



Heckington St. Andrew's C of E Primary School Newsletter



19th March 2026



Last week, children from Years 3 to 6 had a wonderful opportunity to plant four Sorbus torminalis trees on the school field, thanks to the generosity of Mr Littlewood. He kindly provided the trees and came in to guide the children through the planting process, sharing fascinating facts about these wild service trees.

These deciduous trees are special because they change beautifully with the seasons. In summer, they produce delicate white blossoms, which later develop into distinctive brown, speckled fruits. While the fruits are initially bitter, they become sweeter after the first frost—a natural transformation the children are excited to observe and taste.

This hands-on experience supports the children's learning about plant life cycles and growth, linking closely to our science curriculum where pupils explore how plants need air, water, light, nutrients, and space to grow. Gardening Club members are already eager to care for the trees, watching them grow and flourish over time, and looking forward to the day when the trees begin to bear fruit as a result of their care and patience.



Diary Dates

- 26th March - RE and Science Exhibition in school 3.30pm
- 31st March - Y3/4/5 Easter Performance 9.30am in Church
- 1st April - Y6 Worship to Parents. 9.00am in school
- 1st April - Easter Bingo 3.30pm
- 2nd April - Last day of term
- 7th April - First day back to school

Easter Bingo

Wednesday 1st APRIL - 3.30pm - 5.00pm

3.30pm - 4.00pm - refreshments & collect books
4.00pm - Eyes down!

£5 PER BOOK - 4 GAMES

To be purchased at the event. You can pay by card or cash on the night. Books can be split between family members.

FREE ENTRY!

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE!
Reserve your place ASAP on your Arbor parent portal
Look for Easter Bingo on the under school shop

OUR SCHOOL VISION

By our whole school community living by the Christian principles of respect, resilience, relationships, reverence and responsibility, we will produce children ready for the next stage of their lives.

Five Rs = Ready for Life

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



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