone could please donate

Ribbons, felt, thread, knitting needles or crochet needles that would be amazing for our new craft area, which will include sewing, weaving, knitting and crochet

For our outdoor areas if you could donate

Plants, seeds, bulbs, garden pots or garden ornaments that would be amazing

Finally, if you know anyone who could donate and deliver electrical cable reels then please let us know

Thank you for all of your continuing support

Year R team.

Sycamore & Maple

In English, we looked at noun phrases and question marks this week. We started by orally asking questions to others and finished by writing a postcard to Tamsin the Zookeeper about the snake. In Maths, we have been working on subtraction using number lines, number bonds and finding the difference. We have also loved using the 'hit the button' game on the computer to help with our number bonds. Why not try this at home? In Computing we launched our rocket and then recorded our data in a spreadsheet. We also listened to an orchestra playing a representation of a storm and then thought about how we could recreate it with vocal and body sounds. In Science, we have used our hearing to try and identify what different sounds were. What a busy week!

Miss Miners and Mrs Edgington

Lime & Hazel

In Year 2 this week we have carried on with our scientific investigations into the properties of materials - this time testing strength. The children had great fun folding paper in different ways to make a bridge across the tables! Each bridge was tested with how many multilink it could hold before collapsing and the children then recorded their findings in a block graph. In Music, we also carried on learning our song 'Once a man fell in a well' which the children learnt on glockenspiels this week. Monday was a day for Art as the children went on a hunt for different textures before replicating them using different techniques with paint. We've focused on using the past progressive tense in English as well as contractions so that we can apply them in writing our diary entries next week. In Maths, we have figured out how to use the multiplication symbol and have even been introduced to division through grouping and sharing! We're looking forward to seeing you on Monday (2:15pm) for our class celebration - we're going to be doing some fieldwork around the school site so please make sure you wear suitable shoes!

Miss Samuel and Miss Lavin

Chestnut & Elm

This week, the children have enjoyed getting into role as one of Shackleton's explorers and really thinking about what it would have been like on his expedition! In maths, they have continued their measuring learning and applying their addition and subtraction skills to solve problems. They have also worked hard on understanding equivalent lengths, for example 1cm is equal to 10mm. Our new computing learning journey began by thinking about communication and what emails are. The children then learnt how to write and send an email; which really challenged their typing skills! In PSHE, they learnt about the importance of being kind online; and loved being 'bright' and joining in with activities for thinking about children's mental health. In music, the children continued to develop their singing techniques and learnt about simple rhythmic notation as part of our 'Dragon Ships' song.

Miss Plaw and Miss Dewsbury

Beech & Ash

In our penultimate week we have started a new maths journey about length and perimeter. We have recapped measurements, converted them and have come onto working out the perimeter of different types of shape. We had an important writing lesson, focussed on how to edit a piece of writing- we considered how this involves both correcting mistakes and up-levelling and will be using this to help improve every piece of writing we do. We have all been loving our new book, Poetry Pie, and we have learnt about Odes, Riddles and Concrete poems. As part of our geography learning this week we interviewed Michelle from our school kitchen. We were very pleased to discover that all the food cooked and used at school is sourced in the UK, even the bananas! In science we have continued looking at states of matter by looking at changes of state, focussing on melting and freezing. We took part in an experiment looking at how the temperature of water affects the rate that an ice cube melts. Looking forward to our last week of Spring 1...

Miss Collier and Mrs Allison

Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week, we have deepened our learning in Maths by comparing decimals, fractions and now... percentages. We have investigated whether certain statistics are equivalent and how to find a percentage out of 100. Furthermore, we have revisited relative clauses in English, using them to add extra detail and being as descriptive as possible to prepare us for our outcome of a narrative scene. In Geography we have analysed data linked to pollution of beaches and how badly certain beaches get polluted at certain times of year. Finally, we were incredibly impressed at the children's listening and contributions when we were visited by the local police service to talk about online safety. Well done to all the children in Year 5 after a busy week!

Mr Dookheran & Mr Childs

Aspen & Juniper

Year 6 had a 'wheely' good time this week on Bikeability! All the children who took part made fantastic progress: a few complete beginners learnt to ride a bike for the very first time, whilst more experienced riders were trained in road safety out on the Picket Twenty estate. All the children learnt about the basic safety checks you should carry out before setting out on your bike. The instructors commented on the positive behaviours shown by the children throughout their course - well done Year 6 for making the most of this wonderful opportunity!

Mrs Cocks, Miss Howick and Mr Osmond

New kit!

We have recently got some flash new football kit, thanks to FOPS and the Jamie G Trust. Don't our children look wonderful? We'll be proud of them when they next take to the pitch- and hopefully thumping some local opposition in the process!

For more information, please check out: <https://www.jamiessportingtrust.org/>



No Nutella!

It has come to our attention that some children have Nutella (or an equivalent chocolate/hazelnut spread) in their sandwiches. Our school is a NUT-FREE SCHOOL. We have some children with SEVERE, LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGIES. Please DO NOT give your children Nutella in their packed lunches.



SEN Learning Plans

At the recent parent/carer consultation evenings, teachers should have shared the learning plans for children on our SEN register you. If you have a comment about the learning plan do send Mrs Hutchison an e-mail to senco@pilgrimscross.co.uk and she will transfer your comments into the parent/carers' comment section on the plan.

Free parent/carer help sessions

Do you struggle with your child's **big emotions** or are you concerned about their **anxiety levels**? There are two wonderful parent workshops at St. John the Baptist, led by Hampshire Pupil Behaviour Service. We would thoroughly recommend them. Please contact the office to register your interest.

Parent workshop 'BIG EMOTIONS'



How do we get my child away from a screen?

How do I regain the control of a situation?

Do I need to set boundaries?

What should we do if my child has an outburst?

What can I do when my child refuses?

How can we all stay calm?

IT MIGHT NOT BE *easy* BUT IT WILL BE *absolutely* WORTH IT.

What is causing the behaviours we see?

No one gives parents a handbook. Children provide parents with different challenges every day.

Join us for an informal parenting workshop led by the Primary Behaviour Service on **'BIG EMOTIONS'**.

Adults only, no children can attend.

Thursday 6th March 5.30-7.30pm
St John the Baptist Primary School, Floral Way,
Andover SP10 3PF

Please register your interest with your school office
by Monday 24th February

Parent Workshop 'ANXIETY'



What is Anxiety?

How can I support my anxious child??

What are the most common signs and symptoms?

What other things could I do to support your anxious child?

What keeps problematic anxiety going?

IT MIGHT NOT BE *easy* BUT IT WILL BE *absolutely* WORTH IT.

No one gives parents a handbook. Children provide parents with different challenges every day.

Join us for an informal parenting workshop led by the Primary Behaviour Service on **'ANXIETY'**.

Adults only, no children can attend.

Thursday 13th March 5.30-7.00pm
St John the Baptist Primary School, Floral Way,
Andover SP10 3PF

Please register your interest with your school office by Monday 24th February

This workshop is the perfect follow on from the Big Emotions workshop on 6th March

Safeguarding- WhatsApp

Everything you need to know about WhatsApp

You're probably well aware of WhatsApp and its huge user-base. The app has become a go-to for a convenient and easy way to keep in touch on an individual basis as well as in groups. But are there any possible risks, and how safe is it for children? Here's everything you need to know.

What is WhatsApp?

WhatsApp is a free app that allows users to send encrypted messages to other users, so long as they have an internet connection. It is available on all major mobile operating systems. Users must verify their account with a standard mobile number to start using the app. WhatsApp offers users the ability to send images, voice notes and a wide range of emojis, in addition to voice and video calls.

As of 2022, it is estimated that WhatsApp has 2 billion active monthly users worldwide.

Why is it so popular?

WhatsApp is a hugely popular messaging app; it's free, secure and the fact that it uses wifi or data rather than your phone credit makes it great for keeping in contact with people internationally.

What do parents need to be aware of?

Age restrictions

As of April 2024 the minimum age to use WhatsApp in the UK is 13. Previously, the requirement was 16 – in-part as a response to data-protection legislation.

Like many age restrictions on social media apps, some children may choose to ignore this and sign up for WhatsApp when they're younger.

WhatsApp's main purpose is to send messages to friends. It isn't public in the same way that Twitter is, and people can only message friends who are already added on their phone. As long as a child only has trusted people as contacts on their phone, it is a relatively safe social media app.

The main thing to discuss with them is **how to act in group chats**, as here **people not in their contacts will be able to see all the messages and send them messages**.

Group chats

The group chat function allows up to 512 people to chat in one conversation stream. Each group is set up by one person, known as the group admin, who is the only person who can add or remove participants and change or add further group administrators.

Anybody in the group, even if they're not one of your phone contacts, will be able to see messages that you post, and you will be able to see theirs. If you are added to a group with someone you have blocked, that person will still be able to contact you in the group chat.

You can't always control if you're added to a group chat; but **remind children that they can always control their own participation within it – they can leave whenever they want to**.

To do this, when on the group's page, tap the three dots in the top right (or the name of the group at the top of the screen on an iPhone), then tap Group info, then EXIT GROUP in the red box at the bottom of the screen (or scroll down to Exit Group on an iPhone).

'View Once' messages

WhatsApp also allows you to send images and videos which can only be viewed once, and this can be done by tapping the 'View Once' button on the image or video you wish to send. All photos and videos sent this way won't be saved to the recipient's photo library.

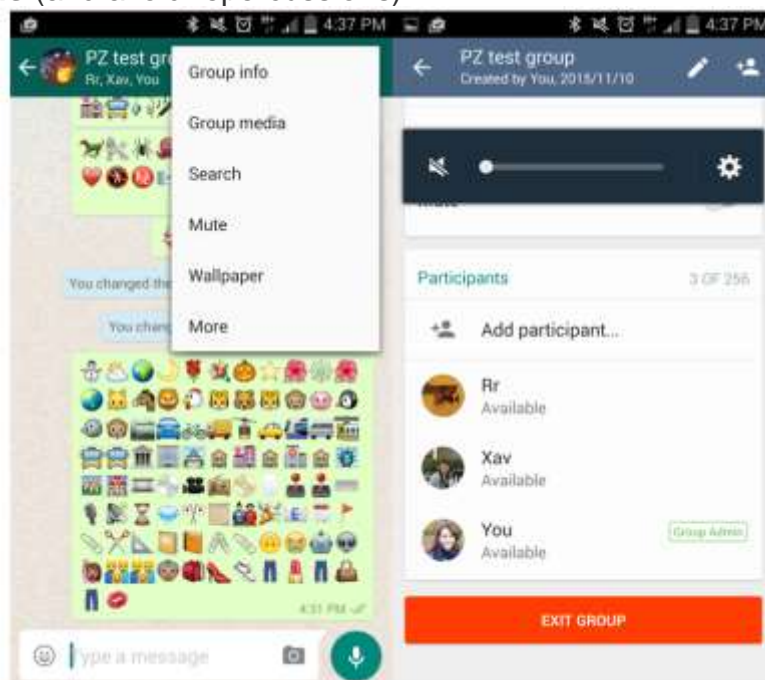
Edited messages

In May 2023 WhatsApp announced that they would be introducing the ability for users to easily **edit their messages** for up to 15 minutes after sending.

Although messages which have been changed will be accompanied by an 'edited' note next to them, users will no longer be able to see what the message said previously.

WhatsApp haven't announced if the platform themselves will keep a history of edits. If there's no way of seeing the previous content of a message (besides a screenshot at the time of receiving the message) then this will mean that **it's more difficult to have evidence of messages which are harassing or involve bullying.**

It may also mean that **children are more prone to send a hurtful message if they believe they can quickly edit it afterwards** (and avoid repercussions).



End-to-end Encryption

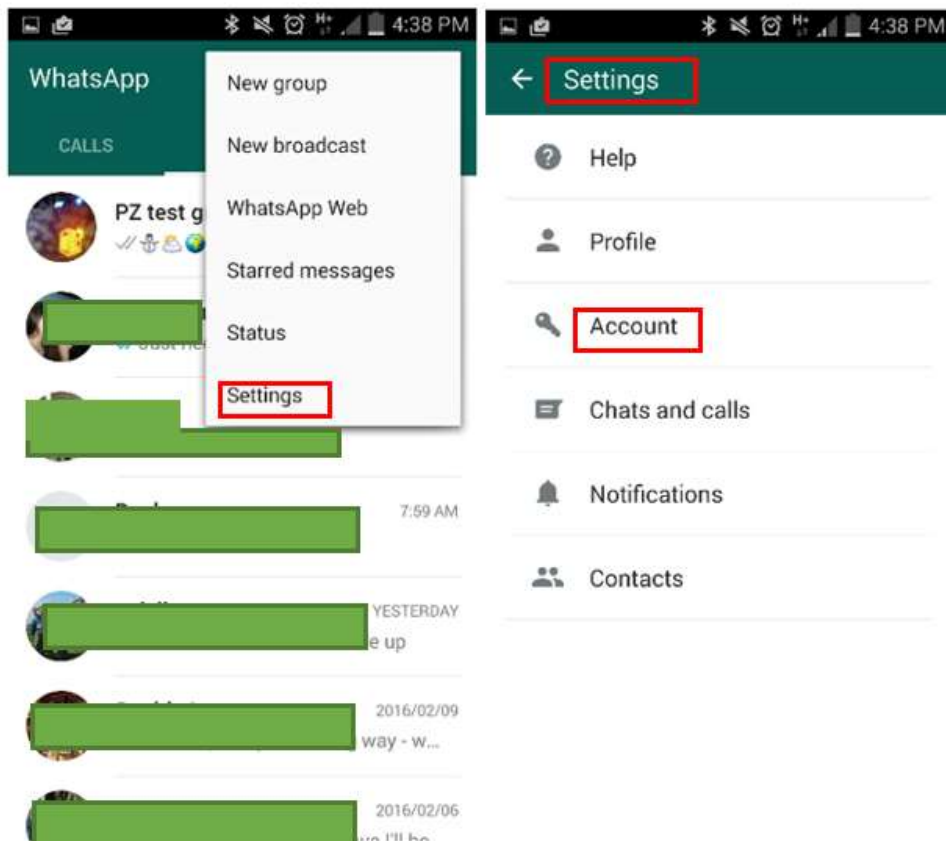
WhatsApp uses end-to-end encryption in all its users' communications. This means that only those with access to the phones of the sender and receiver of a message conversation between the two can access them. This has caused problems for law enforcement agencies when trying to access the communication records of suspects. However, it is an attractive feature for those concerned about the privacy of their messages.

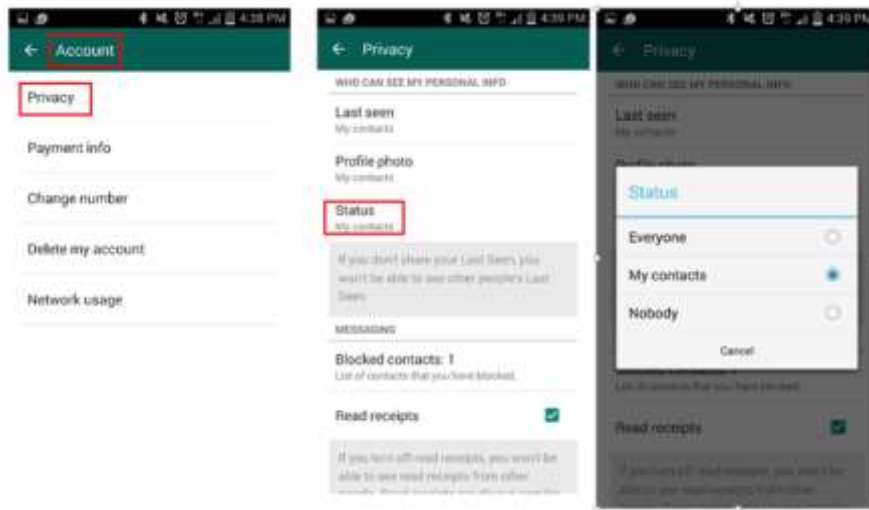
Privacy settings

The app has a **default privacy setting which allows anyone else on WhatsApp to view the user's profile photo, status and when they last used the app.**

It's easy to change this setting to specify that the WhatsApp profile is only seen by 'My contacts' or 'Nobody' making the app feel a lot safer for younger users. You can also manage any blocked contacts.

In August 2022 WhatsApp announced some **additional privacy features**, including the ability to leave group chats 'silently' without notifying other members (excluding admins), extra control over who sees your 'online status', and the blocking of screenshots for View Once messages.





Reporting and blocking

There is no direct way to report a user, or specific abuse, other than to block them from sending you further messages. To block a contact, when the conversation is open, click on the 3 dots on the top right, tap 'More', then 'Block'.

Blocked contacts won't be able to see your profile information, and they won't be able to contact you. To permanently delete a contact from WhatsApp, you'll need to delete them from the contacts on your phone.

Full safety details for WhatsApp can be found **in their FAQs**. This can be from spamming to abusive or inappropriate content or behaviour. However, WhatsApp reminds users that if they feel that they or someone else is in emotional or physical danger, they should contact your local law enforcement authorities.

If you're concerned that a child may have experienced abuse whilst using WhatsApp, you can file a report with CEOP **here**.

Status update

Users can now update their WhatsApp status by posting images or videos. These will only last 24 hours and if more than one status update is posted then they will collate into a story, similar to Snapchat and Instagram.

You can choose who sees your status update by going to the Privacy Settings. The original text-based status update is still available through the general settings menu.

Remind children that making a status without first amending privacy settings will enable anyone in their contacts to see it. Make sure that they only post something if they feel comfortable with it being seen by all their contacts in their phone.

WhatsApp Web

WhatsApp can also be accessed via a user's computer and PCs by using **WhatsApp Web**. The feature is an extension of the app and users can have conversations as normal using the browser version. The web version lets people stay logged in by default so it's important to make sure to either choose not to stay logged in or log out after you're finished using it.

Class Celebrations

Here are the dates & times of the upcoming class celebrations. We've given them to you with, we hope, enough time for working parents/carers to book time out of work. Do please all come along to celebrate the learning for this half of term with your children...

Monday 10th February: 8.45am - Year 5 and 2.15pm - Year 2

Tuesday 11th February: 8.45am – Year 4 and 2.15pm - Year 1

Wednesday 12th February: 2.15pm - Year R

Thursday 13th February: 8.45am – Year 6 and 2.15pm - Year 3

Attendance

Our school attendance this year stands at 96%- above the current national average of 94.5%. Children need to be in school every day to make the best progress.

Key dates

- Year 6 *Bikeability* 3rd – 5th February
- Monday 10th February- Friday 14th February- class celebrations
- Monday 10th February: Class Celebrations (8.45am - Year 5 and 2.15pm - Year 2)
- Tuesday 11th February: Class Celebrations (8.45am – Year 4 and 2.15pm - Year 1)
- Wednesday 12th February: Class Celebrations (2.15pm - Year R)
- Thursday 13th February: Class Celebrations (8.45am – Year 6 and 2.15pm - Year 3)
- w/b Monday 16th June- Thursday 19th June-Year 6 residential, Hooke Court
- Friday 11th July- Year 6 leavers' disco

Please check out our website calendar for all relevant dates:

<https://www.pilgrimscross.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=8&viewid=1>