



Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2024/2025 - Summer term

Friday 27th June 2025

Whinstone Wide - General school information

Electric Scooters

There have been reports from both parents and members of the public about children from the school using e-scooters. Concerns have been raised both about the safety of children using these and the safety of those around them. We have noticed that some of our children are starting to use e-scooters to get to school again, despite information shared on a previous newsletter.

In the UK, electric scooters are legal to own, but there are significant restrictions on their use. Here are the key points regarding the law:

***Riding Restrictions:** You can only ride electric scooters on private land with the landowner's permission. Riding on public roads or pavements is illegal unless it's part of a government-approved rental scheme.

***Classification:** E-scooters are classified as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988, meaning you need a license and insurance to use them legally. Further information can be found online or on the police.uk website - [link here](#). Taking this information into consideration, **please ensure your child does not come to school on an e-scooter.**



Vaping

This week, I received an email from a concerned parent who had seen an adult vaping on our site. Although smoking is banned in many public places, vaping still continues to be permitted. However, can I please remind you that both smoking and vaping are not allowed on any part of our site. With all the recent information around the harmful effects of vaping, we do not want our children exposed to this in any way. Our older children have received a session from some NHS staff who educated them on the dangers associated with vaping, and with it becoming an increasing issue amongst children, we do not want our children to be exposed to this within the safety of the school. I have ordered new signs to go up at all entrances to the site, which can act as a reminder, but please refrain from vaping on the premises.

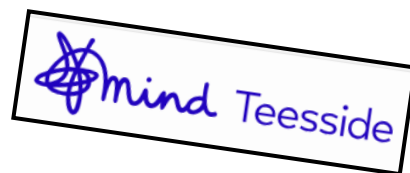


Teesside Mind Colour Run

This is a further reminder that the Mental Health Champions have arranged for our school to be taking part in a Colour Run, on **Friday 11th July 2025** during the school day.

This year we will again be supporting our local mental health charity, Teesside Mind, and their fundraising team will be hosting the event at school on our behalf. They will be creating some very colourful, magical memories for your children to celebrate good mental health.

Your child has already been given a paper sponsor form to complete. Once your child has collected some sponsorship, you should return your child's sponsor form and money raised to their class teacher by no later than **Friday 4th July 2025**. But please note, **there must be a minimum total sponsorship of £3.50 for your child to take part in the Colour Run.**



Sports days

Next week we have our school sports days. For all children, from pre-school to Year 6, sports day takes place in the afternoon. Due to the number of children in school, we have to split these over different days. The days we have are as follows:



Monday	Year 1 and Year 2	Starting at 1:30
Tuesday	Year 5 and Year 6	Starting at 1:30
Wednesday	Pre-school	Starting at 2:00
Thursday	Year 3 and Year 4	Starting at 1:30
Friday	Reception.	Starting at 1:30

We will open the gates at the front of the school and by the zebra crossing to allow entry to the field. These will be open 15 minutes before the start time.

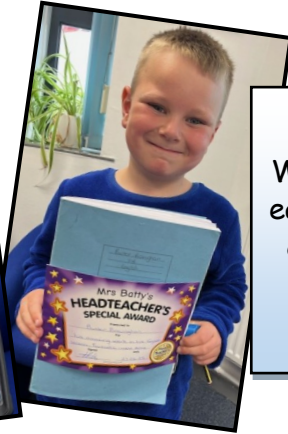
We are hoping that the weather stays fine and these will go ahead as planned, but as previously shared, we have put in two contingency days (Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th July) just in case. If for any reason the sports days need to be cancelled, we will share on our FaceBook group and send out an email via Arbor.

Online issues - setting up parental controls

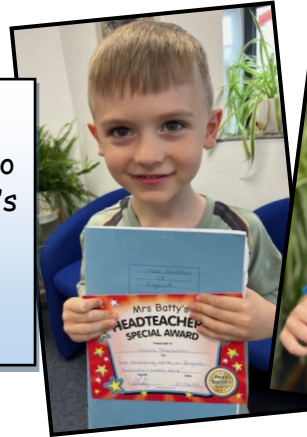
We are having more incidents of children being upset around online issues. As children are not allowed access to a phone in school, these issues are occurring outside of school but can still have an impact on school life. Many of the apps being used by our children have a minimum age of 13 as part of their terms of service. Any child who is under this age has provided false information to create an account. I have attached two information guides to the back of this newsletter to show how to set up parental controls on an iPhone and an Android device. If you require any further help or support with any aspect of setting up devices to keep your child safe online, please contact the school. Most importantly, please monitor your child's phone regularly to ensure they are using age appropriate apps and to check on what is being accessed or posted online.



Around Whinstone this week.



Well done to those who earned a Headteacher's certificate from Mrs Batty this week.



Our Mental Health Champions, alongside Mrs Burey and Mrs Gibson, put on daily events for Wellbeing Week



Monday was darts.



Tuesday was yoga.



Wednesday was bingo.



Friday was pyjama day!



Thursday was karaoke.



Some of our Y4 girls took part in a football event. They were awarded the trophy for team with the most passion!



We held our sports focus week. Children got to try out some different activities each day.

Thank you to Mr Robson for organising such a fun filled week.




Wheelchair basketball.




Yoga



Inflatable obstacle courses and challenges



Climbing wall.



Dance sessions



Our OPAL Build Zone got bigger and better and the other zones were well used!



We had our Summer Fayre.



Whinstone Stars



Max has swimming lessons. He is doing so well he has got 'Swimmer of the Week' and he moved to Stage 2.

Well done, Max.

Gio and his team were 2nd in the Under 8's Yorkshire Cup. They were only beaten on penalties in the final.

Well done, Gio.



Max plays for Thornaby Football Club and received a trophy at the presentation night for his fantastic playing and contribution to the team. He is a striker.

Well done, Max.



Whinstone next week

Sports days

All happening in the afternoon. See list at the start of the newsletter for your child's day.

Beach Party discos

The discos are on Thursday after school. You will have received information from FoW regarding the times.

Year 2 visit to Captain Cook Museum

On Tuesday, our Year 2s will visit the museum..

Year 5 visit Tesco and the library

One Y5 class will be visiting the library and Tesco this week. They are looking at 'Farm to Fork'. This will take place on Wednesday,. The other class will go next week.

Year 6 transition days

Most of our Y6 pupils will have some days for transition at their new secondary school. You will have received communication directly from the secondary school with the details.

Year 6 swimming lessons

All week the Y6 children who are not yet able to swim 25m will be going swimming. Don't forget the swimming kit and towel.

Safeguarding and Family Support



Stockton Family Hub - Warm Welcome.

A brand new Warm Welcome session is coming to Stockton Family Hub.

1pm - 3pm

Every Tuesday, starting from Tuesday 1 July
Stockton-on-Tees Family Hubs, Yarm Road

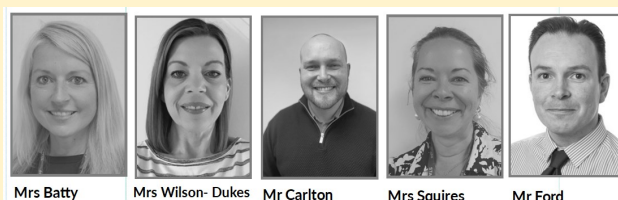
Pop along for a cup of tea, lots of chat and fun activities.

For more information about our Warm Welcome sessions, visit <https://www.stockton.gov.uk/warm-welcome>

Safeguarding :

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for the school is **Mrs Hardy**.

Our other safeguarding leads in school are:



Mrs Batty

Mrs Wilson- Dukes

Mr Carlton

Mrs Squires

Mr Ford



If you are worried about a child, please call the Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub on **01429 284284 / 01642 130080** or out of office hours call **01642 524552**

In an emergency, please contact the Police on **101** or **999**.

Attendance



Whole school attendance (year to date)

94.9%

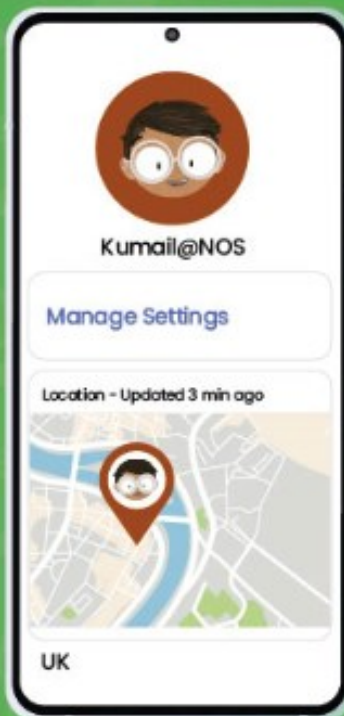
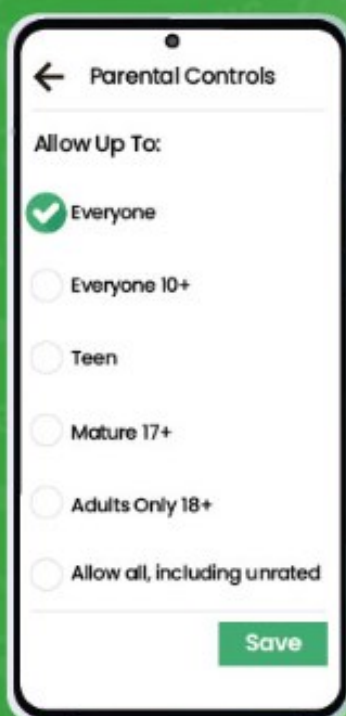
National average = 94.5%



How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS to limit age-inappropriate CONTENT Android Phone



The settings on an Android device allow you to prescribe certain rules for when your child is using it. For example, you can block specific types of content to reduce the risk of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate material (music with explicit lyrics, for instance, and games, TV shows or movies that are unsuitable for young people). There are two ways to access parental controls on an Android phone: through Google Play or via the Google Family Link app. You can also lock your changes behind a PIN, so your child (or anyone else) can't change them back.



Set up parental controls with Google Family Link

- 1 On your phone, install Google Family Link for Parents
- 2 Tap Open and review the information
- 3 Tap Get Started
- 4 Tap Next to set up your child's device
- 5 On your child's phone, download Google Family Link for Children & Teens and enter the Family Link setup code provided
- 6 On your phone, open the Family Link app
- 7 Tap your child's name
- 8 Tap Manage Settings
- 9 Tap Controls on Google Play
- 10 Tap the content you would like to restrict
- 11 Choose how to filter or restrict access

Set up parental controls with Google Play

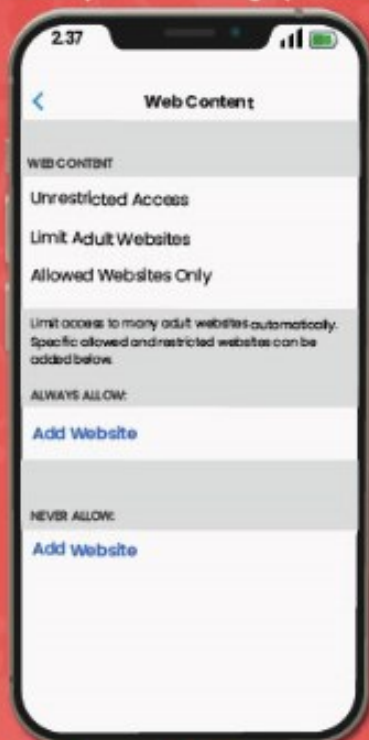
- 1 Open the Play Store app
- 2 Tap Menu (represented by three horizontal lines)
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Tap Parental Controls
- 4 Enable Parental Controls
- 4 Create Pin
- 4 Tap the content you would like to restrict
- 4 Choose how to filter or restrict access



How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS to limit age-inappropriate CONTENT iPhone



The parental controls on iPhones allow you to block or restrict certain apps, features, content, downloads, or purchases. Setting limitations on content ratings, Siri and web searches enables you to filter out age-inappropriate content and vastly reduce the likelihood of your children being exposed to unsuitable material and information.



18+ Set up content rating restrictions

Content filters keep your child from viewing unsuitable material. They block apps, films and TV shows with specific age ratings, and music and podcasts with explicit content.

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Enable Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions
- 5 Choose the Settings for each feature you wish to restrict



Set up web restrictions

Website content filters restrict age-inappropriate content on Safari. You can also blacklist certain websites or allow access only to approved sites.

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions
- 4 Tap Web Content
- 5 Choose between Unrestricted Access, Limit Adult Websites and Allowed Websites Only
- 7 Choose which websites you wish to allow/block

Set up Siri web search restrictions

You can screen out explicit language to avoid Siri displaying inappropriate results. You could also disable Siri entirely, so your child can't use it to search the web.

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions
- 5 Scroll Down to Siri
- 6 Choose to block either or both Web Search Content and Explicit Language

