

# NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2023



## Reminders

### School Photographs

If you would like to purchase any of the photographs please complete the form and send it back to school along with the payment by **Wednesday 25th October**.

### Art clothes

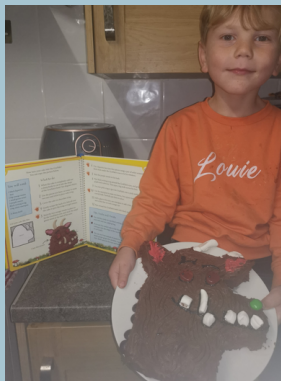
We are asking for donations of used, clean (appropriate) adult size shirts or t-shirts for our Juniors to wear during art lessons. Any help will be gratefully received.

### Year 6 Secondary School Applications

The deadline for Secondary School applications is **Tuesday 31st October**. If you haven't already done so, please complete the online application which can be found [here](#).

Well done to Louie, Owls Class, for his amazing Gruffalo cake! Louie won the star reader last week and was inspired by the Gruffalo recipe book to bake this fantastic, yummy cake.

We love to celebrate our students achievements, so if you would like us to share them with our school community, please send photographs/information by email to: [admin@hallwoodpark.halton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hallwoodpark.halton.sch.uk) and we will do our best to include them in our newsletter each week.



## Superstar Learners of the week

Congratulations to this week's Superstar Learners of the week who are:

Kestrels - Gabriella  
Ravens - Harley  
Falcons - Sophie

## Stars of the week

Congratulations to this week's Stars of the week who are:

Kestrels - Emily  
+ Ravens - Maisy  
Falcons - Mason

## Key Dates

**Tuesday 24th October**  
Halloween Swap Shop  
open from 3pm

**Wednesday 25th October**  
Deadline for return of  
School photograph  
orders

**Thursday 26th October**  
Halloween Swap Shop  
open from 3pm

**Thursday 26th October**  
Break up for half term

**Monday 6th November**  
Back to school after  
half term break

**Wednesday 15th November - 4pm**  
Nursery/Reception  
2024 Open Evening -  
see poster for details

## Roles and Responsibilities

Congratulations to our Year 6's on their newly appointed school roles. We look forward to seeing them flourish whilst undertaking their new responsibilities.

## HOUSE POINTS

This weeks house point scores:

R - 53      B - 39

G - 36      Y - 65

Totals so far:

R - 205      B - 117

G - 160      Y - 289

## ATTENDANCE

The class with the highest  
attendance this week is:

**Kestrels**

## Toiletries donations

Donations for Bobby's collection for Alder Hey Hospital need to be in **before Thursday 26th October** as Bobby will be taking them to the hospital during half term.



Hallwood Park School and Nursery

Hallwood Park, Runcorn, WA7 2FL

01928 716336

Under new  
leadership!!

# You're Invited!

No need to book, just come and have a look!

Do you have a little one  
turning 3? Or is your little  
one starting school in  
September 2024?

Come to see our newly  
designed classroom where  
your 3 year old and  
reception child will make  
new friends, learn and most  
of all, have fun!

Wednesday 15th November  
at 4pm

Free Breakfast Club  
for 4 year olds!





# HAPPY HALLOWEEN

## HALLOWEEN SWAP SHOP



DO YOU HAVE ANY  
OUTGROWN COSTUMES  
STILL IN GOOD  
CONDITION?

BRING THEM TO SCHOOL  
BY FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER.

WE WILL OPEN THE  
HALLOWEEN SWAP SHOP  
ON TUESDAY 24TH  
OCTOBER AND THURSDAY  
26TH OCTOBER FROM 3PM  
IN THE COMMUNITIY ROOM.



### Obsessive focus on likes and comments

Children may be very focused on how many likes or comments their posts get, which can leave them feeling that they aren't good enough, or not as popular as someone else.

Try to help them remember that likes aren't everything. Instagram has an option to turn off likes on posts – that may help to ease the pressure.



### TIPS TO KEEP CHILDREN SAFE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

#### Review Location Settings

Sometimes it might be appropriate for your child to share their location with a trusted adult or friend. For example, if they're travelling home alone or arranging to meet a group of friends outside school, then it can be a good way to help keep them safe.

#### Get to know the safety and privacy settings

Explore the safety and privacy settings on any app, to decide which are right to use for your child. Each app has slightly different ways to set up an account, but most have the option to set an account to private, to not allow friend requests, and to hide the user's location. Explain these settings to your child and the reasons for having them in place.

#### Age ratings and features

Get to know the age ratings of the apps that your child uses. Many have a minimum age of 13 years old to be able to sign up, but you should check the age rating of individual apps to make sure.



### SOCIAL MEDIA APPS

App	Age Rating	Main Features
Facebook	13	Newsfeed to share text, photos & videos, instant messaging, marketplace, friends, likes and comments.
Instagram	13	Photo & video sharing, livestreaming, stories, DMs, hashtags.
Snap Chat	13	Photo & video messaging, snaps, location sharing
Tik Tok	13	making & sharing short videos, lip-syncing.
Twitter	13	tweets (text with restricted character count), photo and video sharing, hashtags.

#### Need more help?

Call the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000, email [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk) or fill in their online form to get advice and support from safeguarding experts.



### INTERNET SAFETY SOCIAL MEDIA







## SOCIAL MEDIA

Children and young people use many different social media apps and sites. The most popular are Facebook and Instagram, with many others such as Snapchat, TikTok and Twitter.

There are lots of benefits to social networking. They can allow users to stay connected with friends and family. They can also learn many different things, from gaming tutorials to making slime, or how to create their own videos.

Like most things, there can be negatives too. For children and young people there are risks that you should be aware of, to help keep your child safe on social media.

## THE RISKS

### Oversharing

Children and young people can sometimes feel pressure to overshare online. Remind them that they shouldn't share private things, such as:

- personal information, like names, phone numbers, links to other social media accounts or their school
- live or frequent locations
- other people's personal information
- links to join private group chats
- photos of themselves
- photos of their body, such as sexual photos or videos.

Explain to your child that, if someone starts asking them other questions, or suggests that they speak on a different messaging platform, then they should come and tell you. #

### Sharing their location

Many apps and games give you the option to share your location. You should help children think about how and when they're sharing it. Some of the ways they may be likely to share location include:

- tagging photos with the geo-location
- checking into venues
- sharing journeys
- location settings on your child's device
- sharing images or videos that contain street names etc.

If shared publicly, their location could be seen by someone they don't know. People could find out where they live or go to school, allowing an accurate picture of their daily routine to be built up.

All these things increase risk to children, of cyberbullying, stalking, unwanted contact or becoming a target.

### Talking to people they don't know

Some social networking such as Omegle and Kitchat.net promote connecting you to chat with people you don't know.

This puts young people at risk of grooming or online forms of abuse, along with the risk of moving the conversation to other platforms or meeting up offline. You should be aware of this across all social media.

### Sending or receiving inappropriate content

Young people can feel pressured into sharing content that could be harmful to themselves or others. This could be in the form of inappropriate texts/ photos, or it might be sharing memes and images of others without their consent – which can be a form of cyberbullying.

DMs (direct messages) can be used to share very quickly and they have no control over how the image is shared further. Some social platforms have features such as disappearing messages – where an image or text will only show for a certain amount of time for the recipient before deleting. This might make users feel they can share more, but the recipient can still screenshot and forward the content to others.

### Unrealistic sense of body image and reality

With so many influencers and users sharing photos, children can feel under pressure to conform to the 'ideal' body and lifestyle. It's important to talk about positive body image and help children see that what others post is a curated version of their life, and to question what they see online.

# Admission to Secondary School September 2024

If your child is in Year 6 they are eligible to apply for Year 7 class in September 2024, and you can apply NOW:

- You must complete a preference form online at [School admissions website](https://www.halton.gov.uk/schooladmissions), where you will be given a receipt
- A paper copy of the preference form can also be requested from [schooladmissions@halton.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@halton.gov.uk) or at any Halton Direct Link Office
- All **online** applicants will receive their offer of a school place electronically on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- Offer letters will be posted to applicants who submit a paper preference form on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- **Don't leave it too late** – you are likely to miss out on the school place you want if you apply late. **Deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**



Closing date for Secondary School Applications:  
31<sup>st</sup> October 2023