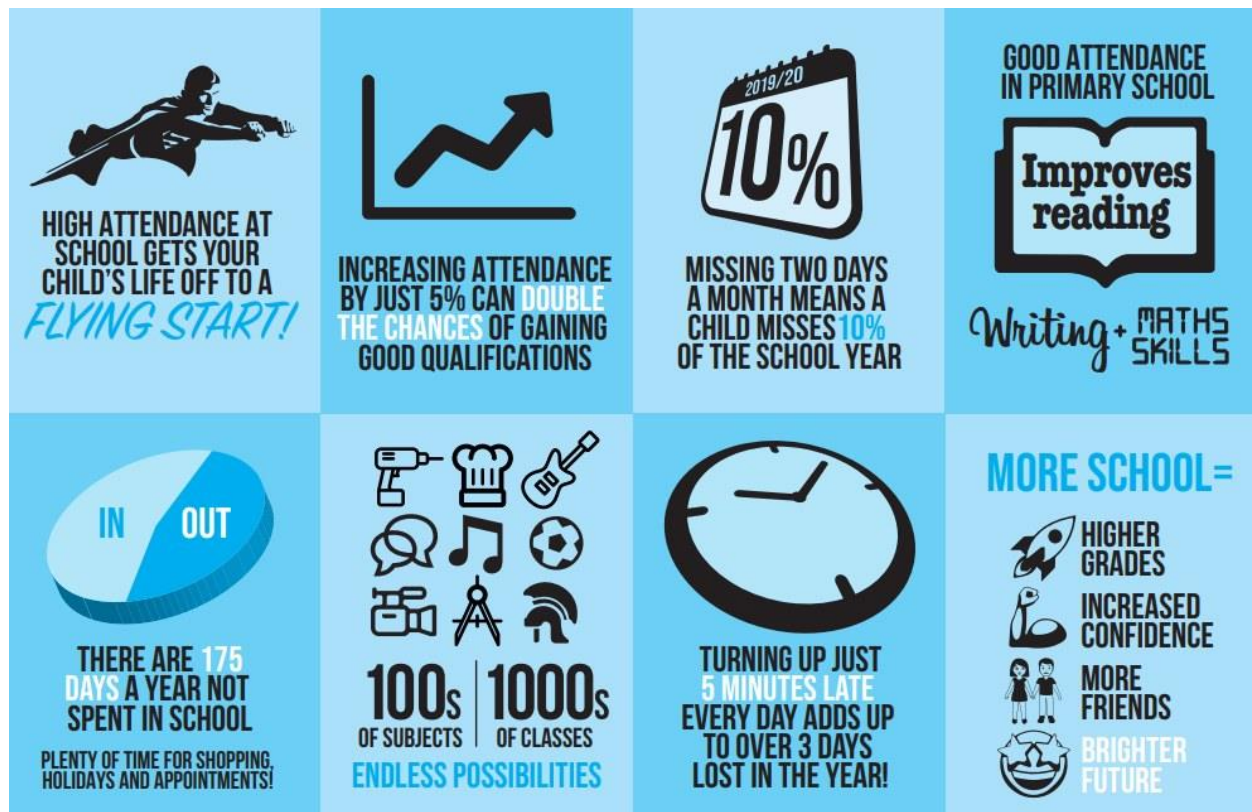




## Newsletter for 14th February 2025

Every lesson counts - your child must attend school every single day for the best chance of success!





**"THIS MORNING, HE  
WAS WORRIED ABOUT  
SCHOOL... BUT LOOK  
AT HIM NOW!"**

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



**HM Government**

Head to the Education Hub to find out more.





## Top Attendance for the Week

**1<sup>st</sup> Place – Crimson 98%**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Emerald 97.4%**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Bronze 96.7%**

Courage

Resilience

Gratitude

Respect

Aspiration

Kindness

## Headteacher's Message



---

*Dear Families,*

*This week, the children learnt about keeping safe online and spotting scams during Safer Internet Day activities. This reinforced the online safety learning that takes place weekly in computing lessons. You can find useful parental advice at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> and see our regular newsletter posters to stay up to date with apps and guidance.*

*On Monday, we were delighted to welcome Rocksteady into school for a special concert. The children loved listening to the electric instruments and joining in with the songs; one child said it was 'the best day of his life'! You can see a photo of the 'one man band', and much more, on our Instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/manorparkprimaryacademy/>*

*Today, representatives from Year 6 travelled to Bournville to meet the Lord Mayor and to join in with the Health for Life Awards ceremony. We were really proud to receive the award and to have such wonderful ambassadors for our school attend.*

*Teachers have selected 'Star Writers' from their classes and our new displays around school show off their fantastic writing achievement, so well done to everyone who was chosen! The writing ranges from writing about World War II in Year 6, a recount of a visit to Warwick Castle in Year 2, and a captivating story in Year 1.*

*Next half term, we have some great activities planned to enhance our curriculum offer: World Book Day on Thursday 6th March, a Year 3 visit a local museum on Wednesday 12th March, the Health for Life Cookathon event on Monday 17th March, Red Nose Day on Friday 21st March, and Careers Week. A reminder that Monday 31st March is a Staff Training Day so school will be closed for pupils on that day.*

*Next week is the half term holiday and children return to school on Monday 24th February.*

*I wish everyone a happy and safe holiday.*

*Kind regards*

*Christine Chapman*

---

## Important Safety Notice



---

*As a community, we have a collective responsibility to keep our children safe. Do not park on the yellow zig zag lines and please park somewhere that is safe when dropping off or collecting your child from school.*

*Parking inconsiderately can put people in danger and you also risk being fined by the council or local police. Under the Highway Code, it is illegal to park on school zig zag yellow lines.*

---

**If you need someone else to collect your child...**



---

*We know that sometimes you may need someone else to collect your child at the end of the school day. **Please make sure that:***

---

- The person collecting your child is older than 16 (if they are your child's sibling) and over 18 (if they are not a sibling)*
  - You inform the school before 2.30pm if someone new is collecting your child. Though we know other parents collect children for each other, you must let us know that you have given your permission*
- 

---

*Thank you for helping us to keep your child safe,*

*Becky Lewis*

*Deputy Headteacher*

---

## Half Term Family Fun!

# Half-Term Family Fun!



Wednesday 19th February 2025



1pm - 3pm



The Springfield Centre, Springfield Rd,  
Moseley, B13 9NY

Please join Early Help, your local Children's Centre and other organisations at our Family Fun Day, where all parents can learn what support is available local to you!

Free activities available for children!



BIRMINGHAM  
CHILDREN'S TRUST



Hall Green  
Families



Narthex  
Journey To Change



Sparkbrook  
Children's  
Zone

- How can your local Family Hub support you? What resources are available?
- Are there groups you could join to link with likeminded parents?
- How can WE help YOU?

## Star of the Week



---

*Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - this week's focus is 'Courage'*

*Nursery Maya*

*Indigo Yusef*

*Copper Ahad*

*Gold Omar*

*Aqua Theo*

*Turquoise Muhammad K*

*Cerise Ayaan*

*Crimson Arfa*

*Bronze David*

*Ochre Mohammed Ismaeel*

*Ruby Adam*

*Topaz Maryam*

*Teal Haidar*

*Emerald Aman*

---



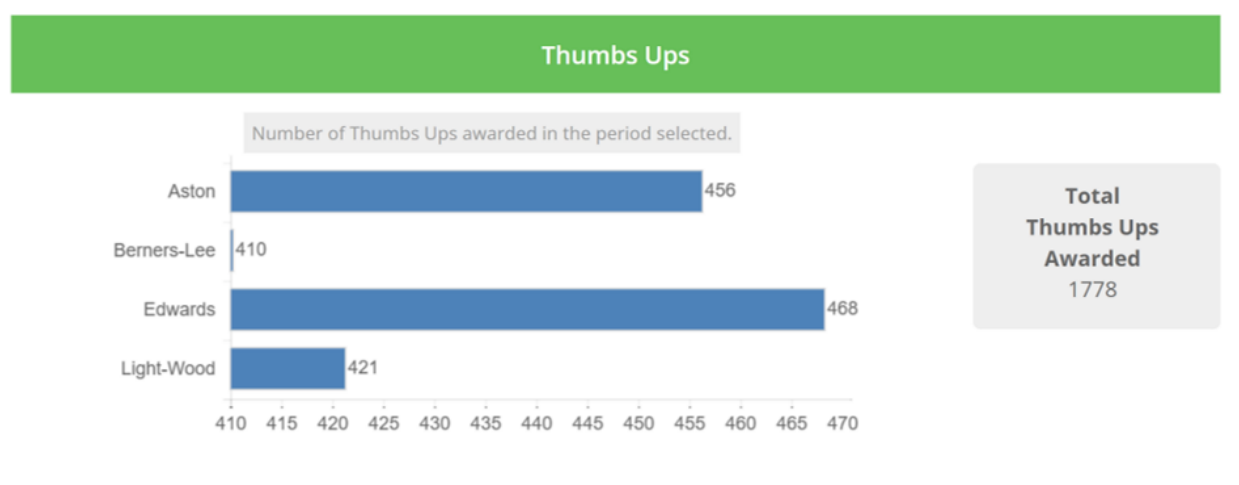
— AND —  
THE WINNERS  
***are...***

---

*House Points are now collected using Marvellous Me. **You can see your child's individual house points by clicking on the 'thumbs up' button.** However many 'thumbs up' they've had, this is the number of house points they have received in school!*

*This week's winners overall is Aston!*

---



## Safeguarding and Wellbeing Update - Online Relationships and Dating Apps



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

### EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the 'hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

### CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages and sexual comments.

### SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a 'loan' to cover a train ticket).

### UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A TikTok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

### PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

### SKewed PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

### ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

### VERIFICATION STAMPS

Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

### REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

### Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE ([www.raiseducation.org.uk](https://www.raiseducation.org.uk)) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safety and healthy relationships.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/online-relationships-dating-apps>



@wake\_up\_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.02.2025

## Dates for your Diary



---

***End of Term*** - Friday 14th February

***Back to School*** - Monday 24th February

***World Book Day*** - Thursday 6th March

***Year 3 Trip to the Museum*** - Wednesday 12th March

***Health for Life Cookathon*** - Monday 17th March

***Red Nose Day*** - Friday 21st March

***Teacher Training Day*** School Closed to children - Monday 31st March

---

## School Term Dates for Next Year - 2024/25

---

*Please see the calendar below showing all of the school term dates, bank holidays and teacher training days for the next academic year.*

---



## Manor Park Calendar 2024/25

August 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
31				1	2	3 4
32	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
33	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
34	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
35	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
35						1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
40	30					

October 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
40		1	2	3	4	5 6
41	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
42	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
43	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
44	28	29	30	31		

November 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
44					1	2 3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9 10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16 17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23 24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
48						1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
1	30	31				

January 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
1			1	2	3	4 5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11 12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18 19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25 26
5	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
5						1 2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
9	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
9						1 2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29 30
14	31					

April 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
14		1	2	3	4	5 6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
18	28	29	30			

May 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
18				1	2	3 4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
22						1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
27	30					

July 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
27		1	2	3	4	5 6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
31	28	29	30	31		

### Bank holidays 2024/25

26 August '24	August Bank Holiday	26 December '24	Boxing Day	18 April '25	Good Friday	5 May '25	Early May Bank Holiday
25 December '24	Christmas Day	1 January '25	New Year's Day	21 April '25	Easter Monday	26 May '25	Spring Bank Holiday

### Teacher Training Days

2 September 2024	3 September 2024	29 November 2024	31 March 2025	21 July 2025
------------------	------------------	------------------	---------------	--------------



## Apply for free school meals



---

[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*Did you know that by registering your child for free school meals, you're not only ensuring they get a nutritious, hot meal every day but also supporting our school's funding? Every child who is registered for free school meals generates extra funding for the school, which we can invest directly back into your child's education and wellbeing. This funding helps us provide more resources, better learning environments, and additional support for our pupils. While all children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 (as well as those under the Mayor's Meals scheme in London) automatically receive free school meals, we only receive extra funding if you officially register your child. Please read the attached letter for information on how to apply.*

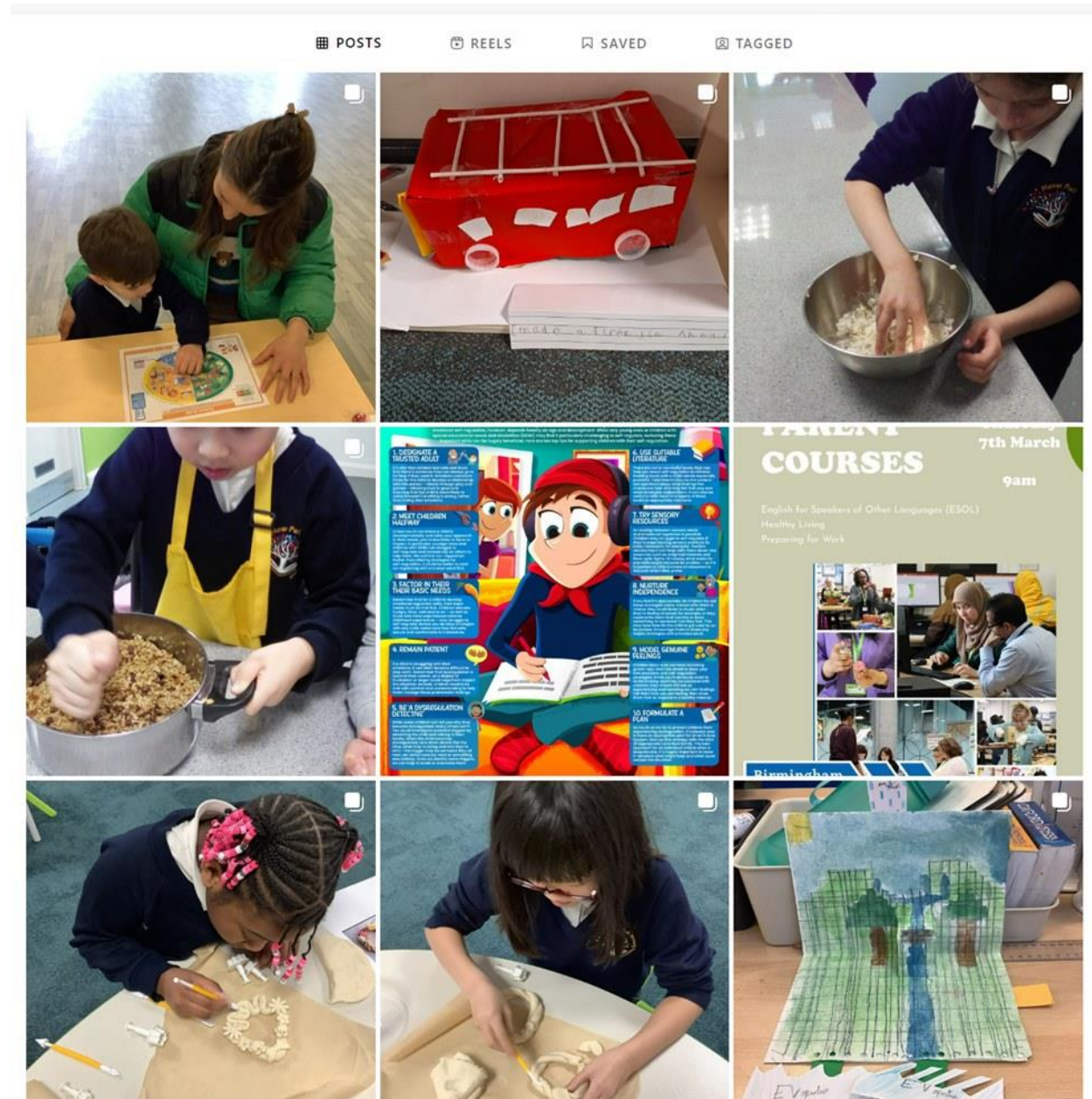
---

**We are a Nut Free School!**



*Give us a follow on Instagram!*

<https://www.instagram.com/manorparkprimaryacademy/>



If you need to report your child's absence...



---

*Please call 0121 327 1023 to report your child's absence by 9.30am*

*If you need support with your child's attendance, please contact Jo Green via email at [enquiry@manorparkacademy.org](mailto:enquiry@manorparkacademy.org) or call the school office.*

---



**At Manor Park Primary  
Academy everyone  
has the right to feel safe.**

**At Manor Park Primary  
Academy everyone  
has the right to learn.**



**We are your Designated Safeguarding Leads.  
We can help you.**



Ms Christine Chapman  
**Headteacher**  
DSL



Mrs Saima Mahmood  
**Teacher**  
DSL



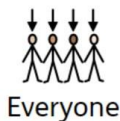
Miss Becky Lewis  
**Deputy  
Headteacher**  
DSL



Mrs Natalie Brindley  
**SENDCo**  
DSL



Miss Jo Green  
**Lead DSL**



Everyone



has

a



right

to



feel safe.



Please



talk to



us.

