



10th May 2024

Our Learning

This week in Year R the children have really enjoyed exploring new areas in the provision. The two main areas that we have been focusing on are our deconstructed role play area and the playdoh making area. The children have all been engaged and enjoyed learning new skills!



I have enjoyed walking around the school this week and talking to the children about their learning. Children have shared what they are proud of in their books and it has been fascinating hearing about what helps children most in school, how they feel challenged and which experiences the children have enjoyed the most. Please take a look at Tapestry and SeeSaw to see what the children have been getting up to so far this term.

Travel to School

With the weather warmer and brighter, it is lovely to see so many children arriving in school on their bikes and scooters. Below is a link to a workbook which you may find useful to share with your children about road safety. This explains how to keep safe in different scenarios such as when walking, scooting and cycling.

<https://www.think.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Tales-Of-The-Road-Print-Version.pdf>

Please continue to take care when crossing the roads by school and use the pavements to walk on as there is moving traffic around school drop off and pick up times.

Dates for Your Diaries—2023-2024

Whole School

Summer Term 2024

- Monday 6th May—Bank Holiday (School Closed to Pupils)
- Friday 17th May—Pyjamarama (come to school in your pyjamas)
- Friday 24th May—Last Day of Summer 2 Half Term
- Monday 27th—Friday 31st May—Half Term
- Monday 3rd June—First Day of Summer 2 Half Term
- Monday 24th June—INSET Day - School closed for pupils
- Tuesday 23rd July—Last Day of Term
- Thursday 24th July—Monday 2nd September - Summer Holidays
- Tuesday 3rd September—First Day of Autumn Term 1



Year R

- Friday 21st June—9am-12pm-Mill Cottage Farm Experience in school - more details to follow

Year 1

- Friday 7th June—Trip to Portchester Castle
- Tuesday 25th June —Royal Festival and Dress Up Day (inc parent event at 2:45pm) - **change of date**
- **Rabbit Class** Monday 15th July—9:15am—Celebration Assembly for Parents
- **Otter Class** Tuesday 16th July—9:15am—Celebration Assembly for Parents

Year 2

- Thursday 16th May—Titanic Dress-up Day
- **Hedgehog Class**—Thursday 23rd May—2:45pm—Art Gallery for parents
- **Fox Class**—Friday 24th May—2:45pm—Art Gallery for parents
- Thursday 6th June—Habitat Hunt in school (for children only)
- **Hedgehog Class** Wednesday 17th July—9:15am—Celebration Assembly for Parents
- **Fox Class** Thursday 18th July—9:15am—Celebration Assembly for Parents

Dates for Your Diaries—2023-2024

Year 3

- **Deer Class** Tuesday 21st May—2:30pm—Magnets Workshop with parents
- **Mouse Class** Wednesday 22nd May—2:30pm—Magnets Workshop with parents
- Friday 14th June—2:30pm - Family Picnic - more details to follow

Year 4

- W.c. 3rd June—Statutory Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
- Tuesday 9th July– 2:45pm—Parent Event in Owl Class - A 'showcase' of their work from throughout the year

Reminders

School Lunch Orders for Summer 2

The Summer Term 2 lunch bookings are now available via Parentpay.

Please can we ask that you all continue to order your child's lunches in advance so that and also to keep Billy happy!

You can book meals weekly, monthly or half termly. Bookings will close 24hrs before the meal is taken. The office will cancel your child's meal if they are absent from school and for those parents that pay for school meals your account will be credited.

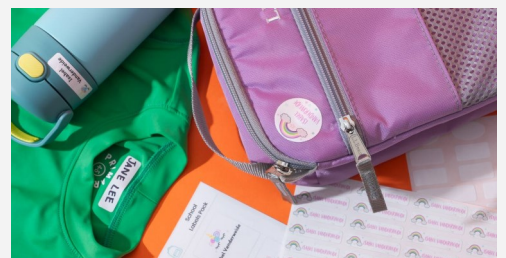
Please note that we won't cancel/refund an order if your child changes their mind and you send them to school with a packed lunch.

Year 1-Please remember your child is on a school trip on Friday 7th June, so only a picnic lunch is available.

Any problems or queries, please contact the school office and we will do our best to help you.

REMINDER TO PARENTS: Please make sure that ALL your children's belongings (clothes, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles etc.) are CLEARLY LABELLED with your child's name. Labelled property can be easily returned to its owner.

Thank you



Open Conversations at Home

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 HELLDIVERS 2



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Within weeks of release, *HELLDIVERS 2* had become one of 2024's biggest gaming success stories. The sequel to a top-down shooter from 2015 has smashed sales expectations, owing to its frantic gameplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. However, the game comes with several risks to younger players, as indicated by its 18+ rating.

PEGI 18 RATING



Due to its intense violence and the presence of in-game purchases, *HELLDIVERS 2* carries a PEGI 18 rating. While players are generally fighting fantastical enemies like giant bugs and robots, their characters can be killed in various gruesome ways, up to and including dismemberment. It's certainly worth considering whether such a game is appropriate for younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In *HELLDIVERS 2*, players can use real money to buy in-game currency, with which they can unlock cosmetics and new weapons. At the time of writing, all the in-game items can be acquired without spending so much as a penny – but excited young players wanting to keep up with their friends may still feel the temptation to purchase new weapons more quickly, rather than laboriously earning the in-game currency through play.

VOICE CHAT AND MESSAGING

HELLDIVERS 2 is always played online with others, who often use voice chat or in-game texts to coordinate, strategise or just joke around. This does mean that children who play without their friends will be put in contact with strangers. Unfortunately, this represents a roll of the dice, as the game can't control how people treat each other online. However, you can easily report other players for abusive behaviour via the game's 'social' tab.

FRUSTRATION TRIGGER

The thrill of barely scraping through a dangerous mission in one piece is integral to *HELLDIVERS 2*'s appeal. To accentuate this feeling of achievement, the game includes some very difficult levels that could prove to be too hard for some players – even those who are legitimately old enough to play. Losing streaks can be incredibly annoying, so repeatedly failing in missions could easily provoke frustration or anger in younger players.

LACK OF ACCESS

The game is available on PC and PS5, but not (as yet) on other consoles. Some people will naturally be disappointed they can't get involved and might look for similar alternatives to play on their own console – alternatives which may contain similar levels of violence and gore but lack the same balanced approach to user misconduct and in-game purchases as *HELLDIVERS 2*.

Advice for Parents & Educators

GIVE IT A GO FIRST



HELLDIVERS 2 is a third-person shooter with intentionally humorous elements, but much of its comedy is rooted in satire which may go over the heads of some players. Consider playing the game first yourself – while shooting bugs and robots feels too unrealistic to be upsetting, seeing your character get torn to pieces may be too much for young players.

SET EXPECTATIONS



At the time of writing, *HELLDIVERS 2* costs £34.99. It could turn out to be an expensive and wasteful purchase if a player gets irritated and gives up shortly after receiving the game. If a young person tends to become frustrated easily, it's worth considering whether *HELLDIVERS 2* is really the game for them.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES



If playing on Xbox – where *HELLDIVERS 2* isn't available – consider something like *Halo: The Master Chief Collection* as an alternative. One of its game modes – Firefight – replicates *HELLDIVERS 2*'s mechanics to some degree. Alternatively, younger players may be better suited to the more light-hearted *Deep Rock Galactic*, which sees them play as fantasy dwarves in space, involving far less gruesome violence.

KEEP AN EYE ON PAYMENTS



Many titles offer in-game purchases, but *HELLDIVERS 2*'s are comparatively cheap. You'll still need to monitor your payment information (or use a prepaid card on the account), in case your child buys the in-game currency in bulk; on the whole, however, the game's selling methods are far less egregious than most similar titles on the market.

MONITOR COMMUNICATION & ADJUST SETTINGS



Thanks to an in-game "Ping" system (allowing players to highlight important details without speaking), communication isn't as integral to *HELLDIVERS 2* as it is in other games. You can turn off the chat options in-game on PC, or on the PS5's own settings, and feel more secure in the knowledge that your child won't be speaking to people they don't know.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon, and has been working in the games media industry for five years. As well as being an avid long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and many more.



Boorley Park Term Dates 2024/25



September 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35							1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30						

October 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
39		1	2	3	4	5	6
40	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
41	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
42	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
43	28	29	30	31			
44							

November 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44					1	2	3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
48							1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					

January 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1			1	2	3	4	5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
5	27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5						1	2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9	24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9						1	2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

April 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14		1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30				

May 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18				1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22							1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30						

July 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27		1	2	3	4	5	6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31	28	29	30	31			

August 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31					1	2	3
32	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
33	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
34	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
35	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Bank Holiday
 School Holiday

INSET Day (school closed to children)