



# GROVE ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023



# NEWSLETTER



It is with great pleasure and immense pride that we can now share the outcome of our recent Ofsted Inspection, which took place on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Grove Road Community Primary School continues to be a good school.

I have sent a letter out today with more details in, as well as a link to the full report.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to speak with the inspector, fill out the online surveys and taking time out of your day to send in your best wishes during the two days. It really means a lot to all of us.

  
**Ofsted**  
Good School

2023/2024

Inspection dates:

25 and 26 October 2023

**Outcome**

Harrogate, Grove Road Community Primary School continues to be a good school.

## Highlights from the report



*"Pupils in this school are happy, friendly and confident"*

*"They embrace the school's 'PRIDE' values"*

*"Pupils attend school regularly"*

*"They have positive attitudes to learning"*

*"The school ensures that its pupils are safe"*

*"Bullying is not a problem"*

*"The school is ambitious for its pupils"*

*"The school prioritises the teaching of early reading and phonics"*

*"Pupils achieve well in the Year 1 phonics screening check"*

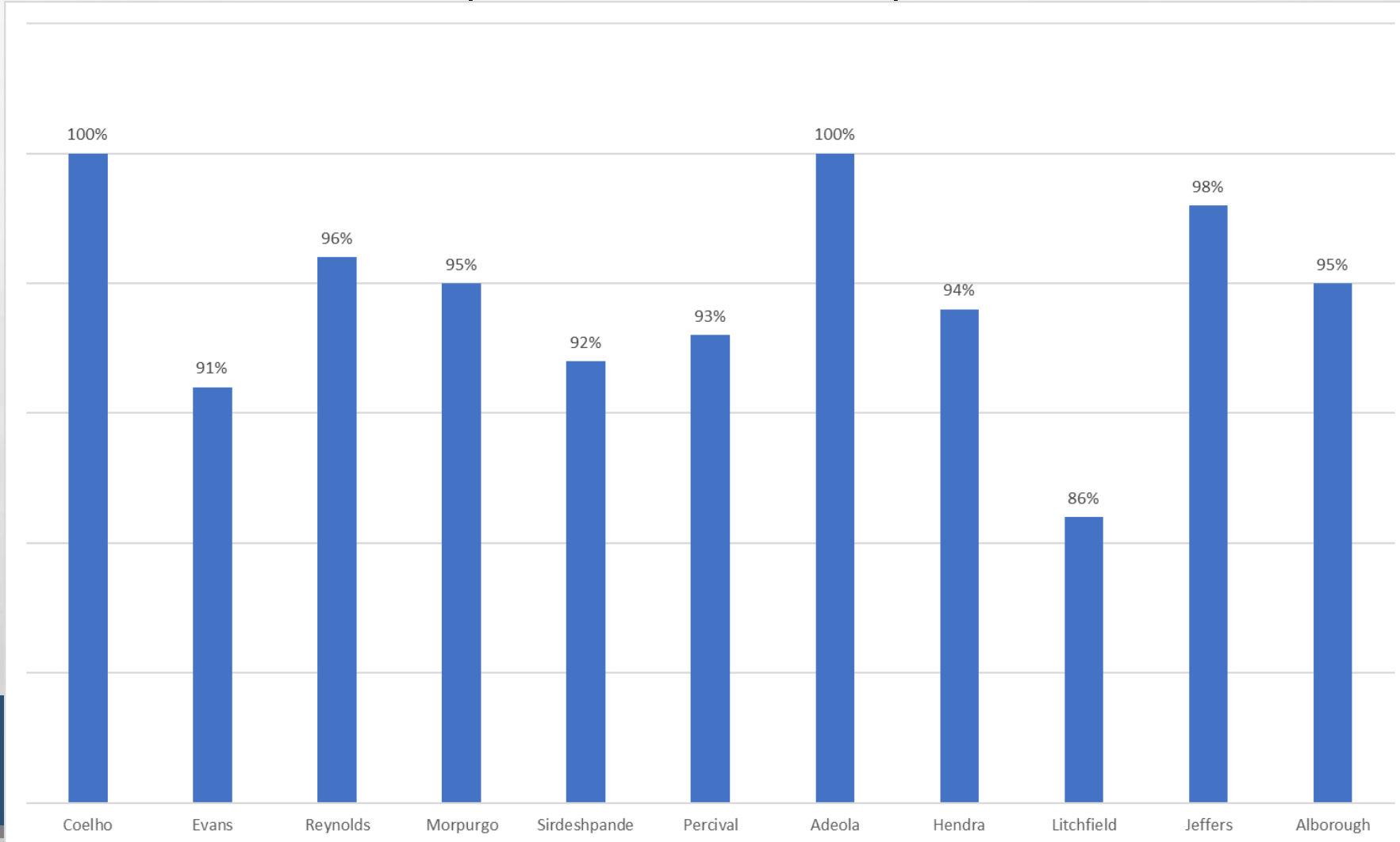
*"The environment in the early years supports children to get off to a good start"*

*"Pupils can take part in events in the local community"*

# ATTENDANCE



Attendance totals for each class – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November



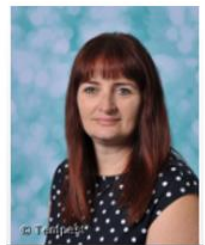
# SAFEGUARDING



## 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



|               |   |          |
|---------------|---|----------|
| JEFFERS       | - | Olivia   |
| LITCHFIELD    | - | Summer   |
| HENDRA        | - | Lily     |
| ADEOLA        | - | Milena   |
| PERCIVAL      | - | Hanna S  |
| SIRDESH-PANDE | - | Preston  |
| MORPURGO      | - | Isabelle |
| REYNOLDS      | - | Estella  |
| EVANS         | - | Dylan    |
| COELHO        | - | Jessica  |

*congratulations*





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Online  
Safety®

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more guides for parents



# Top Tips for Safer Online Shopping on

## BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become established as two of the year's biggest shopping events, giving consumers the opportunity to snap up a stash of stunning bargains. While this is generally good news, of course, the resultant retail frenzy can lead to people dropping their guard – especially online. In previous years, a seasonal surge in cyber-crime has seen schemes such as phishing emails and credit card scams being unleashed on unwary buyers. Our guide has some essential pointers on keeping your details – and your money – safe while you shop.

**ENSURE A SITE'S SECURE**

Before inputting sensitive information (like your card details) into a website, check that the site is secure. The key thing is to look for a padlock symbol in the address bar and check that the URL begins with "https://" – the "s" indicates that the web address has been encrypted with an SSL certificate. Without that, any data entered on the site could be intercepted by criminal third parties.

**TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS**

If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is, especially if a site offering unbelievable discounts doesn't look professional (for example, if it's covered with pop-up adverts or it looks particularly outdated) – this often serves as a red flag that the seller might not be entirely trustworthy. Minimise risk by sticking with well-known, reputable retailers instead.

**REVIEW BANK STATEMENTS**

Even if you've followed all our tips, it's probably worth checking your next bank statement for any unusual transactions. Criminals know that on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lots of people make numerous purchases online, they're hoping that any stolen money will get lost in the crowd of other transactions. If you see a payment or payee you can't identify, raise it with your bank straight away.

**BEWARE OF SUSPICIOUS EMAILS**

Black Friday and Cyber Monday often bring a significant spike in phishing emails, as criminals use the events' sense of urgency as cover for stealing personal information. Even if they look legitimate, be wary of emails requiring you to do something unusual or suspicious: providing your personal details in exchange for access to last-minute deals, for example, or clicking on a link to an unfamiliar site.



**CHECK IT'S THE REAL DEAL**

It's not just cybercriminals you need to be wary of. Research has shown that some online retailers increase the price of certain items in the weeks before Black Friday and Cyber Monday – enabling them to then advertise "discounts" (which, in reality, have simply restored the cost to normal levels). Use an online price comparison tool to verify whether these "reductions" truly equate to a saving.

**MINIMISE MICROTRANSACTIONS**

Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions extend to digital items as well as physical ones. Some gaming companies will offer discounts on in-app and in-game microtransactions such as loot boxes. If you're concerned about how much your child might spend on these upgrades, you can restrict their ability to make purchases (via their device's settings) or remove any linked payment methods.

**SET STURDY PASSWORDS**

A strong, unique password is one of the most straightforward ways to protect yourself from cyber-crime. As most of us have multiple online shopping accounts, it can be tempting to use the same password for them all – but this puts your personal data at greater risk. You could try using a password manager to create a different, robust password for each online retailer that you visit.

**DITCH THE DEBIT CARD**

Where possible, it's safest to shop online with a credit card (as opposed to a debit card) because it offers additional protection. If a purchase is made fraudulently on your credit card, there's a fair chance of your bank reimbursing you. Should criminals obtain your debit card details, however, they could empty your account in moments – and it can be difficult to recover your money.

**RESIST THE INFLUENCE**

Recommendations from social media influencers are another thing to remain vigilant for on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. While many of these will be legitimate, remember that influencers are often paid to promote products – and to publicise deals that aren't quite as amazing as they might seem. Don't feel pressured into buying purely on their advice; look at everything with a critical eye.

**TAKE CARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Social media scammers are more active on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, as they know people are hunting for deals online. These scammers tend to concentrate on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, posting malicious links that can compromise shoppers' personal details. Other scammers, meanwhile, falsely advertise products in an attempt to trick others out of their hard-earned cash.

**Meet Our Expert**

Curly Popcorn is an experienced technology journalist with 11 years' experience in the industry. She's also the author of Tech Talk! The Kids' Guide to Social Media and Technology. Available on Amazon and Goodreads.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

### INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

### REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

### UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

### A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

### SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

### CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

### CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry, previously the editor of Tech tabloid The Register. Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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**Click here  
for tickets!**

FRIENDS OF  
GROVE ROAD  
INVITE YOU  
TO A ...

# Quiz Night

Do you have what it takes  
to be the ultimate quiz  
champion? Then gather your  
friends and family and join us  
for the FOGR Quiz Night.

£2 per person

Teams of up to 10 people or  
buy single tickets and form  
teams on the night.

Family friendly and kids rounds  
(from KS2 upwards)

Drinks & snacks on sale on  
the evening

**FRIDAY, 24TH NOV**

**STARTS 6.30PM  
GROVE ROAD  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*More Info:  
Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com*



**Click here  
for tickets!**





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

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

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

**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



**We need  
your help!**

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

DECEMBER 8TH

3.15PM TO 5PM

THE FRIEND'S OF GROVE ROAD HOPE TO HOLD THE CHRISTMAS FAIR ON FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- BOTTLES FOR THE TOMBOLA (ALCOHOLIC AND SOFT DRINKS)
- SWEETS AND CHOCOLATES FOR PRIZES
- SMALL GIFTS SUITABLE FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN
- SOFT TOYS FOR THE TEDDY STALL
- RAFFLE PRIZES INCLUDING 'BIG TICKET ITEMS' & DONATIONS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES/COMPANIES FOR THE RAFFLE
- SENDING IN SOME CAKES ON THE DAY FOR THE CAKE STALL

**DONATE**

**CHRISTMAS LUCKY BOXES - WE WILL BE SENDING THESE HOME SHORTLY! PLEASE DECORATE YOUR BOXES, FILL WITH FUN ITEMS AND RETURN TO SCHOOL TO BE SOLD AT THE FAIR**

PLEASE BRING LUCKY BOXES AND DONATIONS TO SCHOOL BEFORE MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER

· PREPPING IN THE RUN UP TO THE FAIR (VARIOUS DATES/TIMES TBC)

· SETTING UP ON THE DAY

· RUNNING A STALL

· HELP WITH TIDYING/CLEANING UP

**HELP**

IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE EMAIL [FRIENDSOFGROVEROAD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FRIENDSOFGROVEROAD@GMAIL.COM)



# THE WAY YOU MAKE PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL FOR MEALS, TRIPS AND CLUBS IS CHANGING

Following feedback on our current system, we are pleased to announce that we will shortly be changing our online payment platform to ParentPay. You will be able to pay online using your credit/debit card or make cash payments at PayPoint stores. ParentPay will be our preferred method of making payments to school.

## What are the benefits to parents & pupils?

ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7

The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely - offering you peace of mind

Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint

Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

**More information, including your activation/login information has been sent out via email if you have not received this, please contact the school office**

## What are the benefits to our school?

You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services

Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school

Improves school security

Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises

The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.

# IMPORTANT DATES



| When  | Event  |
|---|--|
| <b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>      | <b>Friends of Grove Road – Quiz Night</b>                                |
| Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November          | Rec/ KS1 trip to Kirkstall Abbey Museum                                  |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December           | Key Stage 2 visit the panto!   |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December             | Christmas Fair – 3:15pm to 5:00pm (Please see poster in this newsletter) |
| Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December – 3:15pm | Carols on the playground with Singing Club                               |
| 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)                        |

