SELBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

12/11/26

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support last week at our amazing bonfire and fireworks evening. We were delighted that so many of you could attend our main school fundraising event of the year. The rain held off, the fireworks were stunning and Hammoudi (Y2) won the raffle to start the wonderful display. We are very grateful to our sponsors who contributed so generously to our event and to Martin from EastWest Connect (a local company) who not only sponsored the event but volunteered the whole evening on the barbeque and washed up at the end of the night! We have counted all the money raised and we made £5054 profit which is incredible! This money goes towards subsidising trips (including the Year 5 residential), clubs and paying for visitors/opportunities for your children all year so that we can offer excellent enrichment opportunities to all pupils.





Thank You to Our Supporters

Local businesses supporting Selborne Primary School

iST Security

Your trusted security partner for schools and businesses, providing CCTV and security systems, gate access controls, fire and intruder alarms, and bespoke fabrication. Proud to support Selborne Primary School.

Email: matt@istsecurity.co.uk
Service: Free consultation

Trusol – Corporate, Leisure & Education

Complete technology solutions for education, commercial and public-sector organisations. Services include IT support, property fit-outs, meeting-room audio visual, structured cabling and digital signage.

Tel: 03456 121 222
Web: www.trusol.com
Email: sales@trusol.com

China UK Gateway – International School Exchange

Open your home, open a world. Recruiting local host families for visiting Chinese students and teachers. Hosts offer a welcoming home, meals and school-run support. Short stays (typically around six nights); compensation, DBS checks and 24/7 coordinator support provided.

Lead: Cindy Ding
Email: operations@cugateway.org

Owl Cleaning Services

Providing all cleaning services to Selborne Primary School for many years, helping maintain a clean, safe and hygienic learning environment. Delighted to support the school's Bonfire Night fundraising event.

Tel: 01895 625 855
Web: www.owlcleaningservices.co.uk

HM Electrical & Facilities Ltd.

Electrical installation services including new circuits, fuse board changes, domestic installations, LED lighting and emergency lighting.

Tel: 01279 628896
Email: enquiries@hmelectricalandfacilities.co.uk
Web: www.hmelectricalandfacilities.co.uk

EastWest Connect

Building services engineering, smart maintenance and specialist solutions. Over 30 years' experience, including MEPH system design and installation and service upgrades in live, sensitive and heritage environments.

Tel: 0208 208 4184
Web: www.eastwestconnect.com

Community Tea Party

On December 11th, we invite all our elderly Medway neighbours into school for the afternoon for a Christmas Tea party. Year 6 serve them food and drinks, and some of our musicians entertain them. At previous events, some residents have said that it is the best afternoon in the run up to the festive season! If you know an elderly person who lives on the Medway and would like an invite to the event then email us their name and address, and Year 6 will drop an invitation through their letter box. Community service is so important and our pupils can give so much back so we are looking forward to the event already…



Medway Village Christmas Light switch on

Selborne school choir will be singing carols at the official Medway light switch on which starts at 4pm on Tuesday 1st December. This is a lovely community event which takes place right near to our school. Please try to join us after school pick up and officially mark the start of the Christmas light switch on. We look forward to seeing you there!

Christmas in the Community

Help switch on the lights to your local Christmas tree

Organised by Perivale Town Team

To find out more about Perivale Town Team scan the QR code

or go to dosomethinggood.ealing.gov.uk/your-voice-your-town/town-team/





Medway Parade

Date: Tuesday 1st December

Time: 4-6pm

Venue: Medway shopping parade, UB6 8HR

Details: Free hot chocolate, snacks and childrens activities. Performance from Selborne Primary school choir. Music and fun by the tree.

YOUR VOICE YOUR PERIVALE

CHANGE POWERED BY COMMUNITIES

Reception places available for September 2027

If your child is due to start Reception in September 2027 then you must apply to Ealing Council for a place before 15th January 2027. Selborne is a popular and over subscribed school so you must get your application in on time. If you know any neighbours, friends or family who are looking for a high performing primary school then please recommend us. Ealing council informed us this week, through a standards document, that **our school results are in the top 10% of schools in the Borough!** Last year, we received a special certificate from the Government's Education Secretary as our school results at KS2 (especially for our disadvantaged pupils) were recognised as **excellent and amongst the very best nationally!** We have spaces in Reception for September next year… we are advertising on Hanwell Town football club's electronic board to let all in the local area know that they can apply to be at Selborne. Please look out for our advert as you drive off the A40 and point it out to all who you know. With schools struggling to fill pupil places right across the Borough, due to a falling number of children in Ealing and the sad news of potential school closures, we need to ensure that Selborne continues to flourish. We rely on you to spread the word about our outstanding school to ensure our future provision. We do not have any vacancies in any year groups at the moment but other families can join a waiting list if they want to attend Selborne in the future. Get them to phone the school office if they want a tour of the school with the Headteacher.

Selborne Primary School

Located behind you in the Medway Village, Perivale.

Outstanding
OFSTED 2023 & 2017



Forest School
Caring staff
Top results achieved
Vast school grounds

Apply now for Reception in 2027. Limited places in other year groups available. Phone 0208 997 1947 for a school tour.

Excellent Pupil Behaviour

Just before the half term holiday, we held our first star assembly. Pupils in Years 1 – 6, earn a (imaginary) star each week as part of our positive behaviour policy. After a child achieves 6 stars (and every multiple of 6 after this), they get to stand up in assembly, get praised for their wonderful behaviour and get a star prize. 6 stars was a shiny pencil which they get to take home and treasure. We hope that parents and carers made a fuss of all children who came home with their behaviour prize as they have followed the rules perfectly for 6 weeks to earn that prize. Behaviour across our school is exemplary. On the rare occasion that a pupil loses a star (for breaches of the school rules as per the behaviour policy on our website), parents will be sent a text message home explaining why and are expected to engage with their child's class teacher to get their child's behaviour back on track. For really serious breaches of the school rules then unfortunately there is school suspension but we are pleased that this is a very rare occurrence at Selborne. Our next star assembly is mid December where all children will receive a reusable water bottle for 12 stars! Please encourage your child as they work towards this behaviour goal. Minimum disruption and co-operating in the classroom and playground means that all pupils can learn/play effectively and safely so behaving at school is really important. We appreciate your support when encouraging your child.



Non-uniform Day

Friday 4th December is our next non-uniform day! We are going to ask that if pupils want to wear their own clothes to school that day, then they can ditch the uniform and wear their favourite (weather appropriate) outfit to school on that day. Please can they each bring a £1 cash donation (or more if you want to!) and give it to their teacher. All money raised that day will go towards some new KS2 playground equipment as ours has worn out and is not at all exciting for the pupils any more. This date is also the PTA Christmas Fair after school (3:15pm start) so then pupils can attend the PTA event with their parents in their own clothes, which school council pupils thought was more festive than school uniform! Thank you for your support.

Struggling to afford school uniform?

Please see the information from Ealing Council on pop-up uniform stalls which allow you to collect 5 items of pre-loved school uniform for free! Ealing free school uniform hubs - ActforEaling Climate Action Hub Additionally, you are helping the environment by not buying new. We have some pre-loved items of uniform in school too so if you are struggling to source an item then please ask at the school office and we will do our best to help you. Please remember that pupils can wear plain black tracksuit bottoms for PE lessons now (rather than shorts) as the weather is getting colder.

Dates

All dates are from the school calendar on our website

Friday 4th December
Own clothes day (£1 donation required) and
PTA Christmas Fair after school (3.15pm start)

Monday 7th December
Twelve-star assembly (pupils only)

Tuesday 8th December at 2:25pm
Reception nativity concert for parents

Dates (Continued...)

Wednesday 9th December at 10.45am
Nursery Christmas sing-a-long concert for parents

Friday 11th December
Last day for sports/hobby clubs and booster clubs

Friday 11th December
Community tea party for local elderly residents

Wednesday 16th December at 8:55am
Certificate assembly for Y4, 5 and 6 (parents invited)

Thursday 17th December at 8:55am
Certificate assembly for Y1, 2 and 3 (parents invited)

Friday 18th December at 8:55am
Christmas assembly whole school (only parents of performing pupils invited)

FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER
ALL PUPILS FINISH SCHOOL AT 1:30PM. NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB AVAILABLE.

FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER
Christmas holidays begin (2 weeks off).

YOUR VOICE
YOUR PERIVALE
CHANGE POWERED BY COMMUNITIES



Got an idea to help people living in Perivale find a job?

Whether you're part of a local organisation, community group or just someone with a great idea – we want to hear from you!

Your Voice, Your Town Perivale has a community fund (a pot of money) to support your ideas that can help people become more confident when looking for employment, and be more familiar with what's happening locally in Perivale

We offer 2 types of funding:

- **small grants:** from £150 - £1,000
- **large grants:** up to £10,000

Deadline is 1pm, 3 December 2026

All ideas welcome – big or small

Scan to apply

or visit

https://dosomethinggood.ealing.gov.uk/your-voice-your-town/perivales-community-fund-26-27/

Need help or a paper form?

Email at dosomethinggood@ealing.gov.uk

London Borough of Ealing

YOUR VOICE
YOUR TOWN
CHANGE POWERED BY COMMUNITIES

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION 13+ In the UK

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, that allows users to send messages, share multimedia, make calls, and participate in group chats. In September 2026, WhatsApp announced new optional parental controls for teenagers, including privacy settings, group notifications, and restrictions on AI content, which parents and educators should be aware of.



GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats help young people stay connected, but they can also leave them feeling excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and frequent notifications can create a sense of needing to be constantly available. WhatsApp's new parental controls notify parents when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size.

HARMFUL CONTENT ON CHANNELS

WhatsApp Channels allow users to receive updates from public figures, organisations, and content creators; however, some Channels may expose young people to misinformation, harmful ideologies, or age-inappropriate material. New optional parental controls allow adults to restrict which Channels teenagers access, including limiting them to approved Channels.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers may use WhatsApp to trick young people into sharing personal information, sending money, or sharing security codes. They may impersonate friends or family members, using convincing stories about emergencies or urgent requests for help. New parental controls can help manage who contacts teenagers; however, they cannot prevent all scams or fraudulent messages.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp allows users to share their live location, profile information, and Status updates. Without appropriate privacy settings, this information could expose young people to unwanted attention or reveal their whereabouts. New parental controls enable adults to manage certain privacy settings, including who can view account details and add teenagers to groups.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp features such as disappearing messages and Chat Lock can make conversations harder for adults to identify. Although these tools are designed to protect privacy, they may also make it harder for adults to recognise inappropriate exchanges or harmful behaviour. WhatsApp's new parental controls do not give adults access to teenagers' private messages or calls.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp includes advertising in parts of its Updates section and offers Meta AI, an integrated AI assistant. Young people may encounter sponsored content, misleading AI responses, or information which is unsuitable for their age. New parental controls offer a stricter 'Limited Content' setting for Meta AI; however, this cannot guarantee that every response will be accurate or appropriate.



Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLORE NEW PARENTAL CONTROLS

WhatsApp's new optional parental controls are being rolled out gradually, giving families more ways to manage teenagers' privacy and interactions. Teenagers will need parental approval using a parent-set PIN to relax any protected settings. Keep the conversation open and set up the controls together, remembering that parents can adjust or switch them off at any time.

MANAGE CHANNELS AND AI

Explore the new settings for Channels, Status updates, and Meta AI. Parents can restrict Channels to approved selections or prevent teenagers from viewing them. They can also choose Meta AI's stricter 'Limited Content' option, which restricts certain topics. Remind young people that AI can produce inaccurate information and encourage them to question responses rather than accepting them at face value.

MONITOR GROUP ACTIVITY SAFELY

New parental controls notify adults when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size. These alerts can help identify potentially concerning interactions without revealing private messages. Encourage young people to discuss unfamiliar groups, uncomfortable conversations, or pressure from other members and that they can leave, mute, or report if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

PRIORITISE TRUST AND COMMUNICATION

Parental controls should support conversations about online safety, not replace them. Explain that WhatsApp's new features do not give adults access to private messages or calls, helping teenagers understand that their privacy remains protected. Reassure young people that they can speak openly about upsetting content, unwanted contact, or pressure from other group members.

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.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.11.2026

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DISCORD

AGE RESTRICTION 13+ (with a 17+ app rating on app stores)

Launched in 2015, and with over 90 million daily active users, Discord has become one of the main ways gamers communicate – with text, voice, and video chat helping people connect around shared interests. For many young people, Discord can be a useful way to talk with friends, join communities, and explore hobbies. However, like any online platform built around communication, it also carries risks around strangers, inappropriate content, spending money, and time spent online. This guide looks at what parents and educators need to know.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is strongly associated with video games, it also hosts communities for almost anything you can imagine, such as books, music, influencers, cooking and sport. Some large servers focus on popular games like Minecraft or Fortnite, but many are private, invite-only spaces where friends or communities with shared interests can chat across phones, computers, and gaming consoles.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can become a real time-sink. Although it does not rely on endless scrolling in the same way as some apps, constant messages, group chats, and voice channels can keep young people engaged for long periods, especially in larger servers. As Discord is closely linked to gaming, it may also increase the time they spend playing games.

STRANGER DANGER

Users can choose to stay within private servers with only people they know, but joining public servers will most likely bring them into contact with strangers. Many users are just friendly enthusiasts, yet others could have harmful intentions, including grooming, extortion, or radicalisation. In these types of environments, anyone can claim to be another teenager, which can make it harder for young people to judge who is safe to talk to.

A HARASSMENT RISK

There is also a risk from people a young person already knows in the real world. Bullying in the real world can continue online, and Discord servers can make this feel more intimidating, especially if someone uses anonymous or multiple accounts to carry out threatening behaviours. Because Discord works across computers, phones, and gaming consoles, unwanted contact can follow young people into online spaces that should feel safe and private.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

This huge amount of choice can help young people "find their tribe", especially when they have niche interests. However, because users can create servers around almost any topic, younger users may still encounter unsuitable or distressing content. Even in spaces linked to child-friendly games, Discord cannot directly control every conversation, image, or video shared by other users.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is free to use, but users can still spend real-world money on it. This may include Discord 'Nitro', a monthly subscription that unlocks customisation features and larger media uploads, or purchases through the 'Shop' for profile cosmetics and game-related items. Small purchases can add up quickly, especially if spending controls are not in place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of Discord's 'Family Centre', which gives an overview of a younger user's activity while respecting their privacy. Messages are not shared, but adults can view an activity feed and receive weekly email summaries. Discord says this is designed to support conversations about online behaviour, rather than be about constant monitoring.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree clear expectations around when and how Discord can be used, especially during homework, bedtime, and family time. Encourage young people to turn off unnecessary notifications and leave servers that feel overwhelming. If Discord is mainly used alongside gaming, discuss healthy limits for both activities so that schoolwork, sleep, and offline friendships are not affected.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review Discord's privacy settings together, including who can send them friend requests or private messages. Use this as a chance to talk to them about strangers, privacy, and personal information, making sure young people know to question suspicious behaviour, such as requests to keep conversations secret. Show them how to block and report these kinds of users and reassure them that asking for help will not get them into trouble.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk openly about paid features such as Discord Nitro, profile cosmetics, and in-game purchases. Make sure the young people in your care understand that digital items still cost real money. Check payment settings on the device they use, avoid storing card details where possible, and consider adding approval requirements for purchases, particularly for younger or more impulsive users.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 23.09.2026

















Make sure to check our instagram page for the latest photos and updates!

@selborneprimarysch