



FRIDAY UPDATE

Friday 24th November 2023



We have been working with the children on good manners and respectful behaviour during time in the dinner hall. We will have assemblies next week reminding children of good manners whilst they are eating - saying thank you for their food, not talking with their mouths full, not dropping food on the floor, sitting smartly at the table and being calm. Please chat about this at home and praise your child when they show good manners whilst eating.

We also wanted to draw your attention to an excellent hub of information for parents on the everchanging area of online safety. [Home \(lgfl.net\)](https://www.lgfl.net) has information on safe settings and controls, 'what's that app' information, screentime guidance, tips for talking to children about being safe online and so much more.

We are very much looking forward to our Christmas craft sessions next week. We do hope you can join your child in the school hall at 2pm (Year 1 - Monday, Year 2 - Tuesday and Reception - Wednesday) to make Christmas decorations. **Please remember, due to health and safety restrictions, we are unable to accommodate any siblings at these events.** We hope many of you can join us.

In celebration assembly today we said well done to the following children, who received **Special Awards** and special gold Headteacher's Award sticker:

Anam (Beech class) - for trying really hard and being very respectful.

Surraya (Hazel class) - for always working hard, trying her best and following the golden rules.

Swamini (Maple class) - for super retelling of our Super Daisy story, always following the golden rules and joining in with class discussions.

Mia (Cherry class) - for fabulous writing in our imitation of Super Daisy.

Elijah (Willow class) - for hard work in phonics and writing this week.

Anastasia (Oak class) - for taking her time to paint a beautiful piece of artwork inspired by Kandinsky



Class Accolades

Cherry Class - Miss Startin is proud of your thoughtfulness and maturity in R.E. discussions and learning.

Each class was presented with their Class Accolade certificate and earned two class ticks. Well done everyone!



LETTERS / EMAILS HOME THIS WEEK:

Tea and chat email

Pantomime information

Virtual book fair

Christmas Craft sessions

WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK (Autumn 2 Week 5):

Monday 27th	- 2pm Y1 Christmas Craft session - hall - 3.15-4.30pm Cooking club
Tuesday 28th	- Reception Curriculum evening 6.30pm
Wednesday 29th	- 2pm Y2 Christmas Craft session - hall - 9am 'Tea and Talk' - hall - 2pm Reception Christmas Craft session - hall - No Play & Perform club
Thursday 30th	- Year 1 P.E. - FOTAS Christmas Jumper Sale 3.15pm
Friday 1st Dec	- Mufti day in exchange for Christmas Raffle prizes - Year 2 Family Reading - 8.50-9.10am - Reception P.E.





As part of our commitment to safeguarding, it is important that we ensure that parents/carers are as informed as possible about online safety.

What parents and carers need to know about Safer Online Shopping on Black Friday and Cyber Monday

Gone are the days of Black Friday only existing in the physical environs of the high street. Now, both this retail landmark and its sister event, Cyber Monday, see deals and discounts displayed across almost every online retailer. The array of reductions makes this an ideal moment to treat a loved one (or yourself!) to those treasured items for considerably less than their usual cost.

The frantic dash for the best bargains online, however, also harbours several risks: chiefly, cybercriminals hoping to exploit people's excitement and hoodwink them out of their hard-earned cash. The guide this week has some expert pointers on keeping your both your money and your personal information safe while still making the most of the spectacular sales.

A larger version of these guides can be downloaded from our school Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/TheAvenueInfantSchool/>

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonline-safety.com](https://www.nationalonline-safety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

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's 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. Be especially wary 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 users out of their hard-earned cash.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Hogg is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech website The Register, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

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#WakeUpWednesday

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