

# Newsletter 26 – Spring Term



Wistaston Academy  
Primary and Nursery School  
Together We Learn • Together We Achieve

## This Week's Events

| Date                             | School Events   | International Events |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March    | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6<br>Yr 1&2 Dodgeball<br>Y1-2 Football<br>Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Gym  |                      |
| Tuesday 28 <sup>st</sup> March   | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6<br>Yr 3-6 Lunchtime Gym<br>Swimming Y4<br>Yr 3&4 Football<br>Yr 3-6 Sewing<br>Yr 3&4 Performing Arts  |                      |
| Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6   |                      |
| Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March  | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6<br>Yr 3-6 Dodgeball<br>Yr 3-6 Singing<br>Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Singing   |                      |
| Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March    | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6<br>Yr 5&6 Football  |                      |
| <b>Advanced Notice:</b>          | 31 <sup>st</sup> March – Easter Assembly  |                      |
| <b>Polite Notice:</b>            | <b>Please note the school office opens at 8.30am each morning and is manned until 4.30pm. Before and after these times, there will be no access to the Main Reception area.</b> |                      |

### We are Brilliant Winners

#### EYFS:

**KS1:** Alex B (1A), Luna (1B), Maja (2A)

**KS2:** Imogen (3B), Evie (4B), George (4A)

#### Sports Awards

**KS1:** Mason (2A) , Tommy (1A)

**KS2:** Riley (6B), Cassidy (4A)

### The Hub

The Hub children have combined Art, handwriting and the Easter theme this week by making easter cards for their families. While creating the bodies of our chicks, some of the children were able to identify that they were using circles, triangles and soft feathers.



### Nursery

In Nursery we have been exploring 2D shapes. First we matched and sorted the shapes. Then we used paint to print different coloured shapes. Nursery have been working hard to learn the 2D shape names and to discuss their properties.



### Reception

This week we have been learning about minibeasts and the children have made their own worm hotels. We discussed how the worms wiggle and dig tunnels in the soil. The children have enjoyed observing the worms in their new habitat.



## Year 1

To introduce our new topic for next half term, we went on a visit to Delamere Forest. Our new topic is called 'All about growing' and we completed two activities run by rangers at the forest; Amazing Forests and Shelter Building. We had an amazing day!



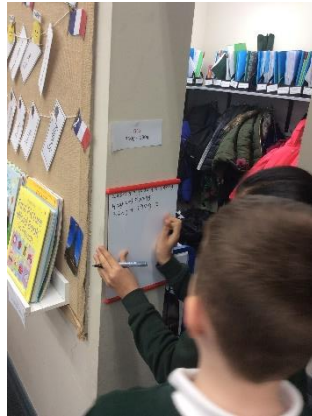
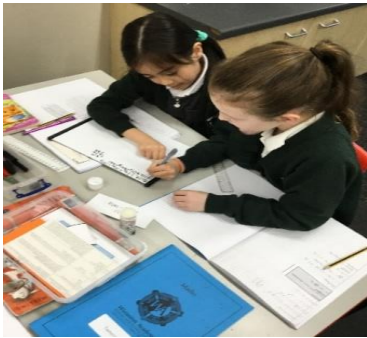
## Year 2

Last week, year 2 enjoyed a visit from Medic Fest. We explored lots of different medical equipment and got to try some out ourselves.



### Year 3

On Thursday, we continued our learning on mass looking at adding and subtracting mass. We used active maths of 'weight hunt' to consolidate our learning.



### Year 4

For the past five weeks Year 4 have been practicing songs to participate in the Singfest celebration, that took place in Congleton Town Hall. The children were brilliantly behaved and gave a fantastic performance even though the nerves were high in front of a large audience. They are a credit to Wistaston Academy! We received a thank you letter from the organisers.



Singfest, Congleton Town Hall, March 2023

## Year 5

This half term the children in Year 5 have been focusing on careers and aspirations in PSHE. We have explored careers of interest and considered what qualifications, skills and attributes are necessary for those aspirations. We were able to visit Cheshire College to explore what they have to offer young people which left many children enthused and excited about the opportunities and facilities available to them as young adults.

Last week, the children across UKS2, were able to take part in MedicFest, which also supported our learning in PSHE. The children learnt a lot about the NHS, practices and procedures undertaken by doctors, nurses and medical staff and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

It has been wonderful watching the children learn, explore and develop their understanding of the exciting possibilities and opportunities available to them in the future.



## Year 6

In Science this week, we have explored and investigated refraction in different situations. We did 6 different experiments. Here are 3 of our favourites:

1. We created a Newton wheel to try to turn the colours of the rainbow in to white light.
2. We made images disappear using refraction through water.
3. We explored bubbles! We looked closely at bubbles and discovered the different colours refracted from bubbles.



## Attendance

### Attendance Wk - 06.02.23 – 10.03.23

#### Target 96%

3A = 95.1%

3B = 94.6%

4A = 95%

4B = 96%

5A = 96.3%

5B = 95.3%

6A = 97.1% 😊

6B = 96.4%



KS2 for the week = 96.1% 😊

Whole school attendance for the academic year – 94.5% 😞

## Attendance

### Wk 06.03.23 – 10.03.23

#### Target 96%

Reception A – 93.6%

Reception B – 88.6.3%

1A – 90%

1B – 99.3% 😊

2A - 97.4%

2B – 95.3%



KS1 Attendance for last week - 94.1% 😞

Whole school attendance for the academic year – 94.5% 😞

## Art News

### Focus on Year 4: Kinetic Art!

On Thursday Year 4 had an amazing time experimenting with a new type of art. We were inspired by the artist Heather Hansen, who noticed the interesting patterns she made in sand when dancing with her son on the beach. She then translated this into movement-based art, where she “downloads” her movements onto paper, using charcoals. We tried the same thing using oil pastels. It was a most relaxing experience, using our bodies to interpret music silently, while we drew. Our patterns were fantastic too, and we will use these in a further piece of artwork. WE LOVED IT!





### Arts Ambassadors

We are excited to announce our new Arts Ambassadors! Thank you to everyone who applied – your pitches were so well written and lovely: it would have been easy to pick 4 times as many. Don't be disappointed though – there will be many opportunities to help with art in school, and next year other children will have a chance at the same role. For now though, our ambassadors are:

1A: Prudence

1B: Kamara

2A: Phoebe

2B: Jacek

3A: Grace

3B: Aylin

4A: George

4B: Ayesha

5A: Milanko

5B: Roland

6A: Roza

6B: Nadia

**Well done to everyone!**

## Art Exhibition

We had a fantastic time during Parents' Evening this week exhibiting artwork in the hall from all each Year Group. It was lovely to see so many families coming through and children so proud of their work. Well done everyone – we loved seeing you all and celebrating together! Our Arts Ambassadors did a great job helping children come and weave concentric circles in our "Kandinsky Corner"! 😊





## Sport News

### Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby at Crewe & Nantwich Rugby Club

On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 8 children took part in a Year 5 & 6 tag rugby competition which was held at Crewe and Nantwich Rugby Club. The team played against a number of schools, where they managed to win a lot of their matches. Mr Barton and Miss Brown were so proud of the way the children passed the ball and worked as a team. Well done to all.



### Year 3 Swimming

Year 3 classes will be going swimming for approximately 6 weeks as part of the compulsory National PE curriculum. The sessions will begin on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April and will finish on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023. The classes will go swimming from 1:30 till 2:30pm.

Your child will need to bring in their **swimming costume and a towel**. If your child forgets their kit, we will contact you during the morning to try to arrange for their kit to be dropped off. Alternatively, we can provide spare swimming costumes, shorts and towels if kit cannot be brought in. Children are not allowed to wear any jewellery in the pool, so all must be removed before they enter. Please ensure that all earrings are removed before children come to school, if the children cannot remove the earrings themselves. In addition, long hair must be tied up in a swimming cap.

If you have any questions about Y3 Swimming, please speak to the PE Team or your child's Class Teacher.



## Sport Clubs News

**This half term, clubs will run from Monday 17th April until Friday 28th April 2023**

All clubs, including those delivered by outside providers, will be free of charge. If your child is interested in taking part in any of our clubs, please sign them up through Arbor as all the clubs are live, there are still some spaces left in some clubs. If Arbor won't let you make a booking it is likely the club is full.

Please make sure your child has got the right sports kit for the club they are attending such as tracksuit bottoms and a waterproof jacket as the weather is getting colder.

**Monday**

Year 1 & 2 Gymnastics Club with Jasmine and Alisha Evanson from Cheshire Gymnastics

11:45am till 12:25pm

Year 1 & 2 Football Club with Miss Brown

3:05pm till 4:05pm

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**Tuesday**

Year 3- 6 Gymnastics Club with Jasmine and Alisha Evanson from Cheshire Gymnastics

12pm till 12:35pm

Year 3 & 4 Football Club with Miss Brown

3:15pm till 4:15pm

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**Thursday**

Year 3 – 6 Dodgeball club with Miss Brown

3:15pm till 4:15pm

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**Friday**

Year 5 & 6 Football Club with Miss Brown

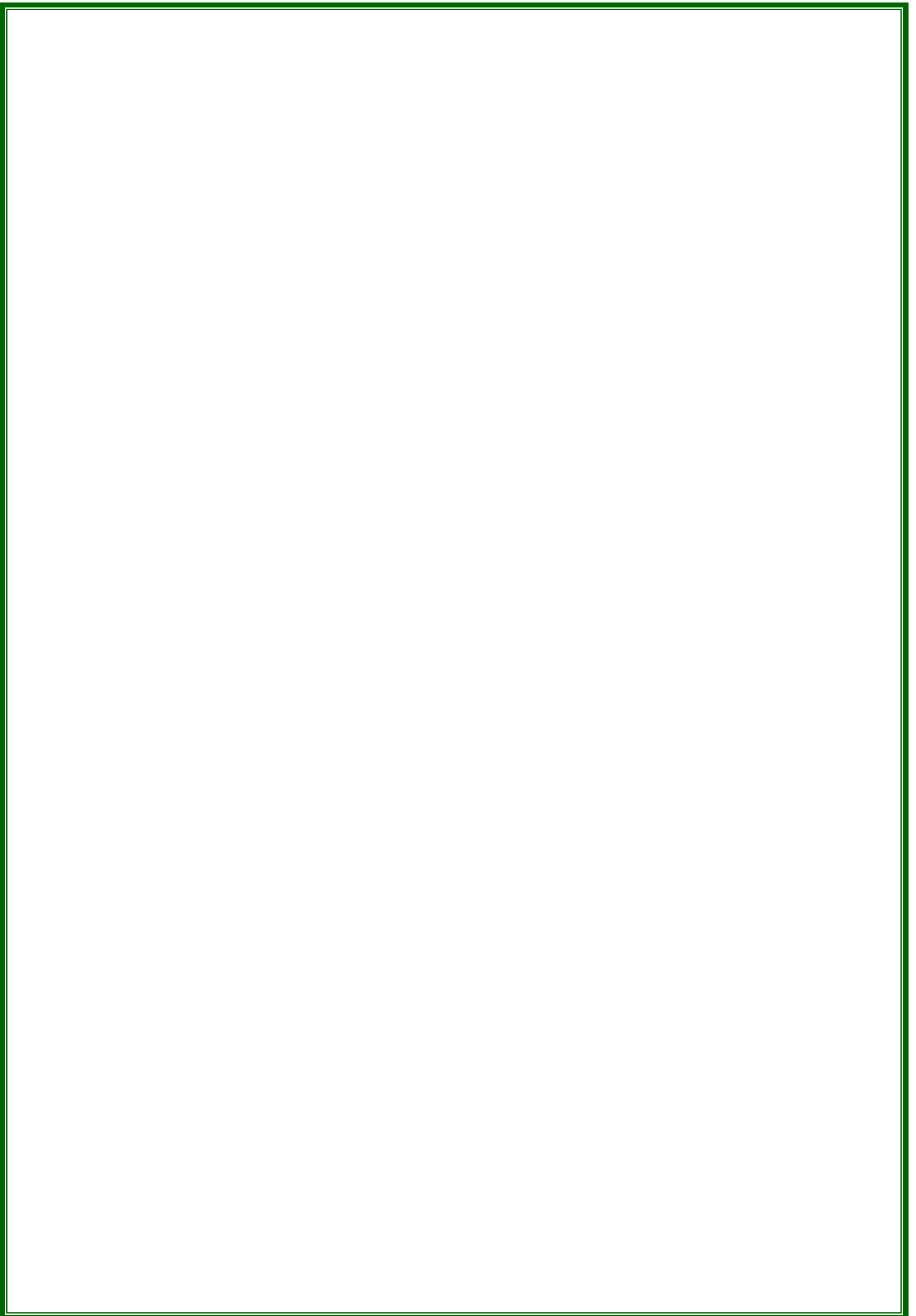
3:15pm till 4:15pm

**Please ensure that ALL children are collected from clubs outside the main reception on time.**

## Acacia Tree

As we enter the season of Spring, it is lovely to see our Acacia Tree come into blossom. It gives us all happy memories.





# Thursday 6th April 11am to 3pm

CREWE LIFESTYLE CENTRE  
(FAMILY CENTRE ENTRANCE)

CWI 2BB

WILLOW  
WEAVING

EASTER  
ARTS &  
CRAFTS

Easter

Participation

ACTIVITY DAY

LUNCH AND  
REFRESHMENTS  
INCLUDED!

FREE SCHOOL  
MEAL  
CAMPAIGN

DEBATES &  
COOKING

For young people aged 11-18 (or 25 if SEND  
or Care Experienced)

Limited spaces available, please  
book a space by contacting  
[participation@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:participation@cheshireeast.gov.uk)  
or 07890 321844.

Cheshire East  
Council





## EASTER 2023 Free family fun

St Peters Church, Earle Street  
Mon 3rd, Tue 4th and Wed 5th April  
Wed 12th, Thurs 13th and Fri 14th April  
10:30am-1:30pm

St Andrews Church, Bedford Street  
Wed 12th April and Thur 13th April  
11:30-3:30pm



**Free Hot or cold lunch for children  
each day**

**Wishing Well Children & Families Hub**

# EASTER

## *Holiday Clubs*

**THURSDAY 6TH & THURSDAY 13TH APRIL**

**1-3PM**

**3 Chester Bridge Crewe, CW2 7EF**

for more information contact Mabyn on [mabyn.meredith@wishingwellproject.net](mailto:mabyn.meredith@wishingwellproject.net)

## Wishing Well Children & Families Easter Holiday Clubs



**Come and Join us this April  
for family fun in the Parks**

**Tuesday 4th 10-12 & 1-3pm @ Queen St  
Park, Crewe**

**Wednesday 5th 10-12 & 1-3pm @  
Samuel St Park, Crewe**

**Tuesday 11th 10-12 & 1-3pm @ Queen St  
Park, Crewe**

**Wednesday 12th 10-12 & 1-3pm  
@ Samuel St Park, Crewe**

for More information contact Mabyn via email on  
[mabyn.meredith@wishingwellproject.net](mailto:mabyn.meredith@wishingwellproject.net)  
or via our Children and Families facebook page  
📍 @TheWishingWellCharity #HAF2023

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**WISHING WELL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HUB**



**PRESENTS**

# **FREEDOM FRIDAYS**

**EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**

**6 PM TILL 8 PM**

**FREE FOR 10-16YRS**

**PLAY STATION, POOL, AIR HOCKEY,  
TABLE FOOTBALL, DJ YOUR OWN MUSIC  
AND MORE**

**@ WISHING WELL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HUB  
3 CHESTER BRIDGE CREWE, CW2 7EF**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



# UN Rights of a Child



Governments should provide money or other support to help children from poor families.



## Protected Characteristics



There may be times when someone's age affects how they spend their money. Not all children have bank cards or mobile phones and not all adults want to use them either. Everyone should be able to choose how they spend their money.

|                         |                     |                                |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sex                     | Sexual Orientation  | Age                            |
| Disability              | Gender Reassignment | Marriage and Civil Partnership |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | Race                | Religion or Belief             |



## British Values



### Individual Liberty

People can choose how they spend their money. There may be benefits and consequences of spending money in each of its forms, which may vary for each individual.

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](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TWITTER

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages (tweets) of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be “trending”. Twitter users can engage with other people’s posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or tweeting back (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in October 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.

## INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS

Tweets are public by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The concern here is that young people may therefore connect and communicate with strangers. Some individuals may follow a young person’s Twitter account simply because they have similar interests; however, others may turn out to have more sinister intentions.

## FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT

Twitter has recently introduced a “view count” feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweets (even if they haven’t reacted to it). Previous research has found that unfavourable comparisons with other social media users can cause young people to experience feelings of insecurity, jealousy and low self-esteem – leading to an obsession with increasing their numbers.

## TROLLS AND BULLYING

The anonymity offered by fake profiles encourages some users to send tweets designed to provoke a reaction; to disrupt conversations; to spark an argument; or to harass the recipient. Such trolling and bullying can impact the mental wellbeing of both the target and anyone who witnesses it. Encourage your child to come to you if they experience such behaviour on Twitter, or if they see it taking place.

## PAID-FOR VERIFICATION

Previously, if a Twitter profile displayed a blue tick icon, it meant that the owner – usually a celebrity or a major organisation – had been verified as genuine. Now, however, anyone can pay for a Twitter Blue subscription to receive the tick, with the platform carrying out limited checks on the account’s authenticity. This could easily lead to more fake accounts impersonating real people or companies.

## CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES

In late 2022, Twitter stated that their “policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-amplification of violative content: freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach”. No policies have changed yet, but this wording suggests they may limit who can see posts rather than removing them. While supporting free speech, this could encourage an environment where some toxic content remains online.

## HIJACKED HASHTAGS

The hashtag (#) is one of Twitter’s most recognisable facets, allowing users to find specific trends or topics. But the sheer volume of tweets each hour can rapidly distort a hashtag’s meaning: an initially innocent search term can quickly end up returning inappropriate results. This is common with “trending” hashtags, as people know that using them will get their tweet seen by a larger audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE

To reduce some of the fear of your child’s tweets being seen and shared by anyone, you can always make their account protected. This means that your child has to give approval for another user to view their posts. You can change Twitter’s privacy settings so that your child can’t be messaged directly by other people on the platform and their geographical location won’t be shared.

### FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

It can be difficult for anyone to ascertain if something online is real or false, but particularly for young people. Encourage your child to check several reputable sources to determine if a story they’ve seen is true; remind them to watch out for scams and think about the message’s possible motive. Emphasise that it’s not a good idea to retweet something if they aren’t sure it’s correct.

### ENGAGE SAFETY MODE

When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for abusive or spammy behaviour such as hurtful language or repeated negative replies. The platform then flags these suspect accounts and blocks them from responding to your child’s tweets. The autoblock function then prevents these accounts from interacting with your child’s again for seven days.

### EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS

Previously, any user could reply to anyone else’s tweets. However, the new conversation settings let your child determine who can reply to their posts – either by selecting everyone (the default option), people they follow or only people they mention (using the @ symbol). This improvement has given users extra control, providing them with more protection from trolls and online abuse.

### PAUSE BEFORE POSTING

It’s important that young people think about what they’re about to post and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed “nudges”: little prompts which appear if someone is about to tweet using harmful or offensive language. These nudges promote more positive online behaviour by giving users an opportunity to pause and consider their words before they post something.

### BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE

If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block and report them. Blocking stops them from messaging or following your child, while reporting an account alerts Twitter to investigate possible misuse. The “mute” feature, meanwhile, keeps tweets from a specific account (or which include certain words) out of your child’s timeline. The other user won’t know that they’ve been muted.

## 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.

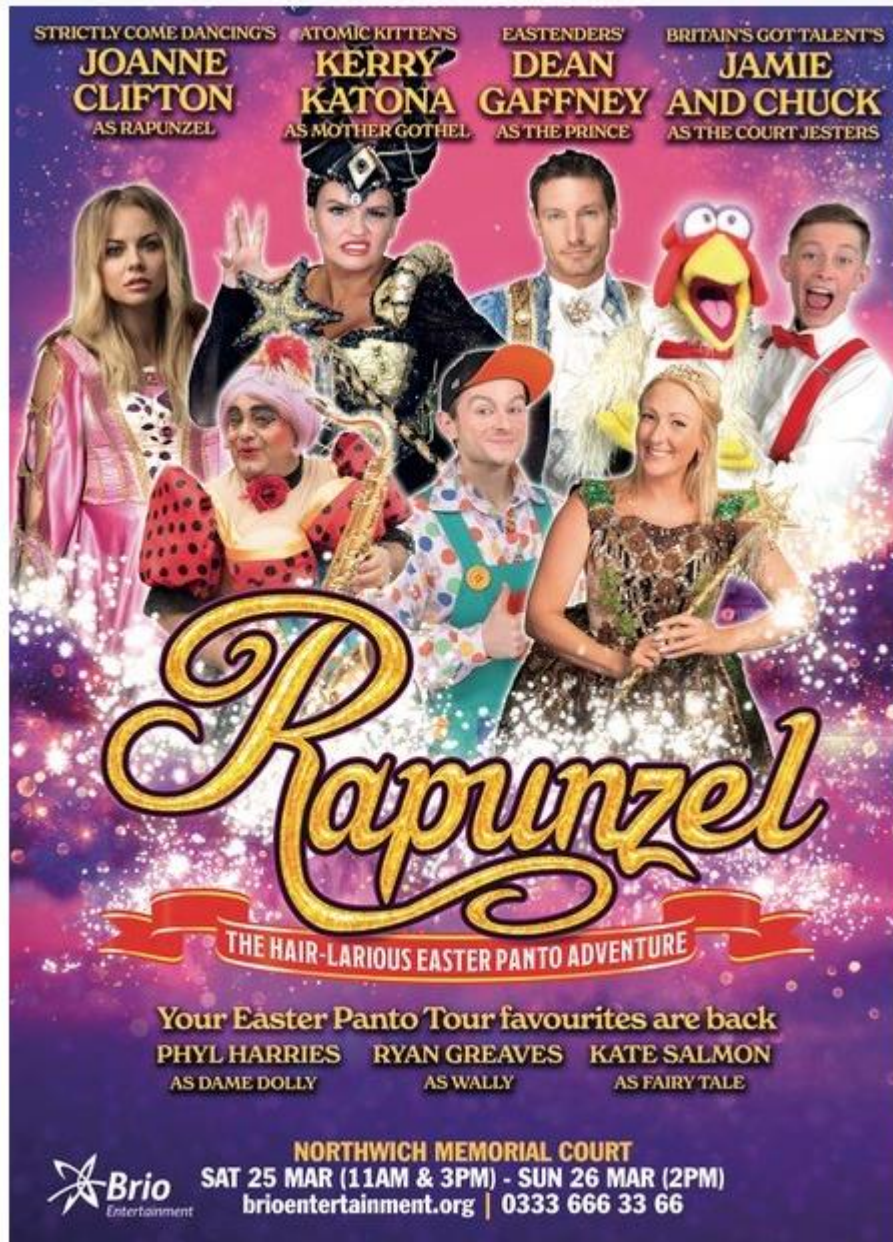


### BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW

As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the “blue tick” system, it’s essential that young Twitter users understand what this means, in terms of people not necessarily being who they claim. Anyone who your child only knows online is still a stranger, regardless of how long they’ve been communicating for. Remind your child never to disclose personal information on social media.

Source: <https://blog.twitter.com/common-threads/en/topics/stories/2022/how-twitter-is-nudging-users-healthier-conversations> | [https://blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update) | [https://blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-or-continued-commitment-to-the-public-conversation](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-or-continued-commitment-to-the-public-conversation) | <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=213&context=etd>

RAPUNZEL is playing at Northwich Memorial Court this weekend (**Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th March**) with a star-studded line-up: Northwich favourite Kerry Katona, Eastenders' Dean Gaffney, Strictly Come Dancing champion Joanne Clifton, Britain's Got Talent 2022 runners up Jamie and Chuck and Northwich panto legend Ryan Greaves!



There is an opportunity for you to receive a £1 discount for every ticket you buy. To receive the discount all you have to do is enter the code EASTER23 when purchasing the tickets from [www.brioentertainment.org](http://www.brioentertainment.org)

The cast are looking forward to welcoming many faces, new and old, for another laugh-a-minute ride through panto land next week.