

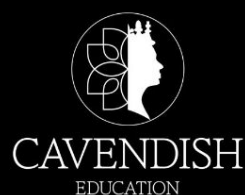


'At Cavendish Education, we are all deeply saddened to hear of the death of Her Majesty The Queen. Our thoughts and prayers are with King Charles III, The Queen Consort and the entire Royal Family at this time.

The Queen was virtuous, caring, dedicated and a devoted leader. She was steadfast, wise and graceful. For so many of us, an inspirational and extraordinary role model. She gave her life in service to us.

We are forever indebted to her as an organisation and as a country. Rest in peace.'

*Aatif Hassan, Chairman
Cavendish Education*



Notes from our Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carers

Welcome back to you and I hope that you all had a restful, fun and relaxing break over the summer.

The staff came back looking refreshed and rested last week and we had

training days from Thursday onwards in preparation for the return of the students on Tuesday. It really was so wonderful to see them coming back in. School is just not the same without them and there was quite a group of staff on the gate on Tuesday morning to welcome, meet and support learners back to school.

This week has been important in just settling students back in, supporting new learners joining the school to find their way around and settle into their tutor groups and also to welcome new staff joining the Gretton team. We are really delighted that we have new starters with us and will introduce them to you over time so that you can get to know who's who.

Particularly, we welcome Rachael Clements and Vicky Sellars (who was previously our English Lead) into the School Leadership Team - they are our two new Assistant Head Teachers for Key Stage 2 & 3 and Key Stage 4 & 5 respectively. Over the next couple of weeks, we hope that you will have a chance to come into school, meet your child's class team and get to know all the staff that will be supporting their school journey this year. This will be an opportunity for us to meet one another and share information about the school's approach. Do please come along to these meetings if you are able to - it would be lovely to see as many of you as possible.

The staff are already working on arranging events through this academic year to allow parents the chance to come in and see what we have been up to so please keep an eye on announcements and invitations in the newsletter for these, as we are so proud of your children and want to show you why!

The building works are moving on well and, although there has been some delay in getting hold of some materials, all being well, we hope that the new building will be ready for its grand opening towards the end of the first term. The children will be working on a time capsule to bury in the new build over the next few weeks - we are asking them to make predictions for the future, so this could be an interesting dinner conversation over the next couple of weeks to think of some ideas! Whilst the building work continues, the admin team have moved temporarily into the Messi classroom and we have had the old reception converted into a really beautiful new teaching space. Once complete, this will become Thunberg classroom. The building work has also allowed us to add 1:1/quiet room spaces to Pilgrim and Upland classes for those learners to enjoy when they need some time out of the busy learning environment.

We are excited to welcome our boarding learners back to Residential this week too - getting up early for school has been a bit of a shock to the system for everyone, but at least our boarding learners don't have far to go to get to

school.

Welcome back to you all and here's to another busy year ahead!



Beth Elkins
Headteacher

Please Note:

You may need to click *View Entire Message* at the end of the email to enjoy this newsletter in full! You may also need to click to *display images* to appreciate the images in this newsletter.



Friday 30th September
Macmillan Coffee Morning
(more details including how to donate will follow)

Friday 21st October
Students finish for half term

Puppy Love

Sherlock and Skyler were happy to reunite at school again!



Welcome to Gretton!

As our new term starts we would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members of staff that have joined our Gretton family.

We wish you all the best of luck in your new roles.

- Haidee Atkey-Smith - Primary Teacher
- Ildiko Csengei - English Teacher

- Gillian Heffer - TA
- Elizabeth Norris - DT Teacher
- Andrew Sparrow - TA
- Luke Green - PE Teacher
- Calli Moran - TA
- Karolina Stanulewicz - TA
- Jasmine Crowley - TA
- Wendy Gamble - TA



Expansion of the Dungeons & Dragons Club

Dungeons and Dragons club is a shared storytelling experience. Students start by creating their own characters, being able to play different fantasy archetypes such as fighter, wizard and cleric.

Transported to a world of monsters and magic run by the Dungeon Master, quests and treasure alike await them with a cast of colourful folk who inhabit the world they want to explore. The players get to choose where the story goes, where the only limit is their imagination and the favour of the dice. Some students choose to fully inhabit their characters with voices and props.

The shared aspect of the club really comes into play when a decision needs to be made. Students quickly learn that they need to work as a team, or else they will be overwhelmed by the monsters. Through tough encounters with zombies, werewolves, orcs and more, the characters get stronger, allowing them to tackle more dangerous threats.

Full of silly in-jokes like Petunia the Battle Cow (yes, you read that correctly) and with a camaraderie over unlucky dice rolls and epic moments, Dungeons and Dragons club now has two separate groups running on Mondays and Wednesdays.

And yes, there are dragons...

In light of the numbers Mr Heather got at the taster session this week, and the eagerness of some students to try the club, there will be a second club that will run on Monday lunches from 12:30 - 13:00 in the Science Lab.

Following feedback and discussion with the students, the Wednesday club will continue on from last year involving the same students. This one will not be taking on any new players.

The Monday group will be a mixture of new and returning players, with priority given to new players. There will be a cap of 6 students for now.

This will be a new adventure at 1st level so that it is easily accessible for new players. If later on in the year you have interested students, please can you direct them to the Monday club.

Pilgrim Get Baking

Students have been busy settling into the first week of term.

Here is a lovely photo of some of our Pilgrim Class students happily making (and eating!) caramelised onion and cheese pastries in their Food Technology Class this week.

They look delicious, well done!



Past Students

We thought, as we welcome a new academic year, it would be a good opportunity to reflect on students who have come and gone and what they have achieved since leaving Gretton.

C who went to City College Norwich, passed his first year of college with a Distinction on the Level 2 Creative Media Production and Technology course. He will now be moving on to Level 3.

"Without all you guys at Gretton this wouldn't have been possible. We are so so proud of him. Again thank you all." C's mum

B, who left in 2014, enrolled at Suffolk New College. He completed 3 courses at college. He has now been formally offered an unconditional offer at Norwich University to study Art and Gaming.

W, went to City College Norwich to study Uniformed Services. His family had wanted him to attend a 6th Form and study A Levels, however this pathway was an alternative. He has now completed his studies at college with a Distinction, Merit, Merit grade. He will be starting an International Relations BSc (Hons) course at the University of Surrey this September. He is currently preparing to move down there as this goes out.



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 devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AMAZON FIRE TABLETS

The Amazon Fire Tablet is a popular choice: not only are Amazon's own-brand devices more affordable than most other tablets on the market, but some models are designed specifically for youngsters (the Fire 7 Kids, Fire 8 HD and Fire HD 10 are aimed at ages 3-7, for example, while the 'Pro' range is geared toward 8 to 12-year-olds). Fires come with access to a wealth of entertaining content, from child-friendly TV shows and videos to age-appropriate games and ebooks.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STORAGE ISSUES

Many parents have bemoaned the Amazon Fire's relative lack of storage space. Fires ship with either 16GB or 32GB of memory, so if your child gets busy downloading books, games and videos, they'll quickly run out of room. You could invest in an SD card for extra storage (especially if multiple youngsters are sharing the device), so it's worth factoring in this possible additional expense.

GETTING LOCKED OUT

If your child unsuccessfully attempts to bypass your security PIN code (to access the Fire's parental control settings, for instance) too many times, this could easily result in them being locked out of their device – and, arguably even worse, you being locked out of your Amazon or Kindle account. If this happens, the Amazon Support team will be able to help you regain access.

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

Like most digital technology, Amazon Fires and their child-friendly content tend to be highly engaging to young users. You might find your child often spending hours staring at their tablet, leading to irritability when asked to put it down. It may be a wise move to adjust the built-in screen time settings so you can control exactly how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

'ASSISTANCE' FROM ALEXA

Though the Amazon Fire's parental controls are comprehensive and allow you to limit access to age-inappropriate content, your child could still potentially bypass those restrictions using Alexa, Amazon's built-in AI assistant. We recommend that you switch off this functionality altogether by toggling Alexa to 'off' in the Settings menu.

FAULTY OLDER MODELS

Back in 2018, Amazon announced a product recall of the Amazon Fire 7 and Kids' Edition power adapters, due to a fault which caused an increased risk of electrical shock. This is no longer an issue on newer models of the Fire tablet, but it's unquestionably worth remembering if you're thinking about picking up a second-hand device for your child.

Advice for Parents & Carers

REGISTER ON YOUR ACCOUNT

Before your child uses their Fire, you'll need to register it to an Amazon account. Rather than having to set up a dedicated Amazon account for them, Amazon's 'Household' feature simply lets you add a separate profile to your own account. In-app purchases and Amazon store access are set to 'off' by default on child accounts, so young ones can't buy anything on their Fire without the password.

CONSIDER A CODENAME

When you add a child profile on a Fire, you can select an image to represent your child and then enter their name, gender and date of birth. To keep things extra secure, you might want to consider using a codename for your child's profile – keeping their real name private from Amazon or anyone else who might ever get access to the account.

FILTER SHARED CONTENT

You'll also be asked during the set-up process whether you want the Amazon Fire to be able to share any digital content that you've already purchased. We advise selecting 'For Kids' at this point, as this will only show the family-friendly books or videos in your content library, as opposed to any movies, shows or audiobooks you might have downloaded that aren't suitable for little ones.

SET A PASSWORD OR PIN

You'll also be prompted to set a lock screen password or PIN. This is recommended to prevent your child from accessing device settings, browsing the internet, downloading social media or making in-app purchases. If more than one child will be sharing the tablet, you can create a lock screen PIN for each of their profiles, so that each child can only access content that's appropriate for their individual age.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

The Fire's parental controls are very thorough and worth utilising. They let you choose, for example, to restrict access to additional settings such as location-based services, the built-in camera, and specific content types (such as apps). You can also set daily goals and time limits to specify when – or, crucially, for how long – your child can use their Fire tablet.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry, previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer. Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GOOGLE CHROMEBOOK

Google Chromebooks were first introduced in 2011 as a budget-friendly alternative to Windows laptops. They have a cloud-based desktop operating system created by Google that performs internet-based tasks simply and quickly. Although primarily optimised for Google apps – such as Gmail and Google Drive – newer devices also support Android apps and offer a range of parental controls via the Google Family Link tool. Nonetheless, whilst these tools are comprehensive, there are some limitations which means there are a number of risks trusted adults should be aware of.



SETTING UP

SET UP FAMILY LINK

To do this, first install the "Google Family Link" app onto your smartphone to set up an account for your child. If you're setting up a new account, it's important you follow the setup process and sign in with your parent account, as this now decides on special privileges. Once this is done, you can add your child's account to the Chromebook.

DISABLE GUEST MODE

If "Guest mode" or the ability to add new users is disabled, your child may be able to bypass the Chromebook's parental controls. To disable this, sign into the Chromebook with your parent account, head to "Settings" > "Manage other people" and turn on "Restrict sign-in to the following users". From there, you'll be able to turn off the "Guest browsing" feature.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

In your child's account, head to "Settings" > "People" > "Parental controls set up" to begin the process. This will confirm the child's account you want to enable parental controls for and will list the devices that can be protected. You'll then be asked to enter the email and password, before being prompted to ask your child to confirm the supervision via their password.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE, ALL THE TIME

As "internet-first" devices, Google Chromebooks are reliant on a Wi-Fi connection, with only limited support for offline tasks. This means your child has access to the internet at all times, with an ever-present risk of being exposed to online harm, particularly as Family Link is only able to block most inappropriate content. Even if your child isn't searching for inappropriate websites and information, there's always the chance that they might see something that could upset them.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like most technology, laptops are addictive in nature, and you might find your child spending too long staring at their Chromebook – particularly given its support for Android apps, such as games and social media platforms. This could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks.

BEWARE OF MALWARE

Although Google's Chrome OS features a number of built-in security measures, that doesn't fully eliminate the risk of malware, which can be downloaded onto the machine via phishing emails or from downloading malware-based content. This should be a particular concern if your child is taking their laptop into school, as the malware could find itself entering the school's network and infecting other pupils' laptops.

Advice for Parents & Carers

There are a number of safety features that you can enable to keep your child safe while using Google Chromebook:

- 1 Disable guest mode and control who can sign into your child's Chromebook
- 2 Restrict or block access to apps from the Chrome Web Store and the Google Play Store
- 3 Disable Incognito Mode so you can always track what sites your child has been on.
- 4 Manage the websites your children can visit on Chrome
- 5 Limit your child's ability to grant permissions to websites
- 6 Check Family Link to ensure the Chrome browser default is set to block sexually explicit and violent sites from being shown to children
- 7 Set bedtimes, screen-time limits, and lock devices when not in use

Meet Our Expert

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



<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/family-link/>
<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/parental-controls/>
<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/setting-up-a-new-account/>
<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/what-are-the-risks/>
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All 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 games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, sexual grooming and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'Oders' and are quite common in Roblox. An Oder is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter Oders. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy avatars (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monetary spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises, ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Claire Dodds (A.K.A. Sunsoft) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2016, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Sunsoft Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

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pinpoint
for parents by parents

Our FREE online events and groups



Just a reminder that the Pinpoint team will be taking a break over the summer holidays to spend time with their families.

However, they have a very full timetable of events lined up in September and they are really looking forward to seeing you all again then. Check out our [events page](#) for details.

Sessions are currently all online and booking is easy via the [events page](#).
Upcoming events for September:

12th September 10am-12pm Why is school so difficult for my autistic child? [Book here.](#)

16th September 10am-12pm Pinpoint parent carer Tii Hub. [Book here.](#)

19th September 10am-12pm Autism - does my child need a diagnosis? [Book here.](#)

21st September 10am-12pm What is ADHD? Exploding the myths. [Book here.](#)

22nd September 10am-12pm Supporting your child's sensory needs. [Book here.](#)

23rd September 10am-12pm Pinpoint parent carer Tii Hub. [Book here.](#)

26th September 10am-12pm Preparing for adulthood - what I need to know when my child leaves school. [Book here.](#)

28th September 10am-12pm Responding to your ADHD child with 1,2,3, magic. [Book here.](#)

30th September 10am-12pm Pinpoint parent carer Tii Hub. [Book here.](#)

All of these sessions will be held online. Zoom links to join will be sent from Eventbrite 2 days before and again 2 hours before the start of each session. Please do check your junk mail as they sometimes end up there! Thank you.



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