

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS!

We've made it through January with curriculum-enhancing visitors and visits featuring music, dance and drama.

Mr Egerton is back for the term and teaching the Kestrels how to play the Toot - a cross between a recorder and a flute.

At Marshchapel, Mr Egerton is sharing the Infant Music Programme which gives children a mix of musical experiences, including musical appreciation. In the photo you can see them relaxing as they listen to Beethoven's *Für Elise*.



Rhubarb Theatre joined both schools to perform "Alien Airport."

Here is a review written by Phoebe, Nelly and Phoebe.

Alien Airport is basically about an alien who hasn't got any happiness on their planet. The sad alien comes to earth where there is happiness so they can bring it back to their own world. It was very well done.

Afterwards, we had a mime workshop where we had to do tasks without talking. We had to order ourselves from the tallest to the smallest, and in birthday order.

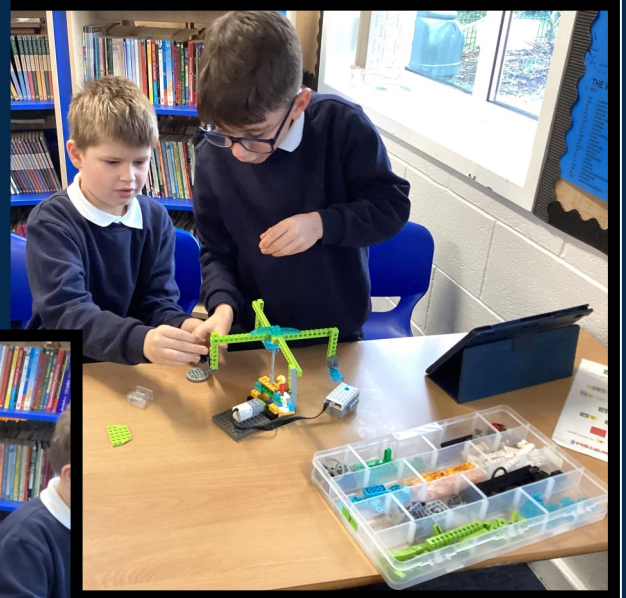
We had a lot of fun with the actors Rachel, Kirsty and Caley.



JANUARY JUNIOR STEM

We ended January with The Junior STEM day at Grainthorpe. Marshchapel Year Two children joined for a super session, building Lego monkeys and robots.

Ian the Lego man - sadly not made of colourful bricks, as some children had hoped - was an amazing instructor who mesmerised the children with his technology and gave them the confidence and skills to create moving creatures.



CELEBRATIONS AND COMMEMORATIONS

Marshchapel's celebrations for the Chinese Lunar New Year began with a dance workshop. The children performed with a dragon and created a parasol dance. The classes used the dance moves Lucy from The Education Group taught them and entertained their families! Thank you for joining the celebrations.



The Kestrels watched Fiona Bruce reporting live from Auschwitz on Holocaust Memorial Day. It was a special programme on BBC One, covering the commemoration ceremony at the camp. Fiona heard from a Holocaust survivor and the class found this very moving.





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 SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

"CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such ploys often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

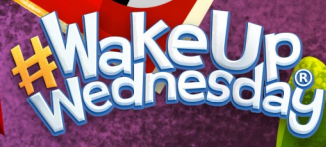
Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading 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 OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk for more.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fake-news-and-scams>

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FENLAND FEDERATION

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



DIARY DATES

WHAT'S COMING UP IN TERMS 3 AND 4 2025

Friday 7th February 2025 Number Day - come to school dressed as your favourite number!

Tuesday 11th February 2025 Safer Internet Day

Thursday 13th February 2025 Marshchapel Valentine's Disco until 4.30pm

Friday 14th February 2025 Grainthorpe Tuck Shop of Treats

Friday 14th February 2025 Last day of Term 3

Monday 24th February 2025 Term 4 begins

Tuesday 25th February 2025 Marshchapel Parent /Carer Meetings to discuss pupil progress

Wednesday 26th February 2025 Grainthorpe Parent /Carer Meetings to discuss pupil progress

Tuesday 4th March 2025 Police Day at both schools. Thanks to Ciara in Year 4 for suggesting this experience!

Thursday 6th March 2025 World Book Day - more details to follow from the School Council.

Friday 7th March 2025 Science Week begins

Friday 21st March 2025 Comic Relief - Red Nose Day

Wednesday 26th - Friday 28th March 2025 Kestrels residential trip to Dearne Valley

Thursday 3rd April 2025 Easter Celebrations - more details to follow

Friday 4th April 2025 Last day of Term 4

Wednesday 23rd April 2025 Term 5 begins

Wednesday 23rd April 2025 Road Safety Day with the Road Safety Partnership - at both schools

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR COMMUNITY

If you have any safeguarding concerns to do with children please let us know. Our Federation has a designated safeguarding lead professional (DSL), Mrs Turner and deputy DSLs, Mrs Manders and Mrs Clifford.

Please telephone school on 01472 869075 (M) or 01472 869035 (G).

If you have a safeguarding issue to discuss, you can contact Children's Services directly on 01522 782111.