Ashburton Primary School Newsletter

Putting Children and Learning at the Heart of Everything We Do

October 2025 Issue #06

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This Week in Our School

This week our value focus has been compassion. Children have thought about what compassion is and how we can be compassionate at Ashburton. I have heard so many lovely examples across the week of children being compassionate.

Some classes ended the term with a Parent Share of art work completed over the last term. As we move through next term, we will be reflecting on other opportunities.

You may have noticed, or heard from children, that some of the displays have been taken down inside. This is to get ready for planned painting that will take place.

The shelter in the playground has been at Ashburton for many wonderful years, however now needs to be taken down and replaced with a new one for everyone's safety. Another shelter will be put up in the future. We are finalising next steps for the playground and will share these with you in due course.

After half term, I will continue to step in and deputise for Miss Docking.

All of the staff would like to wish you all a very lovely, restful half term. We cannot wait to see you back on Monday 3rd November, ready for the next term.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Annette Layland, Deputy Head

Announcements

Parent/Carer Progress Meeting Timings Change

Years R, 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6

We have reviewed the scheduling for our upcoming Parents/Carers Pupil Progress Meetings after half term, and these will now take place over three evenings. These will be Monday 12th 3:40pm to 6pm and Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th 3:40pm to 5:15pm. Slots will be available to book from Monday 3rd November.

WeST Welcome and Warm Goodbye

Mr Nathan Kemp, School Improvement Lead for Westcountry Schools Trust, will be based at Ashburton Primary School after half term to provide additional leadership capacity in the short term. You may see Mr Kemp on the gate and around school so please do stop to say hello.

At the end of next term, we have some staff leaving and looking to new endeavours; Mrs McCauley, Mrs Roser and Mrs Trapp. They leave with our hearty thanks and best wishes for the future. As a result, we will be looking to welcome new team members in the new year.

Achievements



Writing

17/10



School Values - Perseverance



Oracy



Writing

23/10



Oracy



School Values - Compassion

Class who have played the most this week.....
Year 4



Key Dates

November

3rd- Autumn Term 2 begins.

9th - Remembrance Parade

10th - Odd Socks Day

10th- Parents Evening (3:40pm-6pm)

11th - Parents Evening (3.40pm-5-15pm)

12th - Parents Evening (3.40pm-5-15pm)

13th - Reception 2026 Tour (4pm-5pm)

14th- Children in Need

17th-18th - Book Fair

18th Reception Tour 2026 (2pm-3pm)

25th - Flu Vaccinations

27th- Reception 2026 Tour (4pm-5pm)

December

2nd -Reception 2026 Tour (2pm-3pm)

9th -Reception Christmas Show to Parents (times to be confirmed)

11th - Christmas Jumper Day

11th - KS1 Christmas Performance to Parents (2pm-3pm)

11th - KS1 Christmas Performance to parents (5pm-6pm)

16th - Christmas Fair (2pm to 4pm)

16th - Carol Concert (TBC)

18th - Last Day of Autumn Term 2

19th -Non Pupil Day

ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything.
Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine.
The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

5

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = 2 Sessions

3

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

4

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

2ND TIME

2 parents and
1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court.
A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

A SAFER SCHOOLS SAFETY GUIDE

ROBLOX

Roblox is a platform that allows users to play games, known as 'experiences', that are hosted by Roblox but created by the users.

The massive library of games is a big draw for kids, but its appeal goes beyond just entertainment. Children also enjoy the social connections, opportunities for creative expression and even the chance to learn basic coding concepts.

However, within many of these games and their user chats, we have found concerning functionality and user behaviour including violence, inappropriate language, gambling, sex, drugs and discrimination. Activating parental controls will help keep the child or young person in your care safer when using the platform.

CONTENT MATURITY RATINGS

Each experience has a maturity rating based on the content within the core gameplay, so that "*all users can make informed decisions about the content they interact with*", according to Roblox.

MINIMAL
May contain occasional mild violence and/or light unrealistic blood.

MILD
May contain repeated mild violence, heavy unrealistic blood, mild fear-based content, and/or mild crude humor*.

MODERATE
May contain moderate violence, light realistic blood, moderate fear-based content, moderate crude humor and/or unplayable gambling content.

RESTRICTED
May contain strong violence, heavy realistic blood, moderate crude humor, romantic themes, unplayable gambling content.

*Quoted from Roblox.com

PARENTAL CONTROLS

STEP 1

Settings > Parental Controls > Add Parent

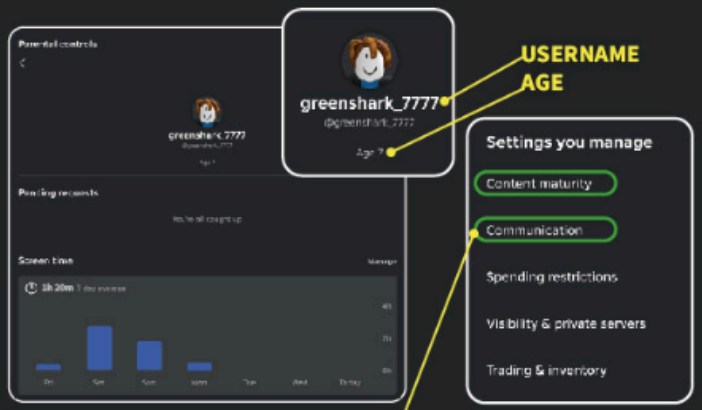
You will then be prompted to enter your email address.

STEP 2

You will then receive an email. If you already have an account, you will be prompted to link the child's account to yours. If you don't have an account, you will be asked to create one. You will have to verify your age within this process using a photo ID.

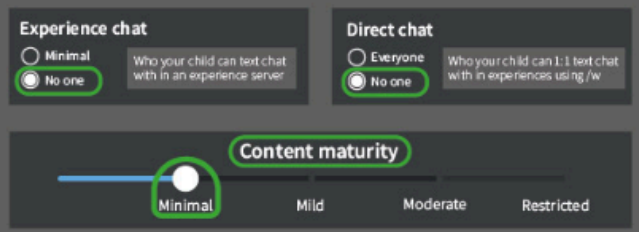
STEP 3

After account set up is complete, go to 'Settings' and select 'Parental Controls'. This will show you all the child accounts that are assigned to you and the user's age. You should ensure the ages on these accounts are correct.



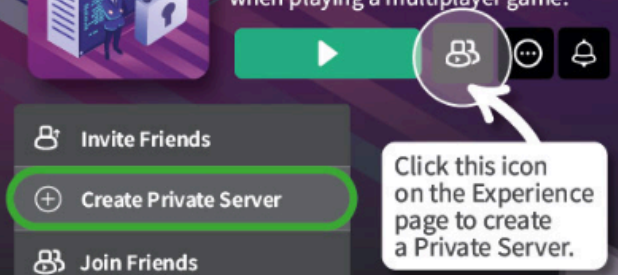
STEP 4

We recommend reviewing all parental controls, especially the following:



PRIVATE SERVERS

'Servers' are how people are grouped when playing a multiplayer game.



Private servers allow users to play only with selected people and are accessible by invite only. You can set up a private server for the child or young person in your care to only play with people they know.

ROBLOX DICTIONARY

Want to stay ahead with some of Roblox's need-to-know lingo? We've got you covered!



Robux
In-platform currency.



Obby
Short for 'obstacle course'.



Bacon Hair
New player, also: 'noob' or 'newbie'.



UPD
Experience has been updated.



VC
Voice Chat is used in the experience.



RP
Role Play.



#####
Player has tried to send a chat message that has been blocked by Roblox's filter system.

SAFER SCHOOLS
V: 1.0.1 P: 29.11.24

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Totnes
Devon
TQ9 5QT

Visit website

Ian Blackwell

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07731795160

Optimistic October 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good
6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	7 Look for the good in people around you today	8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today
13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation	15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future
20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you	22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face
27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time	28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?	29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month		











ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together