

Volume 5|
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Newsletter



End of Winter

It is so wonderful to see the arrival of the brighter weather! It is still quite cold in the mornings, but blue skies were certainly a reminder of nice days to come!

As ever, it has been a very busy month at Grove Road, with some fantastic trips and workshops taking place. We have also received some mystery eggs in Violet Class this week, with some more arriving in Early Years very soon....

This week, we also say goodbye to Miss Musa who has been supporting in Year 1 and 2 this year. We wish her luck in her new role.

It has also been a pleasure to welcome some new children to the school this half-term, who have settled in brilliantly. It is always a joy to see how new families are welcomed into the community by everyone.

With thanks,

Mrs Grace Beckford
Acting Headteacher

"Our family school where all are equally valued"

New Local Offer Website

Hounslow council are pleased to announce that a brand new **SEND Local Offer website** is now live! You can view it here: www.hounslow.gov.uk/send-local-offer

This site provides advice, guidance and support for families with young people aged 0–25 and with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

There are also a number of SEND surgeries running throughout the borough, where you can drop-in for support, advice and signposting.

Come and speak to us in person at one of our SEND Surgeries below...

FEBRUARY Tuesday, 11 February Feltham Assembly Hall, TW14 9DN 11.30am – 1.30pm	MARCH Thursday, 13 March Hounslow House, TW3 3EB 11.30am – 1.30pm
APRIL Wednesday, 23 April Redlees Play Centre, TW7 6DW 10am – 12pm	MAY Friday, 16 May Brentford Library, TW8 8DW 10am – 12pm
JUNE Wednesday, 18 June Feltham Library, TW13 4GU 11.30am – 1.30pm	JULY Thursday, 10 July Lampton Family Hub, TW3 4JG 4pm – 6pm

Gold Class Safe Travel Workshop



Gold Class enjoyed a workshop about safe travel this week, through the medium of a drama performance. Their recall of what they had learned after the performance was very impressive.

Workshops such as this will help to prepare the children for independent travel in Secondary School.

Blue Class River Trip



Blue Class have had a great time exploring the River Thames – they were, as always, very well behaved and enjoyed the opportunity to explore the river shore!



Second Hand Uniform

We have seen a lot of use of our second-hand uniform shop this month and are pleased to continue to offer this all year round. Please visit <https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/grove-road-primary-school> to browse our selection and make any purchases that you would like.



Class Emails

We continue to have class mailboxes for you to contact your child's class teacher. These emails are monitored daily but please allow up to 48 hours for a response. For anything urgent, including reporting your child absent, please continue to contact the school office.

Red Class: red@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Orange Class: orange@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Yellow Class: yellow@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Green Class: green@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Blue Class: blue@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Indigo Class: indigo@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Violet Class: violet@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Gold Class: gold@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Rainbow Class: rainbow@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Coming up in March

3rd – Eggs arrive in Violet Class

4th & 5th March – Parents' Evenings

5th March – Author Visit

7th March – World Book Day – Dressing Up

10th – Eggs arrive in EYFS

10th – Gold Class Bikeability

12th – Gold Class Benjamin Franklin Workshop

13th – Violet Class Humanist Speaker

13th – Green Class Assembly

14th – Holi

17th – Gold Class Buddhist Temple Visit

17th – Neurodiversity Celebration Week

18th – Yellow Class Lookout Centre Trip

18th – KS2 Wellbeing Workshops

19th – KS1 & EYFS Wellbeing Workshops

20th – Neurodiversity Celebration Week Dressing Up

21st – Violet Class Hampton Court Trip

24th – Choir Performance at 9.15am

25th – Inclusion Leader Meetings with Parents

27th – Orange Class Kew Gardens Trip

www.groveroadprimary.co.uk



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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 HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

Meet Our Expert

John Inley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/horror-films-and-age-ratings>

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