

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 3 times tables workshop

Year 3 are running a times tables workshop for parents on Friday 2nd February 9 -9.30am. Parents are invited to come into their child's classroom and see what work they are doing with their times tables.

School Nurse Virtual Drop-In

Your School Nurse is offering virtual drop-ins every Tuesday and Thursday from 4.30pm-5.30pm. Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more details.

The Ogden Trust Science Partnership

The latest Ogden Trust newsletter is at the end of this newsletter. The newsletter details all the activities the children participated in during the science partnership launch.

Bromcom My Child At School App (MCAS)

As you are aware, we use the Arbor App for communicating to parents. On 19th February 2024 we will be launching our new parent app called **My Child At School (MCAS)**. The MCAS app is our preferred method of communication with you using app notifications.

What is MCAS?

MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) is a portal that can enable parents to view their child's academic performance in real-time via a web browser or mobile app. This enables you to access key academic dates, attendance information and the personal details the academy holds for you and your child.

The following modules which are available in MCAS:

- Notifications
- Pupil details check/update/amend
- Attendance
- Parents evening booking
- Reports
- Assessment
- Dinner money
- Clubs and trips

Downloading the app and logging in

The app is simple to download and access using the email address that you have supplied to us. Please don't try to log in before 19th February 2024.

The app is available through the Google Store or Apple Store, just search for **My Child At School app by Bromcom Computers Plc** (please see guide at the end of the newsletter).

From the 19th February 2024 we will no longer use the Arbor app.

Payments (no payments to be made from 7th Feb until 19th Feb)

From Wednesday 7th February, you will be unable to make payments for meals, trips and clubs etc on Arbor. **Please make sure you are up to date with payments by 7th February.** You will be able to make payments again from 19th February through PayPoint or the MCAS app. Please note any existing Arbor (credit) will automatically transfer to your MCAS account. You can view the balance in Dinner module and top up the balance in Dinner Money.

We will be having **drop-in sessions all day on 19th February, 22nd February, and 23rd February 2024** where office staff will be on hand to help you get logged in.

PayPoint

In February we will supply each parent with a PayPoint letter which contains a barcode, so you can easily upload payments using the cash PayPoint facility.

Using PayPoint payments are for those parents/carers who wish to continue to pay for items via cash. PayPoint payments are also recorded by MCAS and can be seen by logging into your MCAS account and viewing your payment history online. Your nearest PayPoint is here: **636 Stratford Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, B11 4AR.**

Greet Attendance

Below are the attendance champions from last week.

Year group	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Year 5	94.28%	4RC	96.11%
Year 6	92.29%	5DH	95.56%
Year 2	91.45%	5GA	94.44%
Year 4	90.14%	5WH	94.33%
Year 3	89.46%	6SW	93.89%
Year 1	83.48%	3DH	93.33%
Reception	79.51%	6SB	93.33%

House points

Congratulations to all the children in **Cadbury** who are our house points winners this week.

1st – Cadbury

2nd – Simmonds

3rd – Harewood

Key dates section:

Menu Tasting session - Thursday 8th February at 2.30pm

Parent Consultation Meetings (please see letter sent home today for more details)

- Reception to Year 6 will take place on Wednesday 7th February - 3.40 to 5.50pm or Thursday 8th February – 3.40 to 5.50pm.
- Class 5GA will take place on Tuesday 6th February and Wednesday 7th February from 3.40 to 5.50pm.
- Nursery will take place in March.

INSET Days:

Friday 9th February 2024 (1 day)

Friday 22nd March 2024 (1 day)

Term Dates - Spring 1

Children finish for half term: Thursday 8th February 2024 @ 3.15pm

February half term: Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024

Term Dates - Spring 2

Children return to school: Monday 19th February 2024

Children finish for the Easter holiday: Thursday 21st March 2024 @ 3.15pm

Easter holiday: Monday 25th March to Friday 5th April 2024

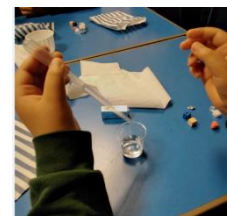
Friday 12th January 2024

Dear parents and guardians,

During the launch of **science partnership with Ogden Trust** last term students participated in various activities throughout the school.

KS1:

On 15th Nov, 29 KS1 classes from the partnership joined in with **Jenny Watson's hands-on Zoom workshop on Materials (with a few more following the recording later)**. This workshop started with children asking questions about science which followed by making predictions, suggestions and investigating how sugar lump would dissolve faster.



KS2:

The session began by looking at three optical illusions that could be viewed from different directions to reveal new information. During the workshop we looked at familiar objects but found new uses for them. Such as

- * A chocolate tin rolled up the hill that defied gravity. Using a secret mass on one side.
- * A hot chocolate tin rolled backwards. There was a hidden elastic band motor inside.
- * Paper tumblers from origami shapes which could be combined to make a chain reaction.
- * Balancing objects like drinks cans, forks and bottles to create a gravity defying sculpture.



All based on simple playground sea saw balances.

- * Self-assembling shapes and satellites in space.
- * Invisible zones and refraction in a glass of water.
- * Real and fake mirrors with a soup tin photo puzzle
- * A hexa hexa flexagon. A mathematical 6 sided object.



After the successful launch that took place in November, science leaders met up at Ark Victoria along with years 4 and 6 teachers. Jenny Watson, who is the Ogden Trust Regional Representative held a very engaging **Phizzi Electricity CPD**.

The workshop covered four main areas of the physics curriculum in Key Stage 2. It also addressed many misconceptions and provided a comprehensive teacher guide of 10 investigations to support scientific enquiry. A resource box worth **£250**, linked to the investigations, was also included for each participating school to encourage ongoing practical science.

Please look out for our next newsletter as many more exciting events are planned for the New Year. From **Ogden Trust Partnership** we wish all the families a Happy New Year. If you have any questions or want to know more please contact the school office and ask to speak to Mr Seabrook (school science lead).

You can read about the Ogden Trust through this link:

[The Ogden Trust: supporting physics education & engagement](https://www.ogdentrust.com)

www.ogdentrust.com

Thank you.

Mr Seabrook (Greet Primary School science lead/ partnership coordinator)



Wyndcliffe Primary School

Marlborough Primary School

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MYLOL

AGE RESTRICTION
13-19

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MyLOL is a free social networking and dating site aimed at teens. Profiles can publicly display users' images and information, including sexual orientation and personal interests. The service bills itself as "the number one teen dating website in the world", claiming to have more than a million users globally. Despite its popularity, the MyLOL app is no longer available from Google Play or the App Store, although the site is still active. In some countries, police forces and schools have previously warned parents about "sinister predators" and "inappropriate activities" on the site.

FLIMSY AGE GATES

Although MyLOL states it is exclusively aimed at users aged between 13 and 19, there is no credible age verification system to prevent a younger child – or an older adult – from signing up to the platform. Coupled with the fact that it's impossible to establish a user's true identity on MyLOL, this raises a serious concern that the site could be used for grooming.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

MyLOL maintains that it monitors all uploaded images for nudity or sexual content. It also claims to be able to detect suspicious keywords. However, there have been numerous reports of explicit content being found on the platform, with users often posting provocative, semi-nude pictures of themselves and engaging in flirty or sexually explicit conversation.

POTENTIAL CYBER-BULLYING

MyLOL lets users 'vote' on other people based solely on their appearance, much in the same vein as the now-defunct site Hot or Not. This feature could easily lead to distress and bullying, especially if a young person's profile pics receive an unfavourable response. Various reviews of MyLOL have noted that bullying frequently becomes an issue in the platform's chat groups and private messages.

IN-APP SPENDING

MyLOL is free to join and use, but it also offers paid-for memberships. Users who have paid money get their profile promoted at the top of the site and in search results. They can also earn additional credits for increased engagement with the platform – such as sharing, replying to messages and voting. At the time of writing, the monthly membership fee was \$9.95 (just under £8).

DATA COLLECTION

According to its privacy policy, MyLOL collects user data including email addresses, contact details and interests. While the company says it is committed to protecting users' privacy, the small print states that information may be shared externally. MyLOL claims to follow procedures to keep data secure, but does not specify what these procedures are, or whether such information is encrypted.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

MyLOL makes it easy to connect with strangers. In fact, the site's rewards feature encourages users to send private messages to people they don't know. There have been several media stories of adults posing as teens on MyLOL to connect with minors, which could lead to extremely dangerous situations, such as a young person meeting up with someone who has been posing under a false identity.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS ONLINE DATING

It's vital to talk to your child about the possible dangers of platforms like MyLOL – particularly the threat of online predators. Remind them of the risks of sharing intimate images and information with strangers and emphasise that most people don't realise they're being 'catfished' until it's too late – it really isn't wise for a young person to meet up with someone they've only spoken to online.

EXPLAIN PRIVACY RISKS

Before your child begins using a service such as MyLOL, it's important that they understand the potential pitfalls of giving out their personal data on this type of platform. Explain to them, for example, that they shouldn't divulge any personally identifying information to people who they don't know, as scammers can be quite convincing when attempting to steal someone's identity.

RESTRICT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child has access to a bank card or other payment method, they may be enticed into signing up for MyLOL's premium features. Having their profile boosted and receiving more attention could be especially tempting if their friends also use the site. You could consider altering their device's settings to disable internet purchases, or at the very least keeping an eye on their online spending.

SET UP LOCATION ALERTS

If you're worried that your child may be planning to meet up with someone they've met on MyLOL, you could consider utilising GPS or WiFi location tracking technology to follow their whereabouts in real time. You can even set up a virtual boundary or 'fence' and opt to receive an alert to your phone if your child enters or exits a specified area.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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[@national_online_safety](https://www.tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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Birmingham School Health Support Service

NHS

**Birmingham
Community Healthcare**
NHS Foundation Trust


SCHOOL NURSE VIRTUAL DROP-IN CLINIC


Every
Tuesday
and
Thursday
from
4:30-5:30pm

Your School Nurse is here to help you feel healthy, happy and safe during your school years and to get the best from your education.

Join the link and talk to a School Nurse. We provide a confidential and friendly service.

[https://nhs.uk/BCHC/
C-F/Schl-Nurse/Drop-In](https://nhs.uk/BCHC/C-F/Schl-Nurse/Drop-In)

 *Best Care
Healthy Communities*

 **attendanywhere**



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About MyChildAtSchool

- MCAS is a portal allowing parents to see information about their child at school.
- Your school may make information available on **attendance, behaviour and timetables**.
- Your school may also publish documents such as **school reports** through MCAS.
- You can use a browser or the App to access MCAS
- **Please use the App if you can.** You can help save your school money as you can receive notifications via the App instead of texts.

Step 1 – Access MCAS

To login to MCAS you will need to have a 'Redeem Invitation Code' email from the school.
Make a note of your School ID, Username and Invitation code

School ID:	Make a note of this
Username:	Make a note of this
Invitation Code:	Make a note of this

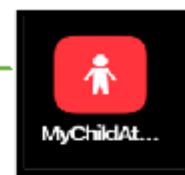
Step 2 – Download

Download the My Child at School App, through your App store. **The App is free**, there is no cost to you



Step 3 – Open

Click the MyChildatSchool App icon



Step 4 – Notifications

'Allow' notifications to ensure you receive alerts for your child through the MCAS App



Step 5 – Pin

Enter a 5 digit pin of your choice that you will remember. A second screen will ask you to confirm your chosen pin

