



Stars of the Week

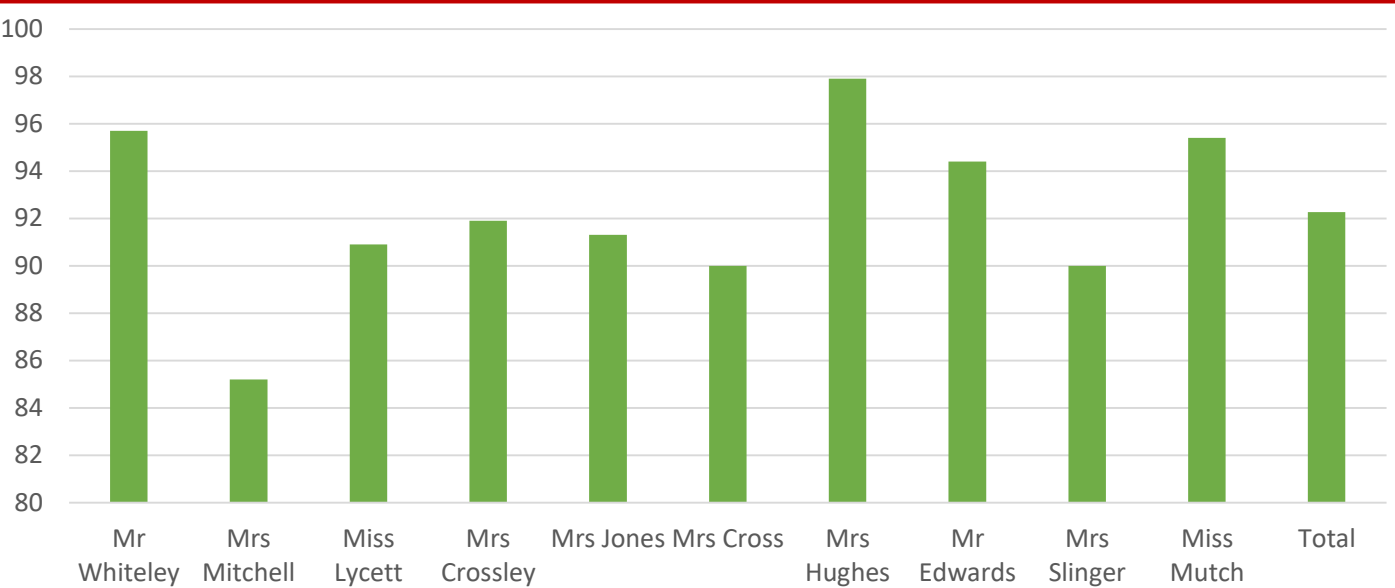
| Class | Chosen by Teacher | Chosen by Class |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mrs Burrell | Peyton M | |
| Mr Whiteley | Thomas C | Alisha M |
| Mrs Mitchell | Oliver F | TBC |
| Miss Lycett | Ash S | Eva R-B |
| Mrs Crossley | Tommy H | Eva J |
| Mrs Jones | Lucy B | Amelia O |
| Mrs Cross | Jesse R | Hayden G |
| Mrs Hughes | Piper S | Eleanor M |
| Mr Edwards | Finley B | Maxwell R |
| Mrs Slinger | Pheobe A | Lottie-Leigh P |
| Miss Mutch | Lola M-R | Charlie B |



**Macmillan
Total:
£548.00**



Attendance 25th – 29th September



Attendance dropped by 4% across the whole school due to the sickness bug that many staff and pupils picked up. This is unavoidable absence. A reminder that if pupils feel **a little unwell**, please encourage them to come in because most of the time they will feel better and benefit from having the distraction of being in school.

Art Competition

We want to give the young people of Northallerton a sense of ownership and pride in their town and can think of no better way of doing that than asking them to decorate it and so, we would like the children to create an image in the template (Mrs Burrell has the templates) which they think represents: **community, growing food or caring for wildlife**. Entrants should return the image to school by **Thursday 26th October**.

The best entries will be printed onto weather-proof material and used in our garden spaces to provide all year round colour. There will also be an exhibition of the images held before they all head to their final destinations. We want as much colour as possible so there is no limit on the number entries and we will be choosing multiple images from each school.

Conscious of GDPR we ask that no child's full name is included on their entry. A first name and initial is sufficient along with the name of the school.

World War II Visitor

Y5/6 were immersed in local history on Thursday when Mr Garnham (Mrs Cross' knowledgeable brother) visited school to talk to them about the Halifax bomber that sadly crashed behind our school in December 1943. Children learnt how there was a common fault with some aircraft and used empathy to explain how they would have felt. They used different websites, including the Commonwealth War Graves to complete some research then had a go at sketching the Halifax, labelling where each crew member would have been. A super day, where Mr Garnham was inundated with questions, based on their learning in this history unit so far. The only mystery remains as to why the event is not mentioned in our school logbook of the time. A huge thank you to Mr Garnham and to our incredible Y5/6 historians!



Healthy Snacks

We aim to promote healthy eating in school through our lunch menu; the snacks we provide for EYFS and Key Stage One; and the Cool Milk scheme. Of course, there are times for a treat (like sweets and hotdog at the disco or Hot Chocolate Friday!). There are more snacks being brought into school which are high in refined sugar. This has been shown to have a negative impact on concentration (and we there are implications on dental health too).

A further consideration is the environmental impact. Many snacks come wrapped in plastic which often finds its way onto the ground or into our compost bins.

The very best snack is fruit in its whole state. The fibre in a piece of fruit helps slow down the release of the natural sugars and keep pupils fuller for longer. It's cheap to buy, takes no preparation and will rot if it doesn't manage to find a bin! More information about healthy swaps can be found by following the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-food-swaps/#lunch>

Halloween Disco Wristbands

Last year's disco was a huge success although we still felt the queue was too long which meant some pupils missed a bit of the disco.

This year, we are going to sell wristbands as a simple ticketing system. Wristbands will be £5 and will include: entry, sweets, a drink, a hotdog and a glitter tattoo. Please send your money to the office in a sealed envelope with your child/children's name on. The office will give each child a named wristband.

This way, pupils will arrive, show us their wristband and be signed straight into the disco.

More information about the disco will follow in the next few newsletters.

Year 3 and 4 Hockey

On Wednesday, six of our Year 3/4s went to the hockey competition. They played exceptionally well and came back to school proudly wearing bronze medals. Ben was awarded Most Valuable Player (MVP) and Freddie got a medal for the best smile! Well done to the whole team for working together and representing the school as good role models and sports people.



Our Safeguarding Team

At school we have five members of staff and a governor who make up our Safeguarding Leadership Team. Mr Peoples is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL); he is the lead person responsible for child protection and safeguarding issues. Mrs Hopkin, Mr Edwards and Mrs Crossley are our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (Deputy DSLs); a deputy DSL supports the DSL in their role safeguarding and child protection. Mrs Jo Burnside is our Safeguarding Link Governor. The role of the Safeguarding Governor is to support the DSL as well as regularly review, ask questions and make suggestions about our safeguarding policies and procedures and to report back to the governing body.

All staff at Applegarth know that safeguarding is EVERYONE'S responsibility. Find out more on our [Safeguarding Page](#).

For information about **Online Safety**, visit our dedicated [webpage](#).

You can also report any concerns you have to our [welfare email](#): dsl@applegarth.n-yorks.sch.uk

School Calendar (this half term)

| Event | Class/Phase | Venue | Date(s)/Time(s) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|
| Reception New Starters Open Event | New Starters | Applegarth Primary School (Call the office to book a space) | Monday 9 th October 3:30pm – 6:00pm Tuesday 24 th October 3:30pm – 6:00pm |
| Nursery Stay and Play | Nursery Parents/Carers | Applegarth Primary School | Tuesday 10 th October 10:30am – 11:30am 2:00pm – 3:00pm |
| World Mental Health Day | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Tuesday 10 th October |
| Parent/Carers Evening | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School <i>Booking opens at 6pm</i> | Tuesday 10 th October 3:30pm – 6:00pm Wednesday 18 th October 3:30pm – 6:00pm |
| Scholastic Book Fair | Whole School | Applegarth School Hall | Tuesday 17 th October 3:20 – 4:30pm Wednesday 18 th October 3:20 – 4:30pm |
| Harvest Festival | Whole School | All Saints Church Families welcome to attend | Thursday 19 th October 10:00am – 11:30am |
| Halloween Disco (PTA) | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Thursday 26 th October Nursery , Reception and Key Stage One 5:00pm – 6:00pm Key Stage Two 6:15pm – 7:15pm |
| Break up | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Thursday 26 th October |

School Calendar (long term)

| Event | Class/Phase | Venue | Date(s)/Time(s) |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|
| Individual & Sibling Photos | Whole School | Applegarth School | Thursday 9 th November 8:30am – 2:00pm |
| Reception New Starters Open Events | New Starters | Applegarth Primary School (Call the office to book a space) | Tuesday 14 th November 9:30am – 11:00am Wednesday 22 nd November 1:30pm – 3:00pm |
| Bedtime Stories (PTA) | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Wednesday 15 th November 5:30pm – 6:30pm |
| Children in Need | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Friday 17 th November Dress in spots to be SPOTacular |
| Nursery Stay and Play | Nursery Parents/Carers | Applegarth Primary School | Thursday 30 th November 10:30am – 11:30am 2:00pm – 3:00pm |

School Calendar (long term)

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| NSPCC Number Day | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Friday 2 nd February |
| Christmas Fair | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Friday 8 th December 3:15pm – 5:00pm |
| Key Stage One Nativity | Key Stage One | Applegarth Primary School | Monday 11 th December 6:00pm – 7:00pm Tuesday 12 th December 10:00am – 11:00am |
| Pantomime Performance | Key Stage Two | Applegarth Primary School | Tuesday 12 th December 6:00pm – 7:00pm Thursday 14 th December 6:00pm – 7:00pm |
| Reception Nativity | Reception | Methodist Church | Tuesday 19 th December 10:00am – 11:00am |
| Nursery Stay and Play | Nursery Parents/Carers | Applegarth Primary School | Friday 2 nd February 10:30am – 11:30am 2:00pm – 3:00pm |
| Safer Internet Day | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Tuesday 6 th February |
| Carlton Lodge Pre Visit Meeting | Year 5 Families | Applegarth Primary School | Wednesday 28 th February 5:00pm – 5:45pm |
| World Book Day | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Thursday 7 th March |
| Nursery Stay and Play | Nursery Parents/Carers | Applegarth Primary School | Monday 11 th March 10:30am – 11:30am 2:00pm – 3:00pm |
| Red Nose Day | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Friday 15 th March |
| British Science Week | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd March |
| Robinwood Family Meeting | Year 6 Families | Applegarth Primary School | Wednesday 1st May 5:00pm – 5:45pm |
| Nursery Stay and Play | Nursery Parents/Carers | Applegarth Primary School | Wednesday 15 th May 10:30am – 11:30am 2:00pm – 3:00pm |
| Carlton Lodge | Year 5 | Carlton Miniott | Thursday 16 th May and Friday 17 th May 2024 |
| Pride Month | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | June 2024 |
| Autistic Pride Day | Whole School | Applegarth Primary School | Tuesday 18 th June |
| Robinwood | Year 6 | Robinwood , Alston | Monday 24 th June – Wednesday 26 th June 2024 |

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AMONG US

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, *Among Us* enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 60 million regular players each month) thanks to its unique nature, simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguise and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young *Among Us* players need to be aware of.

AGE RESTRICTION
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PEGI

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SENSITIVE PREMISE

In *Among Us*, up to three players are secretly assigned to be alien imposters, tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivors try to unmask them. While the concept's not far removed from traditional games like *Wink Murder* or TV shows such as *The Traitors*, some parents may feel uncomfortable about their child playing a video game in which deception and killing are prioritised.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of *Among Us*, but the majority of the animations depicting this are deliberately cartoonish and only appear very briefly. However, it is worth bearing in mind that the game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain elements (however heavily stylised they may be) could still upset some younger players.

CHAT BETWEEN PLAYERS

With up to 15 people participating in each game online, a large part of *Among Us*' appeal is speculating with fellow players who the imposters might be and making accusations. This dialogue through the in-game text chat can occasionally become heated – and could, of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they don't know in real life.

GOING OFF PLATFORM

While *Among Us* provides basic ways to communicate, many gamers prefer to use external services such as Discord: a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These undeniably make cooperation easier, but also create a potential route for children to hear inappropriate language – or for strangers to message them privately in an environment which isn't regulated by the game itself.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and costs less than £5 to obtain on console and PC. A related longer-term pitfall, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing ads on the mobile version or adding cosmetic touches to characters (such as different costumes). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without realising it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although *Among Us* is hugely popular with young gamers, it's possible that some children might find the murder themes unsettling. If so, plenty of similar social deduction games are available (in both digital and traditional board game formats) which downplay the potentially grislier elements: some centre around undercover spies, for instance, and there's even a Marvel superhero-themed variant.

CHAT ABOUT CHATTING

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with voice chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strangers online aren't always who they claim to be. Keeping the conversation relaxed will reinforce your child's confidence that they can always come to you with any online concerns – not just about *Among Us*, but any potential future issues as well.

DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent app for keeping online communities together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the platform, you could set up a secure server for your child and their friends to communicate during games of *Among Us*, with no access for people they don't know.

AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a private game of *Among Us* by choosing a 'local' lobby – that is, only people connected to the same WiFi (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users – who may be total strangers – from joining and removes the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

If you're concerned about the possibility of your child racking up an unexpected bill on *Among Us*' microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit. Likewise, you could specify in the game's options that adult authorisation is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that no payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site *GGRecon* and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including *IGN* and *TechRadar*.



National Online Safety®

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We ask all learners to first complete a free short **Introduction to working with children** course, where they will look at the basics of how schools function and determine which future learning pathway is right for each individual.

Upcoming online Introduction to Working with Children courses:

Saturdays 25th November - 16th December, 9:30am - 11:30am

Thursdays 30th November - 21st December, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Fridays 1st December - 22nd December, 9:30am - 11:30am

Progression is then to one or more of the following NCFE CACHE qualification courses:

Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools

Level 2 Award in Support Work in Schools and Colleges

Level 2 Certificate in Supporting Teaching & Learning

Level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning

For more information phone **01609 536 066** and ask to speak with a **Learner Engagement Officer**

Email: LearningAdvice@northyorks.gov.uk

Web: www.northyorks.gov.uk/adultlearning



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