



Monday Memo Newsletter

Monday 19th May 2025



Walk, scooter or cycle to school



This Thursday 22nd May, we are inviting everybody where possible to walk, scooter or cycle to school, to help raise awareness about the importance of mental health.

Research has shown that children who walk to school are often brighter and more alert.

A 15-minute walk or cycle to and from school will provide half of the recommended daily exercise intake.



Worship Values

Our worship value this half term is Joy.

In our weekly Thursday worship, we will celebrate 1 pupil from each class who has shown the term's value.

This term we will celebrate our 'Jubilant Joy'.



Attendance

w/b 12/05/25

Reception 95% Year 1 97% Year 2 98%

Year 3 99% Year 4 99%

Year 5 95% Year 6 100%

Whole School Overall 98%

Target 97%

Diary Dates

Wednesday 21st May

Year 4 Class Worship 09:05am

FOSPS Movie Night 5:45 pm – 7:45pm

Thursday 22nd May

EXFS/Key Stage 1 Sports Day 1:30pm

Key Stage 2 Sports Day

09:30am

Walk, scooter or cycle to school

Friday 23rd May

End of Term Awards 09:05am

School closes at 3:20pm



House Points

The winning team at the end of each half term wins a reward afternoon.

w/b 12/05/25 results are:

Pendle: 216

Longridge: 201

Bowland: 209

Partick: 167

Parish News & Events

Warm Space (coffee and bacon butties) Tuesdays
09:00am – 11:30am

Supported by members of our Children's Chaplain from 10:00-10:30am





FARINGTON MOSS ST. PAUL'S



SPORTS DAY

THURSDAY 22ND MAY

KEY STAGE 2
EYFS/KEY STAGE 1

09:30AM
1:30PM



St Paul's Church
Farington Moss

**FREE
ENTRY**

SUMMER FAYRE

**Saturday 28th June
11am to 1.30pm**



RAFFLE - FIRST PRIZE £100 - drawn at 12.45pm
TOMBOLA | BOTTLE STALL | CAKE STALL
FOOD AND DRINKS | ... AND MUCH MORE

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 5 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College