



Dates for Your

DIARY



Wednesday 3th—Friday 19h May 2023

Year 2 SATs week

Tuesday 9th—Friday 12th May 2023

Year 6 SATs week

Monday 15th May 2023

Year 6 Cinema Trip

Tuesday 6th June 2023

Year 5 Mountfitchet Trip

Saturday 17th June 2023

Summer Fayre

Friday 23rd June 2023

Sports Day

Tuesday 11th July 2023

Reception Paradiise Wildlife Park Trip

Monday 3rd July—Wednesday 5th July

Y6 East Mersea Trip

NEWSLETTER

A message from the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

The first part of the summer term is coming to an end with only two weeks to go. The children have been busy over the last few weeks with their learning.

Year 2 and Year 6 pupils have amazed both myself and their teachers as they have been completing their SATs tests. Our children showed resilience and dedication to complete these to the best of their abilities—we couldn't be prouder! I am sure many of you will have seen the controversy on the news regarding the Year 6 Reading SATs paper and we have to say that we agree, the paper was ridiculously difficult. Nevertheless, this did not phase our children, they tried their best and didn't give up, whatever the results, they have done us proud.

One of the highlights of this half term was taking part in Timestable Rockstar day and it was a joy having so many parents join us for some friendly competition. We look forward to inviting parents in to join for future sessions in other subject areas.

A gentle reminder from me, we will be holding a second hand uniform sale during the summer and would be most grateful for any donations of uniform that your children do not wear any more. I would like to thank everyone who has already donated, your generosity will be supporting families in need for next year.

Finally, I am going to take this opportunity to promote the Online Safety Newsletters which are attached within our newsletters. They contain some vital information to keep children safe online. I urge all parents to ensure they are paying attention to social media and video game age ratings. Tik Tok for example carries a 14 age rating, younger children simply cannot manage the complexities of this online, social media world. For any advice, please contact the school office and we will be happy to direct you to the correct person to speak to if you have any concerns.

Call Of Duty

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about CALL OF DUTY: MODERN WARFARE II

The Call of Duty (CoD) series is a worldwide gaming phenomenon, with millions of copies sold every year. While 2021's release, Vanguard, wasn't quite as well received, this latest entry – Modern Warfare II – has so far proved a massive commercial success. A sequel to the recent Modern Warfare reboot (and not to be confused with the original Modern Warfare 2, from back in 2009), the game is an online shooter which features – unsurprisingly – extreme violence, rendered in realistic graphics. Amid the explosions and political nature of the plot, there's much for parents to be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE
Like most of its predecessors in the franchise, Modern Warfare II carries an 18 age rating from PEGI (the Pan-European Gaming Information system, which assesses games' content for suitability). This means players will encounter – according to PEGI's wording – 'depictions of "gross violence, apparently motiveless killing, or violence towards defenceless characters".'

POLITICAL SENSITIVITY
Previous CoD games have been accused of attempting to 'rewrite history', failing to correctly attribute alleged war crimes to the US military, for example. The semi-fictional version of history presented on screen can cause players to misunderstand past conflicts and the real reasons they took place. This could lead to young people developing a distorted, inaccurate view of world politics.

AN ADDICTIVE EXPERIENCE
Multiplayer mode in Call of Duty titles revolves around levelling up your character to unlock new weapons, abilities and equipment. The process is designed so that it doesn't take too long to see an improvement, and the feeling of making progress can keep players hooked for hours. It's easy for gamers of any age to lose track of time, but younger ones are especially susceptible.

OFFENSIVE CHAT & MESSAGING
Most CoD players are likely to spend the majority of their time on Modern Warfare II in online multiplayer mode. This entails competing against – or cooperating with – strangers on the online battlefield. The fast-paced, cut-throat world of CoD means that communication through the game's voice chat and direct messages often turns heated and aggressive, which may upset younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES
Modern Warfare II follows the 'battle pass' model of games like Fortnite. For a fee – usually around £10 – each 'season' (every three months or so), players will be invited to complete extra challenges to earn new weapons and equipment. Different tiers of battle passes (costing more money) enable them to achieve this more quickly, while items can also be purchased from the in-game store.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESPECT THE AGE RATING
Based on accurately recreating combat situations, Call of Duty games are unflinching in their portrayal of war. Limbs are shot off and explosions send gore flying, while the previous Modern Warfare featured a lengthy interrogation and torture sequence. With Modern Warfare II offering the same style of brutal realism, it's worth reiterating that the PEGI 18 age rating is there for a reason.

SET SPENDING LIMITS
If your child is likely to be tempted by buying that 'must-have' weapon or item, consider removing your bank details from the console or computer to prevent indiscriminate spending – and an unwelcome bill. Pre-paid cards could be an option for in-game purchases, allowing you to control how much your child can spend in advance – and helping them learn the basics of budgeting.

CLOSE OFF COMMUNICATION
Unless they're playing with their real-life friends, it may be worth closing communication channels if your child plays Modern Warfare II. There's less of a team focus than in many other online combat games and therefore no real need to interact with strangers. Call of Duty fans can be intensely competitive, so even a single action by your child could provoke a barrage of abuse from strangers.

TRY OTHER MODES
If it seems that your child only ever plays Modern Warfare II in multiplayer, you could try out the Spec Ops mode with them – formulating strategies while enjoying each other's company. You could also play multiplayer together, taking it in turns to ensure regular breaks. Another alternative is the game's campaign mode, featuring bespoke missions and scenarios which follow an overarching plot.

Meet Our Expert
Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dailymail and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and games, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.

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#WakeUpWednesday

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National Online Safety



Safeguarding



Safer Schools App



The Safer Schools App helps to educate, empower and protect children and those responsible with helping to keep them safe as they navigate the world of technology and social media.

The App is designed to support and protect children by educating and empowering them in school and at home. As parents and carers, you will have a tailored version of the app which will empower and educate you to best support the children in your care in the digital world.

The safety hub contains all of the important alerts about new threats and trends online which are sent out by the Safer Schools Team.

In the video hub you will see all of the safeguarding videos posted by the safer schools team.

The alerts hub hosts all of the push notifications which can be sent out by us as a school, or by the Safer Schools Team. This could range from an alert about a new app, or simply a reminder from the school (Make sure that you turn all of your push notifications on when you download the App) Overwhelmed by the sheer amount of different apps and devices out there? Not sure how to help your children stay safe online? Check out the Online Safety Centre to find out how to block, report and set appropriate privacy and safety settings. On the screen it shows an example of how to learn to block someone on TikTok. Simply click on the block button, choose the device you are using, select the social media app and then watch the short video.

The Digital Safety section is a handy reference tool to keep you informed on a range of topics from The Online World to Gaming. The screen recording shows you how to find all the info you need to know on the controversial, yet popular messaging app Kik in the Social Media section.

Want to test your knowledge of the information on the App? Think you know as much as your kids? Try our Quick Quizzes on any of our topics.

If you feel like even more of a challenge – try the Digital Tests section for a more in-depth, multiple choice quiz.

Step 1: Open up your App Store or Google Play and search for 'Safer Schools'

Step 2: Type in your school name – **Kingsmoor Academy**

Step 3: Type in the code – **7740** or Scan the QR Code



Important information - Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays.

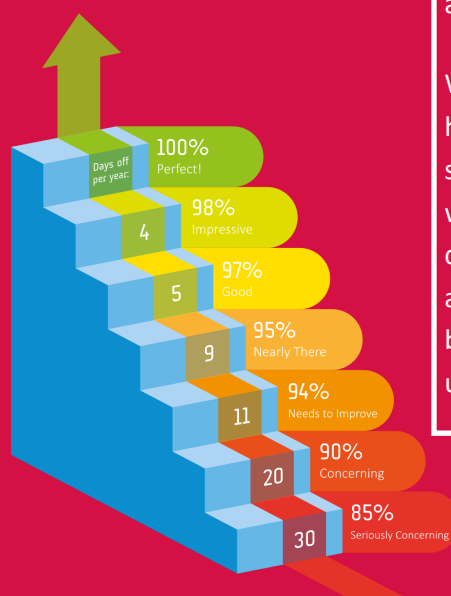
We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

ATTENDANCE

Kingsmoor Academy prioritises attendance and punctuality. We aim to have attendance which meets and exceeds the national average which is 96.7%.

We understand that children can be absent from school due to illness and medical appointments. Please remember to call the school office and report your child's absence to the attendance officer before 9.30am.

Punctuality is just as important as attendance. We have a 'soft start' from 8.45am where children can attend and complete some early morning work. Classroom doors close at 8.55am for registration.



Attending school daily is vital for children's routines, wellbeing and academic attainment.

Well done to Year 6 Australia who had the best attendance in the school in the week of the 1st May with 100% attendance. This was closely followed by Year 2 Poland and Year 2 Egypt whose classes both had 99% attendance. Keep it up!

Menu

WEEK 1

W/C: 17/04, 08/05, 19/06, 10/07, 11/09, 02/10

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT MAINS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Turkey 🍗 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Bolognese 🍖 Served with Wholemeal Pasta and Garlic and Herb Bread	Breaded Fish Fingers Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Vegetable Pesto Pasta Bake 🍝	Macaroni Cheese 🍝	Roasted Vegetable Butterbean Crumble 🍷 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetarian Bolognese 🍷 Served with Wholemeal Pasta	Vegetarian Dippers 🍷 Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings, including Salmon Mayonnaise 🐟	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
DESSERT	Vanilla Ice Cream 🍦	Hot Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard 🍰	Strawberry Jelly with Fruit 🍓	Fruity Picnic Bar 🍓	Chocolate Ice Cream 🍦

Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta 🍷 🍷

All main meals are served with two vegetables

WEEK 2

W/C: 24/04, 15/05, 05/06, 26/06, 17/07, 18/09, 09/10

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT MAINS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Chicken Sausages Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Gammon Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Lasagne 🍷 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread	Breaded Fish Fingers Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Vegetable Pastry Roll 🍝 Served with Potato Wedges	Cauliflower Macaroni Cheese 🍝	Sweet Potato and Chickpea Roast 🍷 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable Lasagne 🍷 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread	Vegetarian Dippers 🍷 Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
DESSERT	Oat Chocolate Cookie with Fruit 🍪	Orange Jelly 🍮	Chocolate and Banana Marble Cake 🍰	Banana and Apricot Flapjack with Fruit 🍪	Strawberry Ice Cream 🍦

Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta 🍷 🍷

All main meals are served with two vegetables

WEEK 1

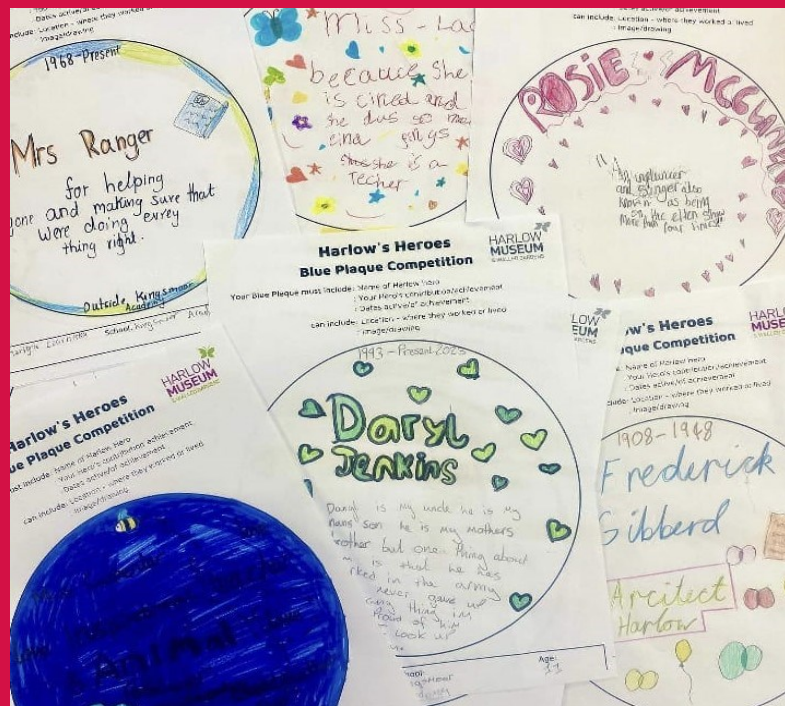
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All main meals are served with two vegetables

Harlow Blue Plague Competition



Some children took part in the Harlow Museum 'Harlow's Heroes' Blue plaque competition. We are thrilled to see that in a photo shared by the museum, some of our teachers got a special mention



Times Tables Rockstar Day

This was a great day, as you can see we think the teachers enjoyed the day as much as the children!