



Panshanger Press 2024/2025 - Vol. 2

Panshanger Primary School

27th September 2024

Welcome Back!

Message from Mr Longland

Good afternoon,

It has been fantastic to see so many children enjoying their learning this week after my week away with Year 6. I can only apologise that we did not bring the weather back with us!

I have been particularly impressed with the manners shown by all of our children since we have returned. I am sure this will continue as we move in to October next week.

If you have any questions then please feel free to come and ask me on the playground in the mornings. However, if you feel it would be more appropriate, please call the office to book a mutually convenient time.

In this edition:

- **PGL**
- **Punctuality**
- **Parents Evening**
- **What Parents Need to Know...**
- **PTA**
- **School Dates**

PGL



Year 6 had an incredible week away at PGL Caythorpe Court last week. We were extremely lucky with the weather and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements throughout the week. We saw all of our children being: Respectful, Ambitious and Resilient throughout our stay.

Well done Year 6!

For our current Year 5 class, a short meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd October at 15:30 to discuss PGL for next September.



















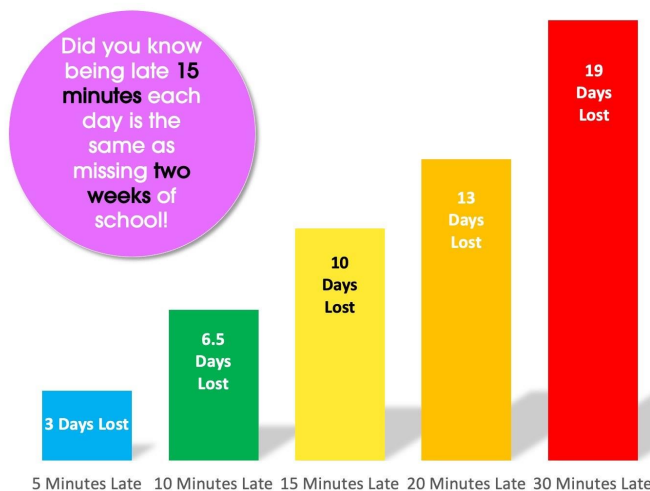
Punctuality

Poor punctuality is unacceptable. If your child misses the start of the day they can miss learning and do not spend time with their class teacher getting vital information and news for the day. Late arriving pupils also disrupt lessons which can be embarrassing for the child and can also encourage absence. Learning will not be stopped when late children arrive in the class as this is unfair on the children who are punctual to school. It is the responsibility of all parents and carers to ensure that their child/ren are in school and collected on time.

Thank you!

Punctuality Matters!

Lost Minutes = Lost Learning



Parent Consultations



Just a reminder regarding our parent consultations:

Our first parent consultations of this academic year will take place on Friday 8th November and Monday 11th November.

We understand that some of you will be excited to come in to school and meet your child's teacher face to face, whilst others may find it more convenient if consultations were online. We are going to try and

accommodate all by offering both face to face and a limited number of online sessions across the 2 days. There will be sessions reserved for face to face appointments ONLY, there will also be sessions reserved for online appointments ONLY. Teachers will be offering 10 minute slots for each child and will be booked on a first come first serve basis.

Friday 18th October: School will be open for parents and carers to come and look at their children's books in their classrooms from 8:30 - 9:00. You will be able to move between year groups to see all of your children.

Friday 8th November: All consultations will be face to face between 14:20 and 17:10.

Monday 11th November: Face to face appointments between 15:40 and 16:50. Online consultations from 17:25 to 18:20.

All bookings will need to be made via School Cloud and the booking system will go live on **Monday 14th October at 17:30**. We have done this to hopefully allow as many parents as possible to book a time slot that best suits them.

Please see the document attached that explains how to make a booking.

Please use the link below when making a booking when the system goes live.

[Panshanger School Cloud Booking System](#)

```
<iframe  
src="https://onedrive.live.com/embed?cid=036667E9EEEA80E2&resid=36667E9EEEA80E2%21426&auth  
key=ABl0mF18OkqJFRM&em=2" width="476" height="288" frameborder="0" scrolling="no"></iframe>
```

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about Instagram

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 wellbeing, 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 INSTAGRAM

Instagram is a highly popular social media platform with over 2 billion active monthly users. The app is continuously updating and adding new features to meet the wishes of its audience, allowing them to upload images and videos to their Instagram feed, create interactive 'stories', go live, exchange private messages or explore and follow other accounts that catch their eye.

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTION
Many social media platforms, Instagram included, are designed to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. They encourage scrolling often and scrolling more in case we miss something important – in essence, a fear of missing out. On Instagram, young people can lose track of time when aimlessly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers and possibly strangers.

UNREALISTIC IDEALS
Children sometimes compare themselves to what they see online: how they look, how they dress, and the way their life is going in comparison to others on social media. However, most people only show the positives about their lives online and many use filters when sharing pictures of themselves. A constant comparison with unrealistic ideals can lead to insecurity over one's own appearance and lifestyle.

GOING LIVE
Livestreaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real time. Risks increase if the account is public, because that means anyone can watch the broadcast, which could result in further contact from strangers. Additional dangers of going live include an impulse to act inappropriately to draw more viewers, as well as being exposed to harmful content or offensive language.

INFLUENCER CULTURE
Social media influencers are sometimes paid thousands of pounds to promote products, services, apps and more. When celebrities or influencers post such content, it often says 'paid partnership' above the post. In April 2024, Ofcom found that over a quarter of children (27%) believed in influencer marketing, accepting their endorsement of products wholeheartedly. So it's perfectly possible for young people to be taken in by this kind of content.

PRODUCT TAGGING
Product tags allow users to tag a product or business in their post. This tag will take viewers directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased. Children may also be encouraged by influencers to purchase products that they advertise.

EXCLUSION & OSTRACISM
Youngsters are highly sensitive to feeling excluded, which comes in many forms: not receiving as many 'likes' as expected; not being tagged in a friend's photo; being unfriended; not receiving a comment on their post or a reply to a message they sent. Being excluded online hurts just as much as offline. Young people have reported lower moods and self-esteem when excluded in this way, feeling as if they don't belong and aren't valued.

Advice for Parents & Educators

AVOID GOING PUBLIC
If a young user wants to share their clothing style, make up or similar and use product tagging to show off the items in their post, they may be tempted to change their settings to public. This leaves their profile visible to everyone, which carries the risk of strangers getting in touch with them. Set a child's account to private and explain the importance of keeping it this way.

HAVE AN OPEN DIALOGUE
Talk to children about the positives and negatives of social media, including the risks involved and how they can view or create content safely with family and friends. Explain how safety settings will ensure only followers can view them, and why this is so important. Also, if you find a child continuously uses filters on their photos, ask them why and impress on them that they don't need it.

MANAGE LIKE COUNTS
Due to the potential impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram allows users to hide the total likes on their posts, to prevent people from obsessing over that number in the corner. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes a person gets. This can be done by going into Settings > Notifications > Posts > Likes > Off.

USE MODERATORS
Instagram Live has implemented a mechanic called 'Moderators', meaning that creators can assign a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and remove the ability for certain viewers to comment at all. Consider this if a child in your care wants to go live on the platform. It's also recommended to keep devices in communal spaces so you're aware if a child does go live or watch a livestream.

FOLLOW INFLUENCERS
Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to children about who they follow and help them to develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, encourage the child to ask themselves if an influencer is trying to sell them a product when they make a video endorsing it.

BALANCE YOUR TIME
Instagram has a built-in activity dashboard that lets you control how much time is spent on the app. Make sure children sign in to the platform with the correct age, as Instagram's 'Teen Accounts' afford much more control for parents and carers over how long they can use the app each day, talk with young users about how much time they spend on Instagram and work together to set a healthy time limit.

Meet Our Expert
Dr. Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/instagram-2022>

X @wake_up_weds f /www.thenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @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: 00.00.2024



PTA Updates

Some key dates for your diary from the PTA this term: The uniform rail continues to be stocked every week for second hand uniform, and on Friday after school the bookshelf will be available outside the dining room doors to donate/swap/buy second hand books 📖

100 Club - renewals are open until 29th Sept, then new players can sign up from 30th Sept. The first draw of the year will be 25th Oct.

School Disco - Fri 18th Oct ☑️ nursery, reception and Y1 will be 4-5pm and Y2-6 will be 5.30-7pm. Tickets go on sale on Monday 30th September

Fireworks night - Sun 3rd Nov at Springmead school

Break the rules day - Fri 22nd Nov

Quiz night (adults) - Fri 29th Nov 7pm onwards

Christmas film night - Fri 13th Dec 5-7pm

The children will also be creating Christmas artwork that will be made into Christmas cards and other small items. These will be available to order online on Monday 7th October, more details to follow 😊

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 2nd October - PGL Parent Meeting for September 2025 (In School Hall)

Thursday 17th October - Year 2 & 3 Trip to Woodhall Estate

Thursday 31st October - Secondary School Application Deadline

Friday 8th November - Parents Evening, Family Support Work & Food Tasting - 14:10-17:20

Monday 11th November - Parents Evening, Family Support Work & Food Tasting - 15:40-16:50 (Video Appointments 17:25-18:30)

Thursday 14th November - Flu Vaccinations (Reception to Year 6 Only)

Thursday 5th December - Flu Vaccinations (Reception to Year 6 Only)

Monday 9th December - Whole School Pantomime Trip to Campus West - Sleeping Beauty

Tuesday 17th December - Christmas Music Concert (Reception to Year 6 Only)

Contact Us



Panshanger Primary School

Daniells

Welwyn Garden City

Hertfordshire

AL7 1QY

01707 328846

admin@panshanger.herts.sch.uk

Visit our website at <https://panshanger.herts.sch.uk> to see more!

