



Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Something exciting has happened in our vegetable patch... We have harvested our first courgettes (and one tiny onion)! Thanks to Jamie in Year 4 for his vegetable knowledge (and his team of helpers), the courgettes were safely delivered to Mrs Owens who used them in the vegetable quesadillas. As well as courgettes, we have some cucumbers and tomatoes that are growing and being carefully looked after by some of the children.

Well done and thank you to Kingfisher class for their celebration assembly on Thursday afternoon. It was wonderful to hear about the learning taking place across the curriculum, see their dancing and hear the great music inspired by their African topic. The children should all feel incredibly proud of their certificates, which Mrs Southgate awarded for a wide range of contributions to school life as well as progress in different subjects. I am looking forward to joining the celebration assembly for Wren and Robin class next week, on Wednesday 12th July.

As we are rapidly approaching the end of year, please keep in mind some of the general end of year procedures that will be coming up. All medicines will need to be collected from the school office on the final day of school. It would also be useful if children could bring in a carrier bag to take home their work from across the year. If you have any school uniform that your child has outgrown, this is gratefully received in school as we are able to support other families.

Very best wishes,  
Ms Charlotte Brown (Headteacher)

Whole School Attendance

We have made positive progress with our whole school attendance figures over the year.

As of 4th July our attendance was...

94.6%

Well done all! This compares with 93.2% attendance nationally. With 2 weeks left of the school term, we understand that children are very tired. Please prioritise hydration and a good night sleep to keep children well enough to attend school.

Recommended Reads for Children

- Isla (Yr 1) - The Dinosaur that Pooped a Planet
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- Felix (Yr 2) - The Sneezles
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- Cody (Yr 6) - World's Worst Children
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- Jacob (Yr 6) - Shape Shifter Books
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- Charlie (Yr 4) - Minecraft Books
- ~
- Agatha (Yr 3) - Lady Grace Series
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Online Safety

Omele / OmeTV

OmeTV is an emerging social networking app that aims to let its users connect, ideally forming new friendships or simply getting to meet interesting people from all around the world. OmeTV uses video chats to randomly connect its users, much like its better-known sister app, [Omele](#).

Unfortunately, OmeTV still carries the same risks as its competitors. With so many users being so lightly regulated, there's real potential for some unpleasant characters to make use of the app. [This guide](#) dives into OmeTV, highlighting the risks and advising you on how to keep your child safe on the app.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

**Safety Tips For Parents**

- DISCUSS RISKS WITH YOUR CHILD**  
It's important to speak to your child about the dangers of Omele. Guiding and educating young children is far more useful than ignoring the possibility of Omele being accessed. Explain to your child that Omele is not completely anonymous and that other users will and do use Omele to exploit others. Try to emphasise the risk of speaking to strangers and that engaging online is no different to engaging offline.
- PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION**  
Omele does not provide advice about how to protect your personal information so it's important that children are aware of what they should and shouldn't share online and with whom. If they use Omele always advise against sharing any personal information such as their real name, age, phone number, address or any other personal identifiable information. This also includes details of their social media accounts or gaming ID's. You should also adjust your child's Facebook settings to control what information is shared with Omele.
- REPORT CONCERNS**  
If your child comes across any inappropriate content or something which upsets them on Omele, then it's important that they are able to discuss it with you and that you provide them with the support they need. If you think the content is illegal, then it must be reported to the police.
- DISCOURAGE VIDEO CHAT**  
Try to discourage your child from using video chat on Omele. Not only is there no filters or moderation in place, but children may be coerced into sharing intimate images or videos of themselves, which is illegal if they are under 18 and may be used against them. Omele text chat has a degree of moderation controlled by Omele through software and several actual moderators. The software moderates, identifies and prevents certain words and sequences of words to try and prevent bullying and grooming however is still not a 100% failsafe.
- TRY OMELE YOURSELF**  
It's always an excellent idea to get a feel for the website or app your child is using so that you can see and understand the issues and risks for yourself. More importantly, it will also provide you with first-hand experience of the risks and dangers if/when you decide to speak to your child about Omele and what they need to be aware of.
- USE PARENTAL CONTROLS**  
Omele is a website chat service. Children can only access the text chat on their phone and would need access to a PC or laptop to engage in video chat. If you have genuine concerns over Omele and don't wish your child to access the site, you can add [www.omele.com](#) to the list of banned websites and ID's. However, it's important to remember that Omele can still be used via a web browser on an iPad, tablet, smart TV or gaming device and similar controls would need to be implemented on each of these devices separately.

A reminder to follow the link in the previous newsletter to watch the 'Two Johns' online safety talk for parents as this contained a range of topics, including Omele.



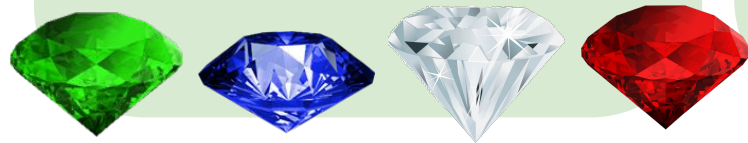


### School Houses

As our school community has grown, so too has the number of school houses we now have. Throughout the years there have been 3 houses which children belong to: Ruby, Sapphire and Diamond. With Sports Day fast approaching, we decided to extend this to 4 teams.

Working closely with the existing House Captains, Jacob, Ben and Jenson, we worked on a plan to reshuffle the teams and create an additional house. We thought carefully about the colour and name, as well as how we could fairly vote for the newest captain. Thank you and well done on the hard work that went into this process.

**Congratulations to our newest House Captain, Steven. He is the captain of our brand new house, Emerald.**



### Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies

Congratulations to all children in Owl class for a such a rip roaring performance! It is fair to say that the audience were howling with laughter during all of the performances.

There are too many highlights to list here, but it was a proud moment to see how the final performances came together after weeks of rehearsing. Despite only having a full cast for 1/3 shows, the children were brilliant at standing in for one another. The high energy levels on Thursday evening led to some sore throats among the children, showing just how much they put into it!

Well done and thank you to all staff for staying late to put up the stage, and extra special mention to Mrs England and Miss Birch, who supported the children with their singing, learning lines and the stage directions.

A final thought... Robin Hood was finally captured and tied up. *The sheriff of Knottingham was the one who got him!*

### Consortium Early Years Sports Day at Rowhedge.

Well done to all of the children in Wren class for their participation in the Tiptree and Stanway Consortium Sports Day. This took place on Tuesday 4th July at St. Lawrence School, Rowhedge. On their return to school, all of the children were excited to show off their range of stickers for taking part (as well as being very hungry for lunch as they had had a long morning).



Some of the favourite events included:

- Javelin
- Hockey
- Sack Race
- Frisbee
- Football



We are proud of all of the children for their attitude and confidence, taking part alongside many other schools from the local area. Thank you to Ms Murr and Mrs Lewis for taking and supporting all of the children.