



School News

01304 611360 www.eastry.kent.sch.uk
headteacher@eastry.kent.sch.uk

No. 23
9th March 2023

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE SCHOOL COUNCIL'S CAKE SALE OR RAFFLE FOR STARFISH MALAWI. WE ARE REALLY PLEASED TO LET YOU KNOW THEY RAISED AN AMAZING £200.00 TO HELP OUR LINK SCHOOL, KAPHATENGA PRIMARY SCHOOL, MALAWI.

Friday, 10th March - Year 6 Worship at 9am in the School Hall

Parents and carers of children in Year 6 are invited to join us for their Class Worship which will be held in the school hall at 9.00am.

Friday, 10th March - Year 1 Parents' Phonics Workshop at 3.30pm in the Year 1 Classroom

Parents and carers of children in Year 1 are invited to a workshop where Miss Thomas will explain how to support your child at home with phonics.

Week Commencing 13th March - PTFA Mother's Day Gift Shop

During week commencing 13th May from 12noon to 1pm the PTFA will be running a gift shop in the school library. Gifts for mother's, grandmother's and other important family members can be purchased, and gift wrapped, costing up to £3.00.

The PTFA would welcome any volunteers who could help at this fun event any day during next week from 11.45am to 1.00pm. If you can help please let the school office know or email eastrypta@gmail.com - thank you.

Monday, 13th March - Year 4 Parent Information Session regarding Multiplications Check from 3.30pm in the Year 4 Classroom

Year 4 parents are invited to an information session to explain about the Year 4 upcoming multiplications check.

Tuesday, 13th March - Girl's Hammond Cup Quarter Finals home to Temple Ewell Kick-off at 3.30pm



Friday, 17th March - Comic Relief

Friday, 17th March is Comic Relief, children are invited to come to school wearing something red. Our worship this day will be linked to Comic relief. We are not asking for donations for wearing something red but there will be collection buckets on the school gate should you wish to make a donation.

INTERNET/ONLINE SAFETY SECTION

NGL (Not Gonna Lie) App

Although this app is for children age 13+ your child may have asked about access to this, or you may have an older son or daughter who already uses this. NGL is an app that is used via a twitter or Instagram account (which are also 13+) inviting followers to give anonymous feedback. However, there are many draw backs to this app and safety concerns that parents should be aware off such as the subscriber being able to receive hints and tips about who has posted a message by paying a costly subscription.

We have attached some more detailed information concerning NGL for your information.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

We Would Welcome Your Views

Following on from our Partnership with Parent meeting held last Friday, we would welcome any feedback you may have in regards to the school website. Whether there is other things you would like us to consider including, ease of finding what you are looking for or any other changes you feel would be beneficial, we would like to hear them. Please email office@eastry.kent.sch.uk or pop in the school.

Dance Club

Please remember that Dance Club will be held at Dover Leisure Centre on 13th and 20th March so that the children are better prepared in advance of their dance competition at the end of the month.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Week commencing 13.3.23

MONDAY	
Ballet (3.30 to 4.15pm)	Yes
TUESDAY	
Dance Club (3.30-4.30pm)	Yes
WEDNESDAY	
Creative Station (3.30-4.30pm)	Yes
Home Learning Club (3.30-4.00pm)	Yes
Netball Club (3.30-4.15pm)	Yes
THURSDAY	
Singing Club (8.00-8.35am)	Yes
Multi-Sports Club (3.30-4.30pm)	Yes
FRIDAY	
Football Club (3.30-4.30pm)	Yes

Kind regards



Mrs Sarah Moss
Headteacher

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

NGL

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous – although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a 'dummy' account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription where – for a weekly fee – users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service, informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating "... NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried." This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

ACCIDENTALLY GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed – enabling all their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term – although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: https://ngl.link/#what-s_ngl

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.03.2023