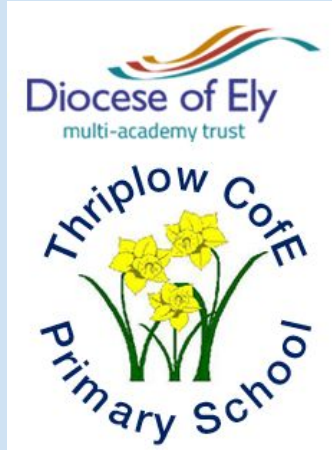


Thriplow School Newsletter

10th July 2026



We have had another very busy and exciting week. The children have yet again coped really well in the heat and I am so proud of them all.

I am particularly proud of the Key Stage 2 children for their fabulous production of Alice in Wonderland. Their singing and acting were phenomenal and it was so lovely to see the smiles on their faces as they performed - such joy! Many, many thanks to the adults in school who worked so hard - some voluntarily - to make the production so magnificent. Thank you also to the parents who helped to serve drinks.

I was so sad to miss the Fun Run this morning. I am told that it was a really fun event and that the children showed such resilience, preserving to keep going despite the warmth. They showed positivity and the feedback from some of the children was that it was "hot but fun and fantastic". There were lots of smiles and determination despite the heat and I was so pleased to hear that the children encouraged each other to keep going, with the older children mentoring and encouraging the younger children.

I can hardly believe that we are entering our last week of these academic year next week. We may only have five days to go, but we have so many exciting things to fit into those 5 days. Year 6 have a really fun week of activities planned starting with cooking on Monday morning (let's hope it's a little cooler by then!)

Next Thursday, Year 6 will be going up to church to take part in some reflections on their move to secondary school, with Reverend David. At the same time, everyone else will have their transition morning, spending time in their new classes in their new classrooms.

On Monday, Ants and Butterflies will all be performing in the Key Stage 1 concert. Family and friends are very welcome to come and watch. Some of the children will be performing on their instruments for the very first time! If your child learns to play an instrument in or out of school, it is not too late for them to sign up to play.

We are really proud of Finn and Walter who have completed the 20 Book Challenge. A reminder that the children have until the end of August to complete the challenge and I'd love to celebrate in September with those who finish over the summer. Just send an email to the office if you finish in the holidays.

Next week we will start to send some books and other things home. Please provide a large, sturdy bag for your child.

We are going to have a clearout of our extensive welly collection this summer as it seems to be growing! Please can you ensure that you have taken your children's wellies home by the end of Tuesday. After that (Wednesday onwards)- please feel free to take any pairs of wellies from the racks that might be useful for your child next year. After the end of term, we will be donating the wellies.

Year 5/6 were pleased to welcome PCSO John Coppard to talk to them about knife crime. They found it very informative and enjoyed having the opportunity to ask questions.

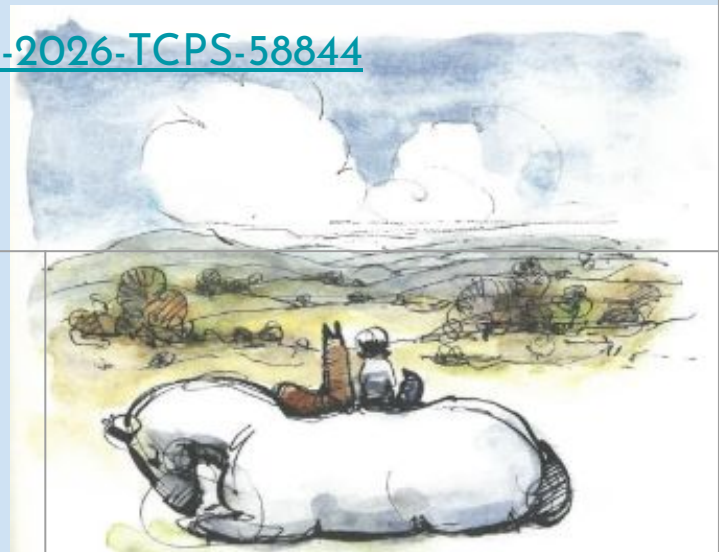
We had our last Gardening Club this week. They gardening club have enjoyed learning gardening skills and planting lots of exciting things. I know I have some keen soon-to-be year 6 children who plan to run a lunchtime gardening club next term.

If you know anyone who might be interested in working in After School Club,
then do share a link to the job advert.

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145246/EDV-2026-TCPS-58844>

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,
Lucy How



"Nothing beats kindness," said the horse. "It sits quietly beyond all things."



**MAT of the Year
2024**



www.facebook.com/thriplowschool



www.instagram.com/thriplow.school



x.com/thriplowschool

In the same way your light must shine before people so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5:16*

You are the people of God: he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with kindness. *Colossians 3:12*

Important Dates -

for sporting events, you will be notified separately if your child is involved.

13th July	Key Stage 1 Concert - 2.30pm
14th July	Melbourn Village College Transition Day
15th July	Year 6 trip to London
16th July	Transition morning
16th July	Year 6 Quiet morning in church Year 6 quiz
17th July	Leavers' Service. Parents of leavers welcome to attend
3rd September	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
3rd September	Class information evening - after school
4th September	Reception half day Reception parents consultations
Week beginning 7th September	Bikeability
11th September	Reception half day Reception parents consultations

Important Dates

18th September	Open classroom - 3pm
19th September	Tipi Party
21st September and 24th September	Parent Consultations (Y1-6)
24th September	School photographs
25th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning/Uniform Swap
6th October	Harvest Festival in church - 9.15am
5th November	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
6th November	Open classroom - 3pm
9th November	Flu vaccinations
Week beginning 16th November	Anti-bullying week
23rd November	Uniform swap/Coffee morning 9am
27th November	Decoration day
1st December	Grace Schools Carol Service (Y6 only)
8th December	KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal
9th December	Nativity 2.30pm
10th December	Nativity 6pm
11th December	Festive Friday (Christmas Jumpers)
15th December	Key Stage 2 Concert

Important Dates

16th December	Christingle Day
18th December	Carol Service 2.30pm in church
7th January	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
8th January	Open Classroom - 3pm
11th January	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
19th January	Young Voices
Week beginning 8th February	RSE week
23rd February and 25th February	Parent Consultations (All children)
25th February	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
26th February	Open Classroom - 3pm
4th March	World Book Day
12th - 13th March	Daffodil Weekend
17th March	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
25th March	End of term service - 2.30pm in church
15th April (TBC)	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
16th April	Open Classroom - 3pm
22nd April	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am

Important Dates

Week beginning 10th May	SATs week
Week beginning 17th May	Year 5/6 residential
Fortnight beginning 7th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Holy Communion	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
11th June	Grace Schools Art Exhibition
Week beginning 14th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
24th June	Sports Day
Week beginning 28th June	Poetry Recital Competition
2nd July	Open Classroom
6th July	KS2 Dress rehearsal - 9.30pm
7th July	KS2 production - 2.30pm
8th July	KS2 production - 6pm
12th July	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning
15th July	Transition morning (9-10.30)
19th July	End of Term Concert

Term Dates

Summer Term 2025

Start of Term	Monday 13 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May
Half Term	Monday 25 th May - Friday 29 th May
INSET Day	Monday 1st June
End of Term	Friday 17 th July
INSET Day	Monday 20th July

Autumn Term 2026

INSET Day	Tuesday 1st September
Start of Term	Wednesday 2 nd September
INSET Day	Friday 23rd October
Half Term	Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October
End of Term	Friday 18 th December

Spring Term 2027

Start of Term	Monday 4 th January
INSET Day	Friday 12th February
Half Term	Monday 15 th February - Friday 19 th February
End of Term	Thursday 25 th March

Summer Term

Start of Term	Monday 12 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May
Half Term	Monday 31 st May - Friday 4 th June
INSET Day	Monday 7th June
End of Term	Tuesday 20 th July
INSET Day	Wednesday 21st July



Safeguarding at Thriplow

Lucy How and Melissa Hardege are the designated safeguarding leads at Thriplow School.

If you have a concern about a child, please come and speak to or email either of us. Alternatively please speak to any member of staff who will be able to pass on information.

If you feel that a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection>

Useful websites:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/>

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/>

House Points

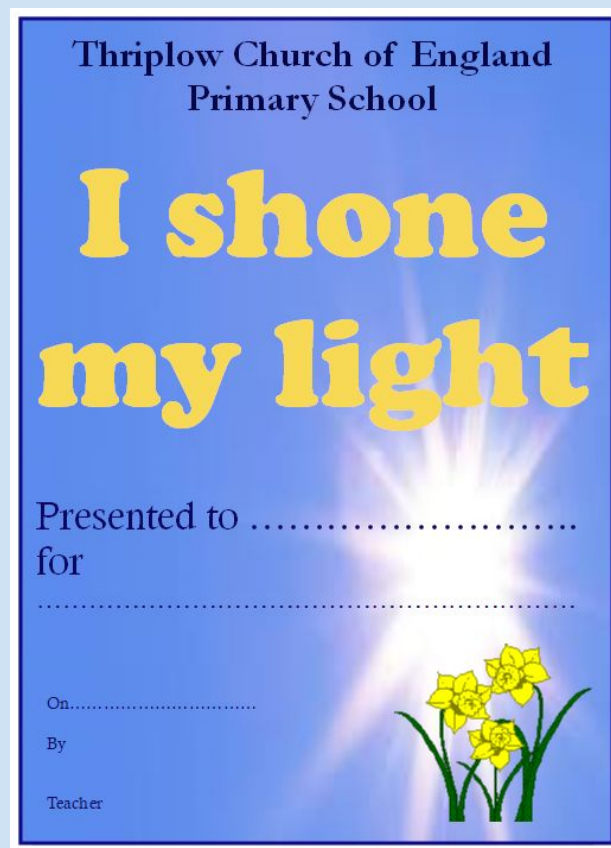
	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	18	622
Barenton	23	614
Bassett	24	700
Bury	19	752

Well done Bassett !

Certificate Winners

Our certificate winners this week are:

- Maya (Reception)
- Harrison (Year 2)
- Charles (Year 2)
- Emily (Year 2)
- Josie (Year 2)
- Elias (Year 3)
- Sofia (Year 4)
- All of Dragonflies



The following children were added to our 'Vision and Values' tree for living out our Thriplow and DEMAT values:

- Bellarita
- Arthur (Service)
- All of Bees
- Year 5 Gardeners



Happy Birthday

*to Hudson, Robyn
and Amy who
have celebrated
their birthdays
this week.*

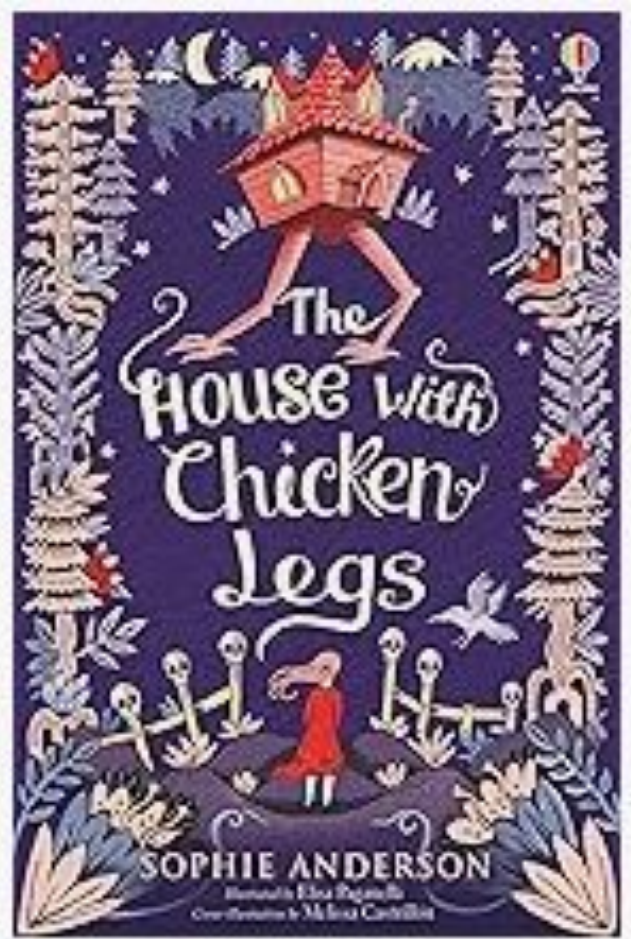


Birthday Books

If you would like to donate a book to our library to celebrate your child's birthday, then we would be so grateful. Please follow this link to see a list of books that we would like.

<https://amzn.eu/ez2OYOf>

Many thanks to Florence
for donating this book on
the occasion of her 8th
birthday.





Thriplow Primary School



Library



**Open on
Thursdays and
Fridays after
school.**

**Please pop in
and visit!**



Your child's learning

Ants:

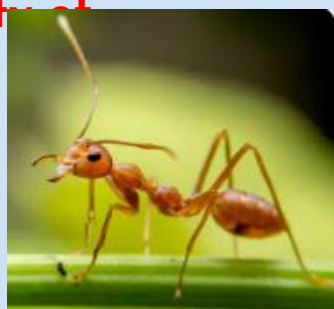
We've had a very hot week in Ants class!

This week we have finished our bridging unit and have begun to review certain sounds. Ants class are confident to recognise which sounds have different spellings and are able to read, build, write and incorporate them into a sentence.

In Maths this week, we have been learning about equal groups. The children were able to use repeated addition to find doubles as well as to find even numbers and were also able to combine equal groups to find a total. We used sentences stems to help us remember what makes a double and what an even number is made from. Ants class also continued practising their number formation to 10 by carefully listening to each number patten and then having a go themselves.

In Understanding the World we continued our learning of Stories From The Past but this week we had the focus of Folk Tales. We listened to the story "Anansi The Spider." We then discussed the origins of the story which was told by the Akan and Ashanti people of West Africa. The children then compared their culture to those in West Africa.

In Literacy we have continued our learning about simple sentences. The children are becoming more confident with recognising that a sentence needs a subject and a verb. Ants class were able to read and then identify what was a subject and what was a verb in a variety of sentences.



Butterflies:

The children have continued to work hard this week. In English, we have started our final text, Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night.' The children have thought of some wonderful adjectives to describe a terrible storm and shipwreck and have then used these to write some descriptive sentences. Please encourage your child to tell you what has happened in the story so far.

For Maths, the Y1 children have enjoyed using the scales to measure the mass of different objects. They have used the vocabulary, 'heavier' and 'lighter' to compare objects. This will be a great opportunity for you to encourage your child to use scales to measure ingredients at home.

The year 2 children have continued to practise the 2 and 10 times tables and have been encouraged to use doubling and halving to find other related facts. Please encourage your child to recite the times tables to you.

In Phonics, the children have been learning the different spellings of /air/

In RE, the children have thought about the worldviews they have learnt this year (Christian and Muslim) and have thought about what belonging, welcome and community mean. We have completed our science topic on materials and matter by designing our own gardens, thinking carefully about the types of materials we would need to use and their properties. In PSHE the children have used their knowledge of healthy eating to create their own healthy meal.

In History, the children have enjoyed learning about Sir David Attenborough. Some children have been inspired to write to him. Although this will be their final activity that they will do next week, some children wanted to write their letters at home, so they could be sent.

Please remember to give your child a sturdy named bag to bring to school on Monday, so they can start taking their belongings and books home.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.



Bees:

Bees Class have had another busy week. I was so proud of the children and how they performed in the production this week. It was lovely to see their confidence growing with every performance. They had so much fun!

This week mainly revolved around the production and practising for our performances! Amongst our rehearsals, the children have started new topics in Maths. Yr3 have learnt about pictograms and bar charts. Year four have been learning all about coordinates. We have also started reading Julius Caesar in our English lessons. The children are really enjoying this so far! I look forward to acting some of it with them next week.

We have also learnt about Tokyo and Kyoto in Geography lessons, thought about the spirituality of going on pilgrimage to Walsingham and started to weave a bookmark in Art!

Next week we will be finishing all of our learning for the year. Please do remember a strong plastic bag for Monday as the children will bring old books home next week. Have a lovely, sunny weekend!



Dragonflies:

It has been a very full week in Dragonflies.

I was so proud of every single one of the children for their amazing performance of Alice in Wonderland. They have all worked so hard to make the performance the best it can be!

Another highlight for me this week was taking the children out into the village to conduct a traffic survey. We were very excited to count the vehicles travelling through the village and were especially enthusiastic to see so many different types of vehicles!

On Friday morning, the children all acted as excellent role models during our fun run. I saw so many of our Dragonflies children supporting the younger children and encouraging others.

In our other learning this week, we have continued our artwork inspired by A Muse (Calliope?) by creating some clay cherries; we have written and redrafted our arguments about whether Edmund is good or evil; and, we have learned about weather fronts and that they are a boundary between air masses. We found out that there are different types of weather fronts and that these often bring rain.

In addition, we looked in detail at the poem The School Boy by William Blake and considered his views on education and how he portrays this through various metaphors and imagery.

Next week is a very (very!) busy week in Dragonflies. Year 6 please ensure that you have read the email with key information about activities week - I look forward to seeing many of you at our quiz on Thursday. A reminder that all of Dragonflies class will be in the Wildspace on Tuesday afternoon and should ensure they bring appropriate clothing and wellies with them.

A final note to say it is normal for the children to be feeling a bit emotional in this final week as many of them prepare to leave Thriplow for secondary school. We will continue to support the children in school. If you have any worries or concerns please do get in touch via the office or at the classroom door.



Thriplow ★ Tipi Party ★

An enchanting summer
send-off under the stars.



Date:
19/9/26



Time:
7pm - midnight

£45
plus
booking fee



Ticket includes a
welcome drink, delicious
hog roast, incredible live
band Worldy and
DJ til midnight



Proceeds go to
Thriplow Primary
School PTA.



The Thriplow PTA invites you to
an enchanting evening to mark
the last night of the summer under
a beautiful sail cloth marquee in
the grounds of Thriplow School.

Featuring a well stocked bar, auction of promises, raffle and more!

SCAN ME
FOR TICKETS



Get your tickets today!

Scan the QR code or visit:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thriplowtipiparty2026>

Proudly sponsored by



CHEFFINS



PINKSTER
AGREEABLY BRITISH GIN

Attendance

365 days in a year

190 days in a school year to support pupils to maintain and even exceed expected attainment outcomes.

175 days for other activities like holidays, appointments, days out, family events

100% attendance	zero days missed	Perfection!
99% attendance	Two days of absence across the year	Excellent!
97% attendance	Five days of absence across the year	Good
95% attendance	Nine days of absence across the year: one week and four days of learning missed. Lost learning is likely to start affecting pupil performance, confidence and self-esteem.	Satisfactory
90% attendance	Twenty days of absence across the year; four weeks of learning missed. Pupils will find it difficult to keep up with work and achieve their best.	Concerns
85% attendance	Thirty days of absence across the year: six weeks of	Serious

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If your child needs time off for a medical appointment, please provide an appointment card or printed confirmation for our records.

Where possible, please make appointments out of school time.

Attendance

If your child is late for school, please ensure that you sign the late book in the entrance hall, giving a reason for the lateness.

If it is a sensitive reason and you would rather not write it down, please chat to Mrs Sandford or Mrs How.

Please do not write 'late' as a reason.

Minutes late per day	School days lost per year
5 minutes	3 days
10 minutes	6.5 days
15 minutes	10 days
20 minutes	13 days
30 minutes	19 days

A reminder that we are a nut-aware school.

Please ensure that your child's lunchbox does not include any nuts.



Keep them fuller for longer

Base the main lunchbox item on foods like bread, rice, pasta and potatoes. Choose wholegrain where you can.



Freeze for variety

Keep a small selection of different types of bread in the freezer so you have a variety of options – like bagels, pittas and wraps, granary, wholemeal and multigrain.



DIY lunches

Wraps and pots of fillings can be more exciting for kids when they get to make them. Dipping foods are also fun and a nice change from a sandwich each day.



Cut back on fat

Pick lower-fat fillings – like lean meats (including chicken or turkey), fish (such as tuna or salmon), lower-fat spread, reduced-fat cream cheese and reduced-fat hard cheese. And try to avoid using mayonnaise in sandwiches.



Mix your slices

If your child does not like wholegrain, try making a sandwich from 1 slice of white bread and 1 slice of brown bread.



Always add veg

Cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, celery and peppers all count towards their 5 A Day. Adding a small pot of reduced-fat hummus or other dips may help with getting kids to eat vegetables.



Ever green

Always add salad to sandwiches and wraps too – it all counts towards your child's 5 A Day!



Cheesy does it...

Cheese can be high in fat and salt, so choose stronger-tasting ones – and use less of it – or try reduced-fat varieties.



Cut down on crisps

If your child really likes their crisps try reducing the number of times you include them in their lunchbox, and swap for homemade plain popcorn or plain rice cakes instead.



Add bite-sized fruit

Try chopped apple, peeled satsuma segments, strawberries, blueberries, halved grapes or melon slices to make it easier for them to eat. Add a squeeze of lemon juice to stop it from going brown.



Tinned fruit counts too

A small pot of tinned fruit in juice – not syrup – is perfect for a lunchbox and easily stored in the cupboard.



Swap the fruit bars

Dried fruit like raisins, sultanas and dried apricots are not only cheaper than processed fruit bars and snacks but can be healthier too. Just remember to keep dried fruit to mealtimes as it can be bad for teeth.



Switch the sweets

Swap cakes, chocolate, cereal bars and biscuits for fruited teacakes, fruit breads or fruit (fresh, dried or tinned – in juice not syrup).



Yoghurts: go low-fat and lower-sugar

Pop in low-fat and lower-sugar yoghurts or fromage frais and add your own fruit.



Get them involved

Get your kids involved in preparing and choosing what goes in their lunchbox. They are more likely to eat it if they helped make it.



Variety is the spice of lunch!

Be adventurous and get creative to mix up what goes in their lunchbox. Keeping them guessing with healthier ideas will keep them interested and more open to trying things.



Plan to Eatwell

The guide shows how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy, balanced diet. It can be really useful when thinking about what goes into kids' lunchboxes.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/the-eatwell-guide/>

Breakfast Club at Ladybird



Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am



Early Starters from 8:30



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

Phone: 01763 208055

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

AGE RESTRICTION
4+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS

YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

18
CENSORED

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING

Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

BUY NOW!

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE

YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED

YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION

There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK

While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS

YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.

SET TIME LIMITS

The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

WATCH TOGETHER

It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.











