


St Martin's Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM - Friday 22nd November

Wednesday Word	Lockdown Drill	Attendance
<p>The Wednesday Word is a resource for parents to use when discussing the weekly Gospel's with their families.</p>	<p>We have been discussing about how to keep ourselves safe in school this week. We will be holding a Lockdown Drill next week where the children will be 'Hiding' from a Gorilla that has escaped from the Zoo. They may mention 'hiding from Mrs Ming' as I will be checking to see how well they are hidden. As serious as this practice is we do not want to scare or worry the children but it is vital that we hold annual drill to ensure that they know what to do to keep themselves safe if a situation was to ever arise. I want to reassure all parents that this is a normal procedure to practice and there have been no additional reasons why we are practicing this.</p>	<p>Year R - 92% 7 Lates Year 1 - 86% 6 Lates *Year 2 - 90% 6 Lates* Year 3 - 82% 21 Lates Year 4 - 85% 8 Lates Year 5 - 82% 13 Lates *Year 6 - 93% 4 Lates* 5 Classes with less than 10 lates *Well done to year 2 & 6, this weeks Dojo Champs* Anyone who comes into school after 8:50am is marked as late. Please try to be an attendance</p> 
<p>For Parents Next Week</p>		
<p>Wednesday 27th November 10am: EYFS mass</p>		
<p>St Martin's Stars</p> <p>Well done to everyone who got a certificate this week.</p> <p>Purple Tie certificates are given for children who embody our rules of being Kind Respectful and Responsible.</p> <p>Nursery: Star- Matilda A Value- Sienna B YEAR R: Star- Cody S Purple tie- Amira A Value- Isabella B YEAR 1: Star- Isla S Purple tie- Elexis S Value- Fraser H YEAR 2: Star- Hanna N Purple tie- Sommachi E Value- Harry A YEAR 3: Star- Louis T Purple tie- Vlad I Value- Ava F YEAR 4: Star- Quie-Andrew D Purple tie- Cathryn J Value- Damien C YEAR 5: Star- Eli W Purple tie- Chloe M Value- Heidi W YEAR 6: Star- Logan J Purple tie- Isaac H Value- Darcy K</p>		
	<p>Key Dates For Christmas</p>	
	<p>Tuesday 10th December 10am: EYFS Christmas Performance</p> <p>Thursday 12th December 1.30pm: KS1 Christmas Performance</p> <p>Friday 13th December: Christmas Dinner</p> <p>Tuesday 17th December 1.30pm: KS2 Christmas Performance</p> <p>Friday 20th December: Christmas Parties</p>	<p>Attendance</p> <p>We have started this half term well and attendance is at 86%. Thank you for your continuing support 😊</p>

Safety Advice

This guide provides expert advice on how to effectively activate and maintain [parental controls](#) on children's devices. This may come in handy with the festive season approaching.

At The National College, our [WakeUpWednesday](#) guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Freely derived by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com).

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this; filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has restricted modes for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who is taking pictures of you. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.

2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of 'blind spots' in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply wherever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially smart phones, too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.

3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi, are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online account. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.

4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess, so only one certain app, additive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can be particularly sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.

5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions or purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers disavow these, sadly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds or pounds if a child gets carried away. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.

6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unpleasant content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.

7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, bear in mind that these won't cover Wi-Fi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpalatable aspects of social media and the web.

8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can read pretty far past their controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain safe even to children, as otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.

9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a set-and-forget deal, but only our parental summaries provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to see you spot any warning signs – but comparable other add-on features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable) regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wriggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.

10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble popping the internet can be more than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alpha. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including The New Statesman, CBRT, The Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Dailymail, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, IT, PC Pro, Mailworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.



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