



Allanson Street News

28th March 2025

Our value this month is:
Independence



Reminders

Please make sure your child is wearing the correct school uniform. Complete guidance can be found on the school website. If you have any questions regarding uniform, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Remember that we have plenty of pre-loved uniform in our Unicycle centre. If you'd like to access this service, please contact Mrs Browne or Mrs Tyrer via **Pastoral Clasdojo**.



Dates for your diary

COUGHS & SNEEZES SPREAD DISEASES



Please
COVER UP!

Coughs and sneezes spread diseases!

To help stop the spread of germs:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Throw used tissues in the rubbish bin.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands.

Remember to immediately wash your hands after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.



This Week's Highlights

In **Nursery** we have continued to focus our learning on the Very Hungry Caterpillar story. The children have continued to observe the life cycle of the caterpillars, waiting patiently for the butterflies to emerge from their cocoon. We hope that the Mother's Day cards and gifts that the children have created give a big smile to the mums.

In **Reception**, we have continued our learning about animals and created a fact book. Children have been working hard to hold a sentence in their head and write it down. In maths, children deepened their understanding of numbers to 10 by looking at number bonds and different ways we can make 10. We had a great time on our Blackpool Zoo trip, we saw lots of animals and learned lots of new things.

In **Year 1** we have been learning how to use a saw to help make the axles in our vehicles the correct size. We have been learning about mass in maths and comparing how heavy different objects are to each other. We have been introduced to imperative verbs and adverbs of time this week in English, to help write a clear set of instructions.

In **Year 2** we have loved making our healthy drinks this week and impressed the teachers with our careful cutting skills using the bridge and claw hold. We have also started writing our own diary entries as if we were a child living during The Great Fire of London, using all our history knowledge to really make our diary entries as historically accurate as possible.

In **Year 3** we have been building our own topographic models of mountains for our geography learning. We have also been working hard in computing, learning how to code our own self-driving cars as well as becoming familiar with the names and uses of muscles in the human body in our science lessons!

In **Year 4** we have really enjoyed toasting our own marshmallows at forest school this week! We have also worked hard to complete our non-chronological reports in English, continue to develop our knowledge of adding and subtracting fractions and whole numbers in Maths and spent time making some beautiful cards to celebrate Mother's Day.

In **Year 5** we have researched all about natural disasters and have created a detailed explanation text all about hurricanes. The children know lots of facts about the topic which we have encouraged them to share with you at home! The children also enjoyed practicing their life saving skills during our swimming lessons.

In **Year 6**, we have been working our little socks off in our preparation for SATs tests in 6 weeks time. In English, we have been learning about conjunctions, prepositions, determiners, adjectives, adverbs and pronouns. In maths, we have been learning about area, perimeter, volume, ratio, scale factors and percentages. We have played tag rugby in PE and have some very competitive players.

This Week's Value Stars!!

Nursery: Jamie, Otis, Hope , Hallie	Reception: Wyatt, Jason,
Year 1: Alfie M, River S,	Year 4: Esmee J, Lila W,
Year 2: Bailey-Rae B, Alister R, Mason W, Ellis O	Year 5: Scarlett Rose, Amelia H, John, Shay
Year 3: Savannah, Sophia, Keon, Emmanuella	Year 6: Skye H, Olivia W, Lucas E, Sophia W

Weekly Winners



The top Oxford Reading Buddies this week:

Students	Last 7 days	Average quiz score	eBooks completed	Logins
Layla S Year 4	97%	20	1	



The Times Tables Rockstars winners are:

21st March - 27 March 2025				
Year 3	154	Year 4	74	Year 5
Year 6	17	Year 7	1	



This week's tournament:

Boys vs Girls
in
Whole School!

Attendance



Early Years – N am 96.7%	N pm 97%
RKL 97.6%	RMC 96.1%
KS1 – Y1PT 89.7%	Y1TE 96%
Y2GW 92%	Y2LB 91.8%
LKS2 – Y3EH 97.3%	Y3LC 91%
Y4MC 97.9%	Y4MM 95.3%
UKS2 – Y5EK 99%	Y5NO 94.6%
Y6JM 92.6%	Y6LA 98%

(This week's winners are highlighted in yellow)



This Week's Learning at Home

Word of the Week:

Nursery – colour mixing	Year 3 – contour lines
Reception – fiction	Year 4 – knead
Year 1 – mass	Year 5 – withered
Year 2 – cobblestone	Year 6 – juxtaposition

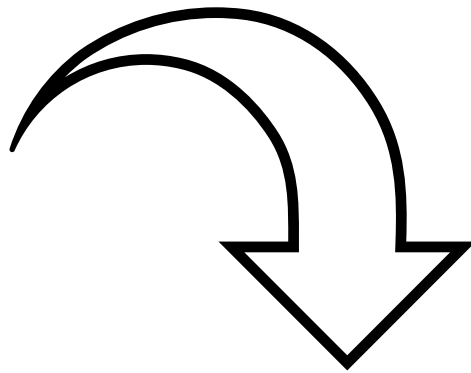
Bluesky is a microblogging social media platform that gained popularity after separating from Twitter in 2021. Since accounts must be public, this opens the door to potential trolling, cyberbullying and the spread of misinformation.

The National College have created this free guide, offering parents and educators advice and guidance on the tools available to keep children safe while using the popular social media platform Bluesky.

Sources

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c238y83l48jo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c8dm0ljg4y6o>



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.

ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.

LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.

KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Meet Our Expert

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



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>

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