



Packmoor Ormiston Academy Instagram Page

Please follow our new Instagram account

packmoorormistonacademy

Updates and news will be posted regular.

You Said... We Did..

Overwhelmingly, the parent questionnaire sent out in July was very positive. The questionnaire analysis and responses have already been shared with the governors and staff. Thank you to everyone who completed it. We had 100 responses and your views have been heard and taken into consideration when policies and procedures have been reviewed.

From this week we will be addressing the concerns and comments our parents raised on the parent questionnaire and letting you know what we have done on the newsletter.

You Said

“Office staff to be available after school finishes”

We Did

The office is now manned until 4.30pm Monday to Thursday and 4.00pm on a Friday.

Year 5 Bikeability

Well done to our year 5 children who completed their Level 2 bikeability this week, learning about road safety.



Free Autumn National Trust Pass

This single-use pass allows free entry for two adults and up to three children, one adult and up to four children, or two adults on their own.

Valid between 18th Sept and 20th October.

Click on the link below to claim your pass.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/escape-into-autumn>

Careers Day 22nd September

Today we have had a whole school careers day and our children have come to school dressed as the profession they aspire to, including, Astronauts, Train Drivers, Nature Tour Guides and lots more.



Harvest

We are kindly asking for any contributions of non-perishable food items for our Harvest Festival. We will be donating these items to the Stoke on Trent Food Bank.

Please see below for donations that would be suitable. All donations need to be in school by Monday 10th October.

Thank you for your support.

Shopping List Harvest 2023

Items we are in need of:

Tinned Soup
Tinned Desserts
Pasta Sauces
Mash
Coffee
Fruit Juice
Tea Bags
Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Tomatoes
Tinned Fish
Biscuits
UHT Milk
Sweet Extra, chocs, sweets,
Rice

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Autumn Term 2023

Friday 27th October - School Closes

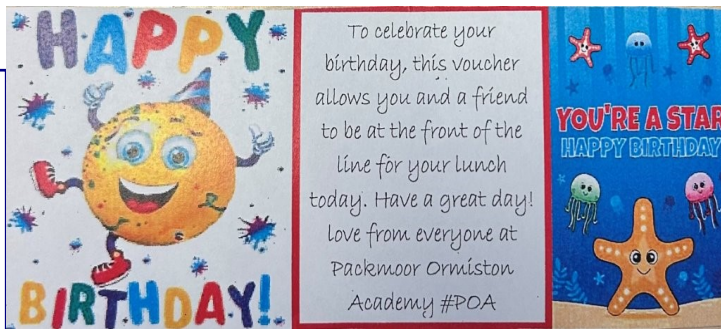
Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November
(Half Term)

Monday 6th November - School Opens

Monday 27th November - School Closed Inset Day 2

Friday 22nd December - School Closes 1.00pm

Monday 25th December to Friday 5th January
(Christmas Holiday)



Celebrating their birthdays this week are:

Lexi, Jack, Jade, Jasmine

Spring Term 2024

Monday 8th January - School Closed Inset Day 3

Tuesday 9th January - School Opens

Friday 9th February - School Closes

Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February
(Half Term)

Monday 19th February - School Opens

Friday 22nd March - School Closes 1.00pm

Monday 25th March to Friday 5th April -
(Easter Holiday)

Heights and Weights Year 6

Year 6 parents will receive a letter on dojo regarding heights and weights.

Please check, and should you wish to opt out, the telephone number is on the letter.

Thank you

Year 6 Admission to Secondary School

The deadline for applications is Tuesday 31st October

Flu Immunisations will take place for children in Reception to Year 6 on

Tuesday 10th October

A separate letter has been sent via dojo/tapestry.

Please complete the consent form link on the letter no later than Monday 9th October.

The letter is also available on our website.

School Values

This weeks winners who demonstrated our school value **Respect** are:

1JT - Halle

1NH - Eleanor

2PW - Jake

2JH - Isabelle

3LS - Ayaaz

3JG - Emily

4CH - Cole

4GN - Evangeline

5EB - Charlie

5GL - Alfie

6JM - Jake

6RS - Isaac

Attendance

Our challenge this year is to achieve 97% attendance overall by July 2024.

Current whole school attendance is 96.3%

Whole school attendance this week is 96.2%

This weeks class with the best attendance is
3LS 99.1%

Well done.

Well done Jasmine - Lilly who passed her Ballet dance exam.



Well done Alfie who has achieved Learn to Swim 3 Award.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Snapchat is an instant messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' 24 hours after they've been viewed; however, this content isn't as temporary as many believe – with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. This year, Snapchat added 'My AI': a customisable chatbot with which people can chat and share secrets, as well as asking for advice and suggestions of places to visit.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends – but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have anyone behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely – but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature: users can now receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.

CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up – and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life – especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.

BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/articles/202006030602-What-is-My-AI-on-Snapchat-and-how-does-it-work> | <https://uk.espn.com/en-GB/wake-up-wednesday-from-the-uk-and-new-safety-with-concerns> | <https://ncc.gov.au/2020/04/snapchat-likes-location-sharing-challenge/> | <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/articles/20200409044>