



"Learning that lasts a lifetime"

## HEAD'S BLOG...

At the end of what has felt like the longest term ever, we can all look back and feel proud of what we have all achieved. We've got to grips with some pretty intense home education and got our heads around new technology and ways of working; we've settled back into school, reaffirming friendships and reacquainting ourselves with rules and procedures to keep ourselves safe; we've worked hard to ensure children feel confident, happy and assured that despite months out of school, they CAN do whatever they set their minds to achieve and we will help them do it. We've had some fun along the way too!



So now, as the country takes its first tentative steps out of lockdown, we can look to the future with a little hope, particularly relevant at Easter—a time in the Christian calendar when we can reflect on new life, starting afresh with hope for a brighter future.

With this theme in mind, I set our classes a competition—to create some art which demonstrated that "Easter = Hope". Unsurprisingly, there were some amazing creations, examples of which you can see on page 3 of the newsletter. Fortunately, it wasn't just left to me to judge as I was accompanied by our School Chaplain, Emma, to decide on the 2 winning classes. We decided that the children in Peacocks and Lambs deserved the prize of a creme egg each—well done to all!

So thank you for your support and for helping your children get through a tough time. We know we are not quite out of the woods yet and I would urge you all to please follow the current lockdown rules so we have the best chance of having a summer term without disruption—something we all richly deserve!

Happy Easter everyone—wishing you all a lovely break with your loved ones and, to steal a quote, 'a balanced diet is an Easter egg in each hand' I think I'll try that diet tip!!!  
Ms Carmichael

**Coronavirus reminders** If your child develop any symptoms of Coronavirus (persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste / smell), s/he **MUST NOT** come to school and school must be informed. Call 119 or get a test online at:

<https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).

A new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If you believe that your child is well enough to attend school and they have only symptoms of a 'common cold' such as: runny nose, sore throat or a mild cough they are permitted to attend.

The Department of Health and Social Care announced that from Monday, 1st March, households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March. Households, childcare and support bubbles of primary, secondary and college staff can also be tested. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

via employers if they offer testing to employees, at a local test site, by collecting a home test kit from a test site, by ordering a home test kit online on this link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Schools should not give test kits to parents, carers or household members. A letter containing advice on where to access testing will be made available for schools to share shortly.

**NB: All absences must be reported to our school office by calling 01726 64322. You can leave a message if outside of office hours. Please DO NOT report absences via Class Dojo. Thank you.**

# Dates for your diary

## 2020/21 Spring Term Diary Dates:

Thurs 1st April 2021—Last day of term, no after school club

Fri 2nd Apr 2021-Fri 16th April 2021—Easter holidays

Mon 3rd May 2021—Bank Holiday

Mon 31st May 2021-Fri 4th June 2021—Half term

Fri 11th June 2021—Inset day

Fri 23rd July 2021—Last day of term

# Important information

## Contact tracing over the Easter holidays

Schools and further education providers continue to play an important role in contact tracing and the national effort to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

We will continue to play our part with contact tracing over Easter, similar to the arrangements over Christmas.

Please ensure you inform us if your child tests positive for Coronavirus if they developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school. We will then identify close contacts and advise self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst at school. You can inform us by emailing: [bbsupport@celticcross.education](mailto:bbsupport@celticcross.education). This email address will be checked daily until Wednesday, 7th April.

Where pupils test positive for coronavirus during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being at school, you are not required to inform us; however, you should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Where pupils need to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case during the holidays, you do not need to inform us about this until the first day of the Summer term.

Many thanks

# Easter Art competition—EYFS and KS1

## Easter = Hope



Doves took an 'Art Attack' approach and went LARGE!!!!

Fish created a very detailed Easter garden!



We love Rainbows and Stars' natural eggs as well as a beautiful shell border.

Lambs' art took many forms—their hopes on crosses, handprints rainbow and decorative eggs— what a beauty!



BBeebies' bunnies are too cute!

# Easter Art competition—KS2

## Easter = Hope

Hope class chose various different media to represent the theme. Special mention to Harry for using his own personal and very effective style.



Angels' HUGE egg filled with bright colours and messages of hope.



Pelicans recreated the 3 crosses under a beautiful rainbow!



Peacocks chose to recreate Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, the cross and resurrection—great idea!



Faith focussed on the cross with brilliantly bold designs.



Phoenix took inspiration from nature in Spring to decorate their massive egg. We love the hope words too!





## This week's Achievers



### BBeebies

Annie

For being really kind, helpful and looking after all our resources.

### Rainbows

Louise

For being a positive, smiley member of the class.

### Stars

Jacob

For wowing us with his Maths and Phonics!

### Little Doves

Bentley

For his super writing. Well done!

### Little Fish

Benji

For wonderful engagement and thoughtful ideas when discussing the Easter story and for SUPER writing!

### Little Lambs

William

For joining us in Lambs class and settling in so well.

### Peacocks

Gracie-Lou

For always demonstrating superb behaviour—you are a true role model.

### Pelicans

Louise

For fantastic fractions learning.

### Phoenix

Tyler

For fantastic application in his maths and reading assessments and for embracing Accelerated Reader.

### Angels

Emma

For showing incredible dedication to your learning and working hard in Maths to read and understand line graphs this week.

### Faith


Paige

For her growing confidence when answering questions and sharing her learning.

### Hope

Cayden

For embracing all of his learning with such enthusiasm—you are such a fantastic role model for your peers.



# READING

## Reading Ambassadors

One of the jobs of our Reading Ambassadors to help their peers to read by sharing their book recommendations. The ambassadors have read and reviewed the books below to provide some inspiration for their peers when choosing a book. We hope that these book recommendations might encourage them to read a genre or an author they wouldn't usually try.



I like reading because it helps us to learn to empathise – to try and understand how other people might be feeling and what they might be thinking. I think it gives me an idea of what might be happening to other people in the world, not just what happens in my life.

I read Ella on the Outside by Cath Howe. I loved this book so much I read it twice – I finished it and then I started it again! It deals with lots of issues, like illness, bullying and betrayal – things that children might be experiencing and how the characters react and respond might help others who are having similar experiences. The author wrote a dedication at the beginning of the book which says: “To all the children who have ever felt on the outside,” so I think she wrote it purposefully to support children who may be experiencing difficulties. I would recommend this book to older children, maybe age 11 -14 years as it deals with quite grown-up issues. Although it looks like it might be a ‘girl’ book, it really would be great for boys to read too.

I love to read because it transports me to another world, where I experience things I wouldn't usually experience.”

I read Nevermoor – The Trials of Morrigan Crow by Jessica Townsend. This book reminds of Harry Potter because it is a fantasy story based on someone having magical powers but not knowing it. I loved reading it because the main character, Morrigan, has to go through lots of competitions with her magnificent – a huge cat that is a housemaid in the hotel where Morrigan lives. If she is successful in the trials, she will become part of the Wondrous Society, who are the role models for the people of Nevermoor – a secret city. It's full of adventure, magic and suspense. I would recommend this to children who are over the age of 9 and enjoy books like Harry Potter.



I love reading because it's fun as you can imagine that you're in the book. I would love to have been George in 'George's Marvellous Medicine' because it would be great fun to do that to your Gran, even if it is a mean.

This book is set in a strange hotel where trolls, goblins, quarterlings and other strange beings come to stay for their holidays. All kinds of magical things happen at the hotel and the main character, Frankie, tells the story from his point of view. The illustrator, Steve Linton, has drawn some really good pictures in the book. Although they are black and white, they really help you to picture the characters and the setting. I would recommend this book to younger children, anyone from the age of 5 upwards. It makes you laugh when you read it and there's lots of funny words that the author has made up, like minkle meatballs and squinkle nugget!

# ONLINE SAFETY

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 game of many 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.



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about REC ROOM



Rec Room is a social hangout game, where users meet up with friends to explore and create rooms, each containing a different experience. One room might be a game of laser tag or dodgeball, while another could be a parkour course or virtual boxing. Available on iOS devices, PlayStation, Xbox, Oculus and PC/Mac, Rec Room is KidSAFE COPPA Certified and carries an age rating of 9+. Nonetheless, parents and carers should remain mindful that gaming online with strangers always carries a potential risk.

### Intimidating Interactions

Rec Room is a huge online environment, with more than 10 million users worldwide. Before heading into the individual rooms, players usually mingle in the Rec Centre. Users can move their avatar around this social space and audio chat using their microphone. While most people just want to have fun and make friends, some may say and do things that others find uncomfortable, threatening or harmful.

### Online Bullying

As cliques can form naturally during a gaming session, situations can easily arise where some children feel left out or even bullied. Gamers can victimise other players for no reason at all, and many hide behind an online persona which offers a sense of immunity from their actions. Even when players are banned, those determined enough can simply make another account and re-enter the game.

### Sexual Content

Some rooms have adult themes and absolutely should not be entered by children. The game's code of conduct stipulates that players must be warned about anything of this nature before entering a room, but users who don't have a junior account could still potentially gain access. The major worry is that a young person could be lured into these rooms before realising what goes on inside.

### Questionable Connections

Adding someone as a friend is a good way to connect with a person you had fun with online. However, not everybody is who they seem, and some might have more sinister ideas once a friendship has been established. When two players (who don't have juni or accounts) accept each other as friends in Rec Room, they're able to chat privately, track each other in-game, and plan to go into rooms together on their own.

### Violent or Scary Themes

Rec Room contains mild violent or scary themes, including weapons like swords and paintball guns. It is quite tame compared with many other games but might still leave an impression on younger children. This applies even more when playing in virtual reality: VR significantly enhances an experience – whether exciting or frightening – and can have a lasting impact on young ones who may be upset by adult themes.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Junior Accounts

Junior users can't send or receive audio and private messages, or create their own room. Anybody under 13 is required to have a junior account, and those accounts are linked to (and moderated by) a parent or guardian account. To create one, start a new game of Rec Room, go to 'Create an Account' and follow the instructions. Be sure to explain the restrictions to your children before letting them play.

### Block and Report

To help moderate problem users, select the player (click the right thumbstick on PS4, press 'T' on PC, point in VR, etc). The 'Comfort and Moderation' screen presents options including block, unblock, votekick and report. Players you block will not be allowed in the same room as you. The Rec Room website's code of conduct can help you decide whether a player has violated the terms and should be reported.

### Tailor the Experience

In the settings (within the 'Watch Menu'), you can tweak individual parts of the Rec Room experience. Everything from muting other players' audio, muting your mic and tweaking voice pitch, through to selecting how close other players can get to you can be found here. This is ideal for people who prefer to avoid social interactions or simply want to enjoy the game without worrying about other players.

### Disable Payment Methods

Rec Room is free to download and play, but there are in-game purchases – items like cosmetics and costumes – that users pay for with real money. If you have a card attached to any platform accounts (like PlayStation or Steam account), be aware that children might therefore incur costs on these without meaning to. It's safest to unlink any payment methods before you download the game.

### Get Involved

As it's such a popular game, there are lots of content creators on YouTube and Twitch whose output focuses on Rec Room. Most of this content is tailored to a younger audience. Talking to your child about their favourite creators – and watching their videos together – is a good way of opening a dialogue about your child's experiences in Rec Room and understanding which aspects of the game they enjoy.

## Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBIBLE. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



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SOURCES: <https://recroom.com/aboutandprivacy>, <https://recroom.com/parents/guide>, [https://www.oculus.com/news/room/please\\_please\\_keep\\_your\\_kids\\_out\\_of\\_rec\\_room/](https://www.metacritic.com/user-reviews/rec-room/#:~:text=Some%20game%20rooms%20have%20moderate%20graphics%20and%20chat%20rooms,https://www.oculus.com/news/room/please_please_keep_your_kids_out_of_rec_room/), <https://kidsafed.com/aboutus.html>



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 24.03.2021

# OTHER NOTICES

## Social distancing reminder

We have been alerted to the fact that access along the pathways around the school is becoming blocked due to people gathering for a chat at the beginning or end of the day, often with dogs in tow.

Whilst lockdown measures are beginning to ease, social distancing is still something we need to adhere to so that the risk of coronavirus transmission are limited. PLEASE make sure you **leave the school** and surrounding areas **swiftly** each morning and afternoon and **leave pathways clear** to enable safe social distancing around the school.

Please note that dogs are not permitted on site due to potential danger they may cause to young children.

Thank you.



BlackbirdPie magazine is here again!

This time they have real events in their What's On magazine—things families can go to and enjoy. Of course some of the events in their magazine are still virtual and many of the events are in the future but families can book up and have things to plan.

Their magazine is free to download, just click the link below.

<https://blackbirdreads.turtl.co/story/blackbirdpie-2021-easter/>

Arena Wild Tribe are offering 2 FREE live Wild Tribe sessions over the Easter holidays.

[click here](#) to register

### Wild Tribe Live!!

Following the recent success of our Wild Tribe Spring Nature Explorers sessions check out our [YouTube channel](#). We are delighted to announce that during the Easter holidays we will be delivering 'Wild Tribe Live Sessions' for children in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. You will be able to develop your skills as Nature Explorers through the great outdoors. There will be access to some Easter themed videos with the aim of inspiring you to [#GetOutGeActiveGetCreative](#).

Come and meet Mrs Blackbird, as she continues her journey to discover The Lost Spells

Both adventures are open to all ages and start at 10.30am



Day One Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
we discover 'Moth'  
aimed at KS1 (EYFS to Year 2)

Day Two Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April  
join us to unearth 'Jay'  
aimed at KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6)

### CLICK HERE to register

The Wild Tribe Outdoor learning programme is delivered by Arena Sports Partnership based in East Cornwall part of the WestCountry Schools Trust. Further information about our programmes can be found on our [website](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#)

