

20th October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

I wanted to start the flyer this week by saying how proud I am of all the children in School. This week there have been numerous examples of how amazing and caring they are. Children in Reception found an injured bird on their yard and decided to help it and even took it to the vet for treatment. Year 6 visited Nissan to learn about robotics and had the chance to apply their skills in a real life context and made a great impression on the team at Nissan. Finally the School had a visit from Mr. Balkwill, Deputy CEO of Pele Trust and Mrs. Johnson, Headteacher at Ponteland Primary School. The children they spoke to were polite, well mannered and spoke passionately about the School, their learning and how they stay safe. Well done everyone!

As we move to the time where Santa is sorting presents out there is information in the flyer about the new EA Sports FC (replacing FIFA) computer game and also about E-Scooters (information from Northumbria Police) in case Santa might be bringing these to you this Christmas.

Thank you very much for your amazing generosity in donating items for our Harvest Collection which will be collected on Monday by The People's Kitchen and West End Food Bank. It is wonderful that we can show so much love to people in need in our local area and make a real difference to their lives.

The online portal for applications for places at Secondary School closes on **Tuesday 31st October 2023**. If your child is in Year 6 and you have not yet applied please can I urge you to do so.

The Directors of Pele Trust have decided to carry out an admissions consultation to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Richard Coates CE Primary School from 60 to 30. For more information about this please see the news item on our website or by [clicking here](#).

Well done to Reception with the best attendance this week: 99.7%

Unfortunately due to Storm Babet, and the inclement weather this has brought, we had to postpone both our Year 4 Litter Pick and our Year 6 Football competition on Monday as the pitches at Darras Hall Primary are currently underwater! I would urge that you all take care if you are out and about this weekend.

I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and have a relaxing weekend.

Mr. A. Wheatley,  
Headteacher

## Attendance Matters



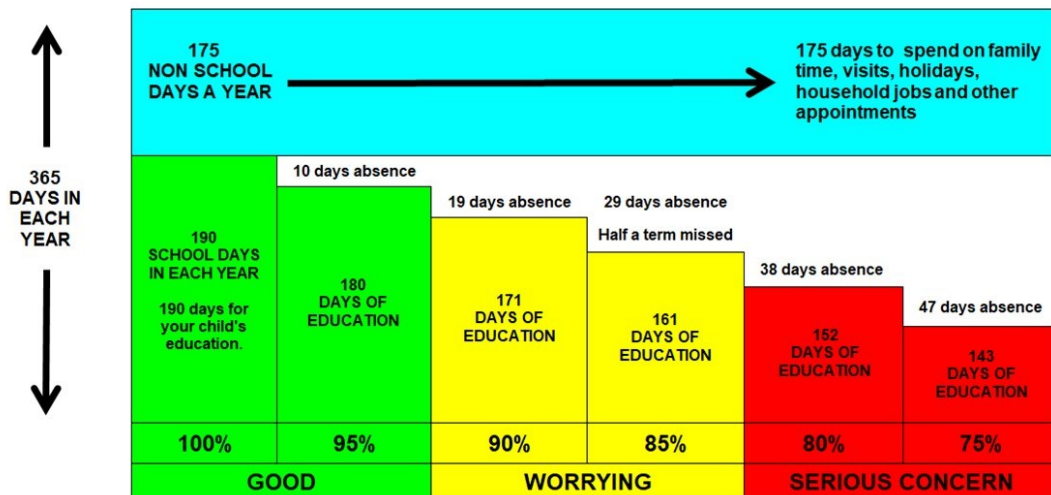
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	99.7%	Year 3 (Gibside)	96%
Year 1 (Wallington)	94.6%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	93.8%
Year 2 (Cragside)	98.3%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	99.3%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	97.7%

Please see the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time.

Days off School add up to lost learning!



'Whatever you do work at it with all your heart'



In Nursery this week, the Hedgehogs have been learning all about 'Autumn'. We have been super busy learning about how the weather changes and what we can expect to see outside. We have been painting our own Autumn trees, practising our cutting skills and sorting leaves by colour. We also went on an 'Autumn Hunt' to see what we could find in our school grounds.



PIC•COLLAGE



### Super senses!

This week we have been learning all about our senses. We carried out lots of activities and experiments to investigate how useful our sense are, including 'spot the difference', sound lotto and 'smell detectives'. We have explored lots of different textures and materials and we even baked and tasted our own gingerbread stars. 😊



PIC • COLLAGE



Whilst playing outside on Monday, some children noticed a bird that didn't look well. They very sensibly, calmly and quietly came to seek help. We decided it was best to take 'Tweet Tweet' (as he became known) to the vets. They told us we did absolutely the right thing and that 'Tweet Tweet' was a young wood pigeon that was very very cold. They immediately took him away to warm him up with a hot water bottle. Emily from the vets has since been in touch to say that 'Tweet Tweet' is absolutely fine and being looked after at a bird shelter in Blyth. Well done Owls and Hedgehogs!

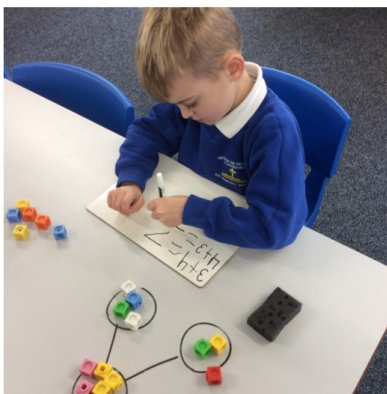
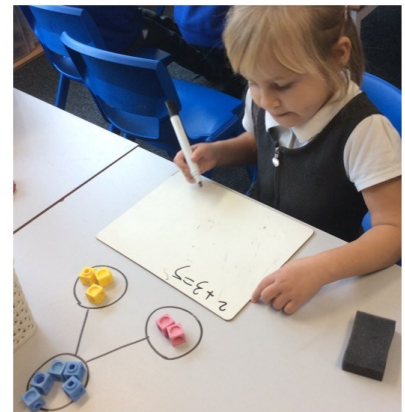
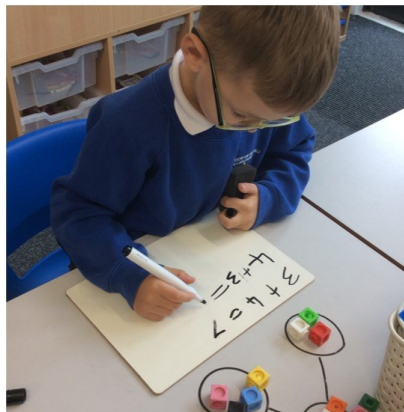
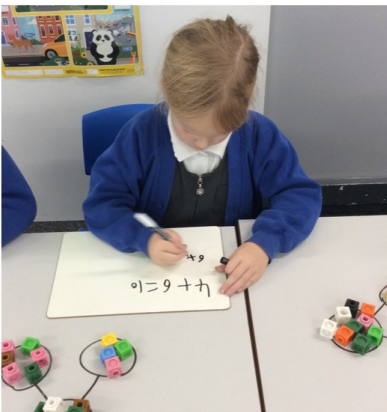
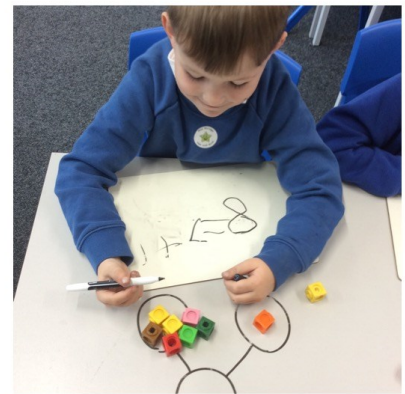


PIC • COLLAGE



## Addition in Year 1

In Maths this week, Year 1 have started to look at addition. We have been using the part-whole model to split a number into two parts. We then wrote addition number sentences using the information on our part-whole models. Super work Year 1!

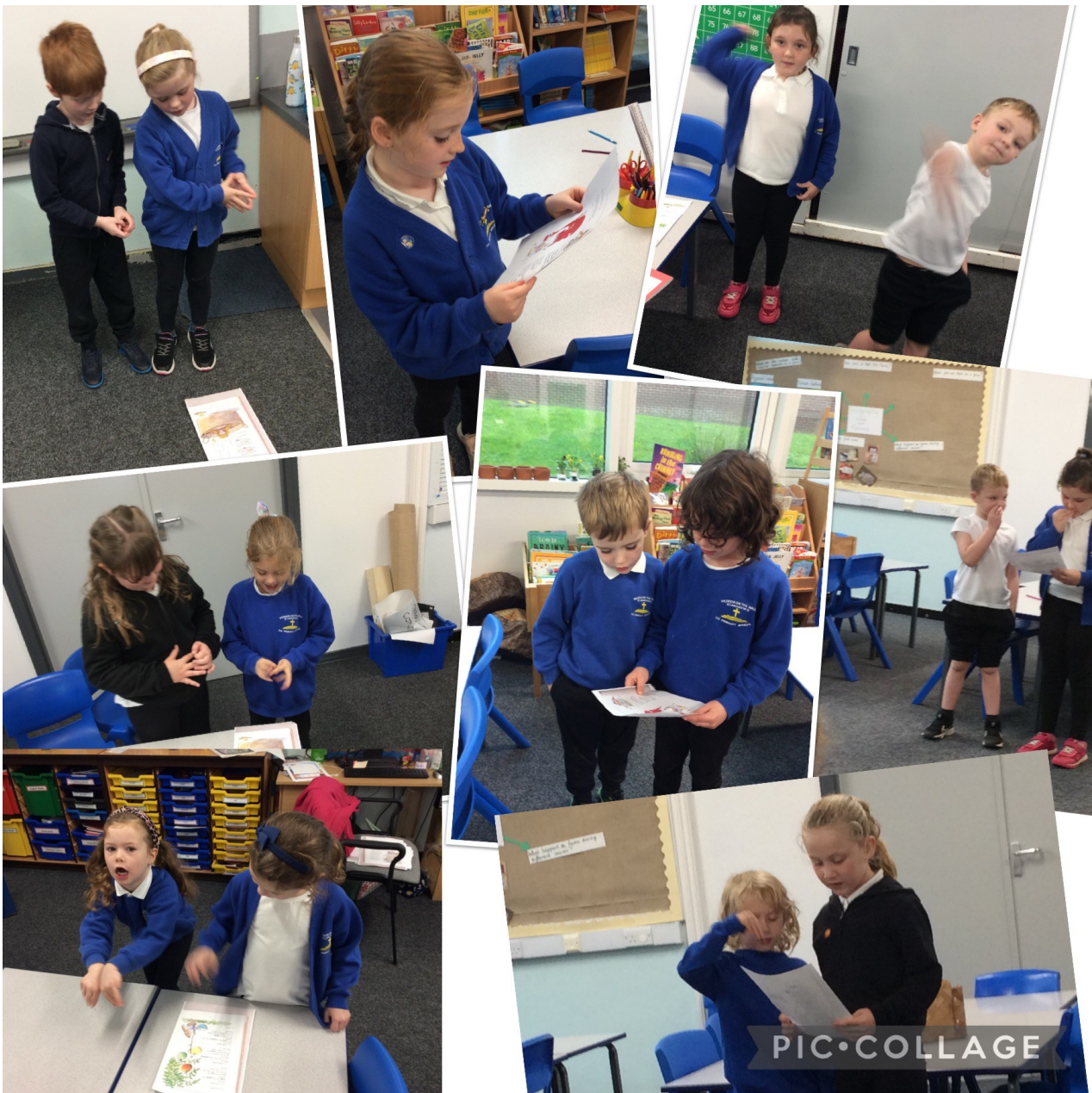


PIC•COLLAGE



## Performing Poetry with Year 2 (and Michael Rosen)

This week Year 2 has been practising performing poems. We have read the poem Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen and watched his performance and noticed how he really exaggerates some words to emphasise their meaning. We have looked at onomatopoeia and enjoyed saying words in a funny way.

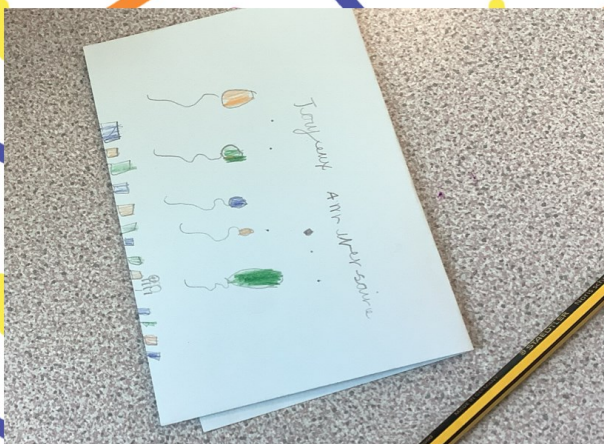
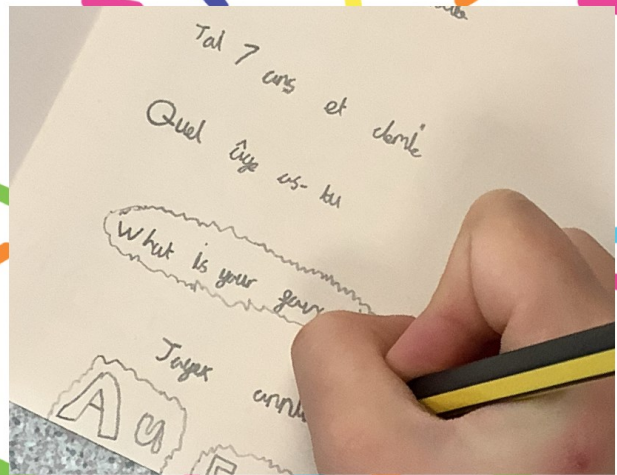




## Birthday Cards (in French!) with Year 3

Year 3 made birthday cards in French with Madame Magee.

These are going to be sent to our partner school in Luxembourg for the children to have on their birthdays!





## What's the Time Mr. Wolf (in French!) with Year 4

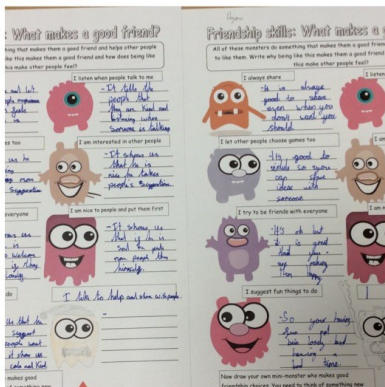
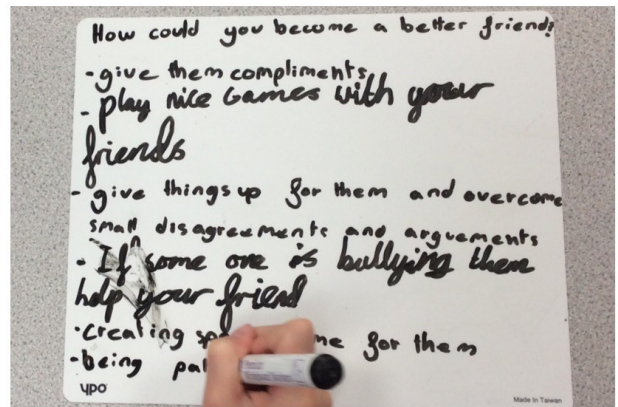
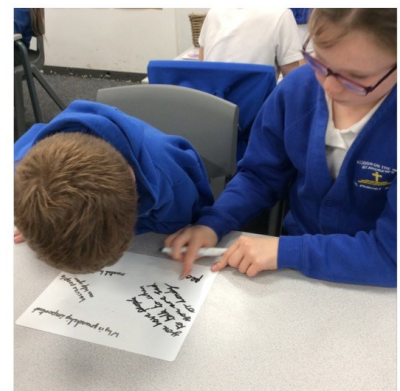
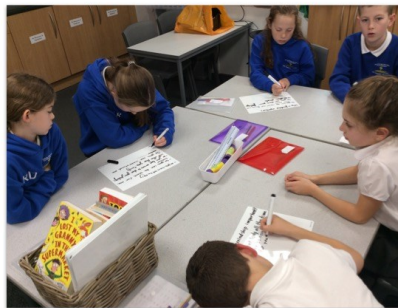
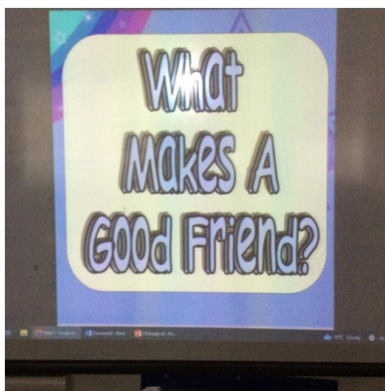
In French this week, Year 4 has been learning to tell the time. We read a story together about Monsieur Loup and we had to join in with some of the words and actions. Afterwards we played 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' in French, taking it in turns to get across the classroom without being caught. We worked really hard on pronouncing 'qu' in French which sounds like an English 'k'. To finish off the lesson, we completed a written task in our books





## Being a Good Friend in Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been learning what it takes to be a 'Good friend' in PSHE. We identified several key attributes that we must show to one another to become a good friend. We discussed how our actions impact others and how it can make them feel. Children in Year 5 also recorded their own positive attributes and how that helps them make friends.





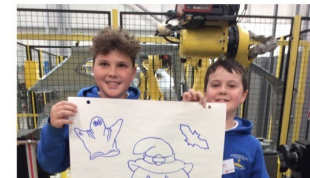
## Robotics at Nissan with Year 6

On Wednesday, Year 6 enjoyed their first of many school trips this year. We visited the Nissan Skills Foundation Sasmi college to take part in a "Robotics Coding Club" day. The session started with a Lego tower building task before a cookie and juice break, and then we learned how to code Robots to complete certain pathways.

After lunch there was a trip down to the Nissan Plant Training Centre, where we got to watch some of the key robotic machines used in action. One robot even drew us a Halloween inspired poster! Finally we put our coding skills to the test as we attempted to programme our robots to complete certain obstacle tasks.

It was lovely to receive a message from the team at Nissan on Thursday, thanking us for a great day and letting the children know that they were 'a credit to their school.'

We look forward to our next trip, Beamish Museum, after the half term break.



PIC COLLAGE

## School Council update

The School Council have had a busy time since being elected by their peers.

They have helped the Academy Committee by interviewing candidates for our latest post in School asking some really tricky questions and providing us with some honest opinions.

They have also been investigating snacks for Key Stage 2. I hope to share their findings and suggestions with you soon.

Finally they have approved and shared our new child-friendly Anti-Bullying Policy and child-friendly Safeguarding Policy. They read through and discussed these policies with Miss. Allsopp before taking them to their classes and sharing them with their peers. These policies will help the children understand how to stay safe both in and out of School and who to ask for help if they need it.





## Out of School Achievements

A shout-out to Archie and Finn who have secured parts in Nativity the Musical at the Tyne Theatre between 14th and 18th November 2023.

I've attached the flyer below for further information. Archie also has a starring role on the flyer along with his big sister and one of the sheep from his farm!

The boys are performing on the evenings of 14th and 17th November and at lunchtime on 18th November.

Well done Archie and Finn! I'm sure you'll both be fantastic!





# STAY & PLAY!

At Heddton-on-the-Wall, St Andrew's CE Primary School

Wednesday  
mornings  
during term time  
9:00-10:30am

HEDDON ON THE WALL  
ST ANDREW'S

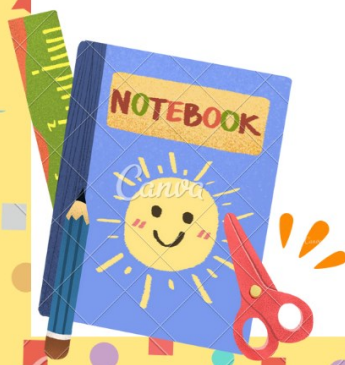


C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

£1

For more information  
go to  
[www.heddton-school.co.uk](http://www.heddton-school.co.uk)  
or phone  
01661 853350

- Make new friends!
- enjoy a range of toys and crafts
- meet other parents and carers
- refreshments included
- changing facilities available
- suitable for babies up to age 3





# Diwali Festival of Light Theme Day

## 13.11.23

### Main Course

Chana Masala

*Lightly spiced Chickpea Curry finished with Fresh Coriander.*

or

Vegetable Korma

*Selection of Fresh Roasted Vegetables served in a mild thick and cream sauce with Peas & Coriander.*

### Sides

Naan

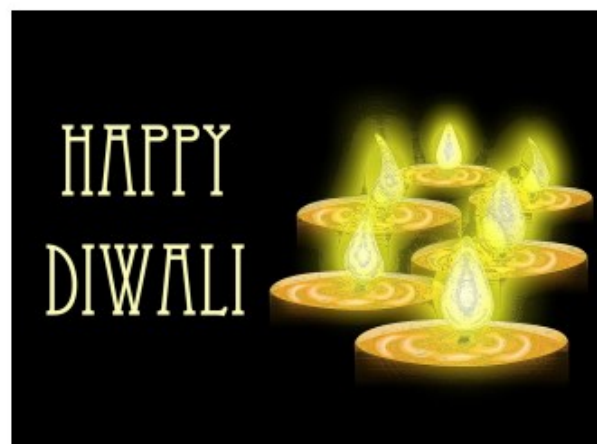
Samosa

Basmati Rice

### Desserts

Kheer

*Indian Spiced Rice Pudding*



**YOU'RE INVITED!**

# Cake and Play



WEDNESDAY | **1** | 10:00AM  
NOV. | 11:30AM

Arts and  
Crafts!

Free Cake!

At Albemarle Barracks  
Mini Mess

**COME AND TALK TO US ABOUT WHAT  
YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE AT ALBEMARLE**

Fun  
Activities!





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 games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you – EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

**RECURRING RELEASES**

EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template – meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

**OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT**

FIFA 23 introduced cross-platform play, and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for youngsters who love to play with friends online – but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and far older online gamers.

**IN-GAME PURCHASES**

In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time – so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.

**AGE RESTRICTION**

**PEGI 3**

**ULTIMATE TEAM SCAMMERS**

Since the mode was introduced, Ultimate Team has been a target of scammers who attempt to coax players into buying or selling outside the terms of service from EA and console manufacturers. This shady practice can lead to accounts being banned and in-game items being lost. In some cases, young gamers have also been hoodwinked into handing over their payment details to the fraudsters.

**POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION**

Just like real-life football, EA Sports FC 24 offers a thrilling, dynamic blend of tactical awareness and skill that fans find absolutely engrossing. Among younger players in particular, this could lead to identifiers of a gaming disorder as they plead for "just one more game" before bedtime or spend practically all weekend playing more matches to earn additional Ultimate Team packs.

**ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS**

**CONTROL SPENDING**

If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

**DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS**

EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that scam tactic), but never through the game itself – so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites; it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

**AVOID EXTRA TIME**

Many parents of young football-oriented gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play – or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

**SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD**

Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers: voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

**CELEBRATE THE VARIETY**

Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 – including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation: an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

**Meet Our Expert**

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGWise and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.

**NOS National Online Safety**

#WakeUpWednesday

Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23





# ELECTRIC SCOOTER (E-SCOOTERS)

This information sheet provides guidance on  
the current laws for e-scooters in the UK

## WHAT ARE E-SCOOTERS?

- E-Scooters are classed a "Powered transporters". This term covers a variety of personal transport devices which are powered by a Motor
- You can legally buy an e-scooter but cannot ride it on a public road, cycle lane or pavement.  
**ONLY PRIVATE LAND**

**THEY ARE NOT TOYS!**

## DID YOU KNOW?

- E-Scooters are illegal for use in any public space unless rented as part of a government trial
- Riding an e-scooter on the road is against the law as per the Road Traffic Act of 1988 and the Highway Act of 1835
- E-scooters are prohibited from being used on cycle tracks, cycle lanes or other spaces dedicated to pedal cycle use.
- Privately owned e-scooter can only be ridden on private land



## WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT POLICE TO DO IF THEY STOP ANYONE RIDING AN E-SCOOTER ON A PUBLIC ROAD?

- Section 59 of the Police Reform Act allows police to issue you with a warning if a vehicle is being used in a manner which may cause alarm, harassment, distress or annoyance
- The police may ask you to take your **e-scooter** home or they may seize it from you because they are classed as illegal vehicles on public roads
- You could be reported to court for driving without any insurance or having an appropriate licence to ride them or other traffic offences

## CAN I BE PROSECUTED FOR USING A POWERED TRANSPORTER?

- Any person who use a powered transporter on a public road or other prohibited space is in breach of the law, committing a criminal offence and can be prosecuted
- If you use an **e-scooter** illegally, you could face a fine and penalty points on your licence and the e-scooter can be seized
- Those who use powered transporters dangerously or under the influence of drink or drugs can also be convicted of offences leading to imprisonment
- Offences relating to the standard of driving and speeding also apply

## ARE E-SCOOTERS SAFE TO RIDE ON PUBLIC ROADS?

- **E-scooters** can be very dangerous and are not designed for use on public roads
- They have no suspension meaning even a minor defect in the road could cause the rider to fall off the scooter
- **E-scooter** consist of a thin piece of metal between two small tyres with the user being inches from the road surface. This can result in a significant risk of traumatic injury on the road
- **E-scooters** are not designed to carry more than one person
- **E-scooters** are small, quiet and quick, meaning they present safety challenges when being ridden on busy public roads
- **E-scooters** can be dangerous when used in parks or on public footpaths as they can cause significant risk of injury to pedestrians

## E-SCOOTER TRIALS

The government began trials of **e-scooters** in the UK from July 2020. Trials are for approved rental e-scooters only. Maximum speeds are set at **15.5mph** and those taking part in the trials will have to have a driving licence and insurance to be able to legally ride rental **e-scooters**.



*1st Ponteland*  
**BOYS' BRIGADE &  
GIRLS' ASSOCIATION**



*...the adventure  
begins here!*

**ANCHORS**  
5-8 yrs

**JUNIORS**  
8-11 yrs

**Company**  
11-14 yrs

**Seniors** 15-18 yrs

**ANCHORS**  
5-8yrs

**JUNIORS**  
8-11yrs

**1st Ponteland Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association**

- *Who?* Girls and boys aged 5 to 18yrs.
- *Where and when?* Term-time on **Tuesday evenings** at Ponteland Methodist Church (NE20 9NJ).
- Anchors 6 - 7pm. Juniors, Company and Seniors 7.15 - 8.30pm.

Contact email: [1ponteland@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:1ponteland@boys-brigade.org.uk)  
Contact person: Mr Les Dodd - Company Captain  
*Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.*

**Company**  
11-14yrs

**Seniors**  
15-18yrs



## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term Page 1



Tuesday 24th October 2023	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 25th October 2023	Year 1 visit to Wallington Hall
Thursday 26th October 2023	The Big Dig (Year 3)
Thursday 26th October 2023	FoHS non-uniform day to raise money for OPAL Play
Friday 27th October 2023	Harvest Festival (Early Years and Key Stage 1) at Church at 9.30am
Friday 27th October 2023	Harvest Festival (Key Stage 2) at Church at 10.15am
w/c Monday 30th October 2023	HALF TERM
Tuesday 31st October 2023	Online portal for Secondary School applications closes
Wednesday 1st November 2023	Online portal for Reception applications opens
Monday 6th November 2023	TRAINING DAY
Tuesday 7th November 2023	Parents Evening
Thursday 9th November 2023	Parents Evening

## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term Page 2



Monday 13th November 2023	Diwali Festival of Light Theme Day Lunch Menu
Friday 17th November 2023	Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need
Tuesday 28th November 2023	Year 3 visit to Centre for Life
Friday 1st December 2023	School Christmas Fair (1.30pm - 3.30pm)
Tuesday 5th December 2023	Choir Christmas Concert in School Hall at 5pm
Friday 8th December 2023	Year 6 visit to Beamish
Wednesday 13th December 2023	Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children charity
Friday 15th December 2023	Rocksteady Concert in School Hall at 10am
Tuesday 19th December 2023	Early Years Nativity in School Hall at 10am
Tuesday 19th December 2023	Key Stage 1 Performance at Church at 1.30pm
Wednesday 20th December 2023	Key Stage 1 Performance at Church at 5pm
Friday 22nd December 2023	Key Stage 2 Carol Service at Church at 9.30am
Friday 22nd December	AUTUMN TERM ENDS

Please note that these dates are all subject to change.

Further dates will be added as they are confirmed.

If you require further information about an event please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.