

Term 5: Week 5

Big Question: How sustainable are we?



Dates for the diary

May 2024

20th-25th Walk to school week

20th 'Our Learning Showcase' for parents 2pm
(Nursery 8.45am)

24th End of Term

June 2024

3rd – back to school

7th NSPCC Childhood Mile Day – wear green

14th Father's Day Breakfast 8am, 8.20am (Ticket Only)

19th – Sport Day – more information to follow

20th Are you paying attention? course for parents

July 2024

19th – school reports out to parents (please note change of date)

We have had a busy week in school with lots of excellent learning happening across the year groups. Children have been impressing us with their use of our ACHIEVE values both in the classroom and out on the playground. In assemblies, we have learnt all about how Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale changed the way we nurse today and celebrated International Nurses Day.

Thank you for all your ongoing support,
With best wishes,
The Gagle Brook Team



Sustainable School Travel Questionnaire
Please fill in all entries by 02.06.2024

[Sustainable school travel | Let's Talk
Oxfordshire](#)

Snack time

A little reminder to ensure children are bringing healthy snacks for playtimes.
Some ideas are:

Fruit
Vegetables
Crackers
Cheese
Yoghurt
Breadsticks



*Please remember we are a **nut free** school.
Reception – Y2 will receive government funded
snacks each day.*



Parking Reminder

It is important that we are considerate to our local community and the residents of Elmsbrook when parking during drop off and collection times. Please avoid dropped curbs, driveways and private parking areas and park safely. Thank you,

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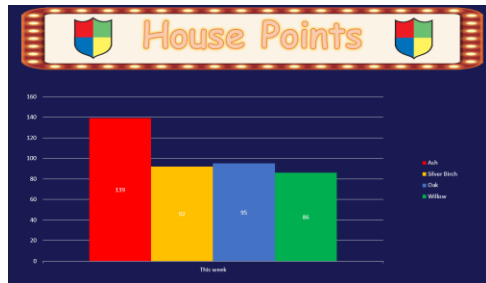
Tel: 01793 818603 • [@WhiteHorseFed](#) • www.twhf.org.uk



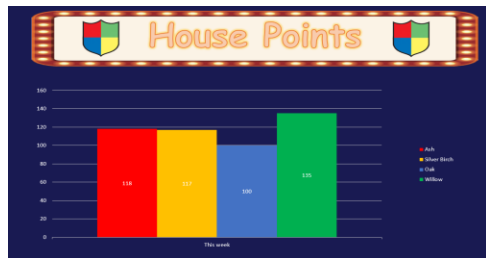
Eco Badge Awards

Gabriel C (Year 1)
Lily (Year 5)

House Points



Term 5 Week 4 winner: Ash



Term 5 Week 5 winner: Willow

Sports Award

Sienna (Year 3)
Oliver (Year 4)

Achieve Awards

A
WE ARE **AMBITIOUS** AND WANT TO SUCCEED

C
WE WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM THROUGH **COLLABORATION**

H
WE ACT WITH **HONESTY**

I
WE ARE **INCLUSIVE**, APPRECIATE DIFFERENCES AND MAKE EVERYONE FEEL WELCOME IN SCHOOL

E
WE CARE FOR OUR **ENVIRONMENT**

V
WE SHOW **VALIANCE** AND COURAGE WHEN FACED WITH A CHALLENGE

E
WE AIM FOR **EXCELLENCE** IN ALL THAT WE DO

Week 4

N	Dimitri
R	TJ
Y1	Sebastian
Y2	Andreea
Y3	Aslihan
Y4	Jack
Y5	Lily
Nest	Adela

Week 5

N	Miley
R	Freddie
Y1	Tyler
Y2	Sienna
Y3	Mali
Y4	Freyja
Y5	Harrison
Nest	Kendrick

Attendance Award

Week 4 Penguins (Year 5)
Week 5 Penguins (Year 5)



Are you paying attention?

On 20th June 1:45-2:30, Southwold will be hosting an event with our Educational Psychologist Dr Caroline King. Caroline will be delivering a presentation called, 'Are you paying attention?' for parents on how they can best support children with attention difficulties. This would include ADHD diagnosis, poor focus, shouting out and fidgeting, and would be relevant to behaviours seen at home or in school. It would cover how to spot the difficulties, what you can do to support your child at home, and what support you might expect to be provided by your child's teacher/school. We hope that this will be beneficial to all our parents at Gagle Brook and Southwold and invite everyone to join us.

Your child does not have to have a severe difficulty or to be on our SEN register. The aim is simply to support you and your child with any of these types of difficulties. We would need at least 12 parents to attend to make the session viable. Tea and biscuits will be served! If you are able to join us, please let us know via this link <https://forms.office.com/e/tiqvpf1HSc> or QR code.



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[Event at Gagle Brook on Friday 7th June](#)

After the success of the Santa Fun Run, [Gaglebrook](#) will take part in the NSPCC Childhood mile day on [Friday 7th June](#).

This is an ideal time for children to get active while raising some money for an important charity. Further information can be found here [The Childhood Day Mile | NSPCC](#). On this day in [school](#) we will be talking to the children about the event and what the money will be used for.

Please can all children can come to school dressed in green and wearing trainers on their feet on Friday 7th June.

We are asking for a £1 donation which will be made using parent pay so please look for it during the first week back after May half term. All raised money will go to the NSPCC.



What Parents & Educators Can Learn from the OFCOM MEDIA REPORT 2024

Each year, Ofcom – the UK’s regulatory body for communications – produces an overview of children and parents’ media experiences over the course of the previous year. At the time of writing, the latest of these reports, ‘Children and parents: media use and attitudes 2024’ has just been published, and we’ve plucked out some of its most thought-provoking findings regarding online safety.

SCREEN TIME

By children’s age group, the percentage of parents who felt less able to manage their child’s screentime were ...

Age Group	Percentage
3-4	34%
5-7	32%
8-11	37%
12-15	46%
16-17	49%

ONLINE LIVES

- 99%** of 8-17s had regular access to the internet
- 65%** of 13-17s prefer short videos to films and TV
- 34%** experienced harassment or bullying online
- 87%** of 8-17s felt pressure to be popular on social media
- 11-18s** felt more confident communicating online (71%) than in person (53%)

POPULAR PLATFORMS

Most used by children ...

Platform	Under-12s	Over-12s
YouTube	89%	88%
WhatsApp	37%	82%
TikTok	35%	78%
Snapchat	27%	73%
Instagram	22%	69%

ONLINE GAMING

68% of children played video games online

Who did these children most commonly play with?

- 74% played with someone they know
- 32% played with strangers

PARENTAL CONCERNS

The things that most commonly worry parents and carers about their child being online include ...

- 77% seeing age-inappropriate content
- 70% being harassed or bullied
- 68% seeing pro-self-harm content
- 62% having their data gathered by companies
- 59% being influenced by extreme views
- 55% having their reputation damaged
- 51% being pressured to spend money

ONLINE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

- 93% 8-17s had at least one lesson about online safety
- 93% of children are aware of at least one thing they can do to stay safe online
- 91% children found these lessons useful
- 78% of 8-17s were aware of age restrictions for apps
- 40% admitted to faking their age to bypass these limits

DEVICES MOST USED TO GO ONLINE

Age Group	Use Tablets	Use Phones
3-4s	67%	77%
5-7s	77%	73%
8-10s	73%	95%
11-15s	95%	97%
16-17s	97%	97%

DIGINEWS

If you would like more online safety help or advise, please visit the ‘Online Safety’ top tab on our website:
<https://www.southwoldschool.org/about-us/school-information/online-safety>

Some tips about technology from NOS...

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HELLDIVERS 2

Within weeks of release, *HELLDIVERS 2* had become one of 2024’s biggest gaming success stories. The sequel to a top-down shooter from 2015 has smashed sales expectations, owing to its frantic gameplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. However, the game comes with several risks to younger players, as indicated by its 18+ rating.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PEGI 18 RATING

Due to its intense violence and the presence of in-game purchases, *HELLDIVERS 2* carries a PEGI 18 rating. While players are generally fighting fantastical enemies like giant bugs and robots, their characters can be killed in various gruesome ways, up to and including dismemberment. It’s certainly worth considering whether such a game is appropriate for younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In *HELLDIVERS 2*, players can use real money to buy in-game currency, with which they can unlock cosmetics and new weapons. At the time of writing, all the in-game items can be acquired without spending so much as a penny – but excited young players wanting to keep up with their friends may still feel the temptation to purchase new weapons more quickly, rather than laboriously earning the in-game currency through play.

VOICE CHAT AND MESSAGING

HELLDIVERS 2 is always played online with others, who often use voice chat or in-game texts to coordinate, strategise or just joke around. This does mean that children who play without their friends will be put in contact with strangers. Unfortunately, this represents a risk of the dice, as the game can’t control how people treat each other online. However, you can easily report other players for abusive behaviour via the game’s ‘social’ tab.

FRUSTRATION TRIGGER

The thrill of barely scraping through a dangerous mission in one piece is integral to *HELLDIVERS 2*’s appeal. To accentuate this feeling of achievement, the game includes some very difficult levels that could prove to be too hard for some players – even those who are legitimately old enough to play. Losing streaks can be incredibly annoying, so repeatedly failing in missions could easily provoke frustration or anger in younger players.

LACK OF ACCESS

The game is available on PC and PS5, but not (as yet) on other consoles. Some people will naturally be disappointed they can’t get involved and might look for similar alternatives to play on their own console – alternatives which may contain similar levels of violence and gore but lack the same balanced approach to user misconduct and in-game purchases as *HELLDIVERS 2*.

Advice for Parents & Educators

GIVE IT A GO FIRST

HELLDIVERS 2 is a third-person shooter with intentionally humorous elements, but much of its comedy is rooted in satire which may go over the heads of some players. Consider playing the game first yourself – while shooting bugs and robots feels too unrealistic to be upsetting, seeing your character get torn to pieces may be too much for young players.

SET EXPECTATIONS

At the time of writing, *HELLDIVERS 2* costs £34.99. It could turn out to be an expensive and wasteful purchase if a player gets irritated and gives up shortly after receiving the game. If a young person tends to become frustrated easily, it’s worth considering whether *HELLDIVERS 2* is really the game for them.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES

If playing on Xbox – where *HELLDIVERS 2* isn’t available – consider something like *Halo: The Master Chief Collection* as an alternative. One of its game modes – *Firefight* – replicates *HELLDIVERS 2*’s mechanics to some degree. Alternatively, younger players may be better suited to the more light-hearted *Deep Rock Galactic*, which sees them play as fantasy divers in space, involving far less gruesome violence.

KEEP AN EYE ON PAYMENTS

Many titles offer in-game purchases, but *HELLDIVERS 2* are comparatively cheap. You’ll still need to monitor your payment information (or use a prepaid card on the account), in case your child buys the in-game currency in bulk: on the whole, however, the game’s selling methods are far less egregious than most similar titles on the market.

MONITOR COMMUNICATION & ADJUST SETTINGS

Thanks to an in-game ‘Ping’ system (allowing players to highlight important details without speaking), communication isn’t as integral to *HELLDIVERS 2* as it is in other games. You can turn off the chat options in-game on PC, or on the PS5’s own settings, and feel more secure in the knowledge that your child won’t be speaking to people they don’t know.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon, and has been working in the games media industry for five years. As well as being an avid long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and many more.

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/media-use-and-attitudes-report-2024

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NEWS

and

EVENTS

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Elmsbrook's Tallest Sunflower Competition 2024

Win £75, £50 and £25 in garden vouchers

Smarter Services, your Grounds maintenance contractor, will be sponsoring the competition again this year.

It's open to all Elmsbrook residents and Gagle Brook School.

Judging will take place in August. More details about how to enter will follow, but for now, get planting your sunflower seeds in well-drained soil in full sun.

Good luck!

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Dear parent/carer,

I am delighted to inform you that there is an opportunity to learn the violin/viola/cello or double bass at your school. Prices start at £6.40 per lesson, depending on the size of the group, and are available for all year groups, including the youngest in the school.

The benefits of learning a musical instrument are endless. It is scientifically proven that playing an instrument engages practically every area of the brain at once, the perfect workout for the brain. In studies, those people who were exposed to a period of music learning showed enhancement in multiple brain areas compared to those who hadn't been exposed. This is all explained in "How playing an instrument benefits your brain - Anita Collins", a short educational video that you can watch on *YouTube* which clearly describes the amazing effects of playing an instrument.

Here is a list that describes 18 benefits to learning a musical instrument:

1. Increases the capacity of your memory
2. Refines your time management and organisational skills
3. Boosts your team skills
4. Teaches you perseverance
5. Enhances your coordination
6. Better your mathematical ability
7. Improves your reading and comprehension skills
8. Increases your responsibility
9. Exposes you to cultural history
10. Sharpens your concentration
11. Fosters your self-expression and relieves stress
12. Creates a sense of achievement
13. Promotes your social skills
14. Boosts your listening skills
15. Teaches you discipline
16. Elevates your performance skills and reduces stage fright
17. Enhances your respiratory system
18. Promotes happiness in your life and those around you

I am a qualified teacher who has 24 years experience of teaching strings. I trained at the Royal Northern College of Music, where I completed a 2-year PGCE in Music with Specialist Strings Teaching. I work for Oxfordshire County Music Service. If you would like your child to have violin/viola/cello/double bass lessons at school, during the school day, please go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest on the Oxfordshire County Music Service website and click on 'Apply for Lessons.' Once we have enough children to start a group, I will be in contact and then lessons can start. Lessons will take place during the school day at school.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free lessons, instrument hire and ensemble membership. Please contact the Music Service on musicserviceadmin@oxfordshire.gov.uk to check eligibility before making an application for lessons.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with me if you have any questions: elizabeth.callejopaterson@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Best wishes,
Elizabeth Callejo Paterson



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