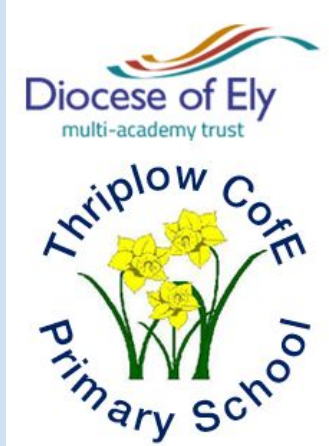


Thriplow School Newsletter

5th June 2026



Welcome back! I hope you have all had a wonderful time of relaxation over half term and you have enjoyed the sunshine.

Considering this week has only been 4 days long, it has felt very busy and it's lovely to all be back together again following the KS2 residential before half term.

We were so excited to welcome back Mrs Taylor this week. She has really enjoyed getting to know the children in Ants Class!

We are very proud of Luna (Year 3) and Oliver (Reception) for completing the 20 Book Challenge. Luna really enjoyed reading *The Creakers* and Oliver particularly enjoyed *Odd Dog Out*.

This week we have launched our Poetry Competition - please see the poster further down for more information. Children from Year 2- Year 6 are welcome to take part. Please note that the poems need to be learnt from memory and must be existing poems rather than poems the children have written themselves. Preparation for the competition should take place predominantly at home. I'm really looking forward to seeing the children perform. It's always a real highlight of the summer term!

Could I take this opportunity to clarify that if you need to contact any member of staff via email that you do so via the office email address. Mrs Sandford will then ensure that your email is passed to the relevant member of staff within working hours. We'd appreciate your cooperation with this.

On Tuesday we were very lucky to hear an inspirational talk from Harriet (Lucian's mum) all about the work of the RNLI. The children learnt about the work of the RNLI as well as learning about how to stay safe in the water.

We will be raising money for the RNLI when we have our fun run in July. Please do sponsor us using this link.

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

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.

Fortnight Beginning 1st June	Multiplication Check fortnight (Year 4)
WB 8th June	Phonics Screening check week (Year 1)
10th June	Year 5/6 Cricket Tournament
12th June	No Celebration Collective Worship
WB 15th June	Poetry Recital Competition
17th June	Year 3/4 girls' football festival
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)

Important Dates

30th June	Year 3/4 Cricket Tournament
30th June	Wimbledon visit
1st July	Sawston Village College Transition Day
3rd July	Reports out
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 Max, Arianna,
Lila and Betsy
who have
celebrated their
birthdays recently.*



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 Max for donating this book on the occasion of his 8th birthday.



Many thanks to Lila for donating this book on the occasion of her 9th birthday.

House Points

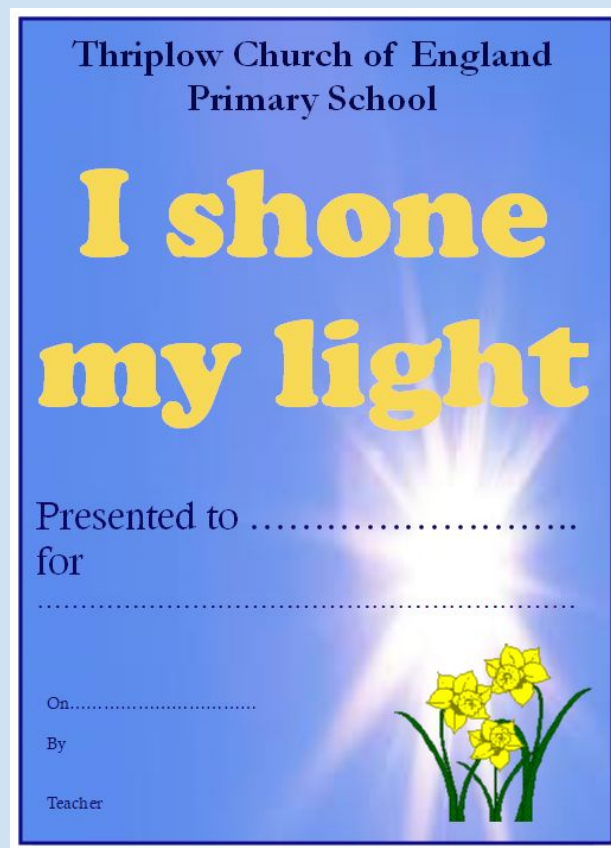
	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	79	373
Barenton	67	368
Bassett	80	384
Bury	94	390

Well done **Bury!**

Certificate Winners

Our certificate winners this week are:

- All of Ants
- All of Butterflies
- Otto (Year 2)
- Freddie (Year 2)
- Jenson (Year 3)
- Isabella (Year 4)
- Kyan (Year 4)
- Ruby (Year 5)
- Tobias (Year 6)



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

- Connor
- Harvey
- Henry P
- Hamish



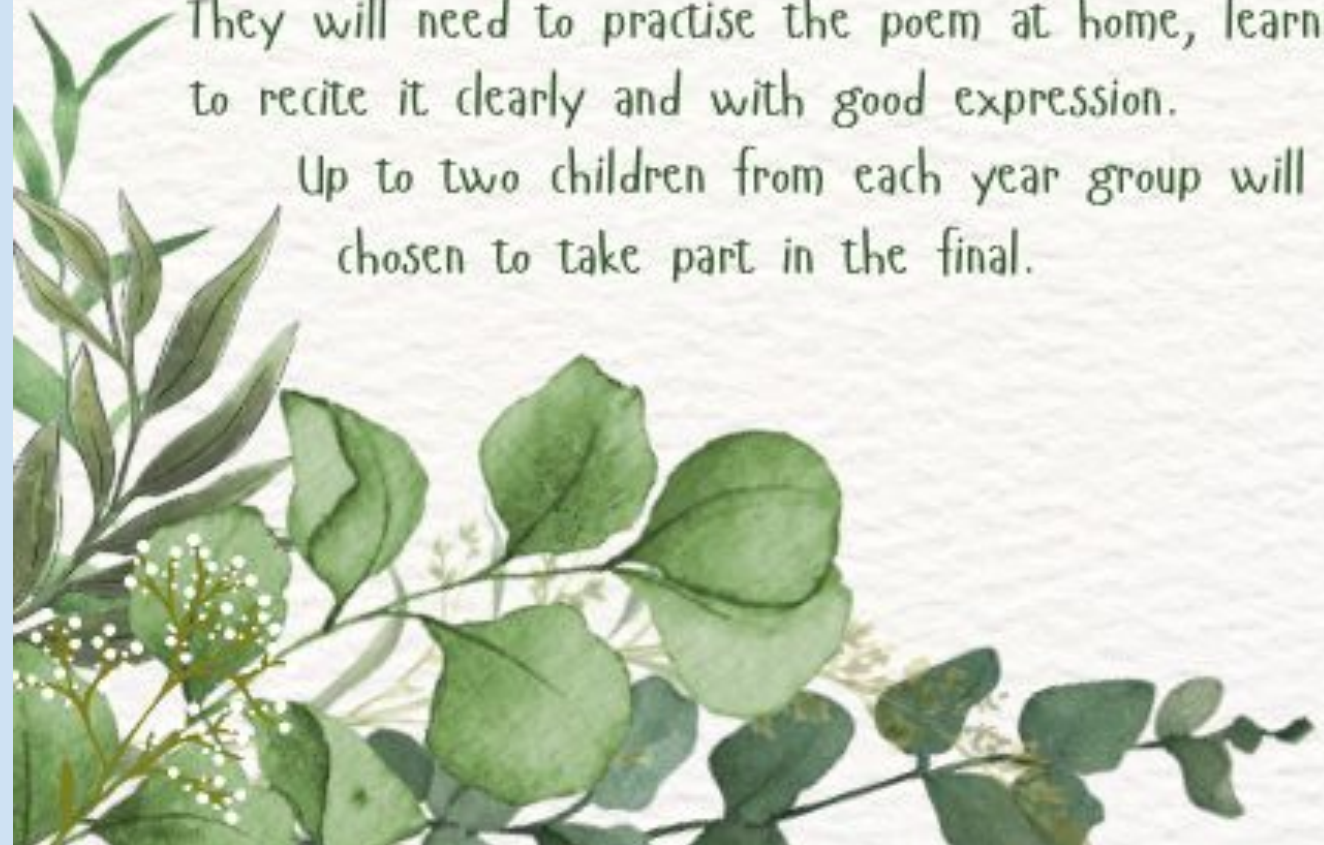
Poetry Recital Competition

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!**



Your child's learning

Ants:

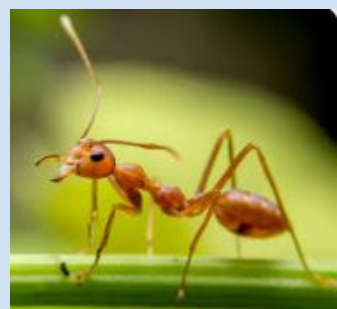
Ants class have had a fantastic week and I am so proud with how well they have settled into the change of a new routine and a new teacher!

In phonics we are revisiting unit 11, and have been consolidating sounds learnt from the previous half term . I have been very impressed by Ants knowledge, confidence and how quickly they have been able to read, build, write words and sentences. This half term we will be moving onto our bridging unit which will help children to recognise that sounds can be represented by more than one spelling.

In Maths this week we have been focusing on number bonds to 10. The children have been able to recall their number bonds to 10, used problem solving skills and have even started to record the number bonds in their Maths books!

In PE on Wednesday, the children have started a new topic- Ball Skills. The focus of the learning was to explore different ways of throwing a beanbag and to begin to understand why we need to aim when we are throwing. Today, we have also started the topic "Games For Understanding." We played a variety of games including sharks and fishes with the aim that children would understand the importance of turn taking.

This half term we will be exploring "Stories from the Past" in Understanding the World. We started the topic this week by exploring fairy tales and focused on the story "Cinderella." The children then had a go at creating their fairy tale books and shared them with the class.



Butterflies:

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back from their half term. Thank you for sharing pictures on Tapestry, it has been lovely to see how busy they have been, and clearly have enjoyed themselves, especially with the wonderful weather!

The children have continued to be enthusiastic with their learning. In History, the children are learning about 'Powerful Voices' and they have learnt about Gandhi and the Salt March. It will be great to encourage your child to discuss what they have learnt.

For Maths, the Year 2 children have continued to work on fractions. They have learnt that $\frac{2}{4}$ is the same as a half. They have also looked at different ways of representing $\frac{3}{4}$ quarters in different ways. The Year 1 children have started their new topic on time. Please encourage your child to say the days of the week, using vocabulary, 'today,' 'tomorrow,' 'yesterday,' 'before' and 'after.'

For English, the Year 1 children have been doing lots of activities to support their Phonics, ready for the Phonics Check next week. The Year 2 children have been working on grammar and revisiting different ways of writing sentences.

For RE, the children have continued with the topic, 'How do people welcome a new person into their community?' The children discussed what welcome meant and how this is important to help somebody feel happy. We then looked at different ways we would welcome a new child into Butterflies class. In PSHE we have begun our unit on healthy habits and healthy eating and in PE we are continuing with ball skills using our hands and learning about different games.

In science we have begun our unit on materials and matter, looking at different materials and their properties and purpose. In art we are doing print-making with the intention of creating a whole class underwater mural and this week the year 1 children have created their printing templates out of polystyrene tiles and the year 2s have made fish printing templates out of cereal boxes.

For Phonics we have been revisiting sounds ready for the Y1 phonics check next week.



Bees:

Bees Class have had a fantastic first week back after the half term. The children have spent a lot of time practicing their times tables ready for the year 4 multiplication check next week. If your child is in year 4, please do encourage them to complete soundchecks on TTRS over the weekend.

On Tuesday, we started our new Geography and Art topics. In Geography, the children were very enthusiastic about our learning on Japan. We labelled a map of the country, considering its four islands, major cities and landmarks. This half term in Art we are learning about needlework. The children designed a cross-stitch bookmark that they will begin to sew next week.

On Wednesday, we continued our RE learning on pilgrimage. This term, we will be thinking about the Christian pilgrimage to Walsingham. This week, we made a poster about the location, tourism and religious importance of the village. The children then really enjoyed our PE lesson where we started to practice our golf skills!

Today, the children really enjoyed continuing our History learning on the Stuarts. They found it fascinating to learn about the Great Plague and the cures that were used to try and stop its spread! Next week, we will begin our learning on the Great Fire of London in preparation for our upcoming trip to St Paul's Cathedral. We then started our new Science topic on electricity by making a poster on how to stay safe when working with electrics. This is ready for next week when we will begin to make circuits.

Throughout this week, in English, we have finished reading our class text in preparation to write a fable based on the novel. The children loved the ending to the book (when Edward finally finds his way home!). Next week, we will begin to think about how to write a fable of our own.



Dragonflies:

This week we have begun our KS2 production rehearsals. I have been so impressed at how many children have taken the time to learn their lines and to practice at home - it makes a huge difference! Today, we will email a PDF copy of the script in the event that your child misplaces their copy.

In English, we have continued reading the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. We spent times looking closely at the moment where Father Christmas presents the children with gifts. We have considered carefully how these gifts reflect each child's individual personality and thought about how these gifts are symbolic. We also reflected on how this chapter foreshadows an upcoming battle and what each child's role may be within it.

In History, we began our learning about the Victorias. We created a timeline of key events in the life of Queen Victoria. In Science we have been learning about the Earth's atmosphere. We learned about the different layers of the atmosphere and the characteristics and role of that layer.

In PSHE we thought about our well-being and engaging with the online world. We talked about the possible positive and negative impact of accessing the internet, gaming and social media. I would strongly encourage you to continue to have open, honest conversations with your child. Please remind your child that they are able to share with adults at home and at school if they have any concerns about things happening online.

In PE this week, we enjoyed our first golf lesson! The children worked hard on practicing their putting skills. Thinking carefully about how they stand and how to aim to ensure they manage to hit the target!

Next week, some children will begin their swimming lessons (parents of children attending have received an email with information). Additionally, on Wednesday a team of Y5/6 cricket players will be representing our school at the annual cricket competition (parents of children attending have received an email with information).





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>

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

Ladybird Playgroup Summer Fundraiser -

Save The Date

Enjoy a paint and sip evening on Friday 3rd July 2026.
7pm at Thriplow Village Hall

Come along for a fun evening of painting and help raise funds for Ladybird Playgroup.

No painting experience required.

Tickets cost £36pp and include a welcome drink, all paint supplies, an art teacher to guide you through the process and your canvas to take home with you.

We hope to see you there.

You can book using the link below:

<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QYO6ZV7M>



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.



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