



# News Sheet



www.swantonabbot.norfolk.sch.uk | office-swantonabbot@coastaltogether.co.uk  
01692 538246

Executive Head | Simon Wakeman | exehead@coastaltogether.co.uk

No.02  
Autumn  
Term

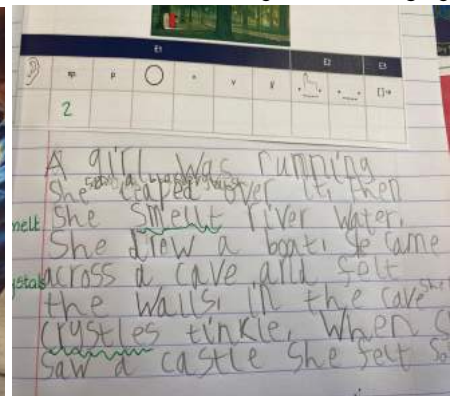
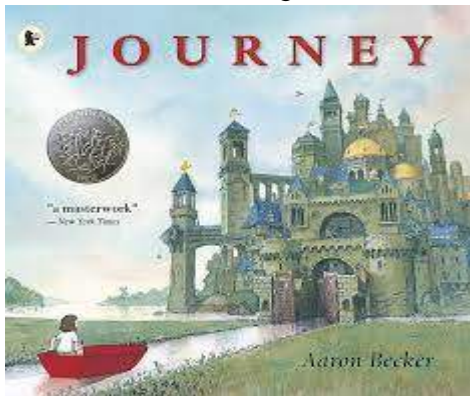


15.09.23

## Inspiring Creative Learners

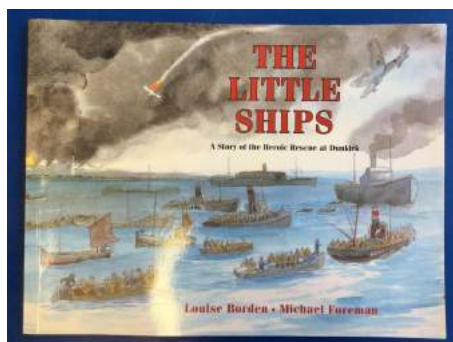
### Doves Class

Dove class have started their learning this week with a wordless picture book called 'Journey'. We have been looking closely at the pictures and building up to a piece of our own writing. In maths we have been comparing! Comparing size, colour amounts and mass. We have started our topic 'Let's fly away'. We have been learning about the first flight and the history of planes and gliders. Reception have started their maths journey sorting and have started to learn the first set of sounds. Year 1 and 2 will be bringing home their reading books on Friday. We have chosen a non fiction text for you to enjoy.



### Owls

We are all very interested in our book that we are using to inspire our English work this fortnight. We created our own boats to get us thinking about the whole concept - it was tricky but we persevered! The book tells the story of the rescue mission of soldiers from Dunkirk so it is also helpful for our topic of the Battle of Britain.



In topic this week, we focused on Operation Sea Lion. Ask your child if they can remember what this was (clues in the picture).

Mrs Emery led us in some fun Circle Games on Wednesday - we have been working so hard, it was great to have a little bit of time to enjoy getting to know each other a little better.

ALL children are now very able to access our reading, spelling and comprehension program, Lexia, online. Details have been sent home so they can continue this at home (as well as everyday in school). Please do support them in this, and don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.



### Merlin class

The children have settled into the new routine really well this week and have been working incredibly hard. We have been looking at the book 'The little ships' in English and have been exploring sentence structures and emotions that people may have felt when the call came out for their boats to venture to Dunkirk.



In topic, we have been looking at the German Plan called Case Yellow and how the Germans were able to push the British and French so quickly into a small pocket around Dunkirk. They have been so resilient and curious when faced with the new learning this week and have been asking so many questions.

The children have been given their Lexia logins to use in school and these will be coming home with them next week so it can be accessed at home to support their learning within spelling and reading comprehension.

## **Mental Wellbeing**

The children today have been demonstrating their favourite doodles as it is National Doodle Day. There are many benefits to doodling, one being it helps you learn more effectively. It is great for reducing stress and allowing you to process emotions. What is your favourite doodle?



## Online Safety

This week we are looking at setting boundaries around gaming to ensure children's safety whilst playing online.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

18  
CENSORED

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

## Meet Our Expert

Daniel Uppcombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Warzone, Roblox and Minecraft. His work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and V0247. He has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipatapp/about/privacy.html>



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National  
Online  
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

# Attendance/Safeguarding

Attendance target set by the government = 96.5%

Current updated Swanton Abbott Primary School attendance this year to date 98.49%  
 Dove class attendance: 100% Owl class attendance 97.50% Merlin Class attendance 97.69%

The classes with the highest attendance this week were Doves & Merlins achieving 100%  
**Amazing - Well Done Doves and Merlins!**

## News and Reminders

### PE Days

On the day your child has PE please ensure they come to school wearing their PE kit. If they are taking part in a sports club (and it is not their PE day) they can come to school in their PE kit so they are appropriately dressed for the after school club.

Dove Class - Years R, 1 and 2	Tuesday
Owl Class - Years 3 and 4	Swimming during the autumn term. Please come to school in uniform unless you are attending after school sports club
Merlin Class - Years 5 and 6	Thursday

## Dates for the Diary

Date	Time	Event
21/09/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
21/09/2023	3:15-4:15	After School Sports Club - Premier Sports - Ball Skills
27/09/2023	2:00-3:15	Macmillan Story Cafe - Parents and Carers invited to join us for this event
28/09/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
28/09/2023	3:15-4:15	After School Sports Club - Premier Sports - Ball Skills
05/10/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
05/10/2023	3:15-4:15	After School Sports Club - Premier Sports - Ball Skills
Wc 09/10/2023	By appointment	Open week for September 2024 new Reception intake
12/10/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
12/10/2023	3:15-4:15	After School Sports Club - Premier Sports - Ball Skills
18/10/2023	TBC	Whole School Harvest Festival - provisional
19/10/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
19/10/2023	3:15-4:15	After School Sports Club - Premier Sports - Ball Skills
19/10/2023	3:15	Break up for October Half Term Holiday
30/10/2023	8:55	Return to school from October Half Term Holiday

02/11/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
09/11/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
16/11/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
23/11/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
30/11/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
07/12/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre
14/12/2023	1:00-3:00	Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons at Victory Leisure Centre

### See below for term dates:

**Term Dates**

**Norfolk County Council 2023-2024 Coastal Together**

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

**Key:** White dates - schools open to pupils  
 Yellow dates - pupil holiday  
 Red dates - basic holiday  
 Staff Training Days (The remaining 2 Smart Days will be disaggregated into 6 Twilights, 1 per half term)

**All in-term holiday requests will be classed as unauthorised absences. This will likely result in a fixed penalty notice being issued from Norfolk County Council.**

**In Norfolk, penalty notices are issued in accordance with the Norfolk Local Protocol. In all cases a penalty notice can only be issued if the pupil has accrued at least 9 sessions (4.5 school days) of unauthorised absence within the previous 6 school weeks. This would result in a fine of £60 per child per parent ie; for a family with 2 children this would total £240**

**The link below has more information about fixed penalty notices.**  
[Fixed Penalty Notices](#)



**Macmillan Coffee Morning Story Cafe**  
 If you're free, why not join us for our Macmillan coffee afternoon story cafe on Wednesday 27th September 2pm to 3:15pm? There will be a shared story, a chance for you to work alongside your child/ren in and out of the classroom before parents and carers return to the hall for the opportunity to purchase cakes, biscuits and drink. If you are unable to join us but your child would like to buy a cake, an adult from our school will take them to the hall. All

You're invited to join us on  
**Wednesday 27th September 2023**  
**2pm - 3:15pm**

For 'Macmillan Coffee Morning' (or afternoon in our case)

funds raised will be going to Macmillan Cancer. To support the event please send any **cake or biscuit donations** to the school office on Tuesday 26th or Wednesday 27th September. Thank you for your anticipated support with this deserving charity.