



Forest Glade Primary and Nursery School Family – Growth – Potential

December 2025

Merry Christmas FGP! We have had lots of lovely Christmas events taking place this month. Thank you for all your support over this busy period. We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and will see you back at school on Monday the 5th of January!



Christmas Activities

From our annual pantomime trip to Christmas jumper day, we have had lots of lovely activities and events happening across school to get us all in the Christmas spirit and enjoying lots of special moments together. Thank you, as ever for all your support. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our FGP family!



Eco Quote of the Month

“It’s only one straw, said 8 billion people.”



Water Saving Tip of the Month

“Installing a water butt can save up to 5,000 litres of water of year”



Key Information



Year 3 Derby Open Centre Trip

Year 3 visited the Derby Open Centre to support their RE learning about different places of worship. The children were able to look inside a mosque and Hindu temple. The children displayed many of the FGP characteristics, were very respectful and showed incredible kindness.



EYFS & KS1 Nativities

A massive well done to our youngest children who all put on amazing nativity performances. The children displayed amazing confidence and effective communication, we are all so proud of you. Thank you to all our staff who prepared and organised the children to be able to put on a lovely show for the grown-ups!



'Be a Star' Salvation Army Toy Appeal

Thank you for donating so kindly to The Salvation Army's 'Be A Star' toy appeal. We had a lovely variety of different items which have been delivered and sorted by some of our Year 6 children and will go to less fortunate children this Christmas.



Year 4 Swimathon

To support their enquiry 'Do we always appreciate what we have?' Our Year 4 children took part in a sponsored swim to raise money for the charity Aquabox, who provide safe drinking water and humanitarian aid to crisis zones around the world. The children managed to swim a huge 703 lengths and raised £175. Well done on your amazing effort Year 4! A huge thank you to everybody who donated to help make a difference.



PTA Christmas Hamper Raffle

Don't forget Christmas hampers will be raffled off today at Carols on the Playground. The gate will be open from 2:00pm today for hot chocolate and treats and the children will be out singing carols from 2:30pm. We can't wait to see you all there!

FS2 Visit India

Using VR headsets, our FS2 children visited India where they got to immerse themselves in the sights and sounds of a lively Indian street festival. The colours, music, and energy made it feel like they were really there. What an amazing experience!



Upcoming dates for the diary

School starts back on Monday 5th January

Tuesday 6th January – Coffee Meeting 2.30pm

Thursday 15th January – Year 1 Newstead Abbey Trip

Friday 30th January – Class photographs

Monday 9th – Friday 13th February – Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February – Half term

Inset Days for 2025/2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 27th July 2026



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. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.



EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.



MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.



HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.



TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.



MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.



FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



The National College