

# St Mary & St Peter Primary School Newsletter

## Information

### Set Sail for Success

Newsletter Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. Priscilla Crane

Head of School: Mrs. Jade Block



## Headteacher's News

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now at the end of the month of April - where has that time gone? I hope you all manage to have a good restful bank holiday weekend with your families.

### Our Mission Statement

*Through nurturing trust and strong relationships, our learning adventure will see each and every one of us thrive in God's love.*

### Values

*Believe  
Respect  
Love  
Trust*

Attendance is really good at present and we want to keep it that way. It is very important that children attend school every day unless for a valid reason. It is a legal requirement to attend school and we do ask that you send your child in, even when complaining of minor ailments such as a cold, runny nose etc., as most children are fine once in school and we will contact you if your child is too unwell to stay at school.

We would like to remind parents of the procedure for reporting your child's absence. If your child is unable to attend school due to being unwell, please call the school office and leave a message before 8.30. The message must include the pupils name, class and reason for absence. Please can I stress that 'unwell' is not sufficient, therefore please state the full reason.

If you know in advance that your child will not be attending school due to a holiday, special event etc., please complete the absence form, which you can find on our website under the 'Parent' tab <https://www.smspprimary.co.uk/parents/absence-and-illness/> If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Please do continue to check our school app for any important updates and communication.

Warmest best wishes,  
Mrs Block

### Contact Details

[office@smspprimary.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@smspprimary.norfolk.sch.uk)

01493 445117 @SMSpgorleston

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

# ROBLOX



PEGI  
7+

With more than 150 million users worldwide, Roblox is one of the most popular video games of recent times. Roblox allows users to create their own gaming experiences using Roblox Studio: building levels and games then allowing other people to play them. Similarly, players can play each other's creations, either on their own or with other people online. While it's a tool that can help foster creative thinking, Roblox is also intermittently in the news amid concerns over young users' safety.

### No Age Rating

Roblox is rated 7+ by PEGI, but the platform itself doesn't have a minimum age requirement. It does ask for a date of birth when registering, but this can be easily fabricated. The sheer quantity of games available on Roblox means that some will fall into teen/adult categories. Users can also interact with each other freely – and the game has, historically, attracted scammers, griefers and online predators.



### Chat Functionality

Users can join group chats with almost anyone through the Chat & Party function. While the chat has some filters, predators still try to find ways around these to prey on young children. There have been recent reports of adults pretending to be children, attempting to groom younger players and encouraging them to chat privately in an unmoderated environment away from the game.

### In-App Purchases

Robux is the in-game currency used to buy things like special outfits or emotes, and to play certain sections of the game. A subscription service (costing £4.99 per month) called Roblox Premium offers more privileges and more in-game currency. Robux can also be purchased in batches, for up to £4.99. Children can easily pay for these, or purchase a membership, without realising it.



### ODers

An 'ODer' (online dater) joins Roblox to find someone to 'date' online. While there's nothing inherently wrong with finding love on the internet, it becomes an issue in a space that's populated by children and young teens, like Roblox. Online dating is against Roblox's community guidelines, but certain player-built games on the platform are specifically for 'ODers' and should be avoided by children.

### Online Predators

Roblox's developers aim to maintain a safe place for children; they employ human moderators for their players' protection. But there will, sadly, always be individuals who try to bypass these safeguards so they can chat to children and attempt to communicate outside the game. Anyone asking for your child's personal information or to talk privately should be blocked and reported.



## Advice for Parents & Carers



### Take Note of Ratings

Recent press reports drew attention to Roblox's issues with potentially offensive content. Some players were using Roblox Studio to create games featuring nudity, sexual activity and extreme political views. In response, Roblox is introducing a ratings system which will rank content by age appropriateness, with clear warnings if a game is not suitable for younger players.



### Set Parental Controls

Roblox has controls that allow parents to moderate who their children can talk to and which games they can play. To enable these, add your email address to your child's account through the Security menu, and create a secure PIN to stop settings being tampered with. Then head into the Privacy menu where you can apply moderation to in-game chat, personal messages, invites and more.

### Disable Messages

It's advisable to block all messaging if you have concerns over your child's safety. If they're playing with friends they know in real life, encourage them to chat in another way (like on the phone), so you know exactly who they're talking to and how. Accounts can be tweaked to allow messages from specific groups of people, such as friends or users that your child follows.



### Block and Report

To report players in a game, find the Roblox symbol on screen (or the 'Settings' button on some devices). Identify the offending player and click the flag icon. Clarify why the player is being reported by choosing a reason from the list. If you think a particular game is inappropriate, you can also flag it for a moderator to check by following the same steps but selecting 'Game' instead of 'Player'.



### Encourage Creativity

It could prove a little too complex for younger children, but Roblox Studio is a great place to start learning the fundamentals of game design. Many budding developers have created Roblox games which have become popular among the community. There are plenty of tutorials on making games on sites like YouTube. You never know, your child's creation might be the next big thing!



### 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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#WakeUpWednesday

<https://corp.roblox.com/news/>

<https://www.bbcnews.com/news/roblox-cards-games-kids-exposed-pornographic-scenes-see-act1>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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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: 28.04.2021



### **Item donations for our Thrive garden**

If anyone has any spare soil/compost, flower pots, plants etc., that they are able to donate to our school, we would very much appreciate this. During the children's Thrive sessions, they will be revamping our raised beds to make them look much more appealing. Thank you in advance.

### **First Holy Communion**

Parents who would like their child, in year 3 or above, to take First Holy Communion this year are invited to attend the first session, at St Peter's, on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May. Please contact St Peter's on 01493 301013 for more information.

### **Governor vacancies**

We are wanting to recruit a governor who is skilled in finance and/or interested in educational policy. If you are interested or know anyone who would be - please do get in touch with Mrs Block.

### **Class Mass for the Summer Term**

Fortnightly class mass has resumed in school from today. Unfortunately, we are unable to invite parishioners/parents in at present, but please do hold us in your prayers during this time.

### **Item donations need for EYFS**

We are running low of the following items, so if you have any spare sitting around at home, we would gratefully receive donations of the following:

- Mud kitchen items such as pots, pans, spoons etc.
- Spare socks and pants for Nursery and reception aged children
- Wool and fabrics
- Large cable reels



### Rewards

Stars of the Week:

Reception - Isla and Lola

Year 1 - Chloe and Connor

Year 2 - John and Natalia

Year 3 - Domantas and Miriam

Year 4 - Hollie and Sandra

Year 5 - Jovan and Jake

Year 6 - Jericho and Kiara

Well done to all our star workers this week!

Attendance:

Well done Year 1 for having 99.23% attendance  
W/C 26<sup>th</sup> April.

Reading Record:

Reading Record winners for this week are Year 4  
with 96% of the class reading each night this last  
week. Well done year 4!



1<sup>st</sup> Y4 96%

2<sup>nd</sup> Y6 77%

3<sup>rd</sup> Y3 67%

4<sup>th</sup> Y2 59%

5<sup>th</sup> Y1 58%

6<sup>th</sup> YR 53%

7<sup>th</sup> Y5 36%

Please can we ask that children read each night to a  
parent or older sibling, and that this is recorded in  
their school diary, to go towards the classes weekly  
reading total.

If your child is an independent reader, please  
record that you have seen them read independently  
instead.

Thank you!



*appointment  
with the class  
teacher.*

### Help in a crisis

<https://www.nsfth.nhs.uk/Find-help/Pages/Help-in-a-Crisis.aspx>

FirstResponse is a 24/7 helpline offering immediate advice, support and signposting for people with mental health difficulties.

If you are experiencing something that makes you feel unsafe, distressed or worried about your mental health you can now call the helpline on **0808 196 3494**

### Norfolk and Waveney Mind telephone support line

The Telephone Support Line provides a listening ear, emotional support, coping strategies, signposting and practical advice for people living in Norfolk and Waveney. This includes help with developing plans to tackle and limit crisis situations.

Visit the Norfolk and Waveney Mind helpline website, or call **0300 330 5488**, to find out more about accessing this support.

Opening times: weekdays 4pm - midnight, weekends 10am - midnight.

### **Experiencing low mood, stress or anxiety?**

Self-refer to our Wellbeing services, which are run in partnership with the Mind charity.

Visit [www.wellbeingnands.co.uk](http://www.wellbeingnands.co.uk) or call **0300 123 1503**

If you have more complex problems, visit your GP and discuss how you are feeling. They can refer you into our services, if appropriate.

### Just One Norfolk

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>

The 'go to' health website for Norfolk.

## This Week's Prayer

### Prayer

Let us pray for the Earth and our global neighbours:

We turn to the east and think of those facing floods.

Living God, we pray for communities under threat of flooding. Bring comfort to those in need.

We turn to the south and think of those facing drought and hunger.

Creator God, we pray for our sisters and brothers who are hungry and thirsty. Help us to share what we have generously.

We turn to the west and think of those whose land is being destroyed.

Loving God, we pray for everyone whose land and security is threatened. Give shelter to families losing their homes.

We turn to the north and remember those in positions of power or leadership.

Son of God, who came among us as one who serves, we pray for world leaders, that they may serve the common good. Help them to make wise decisions for our planet and its people, especially the poorest.

Generations united, young and old, we will work together to care for the earth, our common home. May we be faithful to our commitment to care for one another, and for all of creation.

Amen

### Big Questions

What can our family do to live more sustainably and help look after the planet?

We have been thinking about looking after the world and have all watched the 'Eyes on the world assembly. Here is a prayer that has been written to help us think about looking after the world



*St Mary and St Peter, Pray for us.*

## Upcoming Events

Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 class Mass (Unfortunately no parishioners at present)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Pentecost Celebrations in school
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 class Mass (Unfortunately no parishioners at present)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term begins
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Pupils return
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 class Mass (Unfortunately no parishioners at present)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Eaton Vale Trip
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	New Reception intake parents evening 2021
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 class Mass (Unfortunately no parishioners at present)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	School reports emailed to parents
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day KS1am KS2pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1 class Mass (Unfortunately no parishioners at present)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Performance 6pm
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term <b>1pm finish</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	INSET (Staff only)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Pupils return

Dates for  
the Diary: