



Which Week?

This Week: Monday 22nd Jan (Week 1)

Next Week: Tuesday 30th Jan (Week 2)

Inside Kingshurst



Bonjour!

We would like to remind parent/carers of children going to this year's educational visit to Paris that an information evening will be taking place on **Friday 5th February at 5.30pm** in the Main (A Block) building.

During this essential meeting, we look forward to sharing the full exciting itinerary, including a day in central Paris and Disneyland Paris.

We therefore hope our students are brushing-up on their best French phrases, planning their route around the theme park attractions and getting ready to absorb the cultural capital that can only occur through such an engaging opportunity of this kind! *Tres magnifique!*

Upcoming Key Dates:

Following last week's Yr11 assembly, please find further details of upcoming key dates in the academic year:

- ⇒ **Wednesday 7th February:** Year 10 Progress Review Evening
- ⇒ **Half Term:** Saturday 10th to Sunday 18th February
- ⇒ **Year 11 and Year 3 Mock Exams:** Monday 19th February to Tuesday 5th March
- ⇒ **Wednesday 6th March:** Year 12/13 Progress Review Evening

Parental Feedback

As we commence a brand new term, once again we would like to ask for your support in offering all of our parents and carers the opportunity to provide us with your valuable feedback based upon your experiences from the previous month.

Your responses are so valuable in providing valuable information for the us to analyse and reflect upon.

The survey is very quick and easy to complete and should take no more than 2 minutes in total due to it having been streamlined. and be accessed via the hyperlink imbedded below:

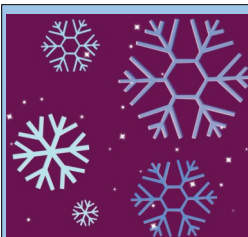
[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE PARENTAL SURVEY](#)



National Online Safety: YouTube

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

In the guide that you can find on page 2, the National Online Safety team have put together top tips on avoiding potential risks such as connecting with strangers, inappropriate content and high visibility.



Fact of the week: Snow and ice have different names for each type!

With us all experiencing a very chilly phase over the course of the last week (with likely inn store!), we thought it would be a good opportunity to improve our knowledge of the cold stuff.

*Snow and ice are made of nothing more than frozen water, but variables such as sun, wind, temperature and pressure give them countless different forms and properties – each with their own, often beautiful, name such as **Zastrugi, firn and frazil.***

Applications for Sixth Form can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk/sixth-form/apply-online/>

To provide feedback on the newsletter, please [click here](#).

Website: <https://www.kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk/>

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

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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 material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT 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 messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

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 can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that 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 harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

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CENSORED

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your 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 you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

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 your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

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.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday