



The Mosley Academy

Newsletter

Friday 02/05/2025



Welcome Back To The Summer Term

What a scorcher it has been to begin our first week back! Thank you to everyone who has sent children in with sunhats and put the all day sun cream on prior to school. This is really helpful in these temperatures. We do not want to prevent children bringing in sun cream as we promote being sun safe, however our younger children really struggle to apply this themselves and do get in rather a mess! Please can we ask that you try to use the 8 hour suncream each day for your children. Thank you.

May Day Celebrations



What a joy this morning was! We love our May day celebrations at Mosley. Well done to all the children and staff for their maypole dancing and procession of Maypoles and Spring time gatherings. Special well done to our May Queen and May King and their attendants- they were brilliant ! Thank you all for supporting this event too!

New Play Space

A big thanks to Playground Installations for their hard work this week (especially in the heat!) They have worked like troupers and done a sterling job so thank you so much!

It looks so good and we will be developing this space over the next few weeks further. Our children love their OPAL playtimes so to have a large den building space on the playground with a lovely soft surface is a fabulous new addition to the play spaces for Mosley. The fencing will be removed on Tuesday so the children can then enjoy their new space!

Phonics Workshop Year 1

Rearranged date for the phonics workshop is Tuesday 6th May at 9am until 10 am with Mrs Baxter. Year 1 parents' welcome. This will be to help your children prepare for their upcoming phonics test in June

Congratulations!!

A huge well done to Paige. She competed in the West Midlands Excel 2 gymnastics competition over the Easter break in Cannock. From this competition the top 4 gymnasts qualified for the national finals were the top 50 girls at this level in the country will compete for the national title.

Not only did Paige qualify but she qualified in 1st place!

Huge Congratulations, we are very proud of you, Paige!

Also, a big Congratulations to Soli, who collected first prize in the Prince & Bates Art Competition.

Well Done, Soli, we are very proud of you!

We also proud of all our musical pupils for passing their exams,

William P –Piano Initial Pass

Mollie B –Piano Initial Merit

Harriet V–Clarinet Grade 1 Pass

Tommy D–Saxophone Grade 1 Pass

Noah W –Piano Grade 2 Merit

Ella Al- Piano Initial Pass

Maddie C–Piano Grade 1 Pass

Aurora S –Piano Initial Distinction

Well done, everyone! We are so proud of you all!



Outstanding Debts

Please can we politely remind you that all payments for breakfast club, after school clubs and trips must be paid up to date. Any outstanding charges at the end of each half term may result in your child not being able to attend breakfast club etc.

VE Day Celebrations

Thursday 8th May is VE day celebrating 80 years since WW 2 ended.

In school we will be inviting children to join with us all on the school field for a special celebratory lunch. The kitchen have designed a special grab bag lunch for that day - menu attached. (There will be a vegetarian equivalent).

OPAL

Thank you to everyone who has been dropping off loose parts to the 'storage' area - many are already in use.

Is there anyone who has the skills to repair and refurbish some of our scooters? They just need some TLC and possible a few nuts and bolts replacing. Please see Mrs Ingham..

Bank Holiday

Please remember Monday 5th May is a bank holiday, school will be closed. We will see you on Tuesday 6th May. Enjoy the long weekend!

STARS

OF

THE

WEEK!

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Rec	Woody
Y1	Eliza
Y2	Sofia
Y3	Niamh
Y4	Annabelle N
Y5	Alice
Y6	Evelyn

ATTENDANCE Target 97.5%

Year Group	This Week Attendance %	Days Missed This Week
Rec	94	4
Year 1	95.7	1.5
Year 2	99.3	1
Year 3	94.8	7
Year 4	98.4	1.5
Year 5	92.9	5
Year 6	99	1.5
Whole School	96.3	21.5



Staffordshire County Council

HERE EVERY DAY READY ON TIME

Visit staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes

Whole School Year to Date Attendance

96.8%

954 days missed so far this year

Diary Dates 2024 - 2025

Any changes made from the previous week will be marked in red

DATE	YEAR	EVENT
Mon 5th May	ALL	May Day Holiday - School Closed
Tues 6th May	Y1	Phonics Workshop—9am (This is a date change from 8th May)
Thurs 8th May	ALL	VE Day Celebratory Picnic Lunch—Menu Attached
Mon 12th May	Y6	SAT's Week for Year 6
Weds 14th May	REC	Reception trip to Ash End Farm . Payable on MCAS under Trips tab.
Thurs 15th May	Y3 & Y4	Year 3 &4 trip to Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. Payable on MCAS under Trips tab.
Fri 23rd May	ALL	Family Picnic—12.30-1.30 Welcome to join our OPAL playtime followed by family reading picnic at 1.30 onwards on the school field– bring your own picnic snacks
Fri 23rd May	ALL	Break Up For Half Term
Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May	ALL	Half Term
Mon 2nd Jun	ALL	Return to School

DATE	YEAR	EVENT
Friday 13th June	Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6	Fathers Day Lunch for KS2 - Will be available to book on MCAS on Monday 2nd May.
Mon 16th Jun	Y3/Y4	WCET Violin and Ukulele Concert Birmingham Symphony Hall Birmingham
Monday 16th June	Rec, Y1 & Y2	Fathers Day Lunch for KS1 - Will be available to book on MCAS on Monday 2nd May.
Fri 20th Jun	ALL	Sports Day and Summer Fair 1.15 onwards
Tues 1st July	Y3,Y4, Y5 & Y6	Seaside Day KS2 - (THIS IS A DATE CHANGE FROM 3RD JULY)
Wed 2nd Jul	Rec, Y1, Y2	Seaside Day EYFS and KS1
Fri 4th Jul	ALL	INSET Day - School Closed to Children
Wed 9th Jul	KS2	Summer Music Showcase
Fri 11th July	Y6	Year 6 Parent Lunch - Will be available to book on MCAS on Monday 30th June.
Tues 15th Jul	ALL	Move Up Morning and Meet the Teacher (3.30pm-4pm)
Fri 18th July	Y6	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9.05am
Fri 18th Jul	ALL	Break Up for Summer Holidays 2.30pm
Mon 21st Jul	ALL	INSET Day - School Closed to Children
Tues 22nd Jul - Fri 29th Aug	ALL	Summer Holidays!

95%	=	40 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days	ATTENDANCE MATTERS WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN? BE SMART BE THERE! <small>Percentages based on 190 academic days</small>
90%	=	80 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day	
85%	=	120 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days	
80%	=	160 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days	



8th may 2024

Join us for a commemorative lunch!

main

Picnic dinner in a grab bag

Cocktail Sausage

Pizza

Chicken strip

Egg, Tuna, Ham or Cheese Sandwich

Dessert

Freeze pop

OFFICIAL



Community Safety Flash

Grass Fire Prevention

Every year fire is responsible for the destruction of thousands of acres of countryside. There are lots of things you can do to help prevent grass fires.

GRASS FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

- Never throw cigarette ends out of car windows
- Make sure cigarettes are put out properly and disposed of in dedicated bins
- Take your rubbish home or put it in a nearby bin
- Don't leave glass bottles lying on the ground. Sunlight shining through glass can start a fire
- Don't have open fires or BBQs in the countryside- they can easily set fire to the ground and spread
- Keep matches and lighters out of children and young peoples' reach and talk to them about the dangers of starting fires outside.

If you see a fire in the countryside

- Don't attempt to tackle it
- Call **999** and ask for the fire service
- Pass as much information about the location as possible
- Use What 3 Words app to pinpoint the exact spot



www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk



Staffordshire
Fire and Rescue Service
preventing • protecting • responding

Mosley Academy



3:30 – 4:30

From £27 for the term

Clubs this Term!

- **Monday- Jewellery making**

*This theme includes a variety of jewellery making such as beaded keychains, bracelets, necklaces, anklets, earrings and more!

- **Wednesday - Drama**

This theme includes singing, acting and dancing!
Practicing drama skills and techniques.

Book now!

www.clubscomplete.co.uk

01530 412750



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' – plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature – 'Secret Code' – where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't reopen them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's Live Location feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except... Additionally, if a child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a Locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any View Once content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

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.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/whatsapp-2025>

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MARVEL RIVALS



ESRB advise nobody under the age of 13 should play

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Marvel Rivals launched in December 2024 and amassed a player count of nearly 150,000 in mere weeks. This player versus player (PvP) shooter packs in a host of recognisable comic-book characters, pitting two teams of six against each other. Despite the game's cartoonish nature, there are several potential risks for parents and educators to be aware of.

IN-GAME CHAT

Voice chat allows players to speak to teammates and opponents within the game, but in a competitive environment, some conversations can become unpleasant. Text chat is equally prominent among those playing on PC and will be shown on the side of the screen. Moderation on chats is relatively lax, so it's important to recognise that potentially inappropriate messages could arrive at any time.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

While Marvel Rivals is free, there is an in-game store, selling character skins from recognisable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a £10 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These passes don't expire – but they can't be purchased once the next season rolls around, creating a fear of missing out.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With such a huge player base, it's impossible to predict whom your child will be teaming up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to run into strangers through voice and text chat, for starters. Most of these people will just be ordinary gamers enjoying the action, but there is the risk of some users behaving inappropriately with younger players – either intentionally, or because they don't realise that they're speaking to a child.

VIOLENT CONTENT

There's no gore in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish – but the playable characters available vary between more traditional superheroes and supervillains, and figures like Black Widow and The Punisher, who use more realistic firearms. Given the game's nature as a shooter, this may make some parents and carers uncomfortable as some players will be firing these weapons at each other.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The game includes some innuendos and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age, detracting from a safe and family-friendly gaming experience. As we mentioned previously, the content of the in-game chat could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from swearing to mature themes to potentially harmful content.

FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

The inclusion of iconic characters might make Marvel Rivals appear more approachable than other games in the genre, with recognisable heroes and villains like Spider-Man and Venom. This could lead to more interest from younger players, increasing the likelihood of children playing the game without properly understanding the risks.

Advice for Parents & Educators

FOLLOW ESRB RATINGS

The ESRB rating for Marvel Rivals says the game shouldn't be played by anyone under 13. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the moral compass of the roster of characters (people can play as Hela, the Goddess of Death, for example), while also ensuring that the violence, however cartoonish, won't overwhelm them.



FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

The game's inclusion of fan-favourite characters like Iron Man and the Hulk, plus its increasing popularity, means that younger Marvel fans will likely be eager to see what the fuss is about. Since it's free, consider playing Marvel Rivals yourself to gauge how you feel about a child playing it. Alternatively, you could let them play against the game's AI in Practice Mode, until they're old enough to compete online.

MONITOR OR TURN OFF CHAT

Voice and text chat can both be adjusted within the in-game settings. If you're particularly concerned about exposing children and young people to them, however, you can disable both forms of chat in the game's settings. If a child wants to play alongside friends, remind them that they can use their console's party chat feature or host a call on a third-party service like Discord.



DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Parents should ensure that no payment options – such as debit cards – are linked to the game, to prevent unauthorised purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the costs. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and instils a sense of financial awareness, teaching young people to be careful with their money.



Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor at the Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, he has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

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.



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