

Kindness and Co-operation	Thankfulness	Friendship and Sharing	Respect	Unity	Responsibility
Hope and Peace	Patience and Perseverance	Trust and Honesty	Happiness	Courage	

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD

It has been great to see the amazing learning that has been happening all around the school this week. Coming to school is shown to have a significant impact on children's development across a broad spectrum of areas, which is why school attendance is so important. For the last two weeks letters have been going out to parents and carers of all pupils whose attendance has dropped below 90%. Please do reach out to school if you need support with your child's attendance and we thank you for continuing to follow our policies for absence.

This week I met with the support team at marvellous me and have updated a few things, including the 'quick links' on your child's home page on the app. These have been personalised for each year group but if you think of another link that would be useful for your year group, let me know and I will edit this.

We have had a rise in online safety issues this term, perhaps because of new games and devices received at Christmas, in particular Roblox in KS1 and TikTok in UKS2. I will add in different parent posters for you over the next few weeks to support in keeping your children safe online, starting this week with Roblox.

Finally, I wanted to share with you some of our wonderful classroom displays. I hope you have a great weekend.





This week in Fir Class

Expressive Art and Design

We have been doing lots of junk modelling this week! We have been exploring different methods and resources to join pieces together. We made a class robot and the children have had lots of fun making their own robots. There are even a couple of our class made robots decorating our classroom.



Maths

We have been exploring measures all this week. We have learned the words *mass* and *capacity*. The children have filled the water tray up outside using different sized containers, and we discussed how we could fill it up quickest. We have also explored balancing the bucket scales with objects, then numicon numbers.



Literacy

We are continuing learning our level 3 phonics, and this week we have learned the digraphs sh, th(unvoiced), th (voiced) and ng. The children have done lots of practice writing words, captions and short sentences. Well done!



Knowledge and Understanding of the World

We have been talking about (and feeling) the weather, especially all this wind! We have also been talking about places that are special to us, and that make us feel safe, and linking this back to special places of worship.

Music

ABC

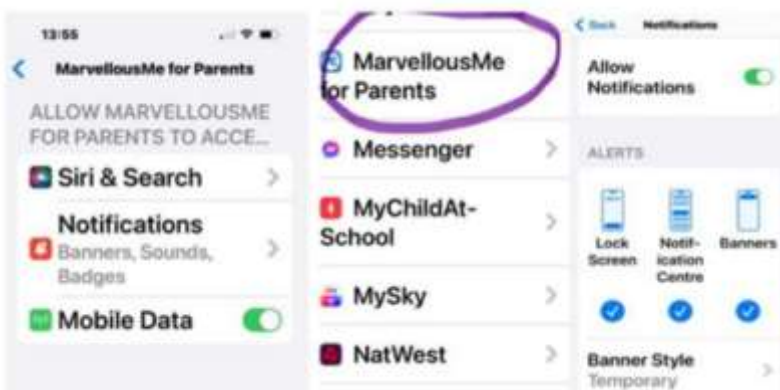
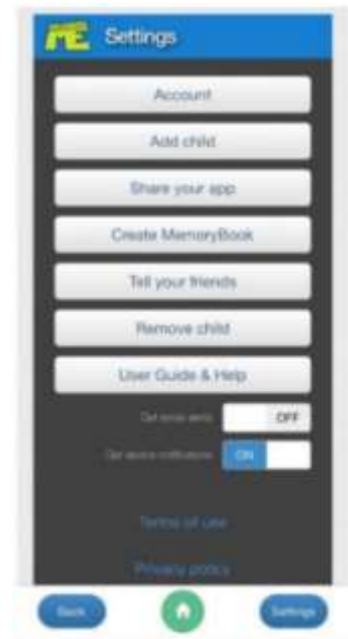
We listened to ABC by the Jackson 5 and discussed what we liked about it, or not.

MARVELLOUS ME

Following feedback that parents are no longer getting notifications when new marvellous me activities, badges or messages are sent, Miss Hyde met with the support team to try and figure out why. They have sent over the following information:

Parents need to ensure their device is set to receive MarvellousMe notifications, so they are alerted when a new message is sent to them/for their child. They also have the option to set email alerts.

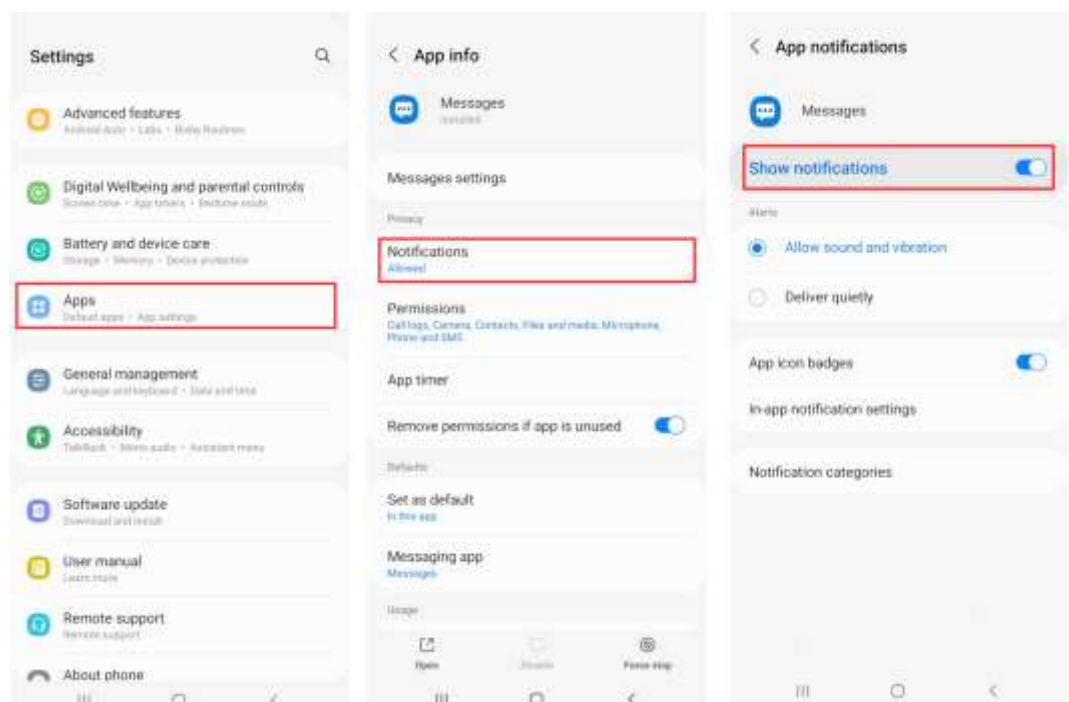
- Open the Parent app.
- Select Settings.
- Ensure the Get device notifications option is switched to ON (If it is already showing as ON, switch OFF, then back to ON)
- Optional: Switch the Get email alerts to ON.



We also recommend that parents visit their device Settings for the 'MarvellousMe for Parents' app and check their notifications will be displayed on their Lock Screen and with the Banner Style as 'Persistent'. This will help to ensure they don't miss new notifications coming through.

In android phones, you can ensure notifications are turned on by going to settings, notifications, app notifications and ensure that it is toggled on for marvellous me.

For more help visit the marvellous me help centre by clicking [here](#).



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

AGE RATING
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has genuine friends who they play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with others safely in the digital world.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

Sources: <https://www.pewresearch.org/2020/02/03/33-percent-of-us-kids-are-playing-video-games-but-barely-half-of-parents-are-aware/>
<https://www.roblox.com/en/games>

NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 13.10.2023

Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for...

...being a fantastic helper to others



Fir:

★ Florence

Yew:

★ Roman

Aspen:

Charlie ★

Rowan:

Lily

Poplar:

Evie

Juniper:

Scarlett ★

Sycamore:

★ William A

Elder:

★ Brooke

Well done to you all!

This week's House Winners



Congratulations!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday 8th February 2.30pm Parent Forum

Friday 9th February FoMT Non-uniform day

Tuesday 13th February Parents' Evening 4-6pm

Thursday 15th February Parents' Evening 4-7pm

Friday 16th February Half term ends

Monday 19th February Half Term week

Thursday 7th March World Book Day

Friday 8th March FoMT Mother's day gift shop

Thursday 21st March 2.30pm Parent Forum

Thursday 28th March 9.10am Reception and KS1 Easter assembly - parents welcome

Thursday 28th March 9-10.30am Pre-school Easter activity session. If attending the Easter assembly, please do feel free to join us afterwards.

Thursday 28th March FoMT Easter activity afterschool

Friday 29th March Easter holiday begins

Term dates for **2024-2025** can be found [here](#).

Attendance Awards

Week beginning 22nd January 2024

The best attendance award is presented to:
Poplar and Rowan class!

Mulberries

92%

Fir (YR)

91%

Yew (Y1)

95%

Aspen (Y2)

95%

Rowan (Y3)

97% ★

Poplar (Y4)

97% ★

Juniper (Y5)

94%

Elder (Y6)

93%

Sycamore (Y6)

94%

Our target is 97%



Love Yourself Day

FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

We think you're fantastic as you are,
come to school in what you love!

NON UNIFORM DAY

£1 DONATION

Sweet cones and milkshake cones will be
available to buy at the end of the day from
the playground and the hall.

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