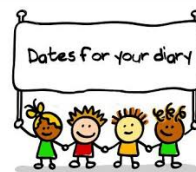




Sponsored Walk If you would like to accompany us on our sponsored walk on Friday 4th July please let Mrs Verity know! Thank you.



Staff Update When Mr Corner (the senior teacher from Summerbridge) left the federation at Christmas it presented me and the governing body the opportunity to look at different models of leadership across the federation. It was agreed that we would appoint a deputy head teacher who would work across the federation and the post was advertised. Mr Andy Howarth applied for the post. Yesterday, Mr Howarth was interviewed by Mrs Jo Robinson (CEO of the Trust) Carol White (our federation Chair of Governors) and Sian James (Headteacher, Bilton Grange Primary School). Mr Howarth was successful and will take up the position of deputy head teacher from 1st September 2025. I wish him well in this new role. He will job share with Mrs Goodwin in Swale Class (Y2,3,4) and will teach 3 days a week and be out of class for 2 days a week. We have advertised for a full time teacher to teach in Wharfe Class (Y5,6) from September and will be interviewing for this post on Monday 30th June.



9 Jun -
Phonics
Screening
Check week

12 Jun -
summer fair
3.30 - 5pm

17 Jun -
sharing
assembly at
3pm

20 Jun -
Safeguard
ing week

4 Jul -
Sponsored
Walk



Congratulations to Isaac who recently competed in his first biathlon finishing in 4th place overall - well done indeed!

Today's newsletter is very much a newsletter filled with information and posters. However, one of these posters refers to the use of social media (TikTok on this occasion), age restrictions and what is and what isn't appropriate for children of primary school age. Please take the time to have a read of it and put in place any restrictions that you see fit to keep your child happy, healthy and safe when online. Also attached, are entry details for two exciting competitions "Wild Writers" and "Wild Photographers"; the





closing date for both is 6th July! Good luck if you decide to enter!

And finally...A

massive

thank you to the PTFA for the hosting a brilliant summer fair yesterday. Thank you so much!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TIKTOK

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's Following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app: that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan 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.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2025>

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

YOUNG WILD WRITERS COMPETITION 2025

www.henharrierday.uk/get-involved/young-wild-writers/

**FINAL DATE FOR
ENTRIES: 6 JULY 2025**

We are looking for original writing that clearly shows a single moment in the life of a plant, animal or habitat. Examples could be the beginning of a season, the hatching of an egg, the opening of a flower, the first drops of rain on a leaf, the arrival of the combine harvester in a field, or the melting of a glacier.

Stories must be set in natural conditions, but this could be anywhere from your back garden to the Sahara Desert. We want young entrants to capture a moment in nature that is important to them, but it can be about anything – a bird, insect, weather, trees or anything else.

Write a story, poem,
prose, article, song lyric
or letter up to 500 words
on the theme of
Capture the Moment

Age Categories

Young: 5 - 8 Years
Junior: 9 - 12 Years
Senior: 13 - 16 Years

Prizes

RSPB Puffin Binoculars,
Book Vouchers and
more. Plus for the
overall winner, an online
school visit by children's
author Gill Lewis

HEN  **HARRIER
ACTION**



YOUNG
WILD
WRITERS
COMPETITION
2025

YOUNG WILD PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION 2025



Your judge will be
award-winning
wildlife
photographer
Richard Birchett



Enter today

Are you aged between 5 and 16 with a camera or a smartphone?

Do you love getting out into nature and watching wildlife? Why not enter our **Young Wild Photographer** competition? There are some great prizes on offer, and you'll get the chance to have your pictures shown on our website and our social channels.

Capture the Moment

We are looking for images from young photographers that capture a single moment in nature. From the first drops of rain on a leaf to the emergence of busy bees and butterflies, or a dew-laden spiderweb caught in early sunlight, we'd love to see your shots of these welcome moments in nature.

Entry Age Categories

Young: 5 - 8 Years

Junior: 9 - 12 Years

Senior: 13 - 16 Years

FINAL DATE FOR ENTRIES: 6 JULY 2025

Sponsored by

opticron

Full entry details on the website:

www.henharrierday.uk/get-involved/young-wild-photographer/