

### KING'S ACADEMY COLLEGE PARK





### Tomorrow is #HelloYellow Day at KACP

Throughout the day we will be sharing well-being messages to spread the word that there is always someone you can talk to if you are worried. We will also be practising well-being life skills such as breathing exercises and yoga.

If you would like further information on how you can support your child's well-being please visit the <u>Young Minds website.</u>

# Attendance News Our school target for attendance is 96%

Last week the following year groups met that



target: Year R

Year 2

Year 3

Year 5

Year 3 had the best overall attendance with 98.3%

### Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been wonderful to see our Year 6 pupils back after their residential last week and to hear about their positive experiences! We are currently in the process of confirming dates for next Autumn - so Year 5 families - watch this space!

We are only 9 days away now until the half term break, and it feels as though it has flown by! There is still a lot happening over the next few weeks so please check the communication summary for any letters that may be relevant to your child! You can read the letters on our <u>website</u>.

I hope you have a fantastic week,

Mrs Carlyle

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **ND Team Coffee Morning**

Tuesday 10th October - 10am

### **Year 4 Residential Information Meeting**

Wednesday 11th October - 4.30pm

#### **Harvest Festival**

Monday 16th October

### **Individual & sibling photographs**

Tuesday 17th October

#### **EYFS 2024 Information Evening**

Wednesday 18th October 3.30pm and 5pm

Proud to be Pompey Day - Thursday 19th October

#### **INSET DAYS**

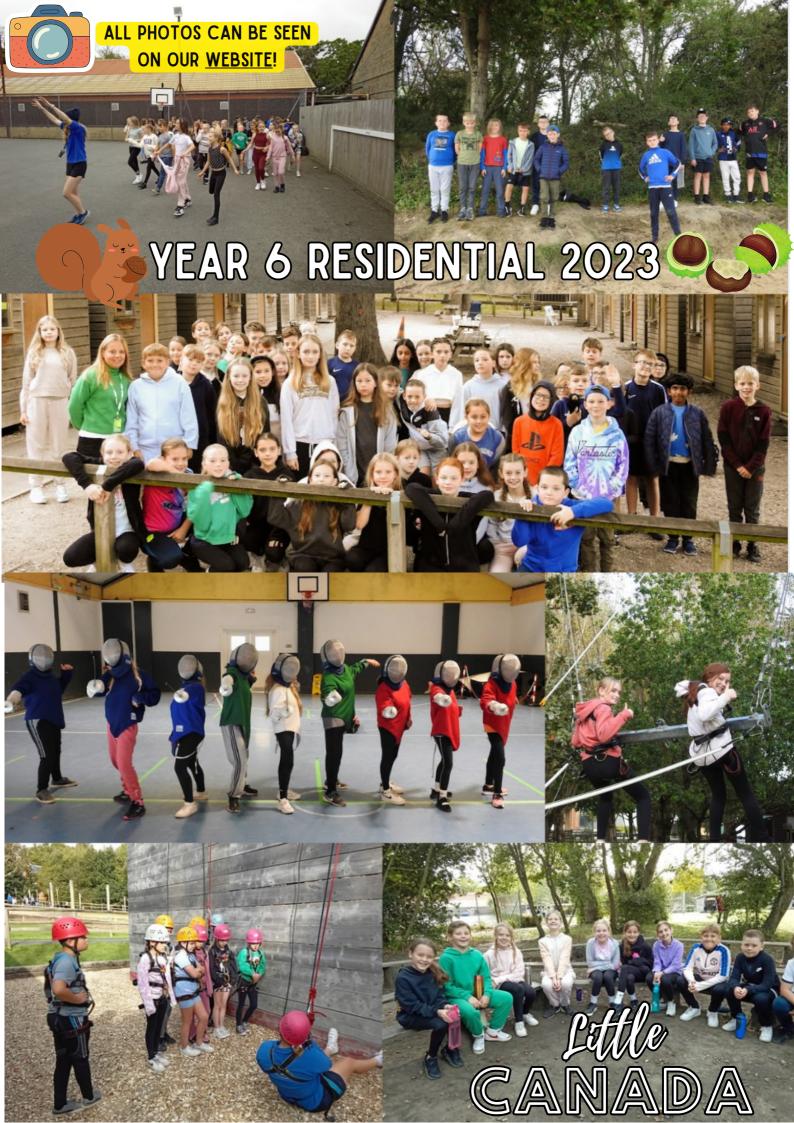
Friday 20th October & Monday 30th October

### **Parents Evenings**

Monday 6th November Wednesday 8th November

### **COMMUNICATION SUMMARY**

- Staff Absence Letter
- Year R Phonics Morning
- Year R Staunton Trip
- Year 1 Phonics Morning
- Year 1 Art Gallery
- Year 1 Walk to College Park
- Year 2 Phonics Morning
- Year 2 Stubbington Residential Reminder
- Year 2 Walk to Mountbatten
- Year 3 Fossil Request
- Year 6 Admiral Open Events
- Individual & Sibling Photographs

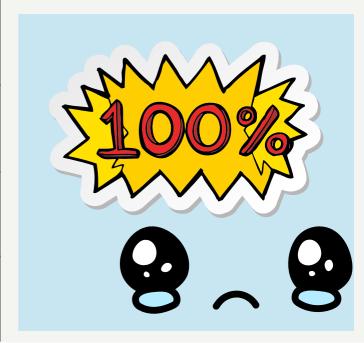


# **Infant Value Champions**

Hedgehog Class	Archie	Independence	Aria	Challenge
Squirrel Class	Ethan	Responsibility	Ayla	Independence
Rabbit Class	Indy	Challenge	Arabella	Independence
Fox Class	Arthur	Independence	Isabella	Kindness
Koala Class	Roman	Independence	Ali	Challenge
Wombat Class	Franklin	Independence		Challenge
Emu Class	Monroe	Kindness	Jacub	Responsibility
Dingo Class	Myla	Kindness	Maxwell C	Resilience
Lion Class	Gulnihal	Kindness	Leo	Responsibility
Flamingo Class	Eden	Resilience	Emil	Responsibility
Giraffe Class	Nathan	Responsibility	Mia	Challenge
Zebra Class	Olivia	Responsibility	Florence	Challenge

### **Infant Attendance Awards**

	Best Class	Year Group
Year R	Hedgehog	97.1%
Year 1	Dingo	95.4%
Year 2	Lion	96%

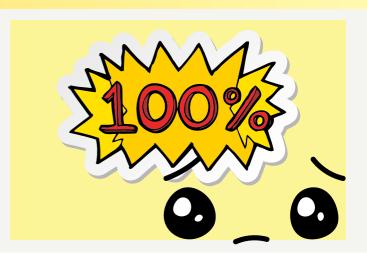


# **Junior Value Champions**

ЗАВ	Troy	Kindness	Frankie	Teeamwork
ЗНК/ЈС	Brax	Independence	Charlie	Challenge
3RW	Elliott	Resilience	Hama	Kindness
3FL	Marley	Responsibility	Zaynah	Independence
4ML	Karis	Independence	Freddie	Kindness
4CM	Maya	Responsibility	Idraaq	Challenge
4НТ	Gracie-Beau	Responsibility	Shaun	Resilience
4SS	Taiwo	Resilience	Ramona	Responsibility
5KM	Arthur	Challenge	Diamond	Independence
5JB	Jacob	Resilience	Dexter	Responsibility
5AC	Kacey	Resilience	Henry	Responsibility
5HW	Aaliyah	Responsibility	Jasper	Challenge
6AD				
6NC				
6BT				
6CD				

### **Junior Attendance Awards**

	Best Class	Year Group	
Year 3	3FL	98.3%	
Year 4	<b>4</b> SS	97.1%	
Year 5	5KM and 5AC	98.1%	
Year 6	6CD	95.3%	



### What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# AMONGUS

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.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### SENSITINE 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 porticular 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

Hoyd Coombes is Editor in Child of garning and esports alto GGRecon and has worked in the garning media for exound 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 10 Kin and Techkades.





National Online Safety° #WakeUpWednesday



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