



Garras School Newsletter

Executive Head teacher: Mrs Linda May 01326 221653

Head of School: Mr James Sturges 01326 221653

www.garras.cornwall.sch.uk

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25th April 2025

Attendance last week (22.4.25— 25.4.25)

(Whole School Target—97%)

Barn Owls – 99.12%

Hawk Owls—99.07%

Eagle Owls— 98.52%

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Year to date (whole school)—95.85%

Dear parents, students reports will go out next week.

<https://www.qwell.io/with> .

It is a free, anonymous online service to support adults with their wellbeing and mental health.

We wanted to inform you that Mr Sturges will now not be in school until Friday 9th May. Hawk Owls will be covered by Mrs Hains and supply teachers known to Garras School.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact

Mrs Linda May on

linda.may@croftymat.org or call her at Trannack School:

[01326 572100](tel:01326572100)

Alternatively, you can speak to Mrs Rayner or your class teacher as normal.

Thank you for your support during the next two weeks.

DIARY DATES

Tue 29th Apr	Eagle Owls swimming session 2-3pm Helston pool
Tue 29th Apr	Sailing from 4pm to 6pm
Wed 30th Apr	SATS Club
Mon 5th May	Early May Bank Holiday. School closed
Tue 6th May	Eagle Owls swimming session 2-3pm Helston pool
Tue 6th May	Sailing from 4pm to 6pm
Wed 6th May	Last SATS Club
Thurs 8th May	Flora Day. School closed
Fri 9th May	Y6 Trip to Roskillys
Mon 12th May to Thurs 15th May	Y6 SATS week
Tue 13th May	Eagle Owls swimming session 2-3pm Helston pool
Tue 13th May	Sailing from 4pm to 6pm

Eagle Owls PE will be changing for this term. PE kit will **ONLY** need to be worn to school on a **Friday**. The second PE session will be swimming for 15 children who will be notified. Swimmers will need to wear school uniform to school on a Tuesday, bring their swimming kit and change into their swimmers at lunchtime ready for the afternoon session.

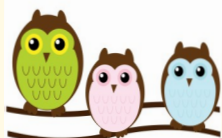
SATURDAY ART CLUB AT CAST

Age 11-16? Join us on Saturdays at CAST to work with artists, explore your creativity, learn new skills, and develop creative projects!

All sessions are free with materials provided and you don't need any previous experience to take part.

Our Saturday Art Club enjoys a variety of workshops and projects including printmaking, textiles, stone carving, darkroom photography, ceramics, sculpture, zine- making, badge-making, painting, drawing and more! Join us to make art, experiment with materials and relax in a welcoming studio space supported by professional artists <https://castcornwall.art/learning/programme/saturday-club/>

To take part, or to find out more please contact Kate@castcornwall.art.



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

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

YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm to children who watch or copy them. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.



MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!



CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by 'preschool' (4 and under), 'younger' (ages 5 to 8) and 'older' (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

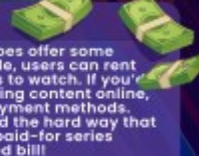
CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



Meet Our Expert

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



The National College

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UK Health
Security
Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.