



Thursday 15th February 2024 (4 pages)

ATTENDANCE

Well done to everyone in the green! Red figures are a combination of illness and unauthorised absence.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u> <u>%</u>
<u>RECEPTION</u>	100%
<u>YEAR 1</u>	93%
<u>YEAR 2</u>	100%
<u>YEAR 3</u>	96%
<u>YEAR 4</u>	95%

GENERAL WELL DONE

We have had a super half term with lots of amazing learning experiences including a Viking visit in school for Class 3, and a trip to the Sikhi Gurudwara for Years 1 to 4. In addition, all children have had the chance to make pancakes, design and build skateparks for finger boards and create beautiful wire art work and dragon eyes. This is all in addition to making great progress in Reading, Writing, Maths and all subjects.

We were delighted to receive several emails with photographs of pupils continuing their love of learning at home with their own designs of skate parks and models both with craft resources and on graphic Apps. It is always a real bonus to receive this communication from parents and carers and confirms that our pupils have a real love of learning, making our job all the more rewarding.

Everyone is looking forward to a short break and I know we are all looking forward to lighter nights and warmer weather!

We wish you a very happy half term and look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday 26th February for even more exciting learning opportunities.

PANCAKES



PARENTZONE-ONLINE SAFETY

Every few weeks, we will share information or an article about online safety. These guides can be found on our website and also on the National College website.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION 13+
(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18 CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 11 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app, it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £59. TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people: compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-18s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.03.2023

PE KITS

Please ensure children have their PE kits in school on **Monday 26th February**.

Class 2 will be doing INVASION GAMES and Class 3 will be doing FOOTBALL. Children will need PE kits suitable for outdoors e.g. trainers, leggings/shorts and a sweatshirt or hoody.

COMMUNICATION

If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please either send them an email directly or ring the school office and they will aim to return your call as soon as possible.

Class 1 (Nursery/Reception) -Mrs Wilkinson

email: melanie.wilkinson@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

Class 2 (Year 1 and 2)-Mrs Blythe

email: karen.blythe@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

Class 3 (Year 3 and 4)-Mrs Long

email: judel.long@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

For queries regarding Parent pay, Nursery funding or sessions, clubs, milk, Breakfast club and school dinner, please email our Office Manager Mrs Clark.

email: admin@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

DIARY DATES

Friday 16 th February:	Teacher Day
Monday 26 th February:	Spring 2 starts-PE, All Clubs and Swimming resume
Tuesday 5 th March:	Y4 Bikeability-information pack sent home today
Thursday 7 th March:	World Book Day-children can bring in their favourite book Friends from the Village-World Book Day theme (Class 3) Class 1 and 2-Simon Bartram-virtual author session
Monday 11 th March:	Y3/4 Stadium Tour of St. James Park (more info to follow)
Friday 15 th March:	Comic Relief-non school uniform (optional)-link for donation to follow
Wednesday 20 th March:	Y2-4 Queens Hall visit- 'Fishing for Rainbows' (more info to follow)
Thursday 28 th March:	Break up for Easter (Good Friday is on Friday 29 th March)
Monday 15 th April:	Summer 1 starts Reception Parent Consultations
Monday 22 nd April:	Reception, Class 2 and 3 Parent Consultations
Wednesday 24 th April:	Class 2 and 3 Parent Consultations
Thursday 25 th April:	Class 2 and 3 Parent Consultations
Monday 6 th May:	Bank Holiday
Friday 24 th May:	Last day of Summer 1



HUMSHAUGH YOUTH CLUB

Tuesdays @ Village Hall
6pm -7.30pm : Youth (Yrs 4-8)

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2024

FEBRUARY

13th: Valentine Disco and Pancakes
20th: Closed HALF TERM
27th: Cupcake making



MARCH

5th: Closed
12th: Red noses, Jigsaws and Lego
19th : St Patricks day fun
26th: Easter Egg hunt



No session 2nd and 9th April
Easter Holidays

FOR MORE INFO, CALL/TEXT/WHATSAPP
LISA ON 07826 020949 OR EMAIL
LISA.ROBINSON@NORTHTYNEYOUTH.CO.UK

