

# BOORLEY PARK NEWSLETTER 27

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

A very warm welcome back to the Summer Term! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break. It's wonderful to see the children returning to school with such enthusiasm and excitement for the term ahead.

This term promises to be filled with many enriching learning experiences and events. We have an exciting curriculum planned across all year groups, with plenty of opportunities for children to explore, discover and grow. Keep an eye out for details of upcoming events, including Sports Day, our annual Summer Fayre and end-of-year celebrations.

We will continue to focus on our school values of Inspiring Minds, Nurturing Futures and Strengthening Community, encouraging the children to embody these in all that they do. We also look forward to sharing with you the newly developed spaces over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to a successful and rewarding Summer Term.

## INSPIRING MINDS

Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Sea City Museum today as part of their new history topic on the Titanic. The visit aimed to explore who was onboard the Titanic, what occurred, why it happened and how it has influenced modern boats. The children investigated equality and its impact on decisions made during that April night in 1912.



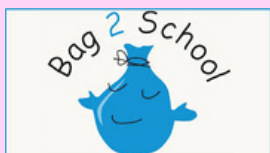
# NURTURING FUTURES

We would like to extend a big thank you to all the parents who attended the 'Zones of Regulation' coffee morning led by Mrs Darnley last Friday. It was wonderful to see so many of you engaging in this important topic, which helps our children develop self-regulation skills. We hope you found the session informative and helpful. For those who were unable to attend, as we use this to support all children in school to manage big emotions, we have uploaded further information and resources about the Zones of Regulation on our school website. Please visit the school website to learn more about this valuable tool and how you can support your child at home.



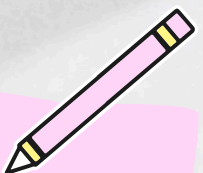
## STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

We are delighted to welcome several new members to our Boorley Park community this term! A warm welcome to Mrs Talbot, our new PPA Teacher, who will be providing valuable cover and enriching learning experiences for our children. We are also thrilled to have Miss Gordon join us as our new SEND Teacher, bringing expertise and dedication to supporting our children with additional needs leading our Ready to Learn provision. Additionally, we extend a warm welcome to our new Learning Support Assistants (LSAs), Mrs Valappil and Miss Pellett whose contributions are vital in providing individualised attention and care. We are excited to have such a talented and enthusiastic group of individuals join our team and we know they will make a positive impact on the children and our school community.



FRIDAY 2ND MAY

BAG2SCHOOL - NON SCHOOL UNIFORM - PLEASE BRING A BAG OF UNWANTED ITEMS TO THE SPORTS HALL  
PLEASE CAN YOU MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CHILD HAS A PE KIT IN SCHOOL ON THIS DAY





# SAFEGUARDING NOTICES

As our children explore the online world and make new friends, it's essential for us to support them in staying safe. Encourage your child to only chat with people they know in real life and remind them never to share personal details such as their full name, address, school, or passwords. You can help them to understand the importance of privacy settings and how to recognise trustworthy websites and apps. Keeping an open conversation with them about their online interactions will help them feel comfortable coming to you if something doesn't seem right. By taking these steps, you can ensure your child enjoys positive and safe online friendships.



## KEY DATES



### May 2025

Friday 16th May 2:45pm Year 3 Parent Workshop - Magnets - In the Hall  
Monday 19th May 3-3:15pm Year 5 Parent Workshop - Food Tasting - In the Hall  
Tuesday 20th May 9:00-9:30am Year 1 Recorder concert - In the Hall  
Tuesday 20th May 3:00pm Year R Book Look – Year R classrooms  
Thursday 22nd May 3-3:15pm Year 4 Parent Workshop - Clay dragon eye art exhibit - In the hall  
Friday 23rd May 2:45-3pm Year 2 Parent Workshop - Art Gallery - classrooms  
Friday 23rd May – Last Day of Term

### Half Term Holidays - Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May 2025

### June 2025

Monday 2nd June – First Day of Term  
Wednesday 4th June Year 1 Trip to Portchester Castle  
Thursday 5th June Year 5 Trip to Warner Bros Studio  
Wednesday 11th June Year R Sports Day-1:00-1:45pm Picnic - 1:45-2:45pm Games and then home  
Thursday 12th June Sports Day - KS1 starting at 9:30am and KS2 starting at 1:15pm  
Wednesday 18th June Year R Reserve Sports Day-1:00-1:45pm, Picnic-1:45-2:45pm Games and then home  
Thursday 19th June Reserve Sports Day - KS1 starting at 9:30am and KS2 starting at 1:15pm

### Friday 20th June INSET day - School closed to all pupils

Monday 23rd June at 2:30pm Year R Parent Workshop – Planting - Year R Classrooms  
Wednesday 25th June - Transition Day  
Friday 27th June Year R Mill Farm Visit to Boorley Park School

### July 2025

Tuesday 8th July 2:45-3:15pm Parent Workshop - The Big Fat Quiz of Year 4 - In the Hall  
Wednesday 9th July 9.15am Year 2 End of Year Celebration Assembly - In the Hall  
Wednesday 9th July 2:45 pm Year 1 Parent Workshop - Fruit Kebabs - classrooms  
Friday 11th July 2:45-3:15pm Year 5 Parent Workshop (TBC)  
Monday 14th July 3:50pm Choir Performance to parents  
Wednesday 16th July 2.15am Year 2 End of Year Celebration Assembly - In the Hall  
Thursday 17th July 2:45-3pm Year 3 Parent Workshop - Summer Picnic– On the field/Hall  
Tuesday 22nd July – Last Day of Term

### Wednesday 23rd July – Friday 29th August Summer Holidays











# PTA CORNER

Ready to Clear Out Your Closet & Help Our School?






We're teaming up with Bag2School to turn your unwanted items into valuable school resources!

What to bring:

-  Clothes
-  Paired shoes
-  Handbags
-  Hats
-  Scarves
-  Belts
-  Ties
-  Bags
-  Jewellery
-  Socks

When & Where:

-  Friday, 2nd May
-  8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
-  Sports Hall Car Park

Your pre-loved items will be recycled responsibly, and all funds raised will go directly towards improving our school's resources.

Let's declutter with purpose — every item makes a difference!



Thank you to everyone who has completed our Easter trail! Today is the final day for entries before we find out the winners of the 3 grand prizes!

We also have had to cancel our table top sale which was meant to run today. We will get another one up and running in the lead up to Christmas.

We hope you have all had a great first week back!

Thank you!



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 19% of children aged 10 to 15 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ONLINE GROOMING THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2023, UK police recorded nearly 34,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

### EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 45% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

### PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.4% of 10 to 15-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

### COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. From abduction to coercion, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harm – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Sextortion' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

### LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 26-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 10 to 16, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 12-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

26 FRIENDS ONLINE NOW

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning, like pressure tactics. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and whom they're talking to.

### KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

### ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

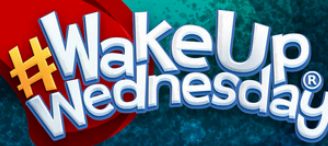
Support children in building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and social confidence.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

## Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with over 30 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



The National College