

VE DAY CELEBRATIONS!



We celebrated the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in style. Pupils came dressed in red, white, and blue, and what a colourful spectacle they made! There was a serious note to the celebrations. At midday, Grainthorpe observed a two-minute silence for those who served and died. Everyone showed great respect.

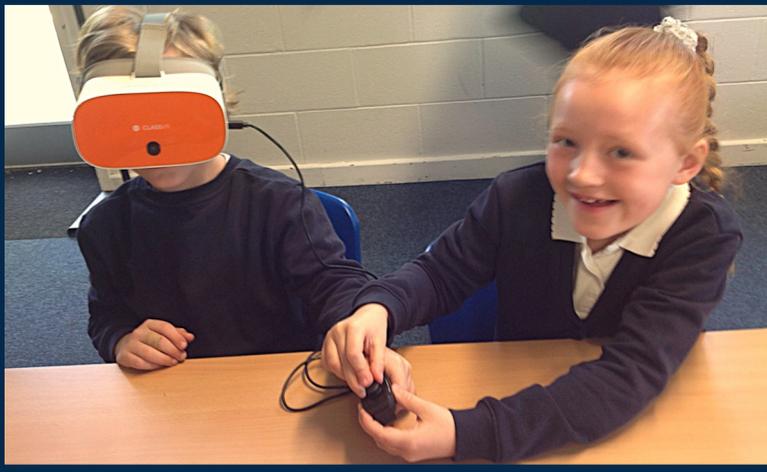
At Marshchapel, George shared his father's medal, received whilst serving as a bomb disposal specialist in Afghanistan. He told everyone about the war record of his Great-Grandad in World War Two - such a special story of bravery to share.

During the afternoon, the children had a traditional street party, with a medley of wartime classics filling the air. The older children braved the chilly outdoors whilst the younger pupils at Marshchapel had an indoor tea party.

They celebrated in true 1940s spirit with special treats of jam and cream scones, with teacups of milk. The atmosphere was full of cheer with pupils leaving their seats to dance along to the songs. It was a perfect way to honour VE Day with an old-fashioned knees up!



HEROES OF HISTORY WORKSHOPS - FROM VE DAY TO VR DAY!



The children had a fantastic opportunity for immersive learning about all things history. Our KSI children came to Grainthorpe for the morning where they looked back at projects they studied last year - The Great Fire of London and Toys. Remembering what you've learned is crucial for piecing together the past. Walking down Pudding Lane in a virtual headset really does feel like you're there!



Grainthorpe classes started their projects with these virtual experiences. Kestrels learned about World War One and World War Two. They explored what life was really like — from the battlefields to the factories and even inside people's homes. It was a brilliant way to bring history to life and explore Britain at War!

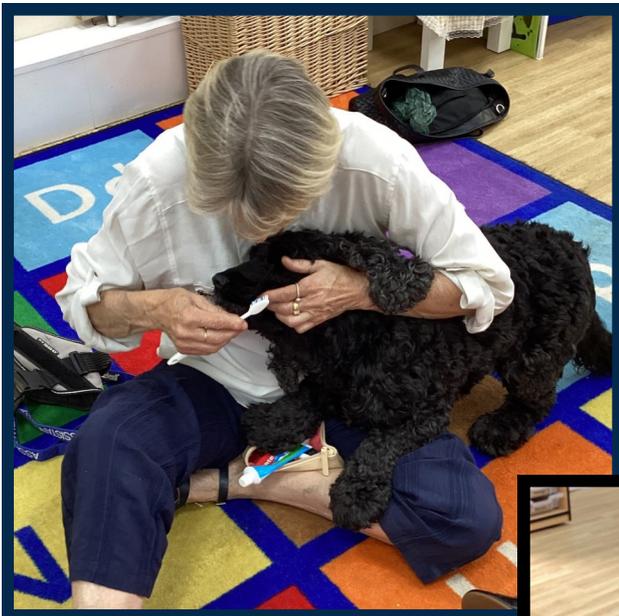


MARSHCHAPEL LEARNING

I can't keep up with the pace of learning in Lapwings! They are so enthusiastic and always engaged in great challenges and problem solving. You can rely on all the children to share what's happening and why. What a fabulous place to be!

This short term, they have been visited by unusual pets, as well as the regular visits from Molly the reading dog. This term, Molly came in and had her teeth brushed!

The children have made healthy snacks, prepared the VE Day sandwiches, planted sunflower seeds, had wellbeing walks, viewed the art at the Marshchapel Arts Exhibition in St Mary's Church and helped judge the best in exhibition!



GRAINTHORPE - BARN OWLS' LEARNING



Barn Owls immersed themselves fully in their exciting project, Emperors and Empires. Using VR technology, children explored ancient Roman settings which brought to life the sights and sounds of iconic buildings like the Colosseum. The class created a pop-up museum, showcasing Roman artefacts, and even had the chance to dress up as Romans – a real highlight! Home learning highlights included a Lego Roman villa!

The children have been busy learning about the absolute power of Roman emperors, exploring the structure of Roman society, and discovering the might and organisation of the Roman army.

The children have been training like gladiators and writing powerful diary entries from a gladiator's perspective. What a great way to learn!



GRAINTHORPE - YEAR SIX KESTRELS!

Our Year Six pupils have had a great term preparing for the SATs and rising to the challenges so maturely. We are so proud of how resilient they have been and showed great determination to succeed. They also bonded as a team and supported each other before and after the tests.

Each day during SATs week, the group were treated to a special SATs breakfast - a super way to relax and get ready for the assessment ahead.

Whatever the outcomes, the children have performed amazingly. Their positive attitude to learning is firmly embedded for when they move on. Before then, they have their SATs treat to look forward to - a visit to Wild Pines Park in Market Rasen. Look out for the next newsletter to see how they got on!



MARSHCHAPEL ARTS EXHIBITION

Marshchapel children walked to church to see the stunning display of paintings, ceramics and jewellery. They were mesmerised by the variety of media and also by the professional standard.

If you want a spot of culture over the Bank Holiday weekend, why not pop along to St Mary's and be inspired.

The exhibition runs from Friday 23rd to Monday 26th May 2025, doors open from 10am to 5pm each day, except Bank Holiday Monday when the exhibition will close at 4pm to allow art to be collected by both buyers and artists.

Do go along and say it was recommended by your child's school!



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA



Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGES



Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION



Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

DESENSITISATION



Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES



Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT



Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES



Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL



Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is reportharmfulcontent.com.

AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS



Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA



Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit onlinemedialawuk.com for more.





FENLAND FEDERATION

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER



DIARY DATES TERM 6 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025 Term 6 begins

Tuesday 3rd June Marshchapel visit to Tattershall Castle **cancelled** due to the closure of the castle.

Friday 6th June My Dentist Kids' Club to deliver Marshchapel workshops

From Monday 9th June, Year 4 children have a Multiplication Tables Check this week

Monday 9th June Library Bus visits both schools

Monday 9th June Year One Phonics Screening Test starts this week

Tuesday 10th June Year 6 visit Wild Pines Park

Tuesday 17th June Sports Day - both schools compete at Grainthorpe during the afternoon

Thursday 19th June Wrates in schools to do Class Photos

Friday 20th June Outdoor Learning Day at Grainthorpe for Reception to Year 6

Tuesday 1st July KEVIGS Year 6 Transition Day

Tuesday 1st July Scholastic Book Fair arrives at Grainthorpe for one week!

Wednesday 2nd July KEVIGS, Louth Academy and Somercotes Academy Year 6 Transition Day

Thursday 3rd July Louth Academy and Somercotes Academy Year 6 Transition Day

Thursday 3rd July We will have our "Meet the new class" transition sessions

Friday 4th July Louth Academy Year 6 Transition Day

Friday 4th July from 2pm Enterprise Summer Fair at Grainthorpe (for both schools)

Monday 7th July Library Bus at both schools

Tuesday 8th July Year 6 visit Lincoln College for skills and careers day

Wednesday 9th July Year 6 Workshop with Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue

Friday 11th July Reports out to parents

Friday 11th July Year 6 Prom and disco. Grainthorpe children only. 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Tuesday 15th July Grainthorpe End of Year Celebration Assembly in the village hall at 09:30

Friday 18th July Marshchapel End of Year Celebration Assembly in the village hall at 09:30

Tuesday 22nd July Last Day of Term!

Wednesday 23rd July to Friday 25th July School's Out Summer Camp at Grainthorpe!

Thursday 4th September School Begins a new year!

