

THE OBSERVATORY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

W/C 15th April 2024



Attendance

Well done to year 3 with the highest attendance score last week at 83.3%

WELL DONE!

Year groups attendance percentage.

Year 3 - 83.3%
Year 4 - 70%
Year 5 - 45%
Year 6 - 70.5%
Year 7 - 79.1%
Year 8 - 50.3%
Year 9 - 79.4%
Year 10 - 58.2%
Year 11 - 66.2%

Whole School Attendance-
66.9%

If your child is going to be absent please notify the school on the day by 9am.

Please either call the school and leave a message or use the ParentApp to notify staff of absence and reason.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS WEEKS



Congratulations to our Top Ten pupils.

Vyner

Leasowe

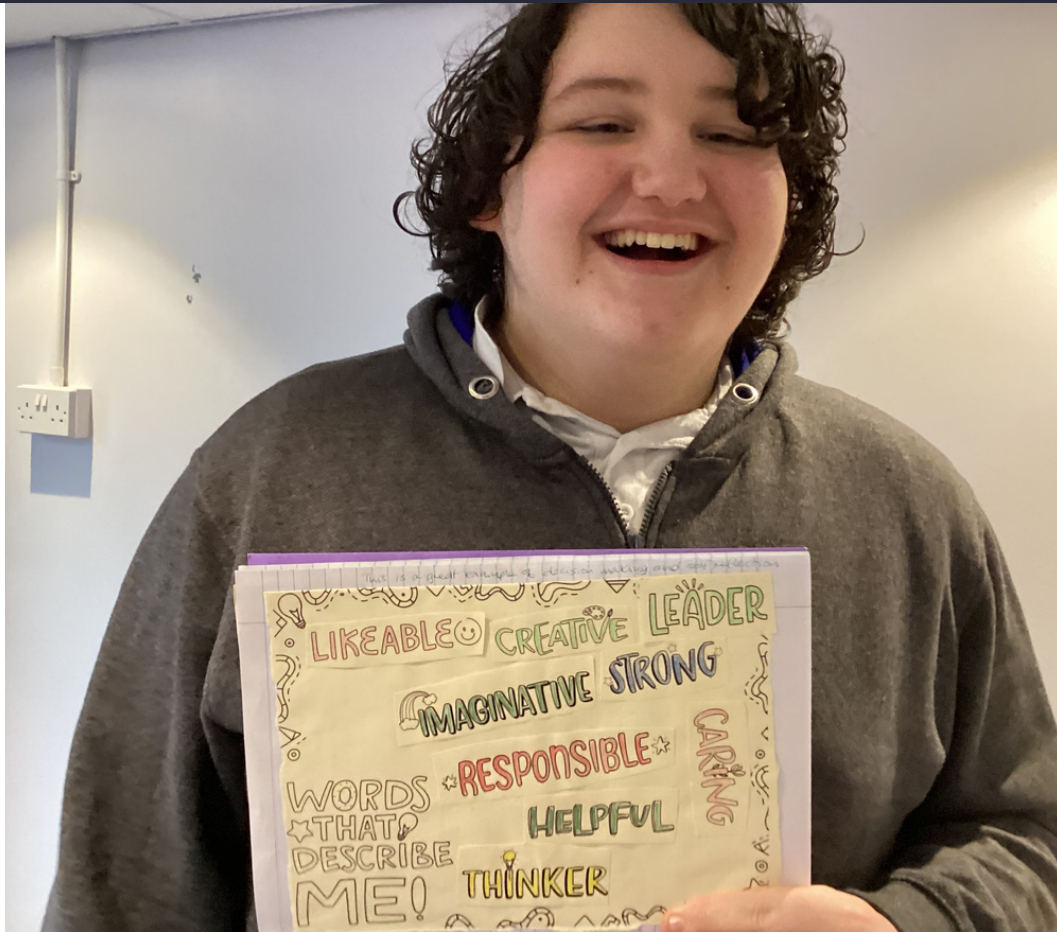
Lower School

Sam (8I)
Logan (7SE)
Bella (7I)
Joshua (7SE)
Ethan (7SO)
Kieran (7SO)
Reece (7SE)
Harvey (7I)
Oliver (7SE)
Carter (7SO)

Connor (34SE)
Harrison (34SE)
Lacey (56SO)
Alfie (56SE)
Sidney (34SO)
Reece (34SE)
Blake (56SO)
Henry (34SO)
Logan (56SE)
Max (34SO)

Upper School

Ruby-Mae (9SO)
Joe (9SO)
Arran (10A)
Jack (11A)
Jay (10A)
Olly (9SO)
James (9SE)
Warburton, J-J (9SE)
Sebastian (9SO)
Riley (9SO)



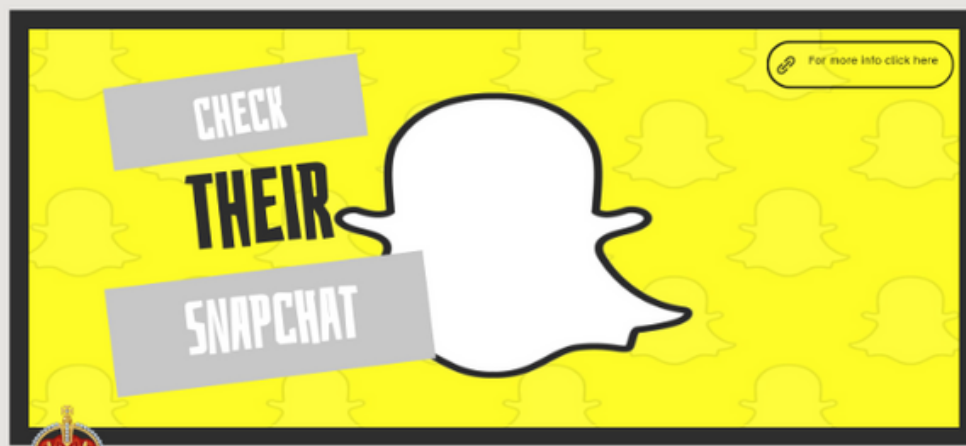
...is a great mixture of biological diversity and habitats...

LIKEABLE CREATIVE LEADER
 IMAGINATIVE STRONG
 WORDS THAT DESCRIBE ME! RESPONSIBLE
 HELPFUL THINKER
 CARING

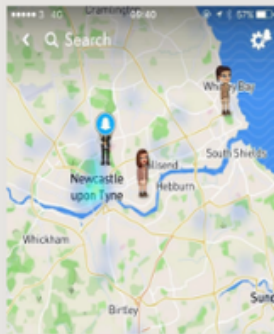
Cracking Times Tables

Connor	Level 20	Sam	Level 10
Level 19	Level 18	Level 9	Level 8
Level 17	Level 15	Level 7	Level 5
Level 14	Level 13	Level 4	Level 3
Level 12	Level 11	Level 2	Level 1
Lewis	Level 10	Riley	Level 10
Level 9	Level 8	Level 9	Level 8
Level 7	Level 5	Level 7	Level 5
Level 4	Level 3	Level 4	Level 3
Level 2	Level 1	Level 2	Level 1
Jamal	Level 10	Jayden	Level 10
Level 9	Level 8	Level 9	Level 8
Level 7	Level 5	Level 7	Level 5
Level 4	Level 3	Level 4	Level 3
Level 2	Level 1	Level 2	Level 1





MERSEYSIDE POLICE CYBER DEPENDANT CRIME UNIT



Snapmaps is a feature on Snapchat, which allows Snapchat users to see **exactly** where they are - it is extremely accurate.

Unless you change your privacy settings, anyone can see you and any posts you submit to Snapmaps.

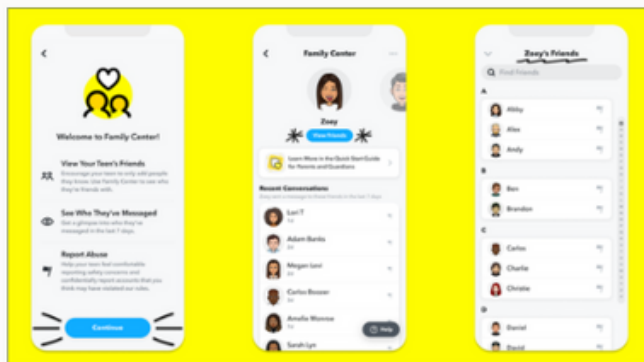
Be sure to check your children's privacy settings and make sure they are not publically visible.

There was a 25% rise in child abuse image offences recorded by UK police in 2022/23

Snapchat was involved in almost half (44%) of instances where the online platform was identified by police.

Source: Home Office Annual Report 2022-23

THE FAMILY CENTER



The Family Center was introduced by Snapchat in August 2022 to enhance Snapchats safeguarding element when it comes to teen accounts.

Snapchat states that their users must be over the age of 13 years, but we know that this does not necessarily mean that the users are over 13.

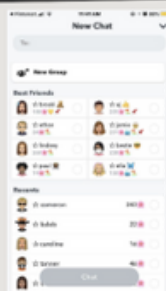
The family center allows a teen user account and a parental user account to be linked. This allows the parental account to view their teens friends, see who they are messaging (you cannot see content of those messages).

[For more on The Family Centre click here](#)

Do you know who your children are **speaking to** on Snapchat?

Their "best friends" will be who they speak to the most. But any of their contacts can see their "stories" and message them.

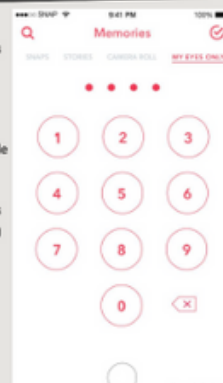
Make sure they only add or accept people **they know**.



"My Eyes Only" is a section of Snapchat where you can save stories or images which are **locked by a passcode** set by the user.

These images are only visible when the passcode is entered, the passcode cannot be recovered by Snapchat.

Investigations have highlighted this is the section where children are saving and storing indecent images of themselves, or other children.



It is illegal to take, possess or share indecent images of anyone under age of 18 - Including yourself

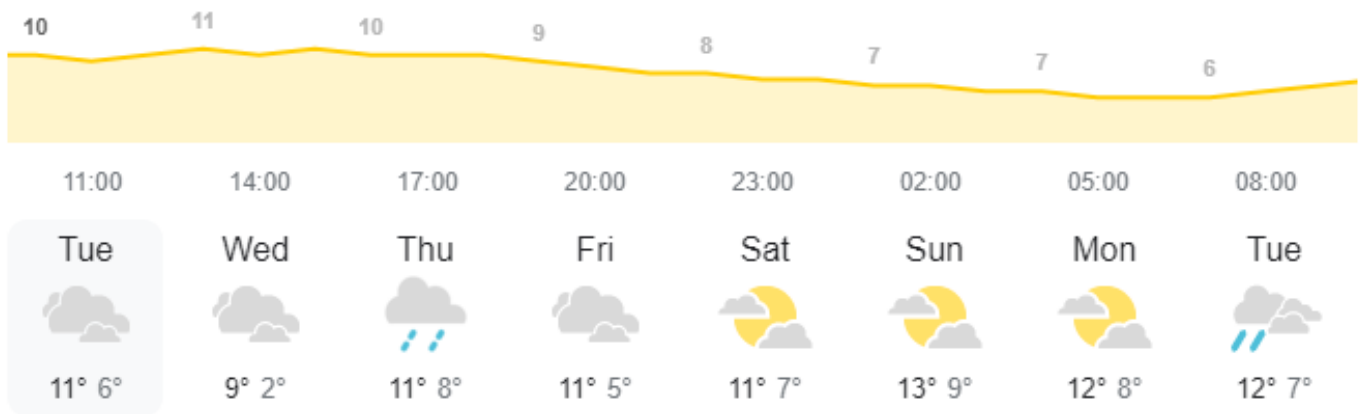
Dates for your



Upcoming Holidays & School Events

- Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday Monday
- Friday 24th May Last Day in School
Bank Holiday Half Term
- Monday 3rd June - Back to School

Weather for the week ahead



Please ensure your child is dressed in full school uniform unless otherwise told.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?

Why does attendance matter?

- Regular school attendance is central to raising standards in education and improving the life chances of all children.
- Regular attendance at school enables children to gain maximum benefit from the range of educational and wider opportunities available to them.



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 CLICKBAIT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users’ emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they’re viewing and why it’s harmful.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child-friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child’s sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could cooze a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Namely, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, disoriental and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory ‘rage bait’ articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It’s vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you’re still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children’s online activity to ensure they’re not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvy online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people’s attention – as well as numbered lists, such as “8 Facts You Won’t Believe Are True”. Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users’ interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.

