

# NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY

## NEWSLETTER – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### Headteacher's Weekly Awards - WELL DONE TO OUR STARS OF THE WEEK

All the children get a special mention in the Achievement assembly on Friday and will bring home a certificate detailing the reason for their award.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Malachi Renee	Mya Rafael	Rosie Summer	Esther Frazer	Romeo Laya	Roxanne Carter	Jacob Billie-Mae	Whole Class

It was wonderful to see all the children dressed up this week for World Book day, they all looked amazing. Thank you to our wonderful parents for all of your efforts to help make it such a special day. The children enjoyed a special workshop delivered by Altru Drama Company. The children explored classic texts, learning about a range of texts, characters, themes and settings and having fun with 'old' books. They used drama techniques to explore some of this year's £1 books - encouraging children to pick up the books themselves and find a book that excites and inspires them. Finally. They imagined themselves as writers - identifying the sort of books they'd love to create in the future.

Year 6 also enjoyed our usually trip to Crucial Crew which teacher children life skills, they learnt about staying safe around train tracks, the effects of Carbon Monoxide, the dangers of Vaping and anti-social behaviour. I hope you'll agree that these life lessons are very important and support the children's transition into year 7.

**Minds on a mission:** came to school this week to deliver sessions to years 5&6 about anti-social behaviour in the local community, particular in Kenyon Way. The children participated in an interactive escape room solving clues and puzzles to find the codes to break out of the escape room. The escape room clue were based on facts of actual incidents that are occurring in the area. It was an amazing experience that provided the children with a fantastic learning opportunity and we hope they have taken away some really important messages that will help them make the correct decision in the future.

**Condover 2024:** Year 6 had an amazing time at Condover this week. We have shared lots of pictures on our Facebook page so please take a look. I'm sure everyone who went will sleep well this weekend!

**Road Safety Committee:** We have a message from the committee for all children, parents and carers – **Please do not ride on bikes or scooters within the school grounds to ensure we do not have any accidents with pedestrians. Please walk your scooter or bike out of the school grounds and only ride it when once is safe to do so.**



Well done to Year 6 who all arrived on time every day – FANTASTIC! We have seen a huge improvement in punctuality so well done everyone, lets keep it up.

**Children should be in school by 8.45am if you arrive after this time you are late!**

Well done to Reception, Year 1, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 who both achieved the attendance target this week!

### Punctuality and Attendance

Please remember school starts at **8:45am** – Doors will be open from 8.35am. Children arriving after 8.55am must enter through the school office and be signed in.

**Last week's attendance – Our School target and individual pupil target is 96%**

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Class attendance award	92	<b>98 SILVER</b>	<b>97 SILVER</b>	94	<b>98 SILVER</b>	<b>96 BRONZE</b>	95	<b>98 SILVER</b>	<b>96</b>
Late arrivals	1	2	5	3	3	1	3	<b>0</b>	18

**Online Safety:** We have some helpful advice below about online safety and we will share different supportive advice each week in the newsletter.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# NGL

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous – although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

### ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

### PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a 'dummy' account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

### COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription unlock – for a weekly fee – users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

### INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service: informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

### QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating "... NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried." This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

### ACCIDENTALLY GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed – enabling all their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term – although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

### BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

### EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

### THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Source: <https://ngl.link/#what-e-ngl>

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**School communication:** Please ensure you are logged into your school spider app so that you receive all the important messages we send out. If you need to download the app again, its 'School Spider' and then you can simply go to the log in page and click forgot password to reset your log in details.

**Contacting School:** If you wish to contact school then you can email us on [NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk](mailto:NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk) and we will respond the same day or call 0161 921 2921.

**DIARY DATES:** Whilst we aim not to change dates once set sometimes circumstances mean we have to, please always check the dates each week and update your plans accordingly. Any changes will be highlighted.

DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TIME	CLASS
MONDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	CO SAFETY SEYMOUR SESSIONS	ALL DAY	YEAR 5 & 6
WEDNESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	YEAR 2 FAMILY TIME WORKSHOP	9-10	YEAR 2 PARENTS WELCOME
THURSDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	NURSERY STAY AND PLAY- READING AND STORIES	9-10	NURSERY PARENTS WELCOME
THURSDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	RECEPTION / YEAR 6 HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS	9.30 – 10.30	RECEPTION / YEAR 6
THURSDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	HANDBALL FRIENDLY GAME – ST EDMUNDS – children only	1.30 – 2.30	TEAM advised
FRIDAY 15 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	CHOCOLATE DONATION IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAYTIME		WHOLE SCHOOL
FRIDAY 15 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	RED NOSE DAY – CHILDREN CAN COME TO SCHOOL IN RED CLOTHES	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
MONDAY 18 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE TICKETS GO ON SALE	2 WEEKS	WHOLE SCHOOL
MONDAY 18 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	PARENTS EVENING PHONE CALLS	3.45 -5.00	WHOLE SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY 20 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	PARENTS EVENING FACE TO FACE	3.30-6.30	WHOLE SCHOOL
THURSDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH	YEAR 5 LAST SWIM	1-3	YEAR 5
WEDNESDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	RECEPTION EASTER WORKSHOP	9-9.45AN	RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	EYFS AND KEY STAGE 1 EASTER HAT PARADE	ALL DAY	EYFS AND KEY STAGE 1 CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE DRAW	2PM	
THURSDAY 28 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	COFFEE MORNING	9AM	ALL PARETNS WELCOME
THURSDAY 28 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	KEY STAGE 2 EGG DISPLAY	9-12	KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN
THURSDAY 28 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	BREAK UP FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS	2PM	

More dates will be added so please keep your eye on the diary dates each week.

Kind regards, Mrs Warburton