

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

What a week it has been! Despite the relentless rain and winds, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents, carers, and students for your unwavering support. Your patience and adaptability, especially during the day when the canteen was out of operation, did not go unnoticed. A special shoutout to our amazing site staff, who have been absolute heroes in keeping the school running smoothly in such challenging weather.

On a brighter note, our students have had a busy and exciting week! We hosted our *Great Global Bake Off* in celebration of the European Day of Languages, and I must say, the standard of cakes, biscuits, and sweet treats was extraordinary. The creativity, skill, and presentation from our talented bakers was truly impressive. A big congratulations and thank you to all who took part—your efforts made it a delicious success!

I also want to thank the Year 7 parents who braved the storm to attend our *Meet The Tutor* evening on Wednesday. Despite the torrential downpour, it was a lovely event. It was such a pleasure meeting so many of you, and I was delighted to hear the positive feedback about how well your children have settled in.

This grey heron has been seen on the school field this week. We do hope he manages to find his way back to the river.

Let's all keep our fingers crossed for some sunshine next week! A little dry weather would certainly be welcome.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful weekend!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Pete Leatherland
Principal





THE GREAT GLOBAL BAKE OFF 2024



Thank you to everyone who entered the Great Global Bake off this week to celebrate European Day of Languages. We had over 30 entries from across the school. The MFL Block was full of delicious biscuits, cakes, buns, brownies and even a Great Wall of China!

The bakes were then all sold at break and lunchtime and we raised over £185. To reflect the international theme of the Bake Off we wanted to use the money to help projects overseas and so we have started the challenge of twinning our school toilets. With the Bake Off money, we have twinned 3 of the toilets around the school through the Toilet Twinning charity.

Toilet Twinning funds global water, sanitation and hygiene programmes run by Tearfund. 1 in 4 people around the world don't have a loo. Let's help flush away poverty!

More information can be found on the website <https://toilettwinning.org/>



Twin your toilet and fund a project in a community that helps families to build their own basic toilet, access clean water and learn about hygiene – a vital combination that saves lives

**Merci! Danke! Gracias!
Welland Park!**

THIS TOILET HAS BEEN
TWINNED



WITH A LATRINE IN
MALAWI

Latitude: -13.9122, Longitude: 34.4616
Chikanda, Salima

THIS TOILET HAS BEEN
TWINNED



WITH A LATRINE IN
CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Latitude: 9.4466, Longitude: -3.1236 Yalo,
Boua

THIS TOILET HAS BEEN
TWINNED



WITH A LATRINE IN
MOZAMBIQUE

Latitude: -15.6648, Longitude: 37.1051
Gune



IT'S COMING.....

Our Christmas Market trip this year is to Winchester!

Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market is recognised as one of the best in Europe. It is renowned for its bustling atmosphere, stunning location and handpicked high quality exhibitors, which attracts visitors from around the world each year who come to shop at the pretty wooden chalets, situated within the historic grounds.

Admission to the Christmas Market is free.

There is plenty of choice when it comes to food and drink at the Christmas Market. Traditional mulled wine, bratwurst, mince pies and stollen mix with mac and cheese, Yorkshire pudding wraps and much more.

There is a British Craft Village showcasing jewellers, painters, glass makers and textile artists selling unique gifts and decorations.

If you fancy a spin there is also Winchester Cathedral ice rink.

If you want to nip into Winchester itself you will find Winchester Castle where you can visit the Great Hall which houses the Round Table of Arthurian legend.

The Winchester College Treasury house's a huge collection of art and archaeology including artefacts from Egypt, Greece and Rome as well as casts of the Parthenon Frieze and Chinese ceramics from the Tang to Qing dynasties.

Winchester centre has a fantastic array of shops from individual boutiques to national chains. There is also an abundance of restaurants and cafes.

The trip will take place on Sunday 8th December 2024 and the cost is £28 per person. This is a PTA organised trip so please feel free to invite family and friends. For further details please email Mrs Burgess burgessn@wellandparkacademy.com





What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

INSTAGRAM



Instagram is a highly popular social media platform with over 2 billion active monthly users. The app is continuously updating and adding new features to meet the wishes of its audience, allowing them to upload images and videos to their Instagram feed, create interactive 'stories', go live, exchange private messages or explore and follow other accounts that catch their eye.

follow

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTION

Many social media platforms, Instagram included, are designed to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. They encourage scrolling often and scrolling more in case we miss something important – in essence, a fear of missing out. On Instagram, young people can lose track of time when aimlessly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers and possibly strangers.

UNREALISTIC IDEALS

Children sometimes compare themselves to what they see online: how they look, how they dress, and the way their life is going in comparison to others on social media. However, most people only share the positives about their lives online and many use filters when sharing pictures of themselves. A constant comparison with unrealistic ideals can lead to insecurity over one's own appearance and lifestyle.

GOING LIVE

Livestreaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real time. Risks increase if the account is public, because that means anyone can watch the broadcast, which could result in further contact from strangers. Additional dangers of going live include an impulse to act inappropriately to draw more viewers, as well as being exposed to harmful content or offensive language.

INFLUENCER CULTURE

Social media influencers are sometimes paid thousands of pounds to promote products, services, apps and more. When celebrities or influencers post such content, it often says 'paid partnership' above the post. In April 2024, Ofcom found that over a quarter of children (27%) believed in influencer marketing, accepting their endorsement of products wholeheartedly. So it's perfectly possible for young people to be taken in by this kind of content.

PRODUCT TAGGING

Product tags allow users to tag a product or business in their post. This tag will take viewers directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased. Children may also be encouraged by influencers to purchase products that they advertise.

EXCLUSION & OSTRACISM

Youngsters are highly sensitive to feeling excluded, which comes in many forms: not receiving as many 'likes' as expected; not being tagged in a friend's photo; being unfriended; not receiving a comment on their post or a reply to a message they sent. Being excluded online hurts just as much as offline. Young people have reported lower moods and self-esteem when excluded in this way, feeling as if they don't belong and aren't valued.

Advice for Parents & Educators

AVOID GOING PUBLIC

If a young user wants to share their clothing style, make up or similar and use product tagging to show off the items in their post, they may be tempted to change their settings to public. This leaves their profile visible to everyone, which carries the risk of strangers getting in touch with them. Set a child's account to private and explain the importance of keeping it this way.

HAVE AN OPEN DIALOGUE

Talk to children about the positives and negatives of social media, including the risks involved and how they can view or create content safely with family and friends. Explain how safety settings will ensure only followers can view them, and why this is so important. Also, if you find a child continuously uses filters on their photos, ask them why and impress on them that they don't need it.

MANAGE LIKE COUNTS

Due to the potential impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram allows users to hide the total likes on their posts, to prevent people from obsessing over that number in the corner. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes a person gets. This can be done by going into Settings > Notifications > Posts > Likes > Off.

USE MODERATORS

Instagram Live has implemented a mechanic called Moderators, meaning that creators can assign a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and remove the ability for certain viewers to comment at all. Consider this if a child in your care wants to go live on the platform. It's also recommended to keep devices in communal spaces so you're aware if a child does go live or watch a livestream.

FOLLOW INFLUENCERS

Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to children about who they follow and help them to develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, encourage the child to ask themselves if an influencer is trying to sell them a product when they make a video endorsing it.

BALANCE YOUR TIME

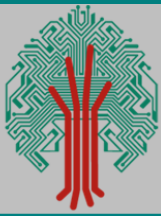
Instagram has a built-in activity dashboard that lets you control how much time is spent on the app. Make sure children sign in to the platform with the correct age, as Instagram's 'Teen Accounts' afford much more control for parents and carers over how long they can use the app each day. Talk with young users about how much time they spend on Instagram and work together to set a healthy time limit.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at @CyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College®



Welland Park Academy Lunch & Deli Menu Week commencing 30th September 2024

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Concept	American	Eastern	Best of British	Asian	Fish Day
Option 1	American Cheese Burger with Burger sauce	Chicken Shawarma	Glazed Gammon & Yorkshire Pudding	Hot Chinese Chicken Wrap	Battered Fish
Option 2	Classic Mac n' Cheese	Spicy Falafel Flatbread	Cauliflower Cheese Bake	Vegetable Stir-fry	Spicy Bean Burger
Sides	Hand cut wedges / Coleslaw	Spicy Rice / Pickled Red Cabbage	Parsley Mash & Roasted vegetables	Firecracker Rice / Sweet Chilli Green Beans	Chips / Baked beans
Authentic Italian	Authentic Italian Pizza and Pasta Bar				
Hot Deli		Tuna Melt Panini Jacket & Topping	Cheese & Onion Panini Jacket & Topping	Roasted Veg Panini Jacket & Topping	Cheese Panini Jacket & Topping

BRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR!!



The cold and wet weather is definitely starting to become the norm. We have seen many students starting to wear their coats, particularly the black puffa jacket.

As a large percentage of the students tend to wear the same style jackets and we do get quite a few turn up in lost property, could we please ask parents to ensure each item of clothing is named. We can then get items back to the student.