

Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4.13

27th June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our current Year 6 has now handed their Young Enterprise initiative profit to FWR. A total of £925 was made! What a huge achievement and such an enjoyable experience for Year 6. We all thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the huge variety of activities devised. Thank you to Year 6 adults and students and very well done!

Safeguarding:



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.
- CONNECT WITH STRANGERS**
YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if auto-play is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.
- RADICALISATION**
YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.
- CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS**
YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.
- TRENDS AND CHALLENGES**
YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm. Children who watch or copy them, 'The painful salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.
- SNEAKY SCAMMERS**
The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

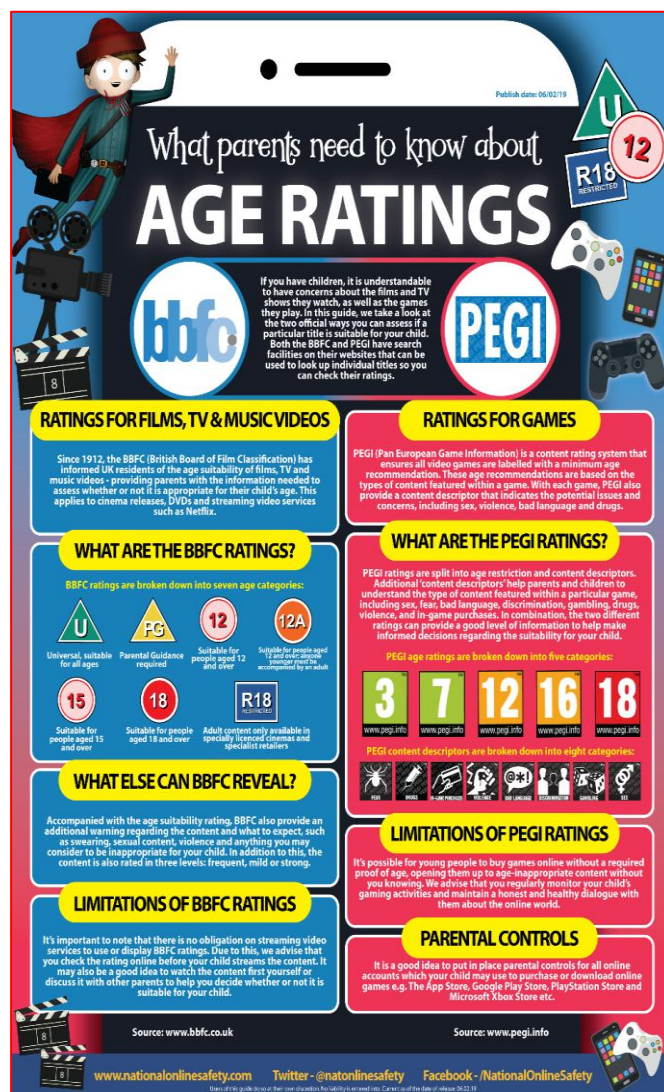
Advice for Parents & Educators

- APPLY RESTRICTED MODE**
For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.
- TRY GOOGLE FAMILY**
Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.
- CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS**
YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.
- MONITOR ENGAGEMENT**
YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!
- CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS**
It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by 'preschool' (4 and under), 'young' (ages 5 to 8) and 'older' (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for parental supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.
- LIMIT SPENDING**
Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If your like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert
Aidan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

Wellbeing and mental health:

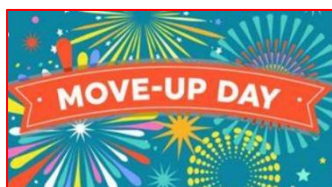


Clothing for the next two days.

While we are experiencing such high temperatures and pupils are not wearing our usual uniform, please do ensure children are wearing tops with backs to protect their skin from the sun.

Footwear should protect feet and toes, so sandals are appropriate as they do not slide off feet; however flip flops, cloggies or sliders are not suitable footwear.

If you are unsure, do please contact the office in the first instance for guidance.



Move Up Day Monday 7th July 2025:

We will advise children and send home class information on Friday 4th July. Current Year 6 pupils who are starting at Witchford Village College (WVC) in September will go straight to WVC and not come to The Rackham on Monday. Year 6 pupils who are not going to WVC will be in school as usual.

Reception to Year 5 will spend the day in their new class with their new teacher.

Current Pre-School pupils who are due to commence Reception in September will attend school with a parent or carer from 1.30 - 2.30pm.

Children who are due to start at The Rackham Pre-School in September have been invited to book a session on Monday 7th July.

Please note that Pre-School will close at 12.00 for current pupils on Monday 7th July.

If you have any questions, please contact the office in the first instance. Thank you.

Sunday Funday – this weekend!



FWR Disco – booking information:

Our FWR disco will be taking place on Wednesday 2nd July. The Reception and KS1 (Year 1&2) disco will be held from 3.25 – 4.10pm. If you would like your child to get changed in their classroom, please send in their disco clothes in a named bag. Children will be collected from the red gates as usual at the end.

The KS2 disco (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) will be held from 4.15 – 5.00pm. Year 3 and 4 will be collected from the KS1 red gates and year 5 and 6 from the hall door.

The disco cost is £3.00 per child and includes entry, a biscuit, a drink and a glo-stick. Please see the following link for biscuit nutritional information - [Sainsbury's online Grocery Shopping and Fresh Food Delivery \(sainsburys.co.uk\)](https://www.sainsburys.co.uk) Please let the office know by Monday 30th June if your child requires an alternative due to allergies.

To book a place for your child, please login to your MCAS account where you will find the payment option under Products and Trips. Bookings must be made by 9am on Monday 30th June please. We will not be able to take payment after this time.

FWR Pre-Loved Uniform Sales Summer Term:

Sales before and after school, on the following date:
Monday 14th July

Tuck shop and lollies:

FWR will be selling Ice lollies at Tuck Shop every Friday in July (weather permitting).

Sports Days:

We are in full swing organising this year's sports days for children at The Rackham.

This year, there will be **three** sports day events.

Year group	Date and time	Booking link
Pre-School pupils	Thursday 10th July Start time: 9.30am	
Reception and Key Stage One	Thursday 10th July Start time: 1.30pm	
Key Stage Two	Friday 11th July Start time: 1.30pm	

For safeguarding and fire safety reasons, we will require parents and carers to book in advance. Please see below for the booking forms. **Bookings will close at 9am on Monday 7th July.** As with previous events, it will be necessary to strictly adhere to this, and we will be unable to accept any further bookings beyond the closing date.

Pre-School Sports Day:

Pre-School children can attend their Sports Day morning with parents, carers, or child minders if they are not in session on morning of 10th July. If your child is in session, pre-school staff will take your child to the sports day. All parents and carers are invited to come to support and watch their children take part. Please ensure you arrive at school between 9.10am and 9.25am.

Primary School Sports Days:

Primary school events will begin at 1.30pm, so please ensure you arrive at school between 1pm and 1.25pm. Parents, carers and child minders are most welcome to attend to watch their child's Sports Day.

We look forward to seeing you at the event!

Class photos:

Children should have bought home class photo order information this week. Orders must be placed by 8th July for free delivery to school. If you haven't received the order information, please contact the office.

Piano and Choir Concert:



For the families of those children who have piano lessons with Mr Wheatley or who are in The Rackham choir, we will be holding our end of term concert on Thursday 17th July at 9.30am. Please book your tickets via this link:
Please note that there are no more after school choir rehearsals this term. Choir will rehearse at lunchtime for the concert.

Dance and Acro-Gymnastics for Reception to Year 4 at The Rackham Primary in September:



Lane Academy are excited to be able to offer spaces to new members at our Dance and Acro-Gymnastics club for September. The club runs every Monday from 4.30 - 5.45pm and children take part in dance as well as gymnastics, where they will learn and build confidence in new skills. We are also excited to be offering ISTD dance exams to the children attending and these will take place in February 2026.

If you would like to book a place for next term, please use the link here:

Lane Academy would also be more than happy to offer new members free trial sessions on the 30th June & 7th July. Please do email directly to book this: sarah@laneacademy.co.uk

If you have any questions, please do get in touch or come and chat to us on Sunday Funday where we will be performing!

Safe entry and exit to the school site:

We would like to remind everyone that whilst on the school site, bikes and scooters should be pushed while walking to the main exit. Thank you.



Year 6 2025 – 2026 sweatshirts: We have revised the Year 6 (current Year 5) sweatshirt design this year and are pleased to share this means the purchase price is cheaper for families. **Orders can be placed now ready for the first day of term in September 2025.** Year 6 sweatshirts can be ordered via Sigma directly: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#) Orders must be placed by parents or carers. **Orders placed by 11th July will be delivered to school for collection before the end of term.** Orders

placed after 11th July can be collected from Sigma Embroidery on Sedgeway Business Park, Witchford but may not be ready for the start of term.

Places available at The Rackham Pre-School for September 2025:



Do you, or anyone you know, wish to secure a place at The Rackham Pre-School? If so, please phone 01353 662436 or email the school office: office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk

Free courses for Parents in Cambridgeshire:

 <p>Aims of the Healthy Relationships Programme:</p> <p>To support participants in recognising what a healthy relationship looks like and to build healthy relationships that will enhance both theirs and their children's lives.</p> <p>To help prevent children witness or be exposed to hostility, criticism or violence.</p> <p>The programme consists of six weekly sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Session 1: What is a Healthy RelationshipSession 2: Barriers to Healthy RelationshipsSession 3: Impact on ChildrenSession 4: CommunicationSession 5: Self Esteem & resilienceSession 6: Self-Care & Celebration <p>HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAMME</p> 	 <p>The Healthy Relationships Programme:</p> <p>The programme is delivered by Cambridgeshire District Targeted Support Teams</p> <p>Facilitated by experienced Family Workers / Young Persons Workers</p> <p>Provides a non-judgmental and non-threatening environment</p> <p>Provides a supportive and inclusive environment</p> <p>Provides opportunities for signposting to other services</p> <p>Provides opportunities to meet other parents</p> <p>Who can Refer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parents• Schools• Family Workers• Social Workers• Health Services  <p>Healthy Relationships Referral Form</p>  
<p>Overarching aims of the programme</p> <p>A programme for victims/survivors of domestic abuse whether they are in or out of the relationship. The programme uses reflection, discussion and activities to consider the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To identify a healthy relationship and the impact of domestic abuse,• Provide knowledge and understanding to enable participants to make positive choices.• Identify the impact of domestic abuse on the individual and their children.• Awareness of safety and support <p>The Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 Weekly Sessions• Session 1 – Introduction getting to know you• Session 2 – What is a Healthy Relationship• Session 3 – The Impact of DA on children• Session 4 – Indicators of domestic abuse• Session 5 – Staying safe and moving on• Session 6 – Celebration and Signposting <p>RISE</p>	 <p>The Rise Program</p> <p>The program is delivered by Cambridgeshire Targeted Support Teams. Facilitated by experienced Family Workers</p> <p>Provides a non-judgmental and non-threatening environment to enable participants to talk about their experiences</p> <p>Provides a supportive and inclusive environment</p> <p>Provides opportunities for signposting to other services</p> <p>Provides opportunities to meet others</p> <p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Remember that this is a safe group to be able to share your experiences if you feel comfortable to, but we need to be able to support you in the future and now if you need it, however we do have a duty of care to you and your children.</p> <p>If there is any disclosure made in the group that we feel puts you or your children or somebody else, at risk of serious harm we will discuss this personally with you first and discuss with you what needs to happen next</p> <p>Who can Refer</p> <p>Professionals working with families experiencing domestic abuse.</p> <p>An up-to-date DASH risk assessment and not exceeding 13 points should be attached to the referral form.</p> <p>Contact Us</p> <p>Enquiries – Phil West – 07770315631</p> <p>Referrals – Phil.west@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</p> 

Supporting transition and change at school:

Join the Cambridge North and Ely Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) for a webinar on supporting children with transition and change at school. As the end of the academic year approaches, we know that children will be preparing for change. This could be moving up to a new year, meeting new peers or even the transition up to secondary school.

For some children the change will feel exciting and they will want to seize the new opportunities. For other children, the changes may feel daunting and give them lots of worries. Whether your child feels excited or worried about upcoming changes at school, the session will be dedicated to providing you with evidence-based strategies for supporting your child with resilience to make change feel more manageable. We look forward to seeing you there!

When?

Monday 30th June at 1pm (1 hour duration) or **Friday 4th July at 9:30am** (1 hour duration)

Online via Microsoft Teams Book

your place here:

<https://bookwhen.com/cambridge-n-ely-mhst-parents>

Witchford Parish council:

The Parish Council have asked us to share the following message with the school community:

Are you interested in getting some community events going in Witchford - how about a fete, Christmas carols, village feast? We are having an open meeting on 3rd July at 7.30pm at St Andrews Hall on Main Street. Everyone from the village is welcome - we would love to get more village events going.

Activities and events:

 <p>CG SWIM SCHOOL</p> <p>Please join us for our OPEN AFTERNOON! COME ALONG TO SEE WHAT CG SWIM SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER (IT'S NOT JUST SWIMMING LESSONS!) MEET THE TEAM AND ENJOY A FREE SWIM! Please book your free swim in advance - ely@cgswimschool.com FREE DRINKS & NIBBLES £10 OFF ANY BOOKINGS MADE ON THE DAY 1PM - 5PM SUNDAY 13 JULY, 2025 Quarterway House, Ely Road, Little Thetford - CB6 3HP 07904 588647</p>	 <p>FUTSAL FOR KIDS AGES UNDER: 8/9 & 10/11/12</p> <p>25/26 SEASON (MIXED BOYS AND GIRLS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• COME AND JOIN US IN THE BEATIFUL GAME.• KICK-OFF ON TUESDAY 02ND OF SEPTEMBER 2025.• LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE . <p>TUESDAY'S 8/9- 5:30 TO 6:30 PM 10/11/12 - 6:30 TO 7:30 PM</p> <p>LOCATION : WVC- MANOR ROAD (CB6 2JA)</p> <p>DENIS LACERDA UEFA LICENSED COACH</p> <p>ELY LIONS FUTSAL CLUB</p> <p>CONTACT: ELYLIONS.FC@GMAIL.COM</p>
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The 52nd World PEASHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday 12th July 2025
from 11:30am Witcham Village Green
ELY CB6 2LB

Competitions include:

The Open - For customised peashooters

Traditional - Levelling the playing field

Teams

Petits Pois - Under 11s

Youth - Ages 12-16

Junior Teams - Ages 5-16

Plus: BBQ, Bar, Gin Tent, Stalls,
Raffle, Teas & Cakes, Ice Cream,
Kids Entertainment, Crafts
and much more!

READ THE RULES:



AND BOOK ONLINE

Register to compete on the day or online at
www.worldpeashoot.com



Gold Sponsors:

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5 DAY INTENSIVE COURSE

BOOK NOW!

SPLASH INTO SUMMER Swimming Lessons

SESSION DATES

WEEK COMMENCING
WEEK 1 - 28TH JULY
WEEK 2 - 4TH AUGUST
WEEK 3 - 11TH AUGUST
WEEK 4 - 18TH AUGUST

£110 PER SWIMMER
3:1 CLASS RATIO

KING'S ELY POOL

FUN SWIMMING LESSONS FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

GREAT PROGRESSION

FUN SWIMMING LESSONS

£150 PER SWIMMER 4:1 CLASS RATIO (45 MINUTE ADVANCED LESSON)

01353 482 492 www.seahorseswimely.co.uk

DARRACUDAS ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

ELY COLLEGE HAF SPACES AVAILABLE!

We are pleased to be supporting the Holiday Activities (HAF) and Food programme this summer!

- Fully funded places for those receiving benefits related free school meals
- 4 to 14 year olds!
- 80+ Activities!
- Choice each session!



barracudas.co.uk

Call to Book:
01480 467567

OFSTED REGISTERED



CANVAS & CO.
a place to create.

YEAR 6 MEET AND MAKES
An opportunity to make new friends through a social art and craft class



ELY COLLEGE
Thursday 21st August
10:00am - 12:00pm
All Year 6 Children about to start Ely College
£15pp



VISTA ACADEMY
Thursday 21st August
1:00pm - 3:00pm
All Year 6 Children about to start Vista Academy
£15pp



WITCHFORD VILLAGE COLLEGE
Thursday 28th August
10:00am - 12:00pm
All Year 6 Children about to start Witchford Village College
£15pp

<https://laura-draws.classforkids.io>

ELY ST MARYS HOLIDAY CLUB

Learn. Grow. Smile.

Enrich your child's development through activity based learning.

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

8.00 am - 5.45 pm £35
9.00 am - 4.00 pm £27

DATES
Thursday 24th July to Friday 29th August
MON 25th BH (NO CLUB)

Open to Age 4 (at school) - 12

TAX CREDITS & CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR BOOKINGS OR

info@activeplayededucation.co.uk

Children and Family Centre East – What's on:

Please click [here](#) for the Children and Family Centre East July What's on information.

Uniform orders:

Uniform items for school and pre-school pupils (**including jumpers and cardigans**) are now available from Sigma.

Pre-School: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#) Primary

School: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#)

Orders must be placed by parents and carers and can be collected from Sigma Embroidery on Sedgeway Business Park, Witchford.

Term dates for 2025 – 2026:

Term dates for next academic year are now available on the website and can be found [here](#).

Attendance:

The Rackham has an updated policy on Attendance. Please follow this [link](#) to read the policy on the school website.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our drive for improved attendance. The Government has identified a child's attendance of 96% and above is the key figure to give best chance of academic progress. Please can we remind you that absence must be reported to the office by 9am on each day of absence.

This week's attendance: 94.3%



Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

Dates for your diary:

29 th June	Funday Sunday
2 nd July	FWR Disco – Reception to Year 6 (booking now available)
7 th July	Move Up Day
10 th July	Pre-School 9.30am (booking now available)
10 th July	EYFS and KS1 Sports Day 1.30pm (booking now available)
11 th July	KS2 Sports Day 1.30pm (booking now available)
11 th July	Pupil annual reports emailed home.
14 th July	FWR Uniform Sale
16 th July	Parent's Evening (booking will open on Monday 14 th July)
17 th July	Piano and Choir Concert at 9.30am (booking now available)
17 th July	Parent's Evening (booking will open on Monday 14 th July)
17 th July	Reserve Sports Day for Pre-School, EYFS and KS1
18 th July	Reserve Sports Day for KS2
21 st July	Year 6 Leaver's BBQ (booking required nearer the time)
22 nd July	Year 6 Leaver's Assembly at 10.30am to parents and carers (booking required nearer the time)
22 nd July	Year 6 Parent or carer school buffet invitation
22 nd July	Last day for children
23 rd July	Professional Development Day for teachers
	SUMMER HOLIDAY