NEWSLETTER

9th September 2022

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends (John 15: 12-13)

OUR CHRISTIAN THEME THIS HALF-TERM IS

THANKFULNESS

"Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

This morning, Friday 9th September 2022, at 9am the whole school came together in a special assemby to commemorate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II life.

As a school community all our prayers and thoughts are with King Charles III and the rest of the Royal family at this very sad time.

We will be placing a book of condolence in the School Reception area from Monday 12th September, if you wish to write in the book please feel free to do so.

Due to the 10 days of National Mourning and as a mark of respect the PTFA have cancelled the Colour Run organised for the 17th September 2022.

Welcome back to the first Newsletter of the 2022-2023 Academic Year!

We do hope that you all had a wonderful summer break and that you managed to enjoy the fantastic weather!

It is lovely to see all the children back and hope they are well rested ready for what looks like will be a very busy and exciting school year.

Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new children and their families to the school and we are sure they will quickly settle in.

We would, also, like to welcome to our team Mr Beavis who is our new Class Teacher for Otters class.

All the staff have been working very hard behind the scenes preparing for the children's return and organising the Autumn Term Topic Webs which will be available to view on the school website shortly.

This term's theme is "Firm Foundations" and more information/ pictures will appear in future Newsletters.

A welcome back letter has been sent home will all children this week with this academic year's Parental Consent Form attached. Please arrange for this to be completed and returned to the school office, as soon as possible.

Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to an exciting school year!

Helping Hands Box

Life is going to become expensive this year, with prices rising everywhere.

We all have days where we need some extra help and so we are going to put a box of food etc in the foyer, if you can donate the odd item great, if you need something please come and take it.

We all need to look out for each other.

Reminders

As we have several new families that have joined our school community, and as we all forget things sometimes, here are a few reminders:

School dinners should be booked by the Thursday before the week they are wanted.

www.schoolmoney.co.uk

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal every day through Universal Free School Meals Funding.

Any pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 that are entitled to free school meals can also receive a meal. There is an opportunity for all others to purchase the meals, if they wish, at a cost of £2.35 per meal.

If your circumstances have changed and you think you maybe entitled to free school meals, please obtain an application form via the school office.

We are a Nut Free school as we have several children with severe nut allergies.

Therefore, no nuts or products containing nuts should be in the children's lunch boxes.

The carpark is for staff parking and those given permission ONLY please do not use for dropping off/picking up children.

Can we please, also, ask that when dropping off/ picking up your child/ren that you are considerate when parking and take care not to block any access points.

We would appreciate it if you could ensure your child/ren's uniform is clearly labelled.

Please pay particular attention to jumpers, cardigans and coats as this will assist us in returning items to the correct child and keep lost property manageable.

Children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack for morning break.

Pupils may bring water, fruits, dried fruit or vegetables. No nuts, chocolate or chocolate cereal bars please.

Children in R and KS1 receive a piece of fruit or vegetable for mid-morning snack every day.

Please can you ensure that your child/ren are able to open any items in their packed lunch by themselves as, unfortunately, we are not able to assist them.

Please remind your child/ren that all the packaging from their packed lunch should be taken home with them so parents/carers are aware what they have eaten.

Fidget toys should ONLY be brought into school by children to meet their Special Educational Needs with the agreement from Mrs Bishop our SENCO and/or Class Teacher.

Please could you ONLY fill your child/ren's water bottle with water.

We are classed as a Healthy School and promote water as the healthiest option. We have had several spillages of juice on desks making them sticky and ruining children's work.

We thank you for your continued co-operation.

TEAM BUILDING

Staff Training & Team Building Day

This year on one of our Non-Pupil Days all the staff took part in a Safeguarding Workshop.

As looking after the staff's mental health is very important in the afternoon, we had a Wellbeing/Team Building activity. We built a campfire and cooked our lunch followed by some axe throwing!

All the staff left the day feeling positive and ready for the start of what will be another busy year at Latchingdon CofE Primary!

The staff wish to thank Mrs Kemp and Mrs Bishop for organising the day.

Times Table Rockstars Dress-up Day

23rd September

On Friday 23rd September 2022 we are launching Times Table Rockstars.

We would like all children to dress up as a rock star for the day and take part in different maths activities.

Please do not buy costumes for this event and use what you have at home. Children can colour their hair but please ensure it is washed out by Monday.

The children in Badgers class will have PE on a different date that week and an advisory text will be sent nearer the time.

We hope this will be a day to remember and will engage all children to use Times Table Rockstars in school and at home.

Times Table Rockstars Parent Workshop

23rd September – 2.20pm

As a school, all children from Year 2 and upwards will be using Times Table Rockstars for their maths homework this academic year.

On Friday 23rd September 2022 at 2:20pm, Mrs Peacock will hold a workshop in the hall to show parents/ carers how to use Times Tables Rockstars.

If you would like to attend, please call the school office, and register your interest.

We look forward to seeing you.

KS2 ROMAN WORKSHOP

20th September

On Tuesday 20th September 2022, the children in Foxes, Otters and Badgers will enjoy a special workshop delivered by Past Productions, where they will be learning about Roman Civilisation.

We are inviting the children of Foxes, Otters and Badgers classes to come to school dressed as a Roman on this day.

Please do not buy costumes for this event and use what you have at home.

PTFA

SCHOOL SHELTERS

Once again thank you to our wonderful PTFA who raised the money last academic year for two new shelters for the school playground.

The shelters were built during the Summer Holidays and the children have certainly made the most of using them since they have been back!

Essex County Council

Story of the Month- August

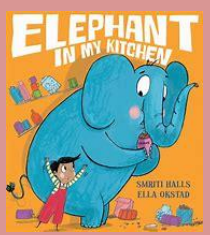
Every month during 2022 there will be a different story chosen and available on the Essex Library Service website.

The story for August if from BookTrust and is Elephant in my Kitchen written and read by Smriti Halls.

There is also a suggested arts and crafts activity that the children could enjoy after listening to the story.

It can be accessed via this link:

Story-of-the-month-August



Letters sent home / info on website for w/e 9th August 2022

The following letters have been sent out and/or put on the school website (under Key Information/ Information Hub/ Letters Home).

- FLYER TO ALL YEAR 6 PARENTS: Mid Essex Secondary Schools Open Evenings 2023-2024 intake
- PTFA: Meeting 8/9/22 at 3.10pm
- LETTER TO ALL PARENTS: Academic Year 2022-2023 (dated 8th September 2022)
- LETTER TO PROSPECTIVE PARENTS: Visits for Parents/carers of Children Starting School in September 2023 (dated 9th September 2022)

Headteacher Stickers

This week Mrs Kemp has given Headteacher Stickers to the following children:

Adora - Badgers
Skyla-Rose - Badgers
Roman - Hedgehogs
Nyla - Otters
Henry - Otters
Leila - Red Squirrels
Gracie May - Red Squirrels
Mabel - Red Squirrels
Leo - Red Squirrels
Liam - Red Squirrels
Poppy - Red Squirrels
Tacey - Red Squirrels

Maths Champion

- problem dated 9/9/22

KS1 Answer = - WINNER – to be announced next week

KS2 Answer = - WINNER – to be announced next week

Well done to you both!

Maths Problem of the Week

KS1 (EYFS – Year 2)

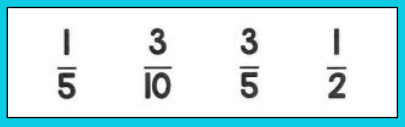
The Problem

Uma writes down a number.
First she subtracts 2 from the number.
She then subtracts 2 tens from the number.
What is the sum of the digits in the new number?

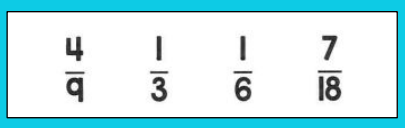
KS2 (Year 3 – Year 6)

The Problem

Which of the fractions add up to 1?



Which two of these fractions have the greatest difference?



If you would like to solve your KS problem, please put your completed answer, labelled with your name and class, in the **'Maths Competition' box in the main School Office Foyer by 8.45am on Friday 16th September 2022.**

A 'Maths Champion' of the week, will be announced in Celebration Assembly each week. Good luck!

Please see our website for full details of Dates to remember. Details of any events will be sent out nearer the time.

September 2022

1ST & 2ND Sept – NON-PUPIL DAYS
5TH Sept – First Day Academic Year 2022-2023
6th Sept – 2.45pm – Meet the Teacher - Hedgehogs
7th Sept – 2.45pm – Meet the Teacher - Foxes
8th Sept – 2.45pm – Meet the Teacher – Red Squirrels (Year 1's only)
8th Sept – 3.10pm – PTFA Meeting
9th Sept – 2.45pm – Meet the Teacher - Badgers
14th Sept – 2.45pm - Meet the Teacher - Otters
20th Sept – KS2 Roman Workshop – Come to school dressed as a Roman! Foxes, Otters & Badgers
23rd Sept – Times Tables Rockstars Day – Come to school dressed as a Rockstar! – **All classes**
23rd Sept – 2.20pm – Parent Workshop – Times Tables Rockstars
22nd Sept – School Photographs
27th Sept – Church – Harvest Festival with Rev. Julie Wilmott
26th Sept to 30th Sept – SAFETY WEEK
30th Sept – 2pm – Parent Workshop - Safety

October 2022

7th Oct – NON-PUPIL DAY
13th Oct – Life Support Roadshow – Year 5's
13th Oct – 3.30pm to 6pm – Parents Evening
14th Oct – Life Support Roadshow – Year 6's
18th Oct – 10am to 1pm – Mobile Library Outreach Van
20th Oct – 3.30pm to 6pm – Parents Evening
24th to 28th Oct – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

November 2022

10th Nov – Flu Immunisations
13th Nov – Church – Remembrance Service

December 2022

2nd Dec – 9.30am – Pantomime in School – Aladdin
13th Dec – 2pm – KS1 Christmas Play
14th Dec – 9am – KS1 Christmas Play
19th Dec – 2pm – KS2 Carol Service
21st Dec to 4th Jan 2023 – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

January 2023

February 2023

13th Feb to 17th Feb – HALF TERM HOLIDAY
20th Feb – NON-PUPIL DAY
27th Feb to 3rd March – MATHS WEEK

March 2023

3rd March – 2pm – Parent Open Afternoon
31st March – REPORTS ISSUED

April 2023

3rd April to 14th April – EASTER HOLIDAYS

May 2023

22nd May to 26th May – CAREERS & AMBITIONS WEEK
26TH May – 2pm – Parent Open Afternoon
29th May to 2nd June – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

June 2023

12th June to 16th June – Mersea Outdoor Residential Trip
22nd June – 3.30pm to 6pm – Parents Evening
29th June – 3.30pm to 6pm – Parents Evening

July 2023

6th July – 1.45pm – Sports Day
13th July – 7 pm - Year 6 Production
21st July – NON-PUPIL DAY
22nd July – SUMMER HOLIDAY

Attendance – 9/9/22

The Government expects our attendance to be 96%.

If your child is not in school, please remember to phone each morning before 9 am and leave a message. **We must have a reason to enable us to authorise the absence.**

If you receive a text message, please contact the school to explain the absence. If we do not hear from you telephone calls will be made.

Safeguarding requires the school to know why a child is not in school. Every child legally must attend school and parents/carers have a duty to notify the school.

Each week the Friday Assembly is led by members of Badgers Class. This week's leaders were Skyla-Rose & Skylar.

Well done to all these children.

Stars of the Week – w/e 9/9/22

Year	Name
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	Thomas-James & Daisy
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	James & Roman
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Eloise & Humza
4 / 5 (Otters)	Catalina & Bella-Rose
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Freddie & Skyla-Rose

Star Writers – w/e 9/9/22

Year	Name
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	Gabriel
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	Roman
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Judith
4 / 5 (Otters)	Holly
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Rylee

Good Manners – w/e 9/9/22

Year	Name
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	Sonny, Enrico & Umar
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	Abigail & Elsie-Mae
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Isabelle & Oliver B
4 / 5 (Otters)	Ian & Isaac
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Grace & Girush

Lunch Time Stars – w/e 9/9/22

Ruby – Hedgehogs
Albert – Hedgehogs
Ernie – Badgers

Reading Challenge – w/e 9/9/22

Year	% children reading at home regularly
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	83%
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	54%
3 / 4 (Foxes)	89%
4 / 5 (Otters)	Not counted this week
5 / 6 (Badgers)	

Mid Essex Secondary Schools

Open Evenings for Years 7 and 12 and Tours for 2023-2024 intake

The Beaulieu Park School

Tel: 01245 943400 www.beaulieuparkschool.com

The Beaulieu Park School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date: Monday 3 October 2022
Timing: 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Principal's presentations: 6.15 pm, 6.55 pm and 7.35 pm

The Beaulieu Park School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Date: 26, 27, 28 and 29 September 2022
Tour times: 9.00 am
Appointment: Please contact the school office to book an appointment.

The Boswells School

Tel: 01245 264451 www.boswells-school.com

The Boswells School - Year 7 Entry Meet Our Students

Date: Saturday 10 September 2022
Timing: 9.30 am and 10.45 am. Please contact Reception to book.

The Boswells School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date: Wednesday 5 October 2022
Timing: 5.30 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher's presentations: 5.30 pm and 6.30 pm

The Boswells School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Dates: 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 September 2022
Timing: 9.15 am to 11.00 am. Booking required. Arrive at Reception 9.10 am

The Boswells School - Sixth Form Open Evening

Date: Wednesday 9 November 2022
Timing: 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. Booking required.
Headteacher's presentation: 6.00 pm and 6.45 pm
Sixth Form Open Morning tours: Wednesday 16 November 2022, 9.15 am

Chelmer Valley High School

Tel: 01245 440232 www.chelmervalleyhighschool.co.uk

Chelmer Valley High School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date: Thursday 22 September 2022
Timing: 5.30 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher's presentation: 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm

Chelmer Valley High School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Tour times by appointment throughout October 2022. Please contact the school office to book an appointment.

Chelmer Valley High School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date: Tuesday 8 November 2022
Timing: 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form's presentations: 6.30 pm

Chelmsford County High School

Tel: 01245 352592 www.cchs.co.uk

Chelmsford County High School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date: Thursday 27 April 2023
Timing: 4.00 pm to 7.30 pm
Headteacher's presentation: 4.30 pm, 5.15 pm, 6.00 pm and 6.45 pm

Chelmsford County High School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date: Thursday 6 October 2022
Timing: 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form's presentations: 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm

Great Baddow High School

Tel: 01245 265821 www.gbhs.co.uk

Great Baddow High School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date: Tuesday 27 September 2022
Timing: 5.30 pm to 8.30 pm
Headteacher's presentation: 5.45 pm, 6.30 pm and 7.15 pm

Great Baddow High School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Tour times by appointment throughout September and October 2022. Please contact the school office to book an appointment.

Great Baddow High School - Year 7 Sport Selection Day

Saturday 8 October 2022 (Application deadline: midday on Friday 30 September 2022). Application via the school website: www.gbhs.co.uk

Great Baddow High School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date: Thursday 20 October 2022
Timing: 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form's presentations: 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm

Hylands School

Tel: 01245 286766 www.hylands-tkat.org

Hylands School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date: Thursday 6 October 2022
Timing: 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher's presentation: 5.30 pm and 7.00 pm

Hylands School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

September and October by appointment only.

Hylands School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date: Thursday 17 November 2022
Timing: 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form's presentations: 6.00 pm

King Edward VI Grammar School

Tel: 01245 353510 www.kegs.org.uk

King Edward VI Grammar School - Year 7 Entry Open Days/ Tours

Tours in Spring and Summer 2023 for Year 5 pupils will be advertised on our website.

King Edward VI Grammar School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date: Wednesday 16 November 2022
Timing: 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form's presentations: 5.00 pm and 6.30 pm - no booking required

King Edward VI Grammar School - Year 12 Open Afternoon

Date: Wednesday 18 January 2023
Timing: 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm
This event is for those unable to attend our Year 12 Open Evening on Wednesday 16 November 2022.

Mid Essex Secondary Schools

Open Evenings for Years 7 and 12 and Tours for 2023-2024 intake *continued...*

Moulsham High School

Tel: 01245 260101 www.moulshamhigh.org

Moulsham High School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 22 September 2022
Timing:	5.45 pm to 8.15 pm
Headteacher's presentation:	6.00 pm and 7.15 pm
Music aptitude presentation:	7.00 pm

Moulsham High School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Date:	27, 28 and 29 September, 4, 5 and 6 October 2022
Timing:	9.00 am and 10.00 am
Appointments:	Tours can be booked at the Year 7 Entry Evening or by contacting the school.

Moulsham High School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 10 November 2022
Timing:	6.00 pm and 8.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form presentations:	6.15 pm and 7.15 pm

Ormiston Rivers Academy

Tel: 01621 782377
www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Ormiston Rivers Academy - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 15 September 2022
Timing:	5.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Principal's presentation:	6.00 pm and 7.00 pm

Ormiston Rivers Academy - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Date:	Monday 19 September until Friday 30 September 2022
Timing:	9.30 am and 10.30 am
Appointments:	Contact the Academy on 01621 787844.

Ormiston Rivers Academy - Year 12 Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 6 October 2022
Timing:	6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Principal's presentations:	7.00 pm

Plume Academy

Tel: 01621 854881
www.plume.essex.sch.uk

Plume Academy - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 8 September 2022
Timing:	6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Head of Academy's presentations:	6.15 pm and 7.30 pm

Plume Academy - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Date:	12 to 23 September 2022: Tours are 8.55 am to 9.55 am and 9.55 am to 10.55 am. Please book appointments via our Mill Road Campus reception - 01621 879603.

Plume Academy - Year 12 Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 6 October 2022
Timing:	6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Head of Academy's presentations:	6.30 pm

The Sandon School

Tel: 01245 473611
www.sandon.essex.sch.uk

The Sandon School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 6 October 2022
Timing:	5.30 pm to 8.30 pm
Headteacher's presentation:	6.00 pm and 7.00 pm

The Sandon School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Various dates in September and October - please contact our reception team.

The Sandon School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 3 November 2022
Timing:	6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form presentations:	6.00 pm

St John Payne Catholic School

Tel: 01245 256030 www.sjp.essex.sch.uk

St John Payne Catholic School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 29 September 2022
Timing:	5.30 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher's presentation:	5.30 pm, 6.30 pm and 7.45 pm

St John Payne Catholic School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Date:	3 to 7 October 2022 - Please contact the school office for an appointment.

St John Payne Catholic School - Year 12 Entry Open Evening

Date:	Wednesday 12 October 2022
Timing:	5.00 pm to 7.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form's presentations:	5.00 pm and 6.30 pm

William de Ferrers School

Tel: 01245 326326 www.wdf.school

William de Ferrers School - Year 7 Entry Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 22 September 2022
Timing:	5.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher's presentation:	6.00 pm and 7.30 pm

William de Ferrers School - Year 7 Entry Open Morning Tours

Various dates in the autumn term. Appointments may be booked at our open evening event or by contacting reception.

William de Ferrers School - Year 12 Open Evening

Date:	Thursday 20 October 2022
Timing:	6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form's presentations:	6.00 pm and 7.30 pm

Parents and carers can apply for their child's school place online using the Essex Online Admissions Service at: **www.essex.gov.uk/admissions** Alternatively an application form can be found on their website or you can request a form by calling 0345 603 2200 or use the one at the end of The Secondary Education in Essex 2022/2023 Booklet (if you would prefer to apply on paper). ***Please do not do both.***

You will be able to make your application online from **12 September 2022.**
The closing date for secondary applications is **31 October 2022.** This is the statutory national closing date set by the Government.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

PEGI RATING 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 scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

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.

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.

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, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

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 some genuine friends to 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 other people online safely.

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.theverge.com/2020/7/21/21333431/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-is-playing-virtual-parties-fortnite https://corp.roblox.com/parents/

National Online Safety® #WakeUpWednesday

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