



# GROVE ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

**NEWSLETTER – 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**



# NEWSLETTER



What an amazing week we have had in school, I have really enjoyed seeing all the wonderful work that is taking place in the classrooms. I am sure you will agree, after looking on Seesaw, our children are producing outstanding pieces of work, right across the curriculum.

I met with the Friends of Grove Road group this week, I want to say a huge thank you for all their hard work and enthusiasm when organising events. We will let you know more information as soon as we can, so keep an eye on the dates section at the back.

Please do get in touch if you can help out in anyway, I have included contact information in this newsletter.

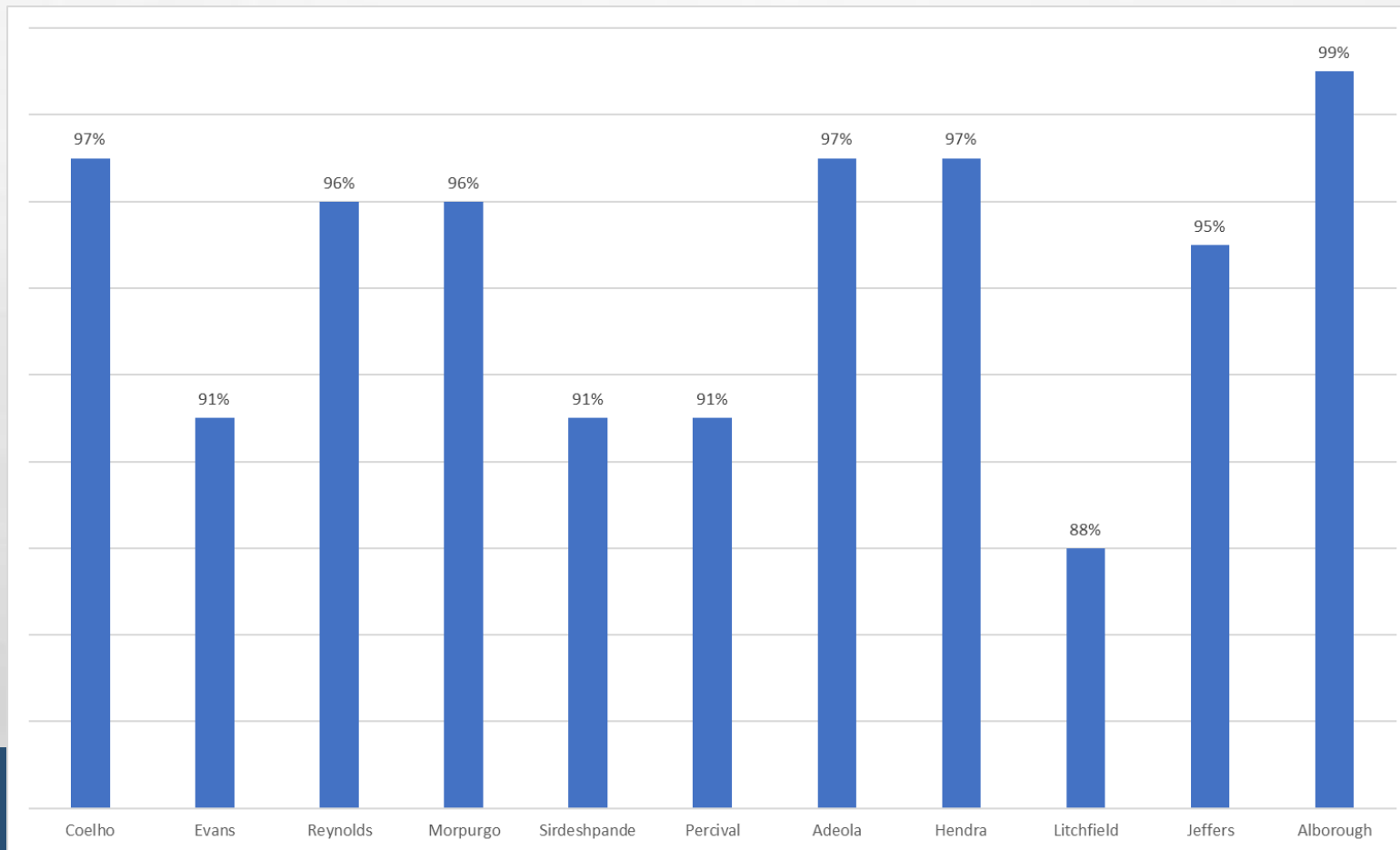
Have a restful weekend and see you all on Monday.

Mr Grayston



# ATTENDANCE

Attendance totals for each class – Monday 2nd October to Friday 6th October



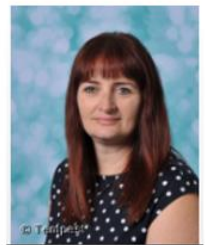
# SAFEGUARDING



## Grove Road Community Primary School Safeguarding Team



Designated Safeguarding Lead  
James Grayston - Headteacher



Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Dawn Winkley – Deputy Head  
& SENDCo



Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Sue McGrogan – Parent  
Support Adviser

Lead Governor for Safeguarding – Margaret Beagle

For further advice / referral information, please contact:  
North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership  
<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk>

- Please visit our school website for more information and links to safeguarding websites.
- [Grove Road Safeguarding Page](#)
- For more information about keeping children safe please click here:
- [NSPCC – Keeping Children Safe Online](#)
- These websites have wonderful advice about children keeping safe on Instagram and other social media sites
- [NSPCC – Share Aware](#)
- [CEOP Police Safety Centre](#)





# STARS OF THE WEEK



<b>LITCHFIELD</b>	-	<b>Fraser</b>
<b>HENDRA</b>	-	<b>Georgia</b>
<b>ADEOLA</b>	-	<b>Tim</b>
<b>PERCIVAL</b>	-	<b>Oliver B</b>
<b>SIRDEHPANDE</b>	-	<b>William</b>
<b>MORPURGO</b>	-	<b>Riley</b>
<b>REYNOLDS</b>	-	<b>Zuzanna</b>
<b>EVANS</b>	-	<b>Isaac</b>
<b>COELHO</b>	-	<b>Michaela</b>





# National Online Safety®

Please click here to access more guides for parents

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# AMONG US

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, Among Us enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 60 million regular players each month), thanks to its unique nature: simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguise and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young Among Us players need to be aware of.

AGE RESTRICTION  
**7**  
PEGI

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### SENSITIVE PREMISE

In Among Us, up to three players are secretly assigned to be alien imposters, tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivors try to unmask them. While the concept's not far removed from traditional games like Wink Murder or TV shows such as The Traitors, some parents may feel uncomfortable about their child playing a video game in which deception and killing are prioritised.

#### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of Among Us, but the majority of the animators depicting this are deliberately cartoonish and only appear very briefly. However, it is worth bearing in mind that the game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain elements (however heavily stylised they may be) could still upset some younger players.

#### CHAT BETWEEN PLAYERS

With up to 15 people participating in each game online, a large part of Among Us' appeal is speculating with fellow players who the imposters might be and making accusations. This dialogue through the in-game text chat can occasionally become heated – and could, of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they don't know in real life.



#### GOING OFF PLATFORM

While Among Us provides basic ways to communicate, many gamers prefer to use external services such as Discord: a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These undeniably make cooperation easier, but also create a potential route for children to hear inappropriate language – or for strangers to message them privately in an environment which isn't regulated by the game itself.

#### IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and costs less than £3 to obtain on console and PC. A related longer-term pitfall, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing ads on the mobile version or adding cosmetic touches to characters (such as different costumes). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without realising it.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although Among Us is hugely popular with young gamers, it's possible that some children might find the murder themes unsettling. If so, plenty of similar social deduction games are available (in both digital and traditional board game formats) which downplay the potentially spookier elements: some centre around undercover spies, for instance, and there's even a Marvel superhero-themed variant.

#### CHAT ABOUT CHATTING

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with voice chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strangers online aren't always who they claim to be. Keeping the conversation relaxed will reinforce your child's confidence that they can always come to you with any online concerns – not just about Among Us, but any potential future issues as well.

#### DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent app for keeping online communities together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the platform, you could set up a secure server for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Among Us, with no access for people they don't know.

#### AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a private game of Among Us by choosing a 'local lobby' – that is, only people connected to the same WiFi (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users – who may be total strangers – from joining and removes the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

#### STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

If you're concerned about the possibility of your child racking up an unexpected bill on Among Us' microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit. Likewise, you could specify in the game's options that adult authorisation is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that no payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

#### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site *Gamesradar* and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the *Age Matters* by *Parental Control* webinars, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influencer sites including *IGN* and *TechnoRadar*.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday







**What do we do?**  
We run fundraising events to raise funds to support the school

**Who are we?**  
FOGR is a group of parents/guardians with children who attend Grove Road

- School discos
- Bake sales
- Xmas Fair
- Summer Fair

**Want to get involved?**  
We would welcome any help you can give e.g.

- event preparation
- Set-up
- Running events

So we can run these fun events for our children

It's also a great way to meet other parents!

Get in touch for more information

Email us at [Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com)

or find us on facebook  
Friends of Grove Road C.P School



Friends of Grove Road are a group of Parent/Carer volunteers associated with Grove Road Primary School. We raise funds to support the school and enhance the education of the children

Please support FOGR raise vital funds for the school by signing up to the following online initiatives

**Easy Fundraising**

Sign up to support us  
Shop with your favourite brands  
We get a bonus £5 donation  
It's not magic, it's easyfundraising!

@easyfundraising

**Friends of Grove Road Fundraising Ideas**  
Help Friends of Grove Road raise free funds today by shopping online via [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk). Shop at no extra cost and raise free donations for Friends of Grove Road!



Your School Lottery

Email us at [Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com)

or find us on facebook  
Friends of Grove Road C.P School



## Friends of Grove Road



EVERYONE IS WELCOME

**Stay informed and get involved.**

Join us to find out more about what we do and how you could help us support the school.

If you would like to get involved but are unable to make the meeting please email [friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com)

**When: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 3:15pm**

**Where: Grove Road School**



Join our Facebook group to hear more about our fundraising activities.



**Parentkind**  
Member Association





# IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October – 9:00am – 10:00am	Coffee morning – Meet Mr Grayston & Mrs Winkley in the main hall.
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October – 3:15pm	Friends of Grove Road – Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Everyone Welcome
Wb. Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evenings – Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday (More information to follow)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November – 10am	Open Morning for Reception New Starters – September 2024
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – 6pm start</b>	<b>Friends of Grove Road – Quiz Night (Please note the change of date)</b>
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3 Visit: Ripon Museums (Crime and Punishment)
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4 Visit: Ripon Museums (Crime and Punishment)
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Rec/ KS1 trip to Kirkstall Abbey Museum
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Grove Road visit the panto!
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December – 3:15pm	Carols on the playground with Singing Club



# IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December – 6pm	Rec/ KS1 Nativity
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December – 2:30pm	Rec/ KS1 Nativity
Wb. Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Week (More information to follow)

