

Thriplow School Newsletter

12th June 2026



We're so delighted to finally see the sun today after a somewhat rainy week! Long may it continue...

Well done to Max (Year 3), Nancy (Year 4) and Molly (Year 5) for completing the 20 book challenge!

We have been so proud of our Key Stage 1 and Year 4 children this week who have completed Phonics Screening Checks and Multiplication Checks respectively. These are statutory national tests and the children worked so hard to achieve the best they could! Results will be shared with parents alongside the reports in July.

On 3rd July, we will be holding another open classroom event at 3pm. You are invited to spend time in the classrooms looking through books from this academic year with your child. Pre-schoolers are welcome, but please ensure they stay close with you. It would be helpful to know how many to expect so please let the office know if you intent to come.

Our Year 5/6 cricket team had a disappointing time at the cricket tournament on Wednesday. It was rained off after only half a game. However, Mr Baron and I were very impressed with the team's resilience and positive attitude despite the disappointment - and their desire to keep playing despite the wind, rain and thunder!

Huge thanks, as always, to parents for helping with transporting the children and a special thank you to Leo's mum and grandad and Maddie's dad for rescuing them from the rain at lunchtime.

Could I just remind you to make sure that your child has both a sun hat and a waterproof in school at all times. The weather, as we have seen this week, is so unpredictable!

Please do sponsor the children for their fun run which takes place in few weeks by following the link below.

<https://fundraise.rnli.org/fundraisers/lucyhow/thriplow-school-fun-run-for-rnli>

Information about Young Voices 2027 will be shared shortly with parents of current Year 2-5.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,
Lucy How



**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.

WB 15th June	Poetry Recital Competition
15th June	PTA AGM (online)
17th June	Year 3/4 girls' football festival - children involved have been notified
18th June	Information evening for parents of Reception September 2026
23rd June	Bees Trip to St. Paul's
24th June	Sports day (First thing - will finish 11.15ish)
30th June	Year 3/4 Cricket Tournament
30th June	Wimbledon visit - children involved have been notified
1st July	Sawston Village College Transition Day
3rd July	Open Classroom Event - 3pm.
3rd July	Reports out

Important Dates

8th July	Key Stage 2 Summer Production 2.30pm
9th July	Key Stage 2 Summer Production 6pm
10th July	Fun Run in aid of the RNLI
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
19th September	Tipi Party

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/>



Happy Birthday

*to Josh who has
celebrated his
birthday this
week.*

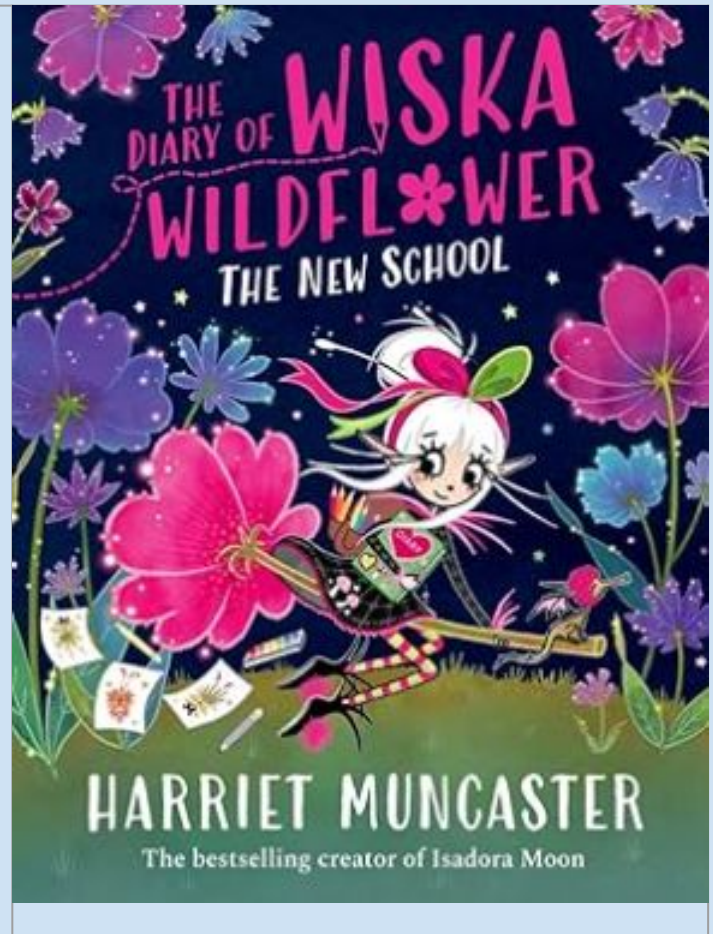


Birthday Books

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 Jess for donating this book on the occasion of her 8th birthday.



House Points

	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	62	435
Barenton	86	454
Bassett	69	453
Bury	67	457

Well done **Barenton!**



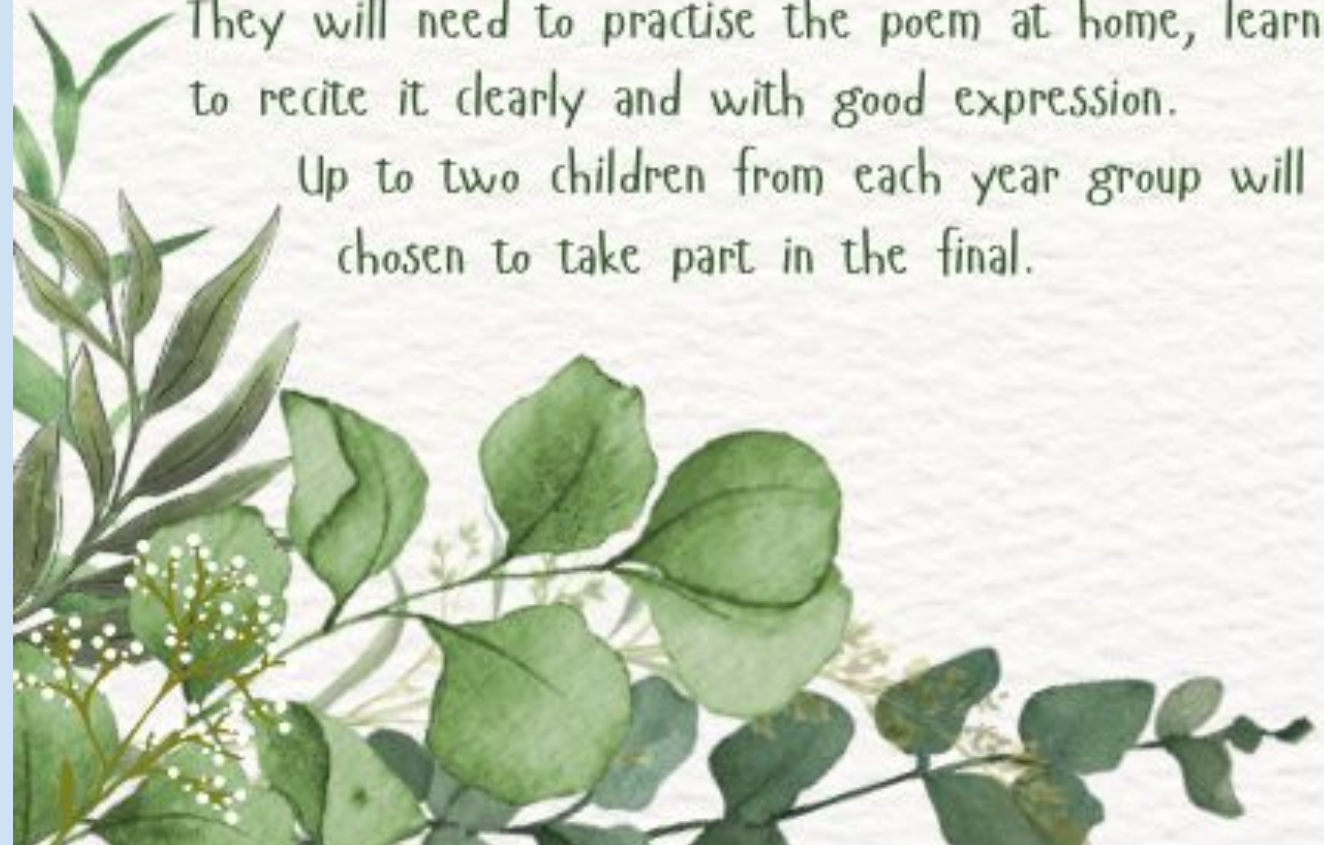
Poetry Recital Competition

Heats for our annual Poetry Recital Competition take place the week beginning 14th June in time for the final at the end of the week. Children from Year 2 upwards are welcome to take part.

If your child would like to take part, they will need to select a poem at home to learn from memory. This needs to be an existing poem rather than one they have written themselves.

They will need to practise the poem at home, learning to recite it clearly and with good expression.

Up to two children from each year group will be chosen to take part in the final.





Thriplow Primary School



Library



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

**Please pop in
and visit!**



From the PTA

Year Reps Needed for Next School Year!

Most of you are already aware of our Year Rep system, but for those who are new to the school, each year group has two Year Reps who act as the link between the PTA and their year group.

As a Year Rep, you'll be responsible for organising one event of your choice during the school year. This could be something for the children, such as a disco or movie night, or even a social event for parents, like a quiz night. Year Reps also help out with teas, coffees and ice cream sales throughout the year.

Each year group is allocated a specific term to organise their event. This works particularly well around key stage events such as the Nativity and Summer Production, helping to spread activities across the year and ensuring every year group has the opportunity to host something special.

We know everyone is busy, but whatever time and support you can give really does make a difference to our school community. Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or completely new to getting involved, we'd love to hear from you.

If you're interested in becoming a Year Rep next year, please get in touch. We would be so grateful for your help and support!

Your child's learning

Ants:

Here's this week's round up for the newsletter!

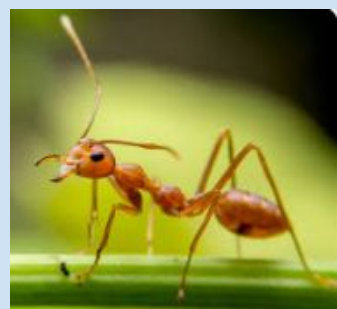
We have had a very busy week in Ants Class!

We have started our new bridging unit in Phonics this week with the focus of the sound "c." The children have been able to identify that the sound can be spelt in different ways, for example, 'k,' 'c,' and 'ck.' Ants class have confidently built and written multiple words with the sound as well as organise the spellings into groups.

In Maths this week, we have been deepening our knowledge and reasoning skills when exploring composition to 8. We started with partitioning 8, then combining groups to make 8 and finally finding totals of up to 8. Ants class are beginning to reason their answers when problem solving and answering questions. I have also been very impressed with their number formation as they have begun to write equations.

In Understanding the World, we have continued with the topic of 'Stories from the Past.' This week we have been learning about 'Legends' and discussed that they are based on something that is a little bit true and that they normally teach us something. We then explored the story 'St George and the Dragon,' in which the children were able to identify that the story teaches us to be brave.

In Art, we have been investigating the painting "Tiger in a Tropical Storm" by Henri Rousseau. Ants class imagined they were inside the picture by discussing what they could see, how they felt and what they thought might happen next. We then discussed the colours that the Artist had used, before exploring primary colours. Ants class were able to make their own interpretations of the painting using primary colours and making their own secondary colours.



Butterflies:

The children have continued to be enthusiastic with their learning this week. In History, the children learnt about Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King, and how they used their voices to make changes to how black Americans were treated.

In RE, the children learnt about Christian Baptists and compared how an adult is baptised, and how a baby is baptised.

For Maths, the Y2 children have continued to work on fractions, identifying three quarters in different ways. The Year 1 children have worked on telling the time to the hour, and also half past the hour. Please encourage your child to practise telling these times.

For English, we have read Chapter 4 of 'The Legends of King Arthur,' and the children have been writing compound and complex sentences using conjunctions. Please encourage your child to re-tell the chapter to you and encourage them to predict what will happen next.

In science we have been learning about George de Mestral, the inventor of Velcro. The children thought about the properties of Velcro and its purpose and learned of its important uses including on the space suits of astronauts! In art the children have used rollers and printing ink to create their fish prints for our whole class mural, and in PSHE we have thought about what are healthy and unhealthy habits and the children have advised an unhealthy person on what they can do to develop healthier habits.

In PE this week we have continued to practise our throwing and catching skills with the tennis balls and the children have been working on communication when throwing to ensure that they look at the person they are throwing to and checking that person is ready to receive a catch.



Butterflies:

The heats for the poetry recital competition will start next week. It will be great if we had all of the Year 2 children participating. Please remember that the poem has to be a published one, and not written by your child. We will be learning and practising a poem with the year 1 children all together.

For Phonics the children looked at different ways to spell the sound /ar/. The Year 1 children have tried really hard with their Phonics check this week. We can tell you that all of the children have taken their checks and they really tried their best. We are unable to discuss the results with you. Your child will be given their test results with their reports. If you would then like to discuss how your child performed, please get in touch. We are unable to discuss the results with you before this point. We would like to thank you all for getting your child prepared for the check. Please continue to listen to your child read and sign their reading records.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.



Bees:

Bees Class have had a lovely (if wet!) week. Well done to the year 4 children on completing their multiplication check. I was so proud of how hard they all worked.

On Monday, the children started to cross stitch their bookmarks. We will continue this project for the next few weeks. We also translated a story in Latin and learnt about different types of physical activity in PSHE!

On Tuesday, we continued our Geography learning on Japan. The children were fascinated to learn about the varying climate in the country, especially the rainy season in September. In RE we learnt about the importance of Mary to Christians. Next week we will look at why pilgrims go to Walsingham (which is linked to Mary!).

On Thursday, we continued our Science learning on electricity by making simple circuits. We learnt about why it is important to have a complete circuit. The children then really enjoyed their golf lesson again when we continued to practice our putting skills!

Today, the children learnt about the Great Fire of London. We played a game as a class to try and put out the fire and learnt about techniques that were used at the time to try and slow the fire. We then went and did our first rounders lesson and recapped ideas about batting and fielding.

Throughout this week, in English, we have started to think about writing techniques that we will use in our fables. We learnt about dialogue and expanded noun phrases. In Maths, we have started learning about angles in shapes. Yr3 have learnt about what a right angle is and year 4 have learnt about acute and obtuse angles.



Dragonflies:

It has been a wonderful week in Dragonflies.

On Monday and Friday we continued our rehearsals for the KS2 summer production. The children have made great progress on this.

In PE on Wednesday, we worked on our putting skills. The children practiced aiming carefully to hit a target before working on avoiding an obstacle to get to the target in as few shots as possible!

This week in RE, we looked at historical national census data from the past 30 years. We looked specifically at the data surrounding the religious beliefs of citizens in the UK and thought about the changing face of religion across the country.

In science, we thought about the importance of the Ozone Layer. We looked at how the Ozone Layer protects our planet from harmful UV rays.

In our history learning, we found out about life in Victorian cities. We learned about how diseases spread easily due to the lack of adequate sewage systems and poor sanitation.

In art we began work as part of the National Gallery Take One Picture Project. The children spent time exploring the featured artwork: A Muse (Calliope?). We enjoyed thinking about who the woman in the painting is and whether or not she represents Calliope - a muse from Greek mythology.

A reminder that children need hats in school every day as well as waterproof coats - the weather is particularly changeable at the moment and some children have been caught in rain without a coat!



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



Lifeboats



World Cup Themed

Fun Run!

In aid of the RNLI

FRIDAY

► 10TH JULY 2026



<https://fundraise.rnli.org/fundraisers/lucyhow/thriplow-school-fun-run-for-rnli>

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

ROBLOX



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGible.



The National College®



Ladybird Playgroup Thriplow's

Paint & Sip Evening

Thriplow Village Hall

Friday 3rd July 2026 @ 7pm

£36pp

INCLUDES:

- Step-by-step painting session guided by a local artist
- All painting supplies provided
- One complimentary welcome drink (Bar & Snacks also available)
- Fun, laughter, and a masterpiece to take home.

No prior artistic experience needed!



BOOK HERE:

Scan the QR code or:

Phone: 01763 208055

Email: secretaryladybirdplaygroup@gmail.com

Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/3wxhvn4b>

All funds raised will support Ladybird Playgroup.

