



LONGSANDS LINK – 28th January 2022

Mrs McKeown's Message

As you will have heard from your children and also by reading the letter I sent through on Tuesday we do have a growing number of positive Covid cases in school. Although restrictions are lifting, we still do have our guidance to follow from public health and the Covid team at LCC.

I want to thank you for your support in continuing to test which I know is not very pleasant for all involved. Please continue to support us and hopefully our numbers will drop before the half term break. The numbers in school are not unusual when talking to other Heads. On behalf of the staff I would like to thank you for the kind messages of condolence that have been sent through following the announcement last week of Mr Seagraves' death. His funeral is **Tuesday 1st February** and our Year 5 and Year 6 children will be paying their respects by standing just outside of school as the hearse drives into the main car park area, and by the staff car park gates. If you wish to join them, it will be around **12.30pm**. Have a lovely weekend and keep in touch. Please contact me via Seesaw or email if you have a positive result over the weekend or at any other time.

Mrs McKeown

BANG BANG UNIFORM

If you would like to order Longsands school uniform from Bang Bang rather than making a trip into town, you can contact Mr Kumar at his shop directly with your requirements. Your order will then be delivered to school and left ready for collection in the school main entrance area.

Mr Kumar's contact details are:

Tel: 07505 234098

Email: kumarp11@outlook.com

ROBLOX & YOUTUBE

We have attached to this week's Longsands Link an information sheet about Roblox. Could we urge parents and carers to watch out for Kissy Missy and Huggy Wuggy on this game and also on YouTube as they start off okay and then gets quite dark.

A number of younger children are finding it quite scary.

YEAR 1 HEARING TESTS

Thank you to everyone that completed and returned their hearing test permission slip. We do have one or two still to arrive, if you have misplaced your letter there are hard copies available in the main entrance document holder. The Audiometrician will be in school on **Thursday 10th February**.

YEAR 5 - PLANT POTS

If you have any old plant pots that you no longer require, Year 5 would love them as part of their Science topic. Thank you

STAFF CAR PARK

Please remember that the staff car park is not to be used for drop offs or collections of children at school or Discovery Vine. As long as the medical centre car park is not used, we are lucky that there are plenty of car parking spaces available to us. If you have friends or family members who drop off for you, we would be grateful if you would pass on the message.

LOVE DANCE HOLIDAY CLUB

Sally Howard (Whitaker) will be running a holiday club in February half term at Broughton Primary School from Monday 14th to Friday 18th February. If you would be interested please contact her directly for more information.

Tel: 07791 317619

Email: Sally1active@outlook.com

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you are caring for a child who has been advised to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, you may be eligible for a one-off Test and Trace Support Payment of £500 from your Local Authority.

Click here for more information.

Happy Birthday

ISABELLA and ZACHARY

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

WC 31/01/22

WEEK 3

DATES TO REMEMBER

MONDAY 31st JANUARY

- Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Fun Zumba.

TUESDAY 1st FEBRUARY

- Mr Seagraves' Funeral
- Rocksteady Music
- Girl's Netball Year 5 & 6

WEDNESDAY 2nd FEBRUARY

- PNE Gymnastics
- Year 4 Sports Club 3.20pm-4.15pm

THURSDAY 3rd FEBRUARY

- **No** Tag Rugby Club
- Tag Rugby League **at UCLAN**.

FRIDAY 4th FEBRUARY

- Dance Club 8.00am for Rec, Y1 & Y2.
- Year 3 Samba
- Girl's football for Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6



Remember to regularly wash your hands, and do regular family lateral flow testing.

ATTENDANCE

Our target attendance is 96%.

RECEPTION: 96.65%

YEAR 1: 95.29%

YEAR 2: 94.59%

YEAR 3: 95.02%

YEAR 4: 94.65%

YEAR 5: 92.60%

YEAR 6: 96.46%

COVID TESTING

Please remember to regularly test as a family using lateral flow devices available from selected pharmacies, calling 119, or ordering online via the NHS website

[CLICK HERE](#)

Pupils of the Week

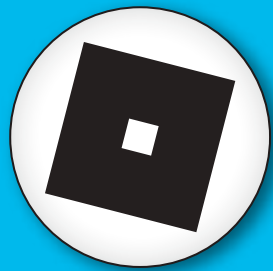
RECEPTION: LILY
YEAR 1: KOBE
YEAR 2: NICO
YEAR 3: UMAIMAH
YEAR 4: SKYE
YEAR 5: ISLA
YEAR 6: AANIYA

Longsands Values

RECEPTION: ETHAN
YEAR 1: SOPHIE
YEAR 2: ALL OF YEAR 2
YEAR 3: EMILIA
YEAR 4: HOLLY
YEAR 5: CHLOE
YEAR 6: ABI

Dinner Time Stars

RECEPTION: SEREN
YEAR 1: MATILDA
YEAR 2: MILO
YEAR 3: EVELYN
YEAR 4: HANNAH
YEAR 5: NATHAN
YEAR 6: ALICIA



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ROBLOX



With more than 150 million users worldwide, Roblox is one of the most popular video games of recent times. Roblox allows users to create their own gaming experiences using Roblox Studio: building levels and games then allowing other people to play them. Similarly, players can play each other's creations, either on their own or with other people online. While it's a tool that can help foster creative thinking, Roblox is also intermittently in the news amid concerns over young users' safety.

No Age Rating

Roblox is rated 7+ by PEGI, but the platform itself doesn't have a minimum age requirement. It does ask for a date of birth when registering, but this can be easily fabricated. The sheer quantity of games available on Roblox means that some *will* fall into teen/adult categories. Users can also interact with each other freely – and the game has, historically, attracted scammers, griefers and online predators.



Chat Functionality

Users can join group chats with almost anyone through the Chat & Party function. While the chat has some filters, predators still try to find ways around these to prey on young children. There have been recent reports of adults pretending to be children, attempting to groom younger players and encouraging them to chat privately in an unmoderated environment away from the game.

In-App Purchases

Robux is the in-game currency used to buy things like special outfits or emotes, and to play certain sections of the game. A subscription service (costing £4.99 per month) called Roblox Premium offers more privileges and more in-game currency. Robux can also be purchased in batches, for up to £4.99. Children can easily pay for these, or purchase a membership, without realising it.

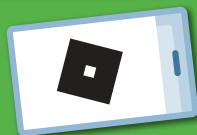


ODers

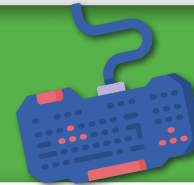
An 'Oder' (online dater) joins Roblox to find someone to 'date' online. While there's nothing inherently wrong with finding love on the internet, it becomes an issue in a space that's populated by children and young teens, like Roblox. Online dating is against Roblox's community guidelines, but certain player-built games on the platform are specifically for 'ODers' and should be avoided by children.

Online Predators

Roblox's developers aim to maintain a safe place for children; they employ human moderators for their players' protection. But there will, sadly, always be individuals who try to bypass these safeguards so they can chat to children and attempt to communicate outside the game. Anyone asking for your child's personal information or to talk privately should be blocked and reported.



Advice for Parents & Carers



Take Note of Ratings

Recent press reports drew attention to Roblox's issues with potentially offensive content. Some players were using Roblox Studio to create games featuring nudity, sexual activity and extreme political views. In response, Roblox is introducing a ratings system which will rank content by age appropriateness, with clear warnings if a game is not suitable for younger players.



Set Parental Controls

Roblox has controls that allow parents to moderate who their children can talk to and which games they can play. To enable these, add your email address to your child's account through the Security menu, and create a secure PIN to stop settings being tampered with. Then head into the Privacy menu where you can apply moderation to in-game chat, personal messages, invites and more.



Disable Messages

It's advisable to block all messaging if you have concerns over your child's safety. If they're playing with friends they know in real life, encourage them to chat in another way (like on the phone), so you know exactly who they're talking to and how. Accounts can be tweaked to allow messages from specific groups of people, such as friends or users that your child follows.



Block and Report

To report players in a game, find the Roblox symbol on screen (or the 'Settings' button on some devices). Identify the offending player and click the flag icon. Clarify why the player is being reported by choosing a reason from the list. If you think a particular game is inappropriate, you can also flag it for a moderator to check by following the same steps but selecting 'Game' instead of 'Player'.

Encourage Creativity

It could prove a little too complex for younger children, but Roblox Studio is a great place to start learning the fundamentals of game design. Many budding developers have created Roblox games which have become popular among the community. There are plenty of tutorials on making games on sites like YouTube. You never know, your child's creation might be the next big thing!



Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>
<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/roblox-condo-games-kids-exposed-pornographic-scenes-sex-acts/>



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