

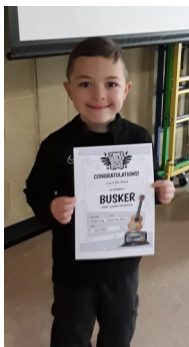
## News and Events

Friday 3rd March

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today in our Celebration Collective Worship we celebrated Lilli (Voyagers) for the value of thankfulness, Alexandra (Discoverers) for the value of wisdom, Ella (Explorers) for the value of thankfulness and Rhiannon (Shooting Stars) for the value of agape.

Congratulations to them all.



Congratulations to Luca who is now a TT Rock Stars busker.

Congratulations and thank you to Harry, William and Lola in Year 5 who were invited to represent West Ashton at Clarendon this week at a gifted and talented maths event. After a few nerves, they all thoroughly enjoyed the experience of putting their maths knowledge to the test facing different problems in a team challenge.



### Reminder

The library is open after school on Tuesday and Friday.



### Important dates for your diary

9 Mar—Discoverers quarry trip

16 Mar at 2:15pm—Muffins for Mums in the hall

17 Mar—Artist in school visit

17 Mar—Red Nose Day—wear something red for £1 donation

20 Mar—Rags to Riches drop off 8:30am

22 Mar—Collaborative Schools music concert—selected Y5/6 pupil

24 Mar—Easter family bingo

27 Mar—Acorn KS1 multi-skills festival

31 Mar—Easter service in Church 9:30am

### Attendance

Highest attendance:

Discoverers 98.9%

Lost learning: 65 hours



@WestAshtonCofE



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We are on Facebook! Please like our page.

# WORLD BOOK DAY

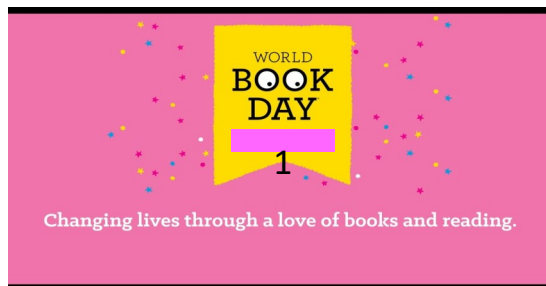
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Changing lives through a love of books and reading.

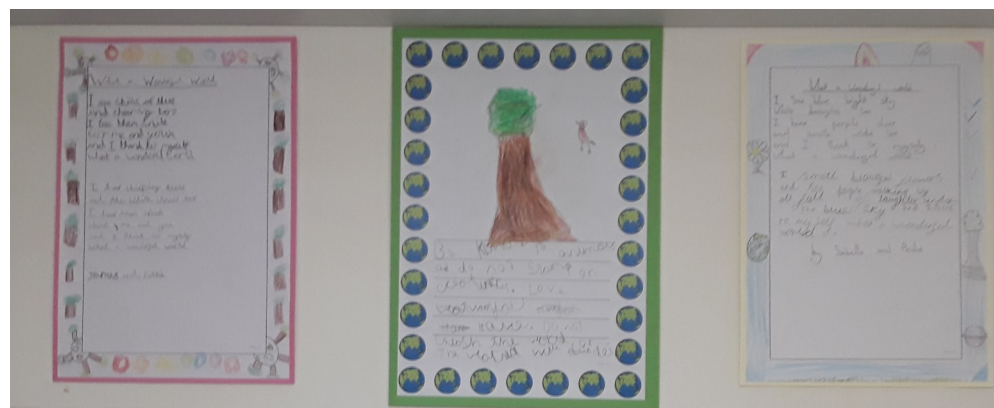
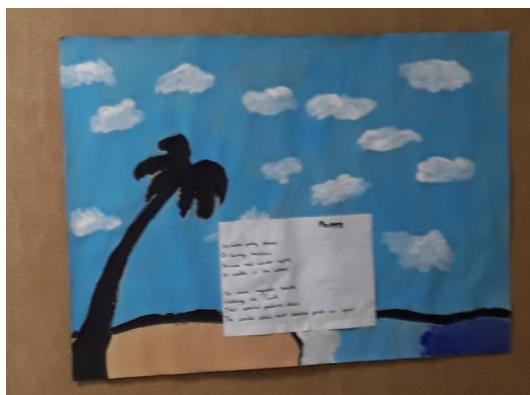
What a wonderful day we had. Every member of our school community came to school ready for bed! We started the day with a visit for Wiltshire Libraries Children's Librarian who shared some of her favourite books. The whole school then enjoyed the book *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers—see the next page for some of the work it inspired.

Classes also joined together to share books they enjoyed reading and Shooting Stars explored our library.





Here We Are inspired a range of work from poetry and illustration, lyric writing, thinking about how to be happy on our planet and even 'if an alien came to Earth, what would they like to see?'



## News from the classes:

**Shooting Stars:** We have been learning about different seasons. In the spring, all the flowers begin to grow. On our playground we found pink flowers and daffodils growing. In phonics we have been learning to write sentences without help and in maths we have been adding numbers to ten. Rhiannon

**Explorers:** On Wednesday we had pyjama day to celebrate World Book Day; we got to bring in our teddies as well. We read *Here We Are* and we painted pictures of things we were thinking about and wrote about things people need to do to be happy on planet Earth. In science we talked about offspring and the human life cycle. In story time we started reading *The Magic Faraway Tree*. It's very good so far. In music we listened to music about Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Fynn and Luca

**Discoverers:** We have continued to look at fractions, Year 3s have focused on fractions on scales and Yr4s have explored improper fractions. In science we have been looking at how sound is made and how something needs to vibrate to make a sound. We had lots of fun at World Book Day this week, we enjoyed writing and performing our own verses of Louis Armstrong's 'What a Wonderful World'. Brie and Lawson

**Voyagers:** Voyagers have had a busy week of assessments but have also found time to continue reading and enjoying *The War of the Worlds*, learn about gravity as part of our forces topic in science and the climate in the Amazon in geography. We have also been practicing our tennis skills in P.E. and our singing for the upcoming Music Festival.



Thank you Lilli for telling us all about *School of Rock—The Musical* and your role in it. It sounds like a great show to be involved with. Details of how to get a ticket are on the poster in this newsletter and on the noticeboard outside school.

**World Book Day and Trowbridge Library Challenge.** On Wednesday, we were given a challenge to get all the children in the school having a Trowbridge library card. As if we needed more encouragement when offered a challenge, we were told another school in the area has achieved this within a week! The librarian did add that it may be good to let everyone know that if they never returned books before not to worry about a late/lost charge! I hope that you can make a trip to the library soon.



Please note the muffins for mums date—as always, grandma, auntie or godmother welcome if Mum is unable to attend.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Alex Blake-Thwaite

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# NGL

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous – although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

## ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

## PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a 'dummy' account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

## COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription where – for a weekly fee – users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

## INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

1K

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service, informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

## QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating – 'NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried.' This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

## ACCIDENTALLY GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed – enabling of their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term – although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

### EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

### BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

### THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Butherford is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and reading behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: <https://t.me/noslink/what-s-n-gl>

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

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[@national\\_online\\_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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## National Online Safety Update

# FOWAS event



# ***Trowbridge Library Booksters!***

**Book group run exclusively  
for readers in years 5 & 6**



**One Thursday a month 4:00 – 4:30pm**

26 January  
23 February  
23 March  
20 April  
18 May  
15 June  
13 July  
21 September  
19 October  
16 November  
14 December

Drop-in session – Must book your FREE place  
at Trowbridge Library or on 01225 716700

Voyagers—  
Trowbridge library  
book club

# THE LEGO GROUP & COMIC RELIEF ACTIVITY SHEET



**Can you build something to make the people around you smile?**

We're calling on kids up and down the country to get involved in a creative building challenge. Use your imagination to build or draw something that will make someone smile and have a positive impact on the world.



**Check out what you have to do here:**

[LEGO Build the Change | Comic Relief](#)

frome musical theatre company

An amateur production by arrangement with The Really Useful Group Ltd



THE NEXT GENERATION

# SCHOOL of ROCK

THE MUSICAL

© TM 2016 RUG Ltd

BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE

MUSIC BY

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

BOOK BY

JULIAN FELLOWES

LYRICS BY

GLENN SLATER

**Tues 2nd - Sat 6th May 2023**

**EVENINGS:** Tues - Sat at 7pm, **MATINEE:** Sat at 2pm

**TICKETS:** Adults £18, U16 & OAP £16, Group Bookings (10+) £15



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