

# Applegarth Primary School Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025



We marked VE Day's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary yesterday with a special assembly, a two minute silence of remembrance and various themed activities in classes.



Our Year 6 pupils will be sitting their KS2 SATs next week – I wish them all a restful weekend – get plenty of sleep and eat well! You've all worked so hard and are ready for this!

Our Year 5 pupils are off to Marrick Priory for their residential on Wednesday – an adventure awaits!

## SAFEGUARDING NOTICES

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

### Car Parking – VERY IMPORTANT

Please can parents ensure that they **do not use Upwell Road or the school car park** without prior agreement with the school. Parents should be using the main Applegarth Car Park at the end nearest to school for all parking. As well as causing a nuisance to our neighbours and congestion, the road and our school car park are constricted and a high volume of cars makes it unsafe.

Please can parents also make sure that their children are taking good care in the main Applegarth Car Park and being safe.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

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](mailto:dsl@applegarth.n-yorks.sch.uk)

# Year 3/4 Cricket!

Well done to the Year 3/4 cricket team this week. They worked hard in all their games and had a brilliant attitude towards their team mates and the other schools taking part. They were disappointed to come away without a medal for their hard work but they are winners in our eyes!





# Census Day – Special Menu – 15/05/25

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May is Census Day.

The amount of school dinners taken on this day affects the amount of money school receives as part of our funding formula. It is really helpful if as many children as possible take a school dinner that day.

The Catering team have put on a special 'Street Food Party' menu.



# Attendance

**Too many children are late to school each day. A late mark affects your child's attendance for the year. The target for attendance is 96%.**

**School starts at 8.50am. This means that children should be in the school building for 10 minutes to 9.**

Lessons start at this time. In order for this to happen, it is advised that you enter the playground a couple of minute before this so that your child has the time to walk across the playground, hang up their coat and get into class.



Children in each class start work from the moment they enter the classroom and it is important that from a safeguarding perspective that all staff are in the right place at the right time too. If you are late, this becomes lost learning time which can make further lessons more challenging.

**IMPORTANT – We are a 'NO NUTS'** school due to several children having severe allergies. Please check ingredients carefully and do not send in snacks/lunchbox items that contain nuts.





# Applegarth Primary School

## PE Timetable- Summer 1 2025



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nursery			✓		✓
Mrs Burrell*			✓		
Mrs Crossley			✓	✓	
Mrs Mitchell	✓		✓		
Mrs Hughes			✓	✓	
Mrs Cross	✓				
Mrs Slinger		✓			
Mr Whiteley					✓
Mrs Jones		✓			
Miss Mutch		✓			

**\* Reception:** Leave PE kits in school in drawstring PE bags.

**YEARS 1 – 6:** Wear your PE kit to school on the day/s that you have PE sessions. You do not need to bring uniform to change back into. In colder weather, wear black leggings/jogging bottoms and a red hoodie or school jumper.

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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**  
(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

CENSORED

While TikTok's Following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app *could* potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

## BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

## IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

## CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact with strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

## MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

## ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app: that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

### BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

## Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2025>



# OPAL

## We need your help!

Although we expect better weather next term, we do know there will still be rainy days and we would like to continue to use the field. To support us with this, please can your child have **wellies, or spare shoes** and a **waterproof coat with a hood** in school everyday. Their wellies/spare shoes should be in a plastic bag with their name on them.



## Den Building Area



We are aiming to develop our den building area. Tarp, crates, wooden planks and pallets are all great examples of what you could donate to our school to spark our creativity.

## Bikes

We are really short of bikes that are suitable for our **KS2 children**. If your child is growing out of their bike and it is in good working order, we would happily accept your donation.







2024/2025 Academic Year

Event	Class/ Phase	Location	Date and Time
KS2 SATs Week	Year 6	Applegarth Primary School	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Census Day – Special Menu	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Marrick Priory Residential	Y5	Marrick Priory, Reeth	14 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Animal Antics Assembly	Reception Class	Applegarth Primary School	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025
Half term holidays	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	School closes Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May and opens again on 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025
Mr Renwicks World Cup	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	18 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Sports Day	KS2 - AM KS1 – PM	Applegarth Primary School	2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025
Sports Day (back up day)	KS1 – AM KS2 – PM	Applegarth Primary School	9 <sup>th</sup> July 2025
Summer holidays	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	School closes Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July

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