

Dear parents/carers,

### Football Match

A **huge** congratulations to the Dean Field football team on their first away match this year and to achieving a top winning score of 3-0 against Abbey Park, Illingworth!



### World Book Day Vouchers (sent home today)

The redemption period for World Book Day 2023 £1 book token is from **Thursday 16 February until Sunday 26 March 2023**. You can redeem your World Book Day £1 book token at the following retailers:

- Your local independent bookseller
- Asda
- Blackwell's (selected stores only)
- Morrisons
- Sainsburys
- Tesco
- The Works
- Waterstones
- WHSmith



Please check with your local store before you visit to see if they stock the £1 books. Happy shopping and happy reading!

Have a great weekend.

Mrs F Pether

### Staff Training

This week certain staff attended their final training session of Team Teach, they have loved it and their certificate is currently being processed for them. Well done to those that took part.

Also this week teachers in Year 1– Year 6 worked across the Trust to discuss how to improve writing standards in each class, coming together to share ideas at Beech Hill. The EYFS teams from both schools also met at Beech Hill to discuss the importance of routines to promote independence and positive behavior.

## Safeguarding

### What are some of the negative effects of social media on children?

**Overuse of digital media may place your children at risk of:**

- Not enough sleep. Media use can interfere with sleep.
- Obesity.
- Delays in learning & social skills.
- Negative effect on school performance.
- Behaviour problems.
- Problematic internet use.
- Risky behaviours.
- Sexting, loss of privacy & predators.



Social media affects teenagers' mental health negatively by limiting direct contact with peers and encouraging constant comparison online, which can lead to low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression.

### Can parents monitor Snapchat?

Snapchat launches parental controls to help manage teens' social media use. Snapchat's Family Center lets parents see whom their child is contacting, but not their messages. Parents can also confidentially report accounts that concern them, without their child knowledge.

### What age is TikTok UK for?

13+ is the minimum age, but there isn't a real way to validate age so anyone can download the app. There is a lot of concern around inappropriate language and videos that children are making/sending. By default, all accounts are set to public so strangers can contact your children.

### Is there parental controls on TikTok?

TikTok has "Digital Wellbeing" tools for all accounts that set daily screen time and limit certain videos with Restricted Mode, which TikTok says "limits content that may not be appropriate for some viewers." Go to Settings and Privacy > Digital Wellbeing to access the tools.

### For what age is Snapchat?

Age 13 is the minimum age to sign up for Snapchat.

**Let's all enjoy a digital world safely!**



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# NGL

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous – although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

## ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

## PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a 'dummy' account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

## COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription where – for a weekly fee – users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

## INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service, informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

## QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating "NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried." This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

## ACCIDENTALLY GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed – enabling all their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term – although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

### BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

### EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

### THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and seeking behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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## Year 1 MasterChef

This week Year 1 had their MasterChef afternoon. Our topic is Sensational Safari so we made safari themed picnic food. We made egg mayonnaise filled baguettes in the shape of a snake, a lion's face made from hummus, pepper and carrots and chocolate crispy "ostrich nests". The children really enjoyed making the food and trying a bit of everything afterwards, though the ostrich nests were definitely the most popular!



## Online Safety

We are dealing with an increasing number of online safety issues which are happening out of school hours. Online safety is well embedded into our computing curriculum and we feel the children are armed with the necessary knowledge to safely navigate the online world. However, as parents it would help us greatly, if you could remain vigilant of the apps they are using and material they are viewing on their devices. You can access **National Online Safety** online free via any device which has a range of support for parents/carers in the form of guides, webinars and online courses. To download their app, search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/Google Play Store. We truly believe at Dean Field that the more informed we are as parents/carers about the ever-changing online world, the safer it becomes for our children.





## WIN AN IPHONE 14 PRO 128GB WORTH OVER £1000



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Win an amazing new iPhone 14 Pro
- Please help give our fundraising a boost
- Win up to £25,000 every week

**PLAY NOW**

 YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

 Dean Field  
Fundraising for Dean Field

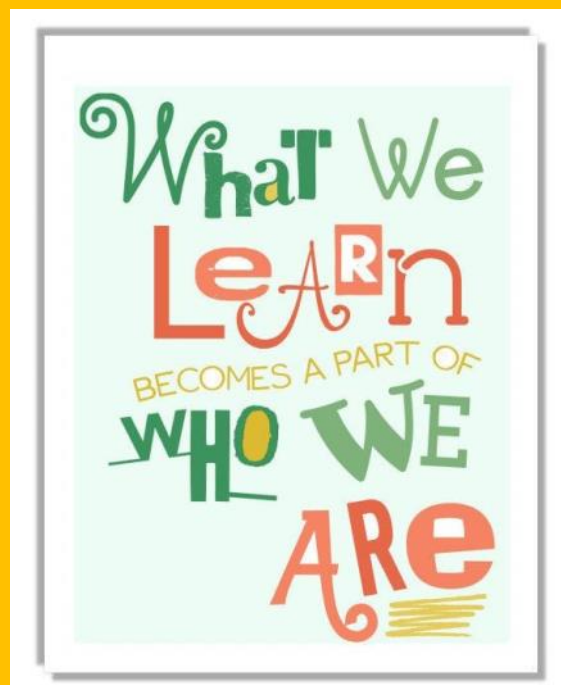
Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 25th March 2023

## DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 8th March	Rec visit to Shroggs Park
Monday 13th March	Year 2 visit to Manor Heath Park
Wednesday 15th March	Parents Evening 1:20-6pm

**REMINDER:** All school fees, dinner money, extended provision and Nursery need to be paid in advance.  
We do not offer any credit and there are no exceptions.  
Please pay fees on time.

**Reminder:** We are a nut free school and we would appreciate that any lunchboxes do not include nut products to protect the children in school with nut allergies.



### Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Brazil	82%
Poland	80%
Australia	90%
Ireland	75.6%
Kenya	80.3%

You could help increase your class percentage by doing some extra reading on myON! There are thousands of books for you to choose from! If you need a reminder of your login details, please speak to your teacher. Visit <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/> to start reading!

### TT Rockstars Weekly Winners

Year 2 – William H

Year 3 – Nico G

Year 4 – Jacob B

Year 5 – Ashton J

Year 6 – Jessica C

**Class Winner - Kenya**



Group	% Attendance
Mexico	95.2%
China	92.4%
Australia	94.7%
Poland	94.8%
Kenya	96.5%
Brazil	94.8%
Ireland	89%
<b>Total</b>	<b>93.8%</b>

### This Weeks Attendance

Congratulations to Kenya class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to Mexico class for coming second. I am seriously concerned of classes who are below 96%. Meetings with parents of children who are of concern will occur.

If your child is absent from school please contact the school office on 01422 258258 before 9.00am.

It is important we are aware of the reason for your child/children's absence. It becomes a safeguarding concern if parents do not inform school when their child/children are absent. Please contact the school office on the first day of absence before 9am stating reasons for any absence. This will avoid absences being recorded as unauthorised.

If you have any concerns or questions surrounding your child/children's attendance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many Thanks.  
Loraine Stansfield, Pastoral Manager



## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Mexico Reception	Aiden I	For fantastic reading and phonics.
	Cub M	For super sharing with others.
China Year 1	Alexander Z	For a fantastic piece of independent maths.
	Alexa A	For a great start in your descriptive English writing.
Australia Year 2	Daniel I	For settling in well to your new school!
	Hannah R	For whizzing through challenges in maths!
Poland Year 3	Amelia H	For always being an outstanding role model pupil.
	Ivy B	For your fantastic writing in English.
Kenya Year 4	Theo G	For fantastic independent work this week.
	Sydney A	For always demonstrating the school behaviours.
Brazil Year 5	Noah M	For being really interested in the topic. He researched the different gods and goddesses and was very enthusiastic about his learning.
Ireland Year 6	Mia N	For outstanding efforts during maths tutoring.
	Tilly-Mai C	For being a mature, reliable and well-mannered pupil.