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Newsletter 26 – 26th March 2021

Class News

- Nursery - have been enjoying the arrival of their living eggs project. We have 9 chicks and have been learning how to hold them safely and take care of them. We've also been busy making our own hatching chicks!
- YR - have been learning to recite the poem 'Over the Meadow'. You can see us performing it on seesaw!
- Y1 - have loved creating their own animal riddles as part of National Poetry Day
- Y2 - have really enjoyed practising their ICT skills by recording short videos of themselves reciting poetry
- Y3 - have enjoyed celebrating World Poetry Day with a series of literacy lessons this week based on the poem 'Silver' by Walter de la Mare
- Y4 - have created an excellent performance of a poem based on The Battle of Hastings
- Y5 - have thoroughly enjoyed participating in a 'competitive' game of orienteering (among other things!)
- Y6 - have enjoyed analysing and learning to recite the nonsense poem 'Jabberwocky' by Lewis Carroll

Dear Parents,

Hearts of Gold Award

Congratulations to Georgie Hover in Year 5 for winning the hearts of gold award, this was voted for by the people in Ringwood for showing a lot of heart in 2020.

Drop off and Collection

Please try to social distance whilst waiting to drop off or collect your child at the gates. We are still in a state of lockdown. I do appreciate it is more challenging currently due to the loss of gate 4 however, please make an extra effort to wait on the other side of the road and only cross when you need to. Thank you!

Thursday 1st April collection details (last day of term)

Collection Time	Class	Gate
12.45	Nursery	2
1pm	Reception	Pedestrian & 2
1pm	Year 1	1 & 3
1.15pm	Year 2	1
1.15pm	Year 3	Pedestrian
1.15pm	Year 4	2
1.15pm	Year 5	3
1.20pm	Year 6	Pedestrian

Swimming Pool Caretaker

Don't forget to let the school know if you are interested.

We are looking to recruit someone to oversee the running of the school pool. This would be a paid position, is this something you would be interested in doing? Or, do you know someone who might be interested? If so, please contact the school office either via email or phone to find out more.

School Council

The school council are hosting an Easter egg raffle to raise money for the charity, Battens Fighters Forever (BFF). Children can buy raffle tickets from the school councillors in their classes for a chance to win an Easter egg! Tickets are 50p or 3 for £1. Tickets go on sale on Monday 22nd and the winning raffle ticket will be drawn on Thursday 1st April. Good Luck!

Afterschool Club and Breakfast Club

Don't forget we are offering Breakfast and Afterschool Club. The school has understandably noticed a drop in numbers attending. Please continue to support this vital service because if numbers are not viable we will be unable to continue to run it.

School Uniform and PE kits

Blue polo shirts will be required for summer term uniform, **starting after Easter**. These can be purchased through the school office. Please email in your requests and once the office has received payments they will be sent home.

Summer uniform –

- St Ives blue polo-shirts/shorts or blue and white check summer dress
- Black shoes/sandals to be worn (no open toes or trainers).

PE Kits

Monday - Reception & Y4 – Trainers and school uniform

Tuesday - Sporty Tuesdays are to continue for all. Reception - Y6 – Full PE kit

Wednesday - Year 5 & 6 – Full PE kit and shin pads

Thursday - Year 1, 2 & 3 – Full PE kit

Friday – KS1 / KS2 trainers rolling fortnightly. Your child will be made aware which Friday they require trainers by their teacher.

Internet Safety

Rec Room is a platform which has surged in popularity during the pandemic. Its user base trebled in 2020, as players realised that the platform's 'open world' nature and interactivity were a way of replication social contact. Use the attached guide to find out more about this game and learn about the potential dangers associated with it.

Dates for the Diary:

March

29/30th – Parent consultations

29th/1st – Nursery consultations

April

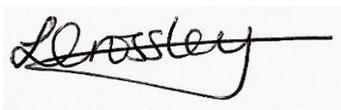
1st – Last day of term

2nd – 16th - Easter Holidays

16th - Check for confirmation of your child's Reception place

19th - Beginning of Summer Term

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Crossley
Headteacher





What Parents & Carers Need to Know about REC ROOM



Rec Room is a social hangout game, where users meet up with friends to explore and create rooms, each containing a different experience. One room might be a game of laser tag or dodgeball, while another could be a parkour course or virtual boxing. Available on iOS devices, PlayStation, Xbox, Oculus and PC/Mac, Rec Room is kidSAFE COPPA Certified and carries an age rating of 9+. Nonetheless, parents and carers should remain mindful that gaming online with strangers always carries a potential risk.

Intimidating Interactions

Rec Room is a huge online environment, with more than 10 million users worldwide. Before heading into the individual rooms, players usually mingle in the Rec Centre. Users can move their avatar around this social space and audio chat using their microphone. While most people just want to have fun and make friends, some may say and do things that others find uncomfortable, threatening or harmful.

Online Bullying

As cliques can form naturally during a gaming session, situations could easily arise where some children feel left out or even bullied. Gamers can victimise other players for no reason at all, and many hide behind an online persona which offers a sense of immunity from their actions. Even when players are banned, those determined enough can simply make another account and re-enter the game.

Sexual Content

Some rooms have adult themes and absolutely should **not** be entered by children. The game's code of conduct stipulates that players must be warned about anything of this nature before entering a room, but users who don't have a junior account could still potentially gain access. The major worry is that a young person could be lured into these rooms before realising what goes on inside.

Questionable Connections

Adding someone as a friend is a good way to connect with a person you had fun with online. However, not everybody is who they seem, and some might have more sinister ideas once a friendship has been established. When two players (who don't have junior accounts) accept each other as friends in Rec Room, they're able to chat privately, track each other in-game, and plan to go into rooms together on their own.

Violent or Scary Themes

Rec Room contains mild violent or scary themes, including weapons like swords and paintball guns. It is quite tame compared with many other games but might still leave an impression on younger children. This applies even more when playing in virtual reality: VR significantly enhances an experience – whether exciting or frightening – and can have a lasting impact on young ones who may be upset by adult themes.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Junior Accounts

Junior users can't send or receive audio and private messages, or create their own room. Anybody under 13 is required to have a junior account, and those accounts are linked to (and moderated by) a parent or guardian account. To create one, start a new game of Rec Room, go to 'Create an Account' and follow the instructions. Be sure to explain the restrictions to your children before letting them play.

Block and Report

To help moderate problem users, select the player (click the right thumb stick on PS4, press 'T' on PC, point in VR, etc). The 'Comfort and Moderation' screen presents options including block, unblock, votekick and report. Players you block will not be allowed in the same room as you. The Rec Room website's code of conduct can help you decide whether a player has violated the terms and should be reported.

Tailor the Experience

In the settings (within the 'Watch Menu'), you can tweak individual parts of the Rec Room experience. Everything from muting other players' audio, muting your mic and tweaking voice pitch, through to selecting how close other players can get to you can be found here. This is ideal for people who prefer to avoid social interactions or simply want to enjoy the game without worrying about other players.

Disable Payment Methods

Rec Room is free to download and play, but there *are* in-game purchases – items like cosmetics and costumes – that users pay for with real money. If you have a card attached to any platform accounts (like a PlayStation or Steam account), be aware that children might therefore incur costs on these without meaning to. It's safest to unlink any payment methods before you download the game.

Get Involved

As it's such a popular game, there are lots of content creators on YouTube and Twitch whose output focuses on Rec Room. Most of this content is tailored to a younger audience. Talking to your child about their favourite creators – and watching their videos together – is good way of opening a dialogue about your child's experiences in Rec Room and understanding which aspects of the game they enjoy.

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



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