



SPRING 2 – WEEK 3

We are looking forward to next week's Careers Fair - the photo above is from last year's event, and this year we have even more businesses coming along to talk about their work, and how our learners might enter a pathway towards their profession. More information about the Careers Fair is below.

Our Comic Relief celebrations started today, and we will continue to raise funds for great causes next week too.

A couple of new teachers joining us after Easter have been observing lessons this week, we will introduce them properly to you all once they are settled in to school but we are excited to have Helen and Adam joining the MCS family!

Have a great weekend everyone!

Dates for the diary

Coffee morning: 27th March -
Beech class

Headteacher's Award



This week the Headteacher's Award goes to
Rosie
for consistently meeting behaviour standards and being a great role model!

careers FAYRE

TUESDAY 18TH MARCH
4-5.30PM



MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



Our Careers Fayre is coming up on Tuesday 18th March. We are excited to be welcoming so many companies to join us to talk about the kind of roles available with them and routes into their professions.

There will also be an opportunity to speak to your child's teachers as we are incorporating a face-to-face parents' evening as part of this event.

There will be refreshments available to enjoy during the event, do come along and get involved whatever stage your child is at!

YEAR 11 & POST 16 UPDATE

Personalised exam timetables have been sent out to parents of older students with details of their exam entries, as well as emails to parents of learners leaving us at the end of the academic year - please contact the office if this applies to you and you have not received an email.

Support for young people transitioning into adulthood

As part of Devon's SEND Local Offer, they are providing a series of information sessions to help pupils prepare for life after school. Topics include career opportunities, independent living, managing money, and mental health.

Training and Employment Opportunities

 Tuesday 18 March 2025, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Independent Living and Housing Options

 Tuesday 15 April 2025, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Money Management

 Wednesday 7 July 2025, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Good Mental Health and Resilience

 Tuesday 16 September 2025, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

These sessions are open to young people and their supporters, with live Q&A opportunities. Recordings will also be available for PSHE lessons.

For full details and future dates, please visit their website:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/education-and-families/send-local-offer/preparing-for-adult-life-ages-14-25-years/transitions-support-sessions>

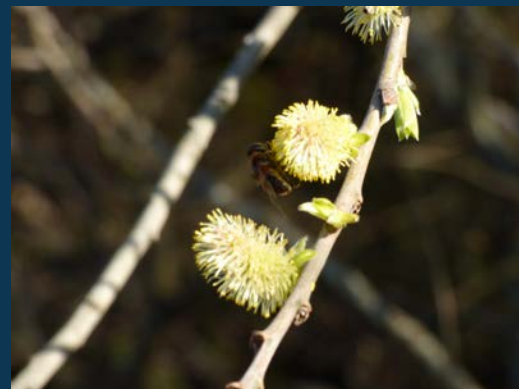
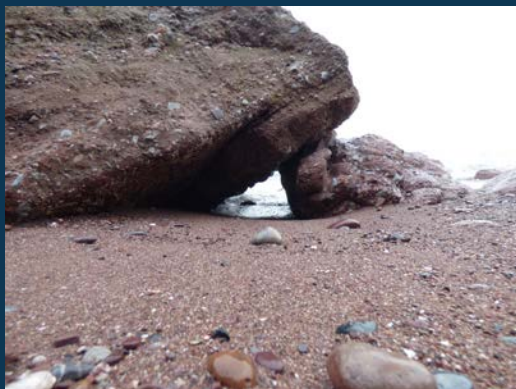
BOCCIA TOURNAMENT



Birch Class enjoyed their first school Boccia match this week and they all played really well. The match was part of the whole school Boccia competition that we will be running over the next few weeks. Each class has been invited to enter a team and eventually one team will have their name engraved on our new school Boccia Trophy. Boccia is an inclusive bowling game that not only requires a high level of skill but also requires concentration and good teamwork. We would like to wish all teams the best of luck.

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Sam Whittle from Alley House has shared some of his photographs from recent walks. He has recently started using a Panasonic Lumix DSLR (digital single lens reflex) camera with a 60x zoom lens. He has been filtering the pictures using the interactive TV screen at Alley House and deleting any that don't meet his standards. Keep any eye for more pictures!



THERAPY FOCUS

We practice interoception as part of our school curriculum. Paying attention to our senses helps us know about what's going on for us physically and emotionally. The ability to notice body signals increases our ability to identify and manage emotions.

It can be easiest to notice these signals when an activity provokes a strong sensation. These activities help us practice paying attention to those feelings.

Here are this week's interoception practice prompts for **NOSE**:

In a movie theater	Making a funny face	While dinner is cooking	Taking deep breath	Watching TV	Breathing in cold air	In hot weather	After running
In a restaurant	Laughing	During an illness	Smelling perfume	Blowing nose	Hanging upside down	In cold weather	Swimming

Idiom & word of the week for Spring Term 2, week 4:

Idiom of the week

Miles away

Someone described as 'miles away' is lost in thought or daydreaming, not paying attention or distracted.

Origin

Miles away once would have meant literally far away - physically distant - but over time came to also mean mentally distant.

How to use it?

I asked him twice if he wanted a cup of tea but he was miles away!



Word of the Week

Inane

Adjective

Lacking sense or meaning.

Example

I put up with hours of **inane** chatter during the car journey.

John made a bad impression with all his **inane** comments.

Synonyms

Silly
Ridiculous



Our Values Stars of the Week

MAGDALEN
COURT SCHOOL



Respect
&
Resilience

Health
&
Happiness

Kindness
&
Independence

The value this term is **happiness** and we've seen some great examples of this quality in school this week.

Larch

James for sharing happiness with the class and including others in games

Olive

Emma P for maintaining a positive attitude every day

Elm

Noah for communicating his needs to increase his happiness

Lime

Callan for being such a happy member of the group and having a positive attitude to challenges and trying new things

Beech

Phoebe for trying something new and making us proud

Holly

Beth for being a positive captain in the Boccia team

Oak

Jackson for sharing his horse stories with us this week

Hazel

Toby L for bringing positivity and calm to the classroom by sharing his music with us all

Maple

Anna for her positive and proactive attitude in school

Juniper

Chloe for making an effort in spite of the challenges of change

Birch

Jack L for always being polite and courteous

Ash

Leo for sharing his infectious happiness with everyone he meets

Next week:



SPRING 2 - WEEK 4



MONDAY

Outdoor Education
Birch & Larch

Food Tech
Elm & Aspen
Drop scones
Ash
Cinnamon rolls
Alley House
Samosa

TUESDAY

Outdoor Education
Beech, Oak & Ash

Food Tech
Larch
Beef pho
Olive
Potato dauphinoise
Birch
Bread rolls

WEDNESDAY

Outdoor Education
Elm, Aspen & Juniper

Food Tech
Oak
Cinnamon rolls
Holly
Potato dauphinoise
Hazel
Potato dauphinoise

THURSDAY

Outdoor Education
Hazel & Maple

Food Tech
Lime
Potato dauphinoise
Juniper
Samosa

FRIDAY

Outdoor Ed
Lime, Holly & Olive

Food Tech
Beech
Drop scones
Maple
Potato dauphinoise

Safeguarding

This week's focus is on the Roblox app. On the next page you'll find a guide with helpful information to support parents and carers with understanding and managing the risks around this.

If you would like any support with any of our safeguarding topics, please reach out to Jane.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX



Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



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