



(Article 19)



You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.

## Friday Letter



10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

[www.billquayprimary.org](http://www.billquayprimary.org)

### Dates for the diary:

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Break up for half term

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Inset day

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Return to school

### School Lottery

To purchase tickets please follow the link below;

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>

All money raised from tickets purchased will help to fundraise for our school. Tickets are £1 per ticket, per week and the more tickets purchased, the higher the weekly prize is. There is a winner from our school every week!

### Parent Governor Vacancy

As mentioned in an email sent earlier today, we have four candidates who have expressed their interests in the parent governor vacancy. If you wish to vote, please read through the personal statements attached to the email and return your ballot paper by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October.

### Reflectors

The School Council will once again be selling reflector key rings suitable for bags/key rings and zips at a cost of 50p from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

### Year 2 - Newcastle Keep

Children in year 2 will be visiting Newcastle Keep on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October. School uniform to be worn and a packed lunch is required. Please also ensure children have a waterproof coat. The cost of this trip is £7.50 per child which can be paid using the SchoolGateway app. There will be an opportunity to visit the shop. Children may bring a small amount of money if they wish to spend. Please ensure this is in a clearly labelled envelope. A link to the consent form has been sent to you via email.

### Christmas Cards

Each year, as a fundraiser for school, our children complete a Christmas design which can be printed onto cards, mugs, bags, gift wrap, tea towels etc through a company called Class Fundraising. Your child's artwork proof has been sent home with them this week, along with instructions on how to purchase items. The ordering process is entirely online and we cannot order for you. Firstly, visit [approve.myfundraisinghub.com](http://approve.myfundraisinghub.com) or scan the QR code to approve the artwork and confirm the name of your child. To complete the order, you will need the design code shown on the artwork. The deadline for orders is midday on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025**, please ensure all orders are placed before this date as unfortunately late orders will not be accepted. Your orders will be delivered to school once they are ready, and sent home with your child. Class Fundraising highly recommend that you keep hold of the artwork sample until you have received all of your items and are happy with them as in the event of an error you will need to confirm the code for your child's artwork.

## Pupil Progress Meetings (Reception)

Mrs Morton will hold pupil progress meetings on a Thursday morning beginning Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Meetings will last around 10 minutes and can be held face to face or by telephone. They are now available to be booked using the link below;

<https://billquayprimary.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

If you have any problems with booking using the system, please contact the school office.

## Year 6 - Bake Sale

In order to help raise school funds, each year group will take turns in facilitating a monthly bake sale. Year 6 will be the first to sell cakes to all pupils in school on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October. Any year 6 children who wish to donate cakes or biscuits to this sale, please do so via the school office on the morning of the sale. Items will be sold for 50p each. There will be no snack attack on this day.

## Witch and Wizard Day

Children in Nursery, Reception and KS1 are invited to come to school dressed as a Witch or Wizard on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

## Spooky Disco (Rec - Year 6)

Children are invited to come along to our Spooky Disco on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 will attend straight after school until 4.40pm. Children may come to school in their disco/Halloween outfit and should be collected from the Year 6 door at the back of the school by the ramp. Children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 can attend the KS2 disco from 4.50pm until 6.00pm. Children should enter via the steps in the infant yard and be collected from the KS2 door at the back of the school next to the ramp. Tickets cost £3.50 which includes a drink and a hotdog and can be purchased using the SchoolGateway app. To ensure we cater for the correct number of children, please ensure tickets are purchased by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October**. There will also be a tuck shop available on the night and children can purchase crisps and sweets using cash. Please ensure younger children bring cash in a clearly labelled envelope.

## Photographs

A reminder that your child has this week been given a unique QR code in order for you to purchase their school photographs. If you have any queries, please contact [info@cottonsocksphotography.co.uk](mailto:info@cottonsocksphotography.co.uk)

## Harvest Events

Event	Date
Reception Class - Harvest Stay and Play	<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October (9.15am)</b> - Parents/Carers of children in Reception class are invited to come to school for a stay and play.
Year 1 and 2 - Harvest Festival	<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October (9.30am start)</b> - Parents/Carers of children in year 1 and 2 are welcome to attend the Harvest Festival at Bill Quay Church.
Nursery - Harvest Stay and Play	<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October (9.15am)</b> - Parents/Carers of children in Nursery are invited to come to school for a stay and play.

# KIDS GO FREE

TO DURHAM V NOTTINGHAM FOREST



- WATCH ELITE FOOTBALL
- MEET THE PLAYERS POST-MATCH
- SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TEAM

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER  
12PM KICK-OFF  
MAIDEN CASTLE, DH1 3SE



**SCAN HERE**

OR VISIT  
[DURHAMWFC.TICKETCO.EVENTS](http://DURHAMWFC.TICKETCO.EVENTS)

USE THE  
PROMO CODE  
**FREEKIDS**



## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
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### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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 [GAMINGbible.com](https://GAMINGbible.com).



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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