



Forest Glade Primary and Nursery School Family – Growth – Potential

May 2026

Welcome back to the last half term of the school year! Take a look below at some of the amazing things our children have been up to over the past few weeks.



Colour Dash

All the children took part in a sponsored colour run for the local charity, Lifting Children's Hopes (LCH), who have been working closely to support many families at FGP. What an amazing event, filled with colour, laughter and so much fun!

A big thank you for all your donations that have been received, your **kindness** and generosity saw us raise over £4,500 for LCH to continue their incredible work to make a real difference to so many children's lives.



Eco Quote of the Month

"Be the pollution solution!"



Water Saving Tip of the Month

"Repair leaks in pipes, taps or toilets"



Key Information



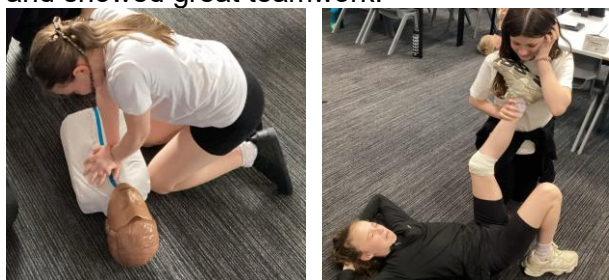
Nursery Enquiry

Nursery have been learning all about vegetables to support their enquiry, 'How do things grow?' they had great fun making their own vegetable soup, using some of the ingredients they have been learning about. The children carefully followed instructions from a simple recipe, practiced their cutting skills by chopping and peeling the vegetables, and displayed brilliant **responsibility**.



Year 5 First Aid

Year 5 completed a first aid course and learnt some incredibly important life skills. The children were taught how to help someone who is choking, perform CPR, place somebody into the recovery position, apply a bandage correctly and even support someone with a nosebleed. All the children displayed amazing **responsibility** and **resilience** throughout, they listened carefully, asked thoughtful questions and showed great teamwork.



FS2 Sunflowers

Our FS2 children have been planting sunflower seeds to support their enquiry, 'Is nature beautiful?' The children will water and look after their seeds, watch them go from seed to plant and see how tall they can grow.



Year 4 Art - Continued

In our April newsletter, we highlighted Year 4's amazing sarcophagi designs and here are their finished creations. The children have been very busy finishing their sarcophagi by using bold, bright paints to enhance their clay sculptures and to add final touches. Miss Elvin said they are all incredible and represent them all brilliantly!



Year 6 SATs

A huge well done to all our Year 6 children who displayed our characteristics of **confidence**, **resilience** and **pride** throughout the week of their SATs. They took everything in their stride, and we are all very proud of every one of them! As a treat, at the end of the week, the children enjoyed a party afternoon, including snacks, singing and dancing.



Upcoming dates for the diary

10th June -12th June – Year 6 Residential
Friday 19th June – Father's Day Morning
Wednesday 24th June – EYFS Sports Day
Thursday 25th June (AM) – KS2 Sports Day
Thursday 25th June (PM) – KS1 Sports Day
Friday 10th July 4-6pm – Summer Fayre

Inset Days for 2025/2026

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 well-being, 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 MINECRAFT



Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

ig @wake.up.wednesday

td @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 14.05.2025