

Thriplow School Newsletter

3rd July 2026



What a fun and exciting week we have had!

PARENST VIEW

I am enjoying hearing Key Stage 2 practise Alice in Wonderland from my office. I think we are all in for a real treat next week. Parents of children in KS2 should have received an email this week explaining audience arrangements. Please let us know if you are coming to the dress rehearsal or if you need any clarification about audience arrangements..

Some of the children in Key Stage 2 had a memorable trip to Wimbledon on Tuesday. They had a wonderful day watching tennis and eating strawberries and very much enjoyed some nail-biting games of tennis!

The Year 3/4 cricket team were triumphant at the cricket tournament on Tuesday winning all their games (the only school to do so!) and topping their group. They are proud owners of medals and certificates. Well done to the team and thank you to Mr Baron and Mrs Rushbrook for cheering them on.

We enjoyed welcoming parents and grandparents to our Open Classroom event today. The children proudly showed off the work they had been doing this year. Please do not worry if you were unable to come - the children will be taking home their work in due course! You will see in the dates below that we have already diarised similar events for next academic year.

It looks like it might be another very warm week next week. Please ensure your child has a water bottle and hat every day. We will ensure in school that we continue to follow warm weather guidelines and the children will only go outside at break and lunchtime if it is safe to do so. Teachers will decide nearer the time weather it is safe to do PE. Please wear PE kit on normal PE days anyway so they are prepared for every eventuality.

Well done to Otto, Walter, Eliza and Hamish who have completed their 20 book challenge. I explained in Collective Worship today that children have until the end of the summer to complete it. We will celebrate in September any children that have completed the book challenge over the summer.

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>

A few weeks ago you will have received communication from Grace Schools about Community Councils. If this is something that interests you or you would like more information, then please let us know. You can register interest by following the link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSjnMUA5fsRr_iNWv9CH4Pi6gCckAKRtSOXtWhVxhy9DOPiA/viewform

You child will have brought home their End of Year School Report today. I hope you enjoy looking at these with your children and celebrating the many successes of the year.

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.

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
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

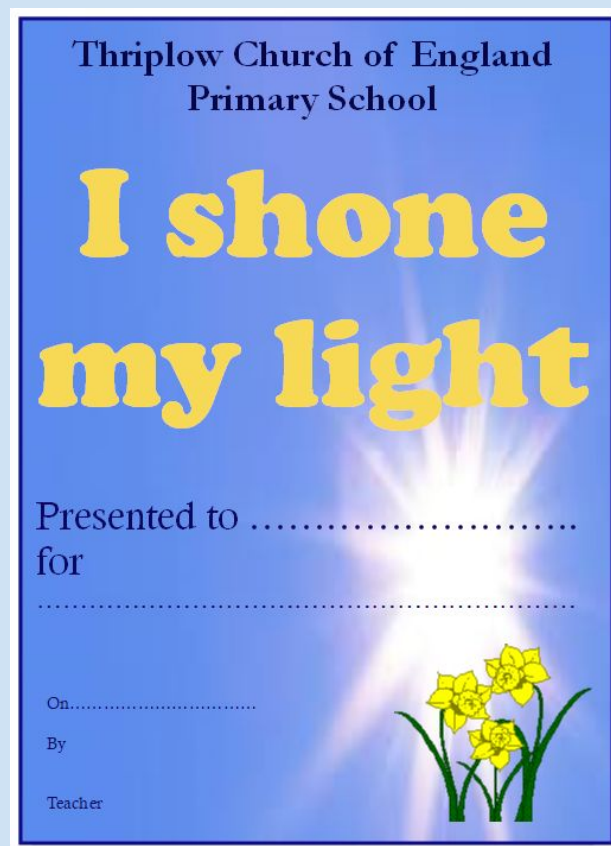
	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	42	604
Barenton	29	591
Bassett	33	676
Bury	28	733

Well done Bacon !

Certificate Winners

Our certificate winners this week are:

- Esca (Reception)
- Olivia (Reception)
- Eliza (Year 1)
- Elias (Year 1)
- Emily (Year 3)
- Leo (Year 4)
- Bella-Mae (Year 4)
- Sophie (Year 5)
- Lois (Year 5)
- Hamish (Year 6)



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

- Oliver D (Confidence)
- Elias D (Confidence)
- Arianna (Achievement)
- Millie (Community)



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:

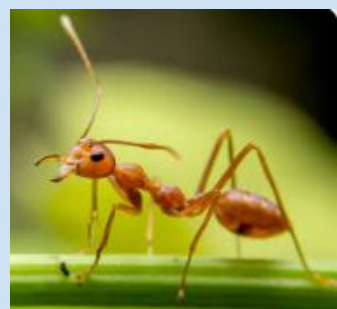
We have had a very creative week in Ants!

We continued our bridging unit this week, with the focus on the spelling of v. The children were able to read, build and write different words with the v sound, recognising that it can be spelled in two different ways: v, ve. We have also been practising our sentence writing in Phonics, focusing on capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.

In Maths, we have been focusing on number bonds to 10. Ants class had a go at partition 10, combining numbers to make 10, and taking away numbers up to 10. The children also had the challenge of recording their answers as equations in their Maths books.

In Understanding the World, we continued to focus on fables. We listened to the story "The Lion and the Mouse" and discussed what the fable taught us- to be kind. We then compared the story to our values in school before having a go at creating our own fables using cartoon strips.

In Expressive Art and Design, we started to explore different scenery for the children's puppet theatre. Once the children had thought about and selected their own scenery, they began to make finger puppets.



Butterflies:

The children have continued to work well this week. In Maths, the Year 1 children have been learning grouping and sharing for division. The Year 2 children have been learning different strategies for subtracting 2-digit numbers. They have used partitioning to subtract tens and ones, then they have shown the jumps using a number line. They have also learnt how to find the difference between numbers using a hundred square.

In English, we have started to read Chapter 6 of the Legends of King Arthur. We wrote a class speech for King Arthur and the children practised using their voices to convince the knights that he would be a great king! This linked in very well to our History topic of Powerful Voices.

In History, we learnt about Greta Thunberg and what she did to make people aware of climate change.

In RE, the children recapped the vocabulary we have used in this unit and looked at the philosopher Sophie, who makes our brain go 'ouch' through the questions she asks. We looked at these questions, you may want to have these discussions at home too: What colour is happiness? Are butterflies kinder than bees? Is sad heavier than frightened?

In science we have continued to learn about different materials and matter. The children have learned about the properties of liquids and conducted an experiment to observe whether an ice cube will melt more quickly on a plate or in warm water. Our under the sea mural is coming along nicely and we look forward to sharing pictures of it with you soon. In art this week we have looked at ancient cave paintings and the children have had a go at using pastels and chalks to create their own pictures in a similar style in their sketch books.

In PSHE we have continued our learning about healthy eating and in PE we continued to practise our throwing and catching skills using the tennis balls.



Butterflies:

As it is nearing the end of the term, we would like the Year 1 children to continue to learn their number bonds to 10, and use these to solve number facts to 20. We would also like them to read and write numbers to 20 in words.

We would like the Year 2 children to use their knowledge of number facts to 20, to solve number facts to 100. Here are a few links to activities that could help:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/number-facts/number-fact-families>

<https://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math/early-math/number-words-fruit-splat-game/>

Also, please continue practising the times tables with Year 2 children: 2, 5 and 10.

Some children are forgetting to bring in a hat, please can you check that your child has one in school every day. We have limited spare hats so if anyone can donate any spare hats, it will be very much appreciated. If a child does not have a hat with them and we have run out of spares then they will have to sit in the gazebo or the shade during playtimes.

Have a lovely weekend.



Bees:

Bees Class have had another great week. I had the pleasure of accompanying a small group to Wimbledon on Tuesday and we had a wonderful day. A special well done to our cricket team that were also out of school on Tuesday - what a great result! All the children who remained in school on Tuesday should also be really proud of themselves. It was a different day for them all but Mrs. How commented on how well they all did with their activities.

On Monday, we had a more normal school day! In the morning we finished our topic on angles in Maths and also finished writing our draft fables. In the afternoon we practiced our production before joining with Dragonflies for two rounders games. The children had lots of fun!

From Wednesday through to today, the children have spent lots of time rehearsing for our upcoming production 'Wonderland'. The children are doing a great job at being part of the chorus and are singing with much more confidence. Please keep encouraging your child to practice the songs at home when you can so that they are ready for next week. (To practice at home, go to youtube and search 'Wonderland Schools Musical Company'.)

Other learning that we completed in the later half of this week included some RE learning on the Catholic and Protestant pilgrimages to Walsingham and learning how to chip the ball in golf!

Next week is our production week. We are very much looking forward to seeing many of you at our performances.



Dragonflies:

It has been a fun week in Dragonflies this week!

We started our week with some DT where we learned about different types of bread focusing on flatbread. The children worked carefully together to measure out ingredients, knead the dough and prove the dough before baking it in a very hot oven to create the pitta bread's signature pocket. We then tasted our bread whilst it was still a little warm and all agreed it was very tasty!

Throughout the week the children have been busy preparing for the upcoming production. They have all worked so hard. We are excited to share it with you all next week. A reminder to check details in the email that was sent earlier this week with all the key timing and information.

On Tuesday, I had the pleasure of taking a small selection of pupils from the class to Wimbledon - we had a great time and I was very proud of their enthusiasm and behaviour.

In English, we have been writing our discussion text about whether Edmund is a 'good' character or an 'evil' character in the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. Additionally, we carefully read the poem The Listeners by Walter de la Mere and had a go at reading it aloud. Next week we will be continuing our discussion text and before moving onto our Shakespeare learning.

In maths, we have been continuing to review and secure a variety of learning from this year in preparation for their move up to their new year groups in September.

In RE this week, we looked at religion and sports. We found out about how sports people are influenced by their faith and discussed how this motivates or drives many of them to keep going even when they lose or find something hard!

Today, the children enjoyed reflecting on their learning throughout the year during our open classroom additionally today your child has brought home their report.

A note that on Tuesday 14th all children in Dragonflies will be in Wildspace in the afternoon. Please ensure they are dressed appropriately and have waterproofs and wellies in school.



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

POP-UP ADS

WARNING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Pop-up advertisements have been a staple of the internet since they were first introduced in the late 1990s. This form of advertising causes a small window or banner to appear in the foreground while someone is browsing a website. Although these adverts are merely irritating for most people, pop-ups can present more severe risks to younger users.

DECEPTIVE TACTICS

Children sometimes don't understand that adverts (including pop-ups) are designed to sell a product – and can't distinguish between a legitimate feature of a site and an advertisement. Video games, for example, can be full of pop-up ads that tempt users into spending money, yet they might take the form of a mini-game or extra level.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While some adverts are targeted based on a user's interests and activity online, that isn't always the case. This means that children may unfortunately be exposed to ads for age-inappropriate goods or services such as tobacco products, alcohol and gambling sites.

MALWARE RISK

Most pop-ups from reputable advertisers are safe. However, in some cases, pop-ups can trick you into downloading malware – whereby cybercriminals install software on your device, allowing them to access your sensitive data. It can be difficult to know if malware has been installed on your device, so your best option is to avoid engaging with these pop-ups altogether. Be wary of sites that suddenly bombard you with ads or try to prevent you from leaving.

PRIVACY RISK

Many app and game developers will collect their users' personal data, such as their name, address, email address, geolocation information, unique numerical identifiers, photos and payment information. If a child clicks on an illegitimate pop-up laced with malware, all this information could be put at risk.

RACKING UP BILLS

If a child has access to a payment card on their device – be it a smartphone, laptop, or tablet – they could very quickly rack up a massive bill by interacting with pop-up adverts and buying products shown to them. Try to keep a close eye on their spending.

BEHAVIOURAL IMPACT

Research has found that pop-up ads can even have an impact on children's behaviour. Some of these adverts use manipulative tactics that take advantage of children's developmental vulnerabilities, intentionally or otherwise. This approach may cause a child's mood to shift: becoming more stubborn, for example, if they begin wanting their parents to buy a specific product for them.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

It's important to have regular conversations with children about online advertising so that they understand the risks of interacting with pop-ups. For example, if a child asks for a product which has been advertised to them online, ask them why they want it and how they found it: this will present an opportunity to talk youngsters through the tactics used in online marketing.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child may be following pop-up ads to make online purchases or viewing content that could be harmful, it's important to be able to spot the signs. Due to the often-manipulative nature of these adverts, children who interact with them regularly may show signs of distraction, stubbornness and an increasingly materialistic worldview.

MONITOR CONTENT

It can often be difficult to spot when a pop-up advert is malicious – even more so for impressionable younger users. It's important to monitor the content they're consuming to prevent them from clicking on something dangerous. If a pop-up ad seems too good to be true – promising a free iPad, for example – it probably is.

PRIVACY SETTINGS

Most modern devices have privacy settings that let you limit the amount of advertising a child is subjected to while using apps or browsing the internet. You may also want to speak to teachers about avoiding sites and apps with advertising, as well as adjusting digital privacy settings on any education technology they use.

LIMIT SPENDING

Try to stay aware of what children are spending and ensure that payment details aren't linked to or saved on the gaming platform that they use. Most video games and internet-enabled devices have settings that can help you manage what children can or cannot purchase online.

CUT DOWN ON SCREEN TIME

Given the prevalence of pop-up ads (which can appear on everything from smartphones and tablets to internet-connected toys and games), it might be beneficial to limit the time children spend on digital devices to curb their exposure to digital advertising.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for *Forbes*, *TechRadar* and *Wired*, among others.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/pop-ups>

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/www.thenationalcollege

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