



Create, Adapt and Learn Together  
Manchester Road Primary Academy

## NEWSLETTER 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

### ATTENDANCE 04/02/24 – 08/03/24

CLASS	SCHOOL ATTENDANCE	LATES
Bumblebee	95.8%	4
Clover bee	100% 😊	6
Honeybee	90.7%	6
1A	91.6%	4
1B	97.9%	4
2A	97.5%	2
2B	94.3%	0 😊
3A	97.5%	11
3B	97.4%	9
4A	94.2%	6
4B	96%	4
5A	94.7%	6
5B	97.2%	13
6A	97.4%	2
6B	92.2%	8

97% and above Excellent
95% to 96% Attendance is slipping and will be closely monitored
95% or below Poor (high numbers of children are persistently absent)

### THE SCHOOL DAY

8.35 – 8.50am – Arrive on the school playground  
8.40am – Pupils enter school  
8.55am – Gates shut & registration begins  
11.45am – KS1 Lunch  
11.50am – KS2 Lunch  
12.35pm – Afternoon session begins KS1  
1.05pm – Afternoon session begins KS2  
3.15/3.20pm – End

### LATENESS THIS WEEK

Day	Lates
Monday	14
Tuesday	17
Wednesday	20
Thursday	24
Friday	10
Total Lates This Week	85

Lateness has a massive impact on children's learning. Not only on the children that are late, but also on the children in the classes being disrupted. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time each day.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Quarry Bank Mill
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Early Years Blackpool Zoo
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Droylsden Walk
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening – letters will be sent out soon.
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Manchester Runway Visitors Park
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Year 5 Viking Workshop
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Llandudno

### CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Parents are welcome to come and watch their child's assembly on the following dates.

Class	Date	Time
4A Miss Lawton	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	9am
3A Miss McDougall	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9am
3B Miss Hepburn	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	9am

**Please note: these dates could potentially change. If they do, we will inform you.**

# STAR OF THE WEEK

CLASS	STAR
HONEY BEE	Rex for sharing fantastic ideas and always helping his teachers and friends
BUMBLE BEE	Katie for trying really hard, especially when writing her name.
1A	Moyo for amazing resilience in English. Working hard to deepen the moment, with beautiful handwriting.
1B	Harriette for settling in so beautifully to her new class. It's like you were always here! Well done.
2A	Hunter for resilience and focus across all subjects
2B	Nathaniel for great use of all his learning powers in all subjects and for excellent contributions in Maths!
4A	Oliver for brilliant ideas in English, resilience in maths and improved learning behaviours.
THE HIVE	Hussain for fantastic Maths and English.

## EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

Mr Smith will be holding an Easter Holiday Club which will run between Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

The club will run from 9-3am and children will need the following:

- Clothing for sporting activities
- A coat
- Drink
- Snacks
- Packed lunch.

The cost of the club is £15 per day. If you would like to book a place for your child, please book this via MCAS.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to those who have donated cardboard tubes for the marble run next week and a huge thank you to Coby's Dad who has brought in hundreds of cardboard tubes.

# Parent Peer Support Group

## What is the Parent Peer Support Group?

An informal space for parents & carers to share their experiences of supporting children with Emotional and Mental Health difficulties with like-minded people, alongside the support of our teams

## Our Teams are happy to offer one to one advice during the session .....

- Anthony Seddon
- Tameside Parenting Team
- Tameside's - Young People's Mental Health Support Team

**When:** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 **Time:** 9.30 – 11.30

**Where:** The Anthony Seddon Centre, George Street, Ashton-Under-Lyne

## Refreshments available

**When:** Second Thursday of the month 9:30-11:30am

**Either just turn up or for more information contact either:**

Anita McQuillan: [Anita.McQuillan@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:Anita.McQuillan@tameside.gov.uk)

Sue Brookes: [Sue.Brookes@actiontogether.org.uk](mailto:Sue.Brookes@actiontogether.org.uk)



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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

### BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

### SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

### NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be "pinged" with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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## Advice for Parents & Carers

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### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how others might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

### GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details (like their address, their school) or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

### AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

## Meet Our Expert

De 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.



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