

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter, which now seems a long time ago. So much has happened over the last two weeks and we have a full packed term of learning and different, fun activities ahead of us.

Thank you to everyone that attended Show and Tell last week, it is always lovely to see so many children share their work with you and talk about their learning journey. The next one is planned in July which also gives you the opportunity to meet your child's next teacher.

Forest School:

The Year 3 children have spent the past few weeks improving the garden area at the front of school during their forest school lessons. They have weeded, dug, raked, picked litter and planted fruit trees (some of which were donated by Maggie's family).

Mr Fellender kindly built us some fabulous, raised beds in the holidays and Mrs Milner (and family) made several trips to school over Easter to fill them up with compost from her garden. Thank you for your hard work.

The whole area looks fantastic and will hopefully encourage wildlife, as well as giving the children the opportunity to plant crops, tend to and pick apples and pears and hopefully enjoy the fruits of their labour.

Thank you also to the parents who kindly donated solid and seeds. Much appreciated!



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Reception Visit to Harlow Carr:

WOW! What a fantastic day Reception had on their trip to RHS Harlow Carr. The children behaved amazingly, and staff could not be prouder. Fortunately, the weather stayed very sunny and dry for them and we had chance to explore the many gardens, even enjoying a picnic lunch!

They took part in a fantastic workshop in the morning where they learnt about the parts of a plant and then investigated some of the flowers growing in the garden. They looked at their leaves, stems, roots and flowers and then gave them a new name based on their features.

Finally, they all had a go at planting their own pea seeds which they have brought back to their classroom to see how they grow over the next few weeks.

Children explored one of the many playgrounds and the staff were very impressed by everyone's skills and resilience, especially on the little balance trail! Everyone was so happy and full of smiles.



They also enjoyed a lovely walk through the garden looking at all of the different coloured flowers and plants, they even noticed some moss! After this they investigated the bird hide, but only a few little birds were brave enough to come out whilst being watched by Reception!



Staffing:

It is with sadness that I need to inform you that Miss Parkinson has, after much consideration, decided to leave Hill Top. We wish her the very best in her future endeavors and thank her for her time and contribution to our school. Year 5 Parents - please check school bags for a letter.

Tel: 0113 3074750

Year 6 SATs:

Year 6 will be sitting their Key Stage 2 SATs tests the week commencing 13th May. Please can I politely ask that you make sure that children arrive in school on time. Miss Scawthorn and Mrs Stead need the time to ensure all children are calm and ready to sit the tests and that all children receive the same messages from staff as some may be worried or feeling a little anxious. Thank you for your support in this.

Earth Day:

It was Earth Day on Monday, and some classes have started their new science topics which link to earth day. Year 2 have started their own investigation into seeing what plants need to grow and be healthy. They have also planted a mixture of seeds and bulbs – hopefully in the summer we will see an abundance of flowers around school.

Eid:

Some Nursery children have been sharing with the class how they



celebrated Eid by showing their pictures on Tapestry. They told their friends all about their presents, visits to family, food and new clothes.

Attendance:

We understand that occasional absences due to illness are inevitable. However, it is important to prioritise attendance and ensure that your child is in school. If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, **please remember to notify the school every morning by 9am.**

Class	Attendance	
	w/c: 15/04/24	w/c: 22/04/24
Reception	96.6%	98.6%
Year 1	94.2%	98.1%
Year 2	95.7%	95.3%
Year 3	90.7%	97.7%
Year 4	97.9%	90%
Year 5	95.2%	97.7%
Year 6	94%	95%

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Important Dates:

6th May: Bank Holiday – school is closed

13th-17th May: Year 6 SATs Tests all week

17th May: Non-uniform day – donations to school

17th May: Movie Night

20th May: Bikeability for Year 6

23rd May: Year 6 Parent's residential meeting

24th May: FOHT Summer fair: 3.15 – 5.30pm

24th May: School closes at 3.15pm for half term

Finally,

At some point from next week onwards, gas works will be taking place outside of school and the road will be dug up. I have been informed that temporary traffic lights will be in force. Please make sure you give yourself enough time to get to school as there may be long delays because of this.

Joanne Lancaster



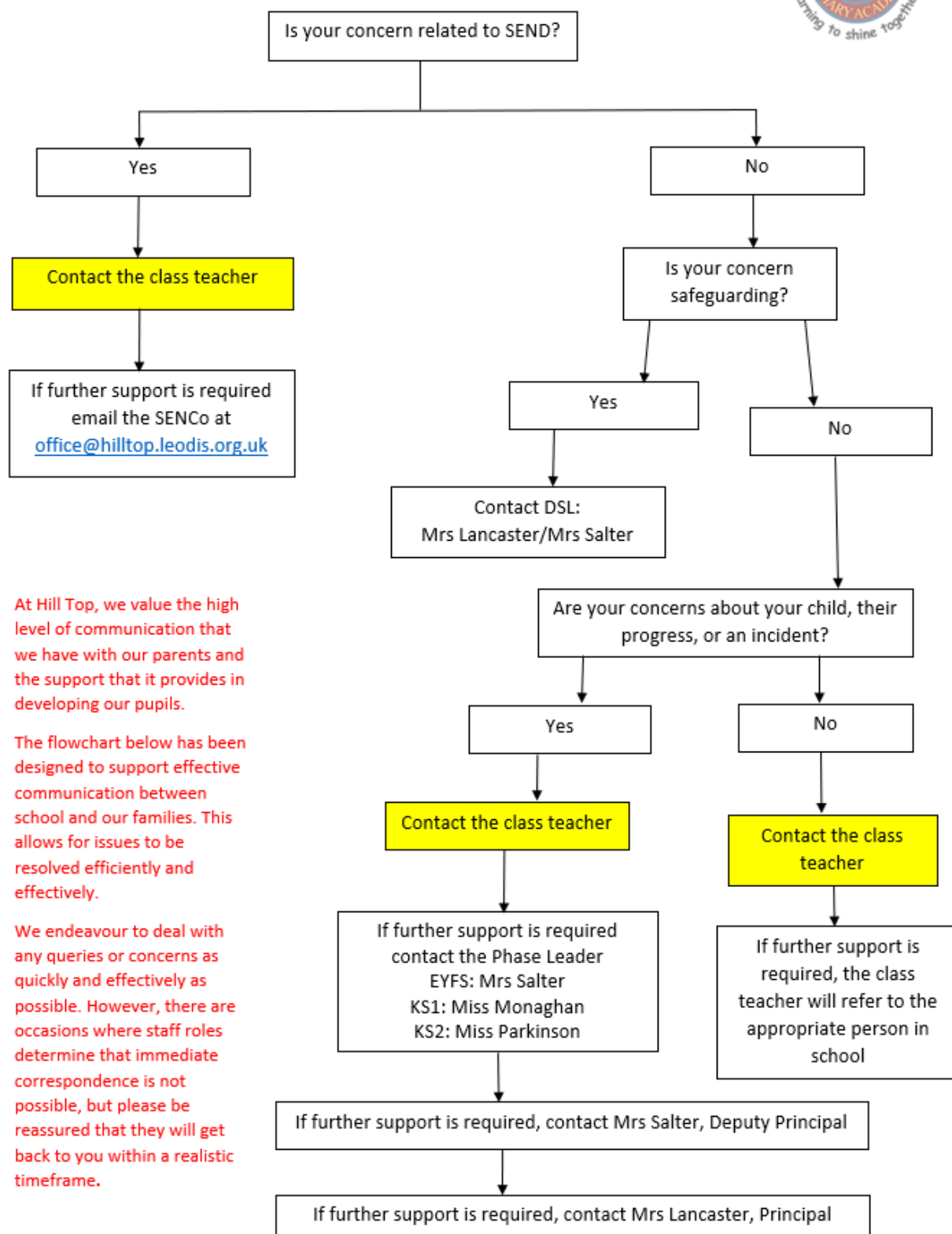
Reception are making potato heads today as part of their art unit. They are really enjoying it so far!

"I'm really enjoying French. I like the songs, games and basically everything – I never wanted to go to France but I want to go there now."

Quote of the week

Toby

Who do I contact if I have a concern?



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18
CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people: compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



All Stars is the best cricket experience for **5–8 year olds**.

All children are guaranteed to **develop new skills** while **having fun** and **making friends**.

Join us at ***East Ardsley Cricket Club*** this summer.

[https://www.ecb.co.uk/
play/all-stars](https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars)



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**Register
for Dynamos
Cricket today!**

**8-11 year-olds – join in
at your local centre.**

SIGN UP ►



Dynamos is the best cricket experience for **8–11 year olds**.

Your children will **develop new skills, make friends and have fun**.

Use the link below to search for **East Ardsley Cricket Club** to sign up for year's **holiday camp**.

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/dynamos-cricket>



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Leeds Community
Healthcare
NHS Trust

Leeds CAMHS Crisis Call

0800 953 0505

A helpline for under 18s
Every day 8am-8pm



Are you a parent worried about your child? Do you know a young person struggling to cope? Are you unsure about how to help them and need some guidance and advice? The NHS in Leeds operates a Freephone helpline for under 18s between 8am and 8pm every day. We offer young people and their families or carers advice, support, someone to listen, or signposting as appropriate, regardless of the circumstance.

You will be put through to a skilled crisis advisor who will listen and talk through concerns, support and will provide practical advice on what to do next. Our team offers in-the-moment support and efficient response for anyone up to the age of 18 during moments of distress, ensuring that immediate access to help will be provided if necessary.

Leeds CAMHS Crisis Call Helpline is open 8am – 8pm, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. You can call us for free on 0800 953 0505.

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