



**Christian Value - Our Christian Value this half term is PEACE**

**Dear Parents**

**Junior Production** - "Ye-Ha ". I would like to say a huge congratulations to everyone who took part in our superb Junior Production this week, from the incredibly talented cast of Year 6 to our very tuneful choir.

A huge thank you to Mr Tunstall and Mrs Gillies for leading the children and to all the staff for their help with costumes, props, lighting, music, tickets, organising the children backstage - and everything else needed to ensure a brilliant production runs so smoothly. You are all very much appreciated.

A special thank you to Mrs Jones for the once again fabulous painting of the scenery back drop. Your commitment to the children of our school is unquestionable and we are truly grateful and in awe of your wonderful talent. Thank you Mrs Jones.

On Wednesday we held our transition morning where children met their new teachers. This forms part of our wider transition programme and staff have all met to discuss their new class with the current teacher and Mrs King our SENDCo.

I was also able to pop in to see our new Reception who visited on Monday and Tuesday morning for a stay and play. They were all excellent and Mrs Durr was delighted with how settled they were during both sessions. This is a great start for our new reception.

Have a lovely weekend

**Sylvia Thomson**

**Headteacher**

**Tuesday 22nd July**

On Tuesday 22nd July, we are having a 'Party Day' in school for Mrs Thomson's retirement celebration. **This will be within the school day.**

Children are required to attend school in their full school uniform and will need to have their PE kits to change in to for the morning, as we have a bouncy castle for them to enjoy.

A Party box will also be arranged as the school dinner and this will be updated on ParentPay next week.

**Magic Keys**

The Magic Keys presentation will be held on Tuesday 15th July promptly at the following times:

9am - Year 1 + Year 2

10am - Year 3 + Year 4

11am - Year 5 + Year 6

Please allow 30 - 45 minutes for each presentation.

**Due to having 2 classes per presentation we can only accommodate 2 parent per family.**

## Uniform Changes

We are writing to inform you of some upcoming changes to our school PE kit, which will officially come into effect from **September 2026**. However, families are welcome to opt into the new kit from September 2025 if they wish to do so earlier. If you are unsure, we have some examples in the office and see images below.

### New PE Kit Details

Top: Royal blue PE top with the school logo (logo item—please note new material)

Shorts: Royal blue (same material as the top)

Hoodie: Royal blue with the school logo (logo item)

Jogging Pants: Royal blue to match the hoodie

Socks - Royal Blue or White (can be knee high or ankle high)

### Footwear:

Full Black trainers (no white or coloured logos and black soles) or black pumps for general PE

Indoor gym: Black pumps or bare feet only - trainers are not permitted on apparatus

**All items can be purchased from Boydells or Kits for All and we have worked to keep costs to a minimum. Only the PE top and hoodie will feature the school logo.**

### PE Day Changes

From September, we will move to one longer PE session per week. On their designated PE day, children should come to school wearing their full PE kit.

Teachers will confirm your child's PE day when we return in September.

### Earrings Policy

For safety reasons, **earrings are not permitted**. We have listened to concerns from parents about ears closing and will be permitting the clear plastic retainers if children are unable to take earrings out until they are fully healed. For PE, these must still be covered with secure tape for safety reasons which needs to be provided by parents. Please be aware that wearing retainers are still a safety risk.

### Other Uniform

All other items of school uniform remain unchanged. Further details will be included later in the newsletter.



### School Dinner Prices

From September 2025, the cost of a School Lunch will increase from £2.40 per day to £2.50 per day.

Don't forget if you are on certain benefits you could qualify for Free School Meals. Our school also receives extra funding for each free school meal child so even if your child is in the infants and already receives their lunch free of charge, please also make an official claim as this will make a difference to our school funding. Please speak to the authority in which you live.

School lunches are currently free for Infants - Reception to Year 2. For children in Years 3 - 6, if your child is not eligible for a free school meal and they stay for school dinners, parents/carers must ensure that all meals taken are paid in advance via the ParentPay system.

### Church News

There are 2 services at St Lukes this Sunday 13th July.

10.30 - MORNING PRAYER

3pm JAM Club

Next Sunday - CAFE WORSHIP at Cronton 10.30.

27th July - a service to celebrate the work of Mrs Thomson at Cronton. 10.30

ALL WELCOME

Services at CRONTON MISSION continue though the school holidays.

### Measles

Measles continues to circulate in Knowsley, and there are currently more measles cases each day in the borough, with some children admitted to Alder Hey. We would really appreciate your support in sharing the information with families, and continuing to encourage families and staff to access MMR vaccination. It is really important that children and school/Early Years staff in the borough receive an MMR vaccination as soon as possible to make sure that they are protected from measles, unless they are already fully vaccinated.

#### Information for parents:

<https://www.alderhey.nhs.uk/open-letter-to-parents-and-carers-in-merseyside-from-alder-hey-childrens-hospital-ukhsa-and-directors-of-public-health-for-liverpool-sefton-and-knowsley/>

### Knowsley Parental Controls Booklet

Please find a link below to our updated Parent Online Safety booklet, which includes an overview of key parental controls. This is updated on an annual basis (next update scheduled July 2026).

<https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Parental-Controls-booklet-2025.pdf>

### ParentPay

With only a few weeks left until we finish for Summer, can we ask all Parents check on their Parentpay to ensure all payments are up to date before we finish.

### Dates for your Diary / Upcoming Events

Please note these are subject to change or may be added to so please check these dates every week!

#### July 2025

- Tuesday 15th - Magic Key Presentation  
- 9am - Y1 + Y2  
- 10am - Y3 + Y4  
- 11am - Y5 + Y6
- Friday 18th - BEST Awards @ 9:15am - Winner Letters will be sent Monday 14th
- Tuesday 22nd - Special Picnic Lunch (Will be updated on ParentPay)
- Wednesday 23rd - Leavers Service @ 9:15am  
- **School Closes @ 2pm - No Wraparound**
- Sunday 27th - Cronton Mission Service for Mrs Thomson

#### September 2025

- Tuesday 2nd - Return to school at 8:50am

### Lunch Time Leaders

This weeks Lunch-time leaders are:

Reception - Isobel

Year 1 - Alba

Year 2 - Rosie

Year 3 - Roisin

Year 4 - Erika

Year 5 - Evelyn

Year 6 - Henry

Each of the above children have been chosen by the Mid-day supervisors based on behaviour and manners in the lunch hall and get to be in the front of the dinner queue for next week.



# Online Safety Newsletter

July 2025

## ZEPETO

ZEPETO has an age rating of over 13. Users create their own avatars and can design rooms. ZEPETO is a social networking app and therefore users can chat with others. Due to the communication option, there are the usual risks, such as your child seeing inappropriate content or online bullying. In-App purchases are also available on this platform.

Parental controls are not available, but a user can change some settings within privacy and content settings, for example to change who can direct message you.

ZEPETO have published a Guardian's guide here: <https://support.zepeto.me/hc/en-us/articles/900005874946-ZEPETO-Guardian-s-Guide>

## Sprunki

Is your child playing Sprunki? If they are, there are several versions of this game, so it is important to check which version they are playing and to then check its suitability for your child. For example, one version states:

**"WARNING: This game contains disturbing images and scenes of explicit violence and gore".**

Find out more here: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-topics/esafety-guide/sprunki>

## Nintendo Switch 2

The Nintendo Switch 2 was released last month and has a new communication feature that you should be aware of.



### GameChat – NEW

GameChat is included within a Nintendo Switch Online membership and allows up to 12 people to chat while playing games. Players can share their screen, even if they are playing different games, chat with the built-in microphone and as the Nintendo Switch 2 allows cameras to be connected (sold separately), even video chat. If your child is using this feature, then ensure they know how to report other users.

You can find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-2/GameChat/Nintendo-Switch-2-GameChat-2785625.html>

### Parental Controls

There is a free Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app that can be linked with your Nintendo Switch to monitor what your child is playing. The app creates a report so you can see which video games your child is playing and for how long. It also allows you to set which games your child can play, based on the PEGI age rating and restricts your child from sending or receiving messages from other users. GameChat settings can also be adjusted. Children under the age of 15 can only use GameChat if allowed by you through the app. They can then only use GameChat with people that you approve. Find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Support/Nintendo-Switch-2/How-to-Set-Up-Adjust-or-Remove-Parental-Controls-on-Nintendo-Switch-2-2843839.html>

### Check age ratings

PEGI provides age classifications for video games. PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. It is important to note that PEGI do not take into consideration user generated content within games (such as on Roblox) and chat facilities within games. <https://pegi.info/>

### Further information

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleylcs.org.uk/primary-july-2025/>

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## Online Challenges

According to Ofcom's latest Children's Media Use and Attitudes report "funny videos or those showing pranks or challenges continue to be the most popular type of VSP (video-sharing platforms) content for children, watched by 68% of 3-17-year-olds who watch videos." [source - <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/media-use-and-attitudes/media-habits-children/children-and-parents-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2025>]

If your child is watching this type of content, then you need to chat to them regularly, particularly about online challenges and the risks that they can pose. **There are challenges online that are risky/dangerous.** Sadly, there are reports that children have died as a consequence of attempting online challenges.

Children may not yet have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse that what they see online is not always safe for them to replicate. Make sure your child knows that they should talk to you (or another trusted adult) if they are thinking about trying something that they have seen online.

If your child has not heard about an online challenge, then do not draw attention to it as this may lead to them searching for it out of curiosity, so just talk about challenges in a general sense. Furthermore, reassure your child that challenges that suggest that terrible things will happen if they do not complete the tasks are not real.

The following link will provide you with further information as well as content to help you talk to your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-challenges-guide/>



## Is your child moving to Secondary school?

Is your child moving to Secondary school this September? Internet Matters have outlined a number of tools and resources, including a Transition Parent Guide to help support you:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/moving-to-secondary-school-online-safety-guide/>

## Conversation Starter

Are you struggling to start a conversation with your child about online safety? Why not try discussing this scenario with them. What would they do and how would you help them?

*Amira and her classmates have a WhatsApp group. One evening, Amira notices that some group members are sharing unkind jokes and memes about another student, Leo, who isn't part of the group. The messages start as playful but quickly turn mean-spirited. Amira feels uncomfortable but isn't sure what to do. So, what should Amira do?*

First, Amira should **not join in** with the mean messages. Then, although difficult, she could **speak up** in the group by saying something kind like: "Let's not be mean. This isn't fair to Leo." Finally, she should **tell a trusted adult**.

Discuss how group chats should be fun for *everyone*, not a place to hurt others. Emphasise that being part of a group chat means we all have a responsibility to keep it respectful. If you see something that doesn't feel right, like Amira did, it's okay to speak up or talk to a trusted adult. Remind your child that they won't be punished if they tell you something like this.

Remember, even if Leo doesn't see the messages, **it's still wrong to be unkind**. Real legends lift each other up — they don't tear others down.

## Omegele (and similar platforms)

Whilst the original Omegle no longer exists, there is now Ome.tv, other Omegle copycat sites as well as other sites with a similar concept. **We cannot stress enough that these sites should not be accessed by children due to the potential content and language used, which can be explicit.** As an example, Ome.tv connects you randomly to **other people via video chat** from across the world. Ome.tv does state that **it should only be used by adults**.

You can find out more information about Chat apps, including 'randomised chat forums' here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>