



06/03/2020

World Book Day

Many thanks to all of the families and staff members who decorated the fantastic costumes and t-shirts which brightened up the school. There were lots of smiles and plenty of book talk! Remember that every day of the year is a day for books. Share a book tonight, who knows where the story will take you!

At Ryefield, we continue to reinforce the importance of reading. One of the targets we have set ourselves is that every child leaves the school with a reading age that is in line with their chronological age. Reading well by the age of 11 ensures that children are reading above what is considered the

basic level of functional literacy for an adult.

It means children are able to read lots of different materials – including books, letters and short articles in magazines and newspapers. People reading at this level are able to read and follow written instructions where each step contains up to three short sentences, and to look at graphical resources, such as a town map or a price list that is up to a page long. If

people are reading at this level, then they are able to consult reference books or a dictionary to be able to look up information.

When children have fallen behind in reading by 11, the impact can last for the rest of their lives. They are less likely to go on to secure good qualifications. Their chances of getting a good job and pulling themselves out of poverty are severely diminished, plus there are wider issues, such as increased risks of poor health and poor lifestyle choices.

How can our children be supported at home? Ten minutes daily reading makes the word of difference. A little bit of reading every day appears to be better than less frequent, more extended periods: pupils who read on a daily basis, even for a few minutes, may experience more growth in reading ability than students who read for an extended period once or twice a week.



Books and stories are important, as they offer a way of expanding cultural and imaginative horizons, introducing children to a wide range of vocabulary and grammatical structures, and introducing the concept of 'beginning, middle and end'. But reading anything counts, particularly if it builds on the child's personal interests. This more eclectic and inclusive view of reading material is good for children and good for parents. From a child's point of view, allowing her or him to choose

their own materials gives them a sense of ownership, and is more likely to result in them enjoying reading and persisting with it.

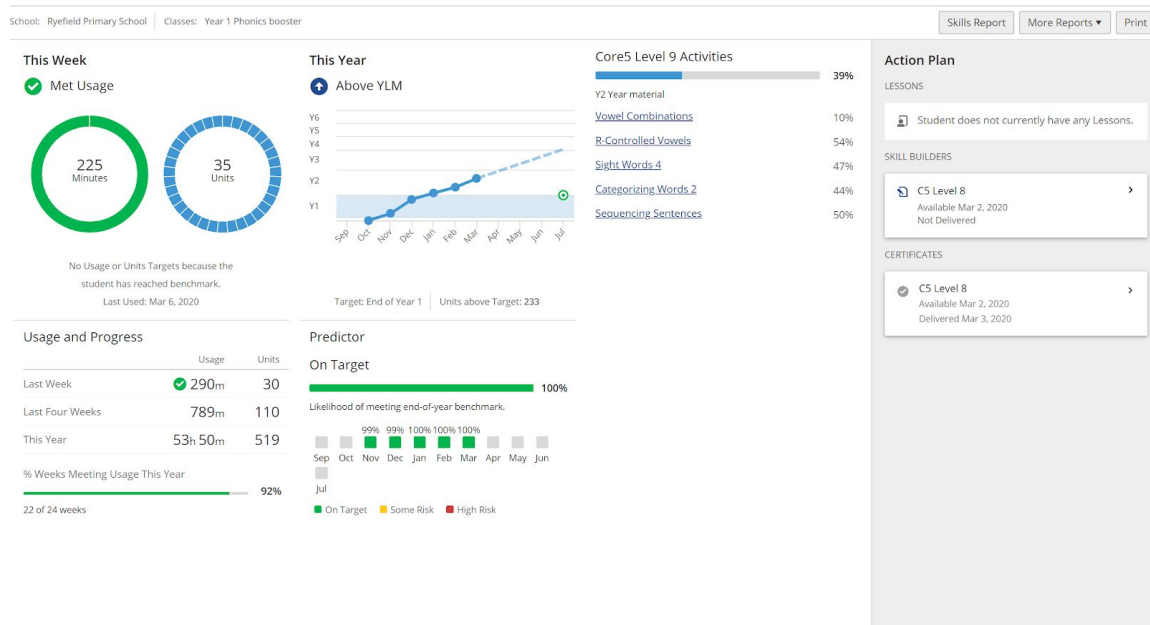
Boys in particular benefit from reading being made purposeful in terms of following their interests. And from a parent's point of view it allows for the opportunity to integrate reading into everyday life, whether while on the bus or looking at the breakfast cereal packet in the morning.



Please can we ask parents to be considerate of local residents when parking. Furthermore, please ensure your own child's safety. On

Wednesday, I was horrified to see a parent stop outside the school gates, open the rear passenger door and whizz off with their child still in the process of leaving the car. This is dangerous and can be upsetting for your child - who then had to hurry inside. Please can we also ensure that children, particularly on scooters, pay close attention to the traffic around them - either parked cars or cars leaving driveways.

Lexia Core 5



Many pupils across the school have been provided with additional learning materials such as Times Tables Rockstars, MyMaths, Lexia Core 5. These are provided free to families (and at a significant cost to the school) to ensure that your child gets the best support they can at home and at school. PLEASE ensure that they become part of your home learning routines.

The above image is from a pupil in Year 1 who has (since mid-October) regularly used Lexia both at home and at school. This amazing individual has amassed nearly 54 hours of learning and is accessing materials which would normally be used by Year 2 pupils.

The software platforms we use present the learning as games and guided exercises and are invaluable in helping us ensure your child achieved their potential. In the coming months we will also be rolling out additional home learning via the platform Education City - this website will provide support for English, Maths and Science.

Coronavirus

The school continues to work closely with the Department for Education, the local authority and Public Health England. Current guidance is as follows:

No school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.



Advice for parents/guardians

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus.

There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above.

What action can you take?

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus.

Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands for approximately 20 seconds and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

Department for Education Coronavirus helpline

Today, we have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687 Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Where to find the latest information

Updates on COVID-19: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Guidance for educational settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>





The latest digital trend growing in popularity for our children are apps on their phone or tablet that look like one thing but are secretly hiding another purpose. They first became particularly popular in 2016. However, children are becoming more and more familiar with 'secret' photo hiding apps, where an app which looks relatively ordinary is actually a hidden gateway to private photos and videos. These apps allow their users to hide images, videos and notes within the app which is also passcode protected. One of the most common types of hidden app used is a 'fake calculator' app however many others are also available.



What parents need to know about HIDDEN PHOTO APPS

MAY HIDE 'SEXTING'

The most common use for the apps is to hide 'sexting' images which young people may be sending or receiving. This problem is growing rapidly amongst students, and from an increasingly early age. Not only is sexting dangerous, but it is illegal when it involves a minor even if both the sender and receiver are underage. By storing and sending these images, young people should be aware that they are committing a crime.

ENCOURAGE IMPULSIVE BEHAVIOUR

Young people tend to act more impulsively if they believe that their behaviour will go unnoticed and remain secret, so often they will produce content for these apps thinking that it will be safe. Let's face it, how many adults read all the small print in the terms and conditions, so why would we expect our children to.

FAKE/DECOY PASSWORDS

Some of the most secure apps that are available offer the ability to set-up a decoy feature as an added layer of security. This allows the user to provide a fake password which, when used, directs people to a decoy folder containing content of the user's choice or just stock photos. The real password provides access to the secret folder within the app.

PRIVACY RISK

If you are aware that your children are using the app, you should read the small-print in the usage policy/terms and conditions to ensure the developers do not have access to any of the images stored on the device. If the photos are linked to a cloud storage, then the images stored are also in danger of being released if the application is compromised/hacked.

BYPASS PARENTAL CONTROLS

Although these apps are not specifically 'targeting' their advertisements towards children, they can generally be used by anyone over the age of 4. This means that these apps will not be blocked automatically by parental controls. Whilst online platforms, such as Apple, have removed these apps on numerous occasions from their app store, due to their popularity and potential profitability for creators, they continue to be produced and find their way into the stores or available for download.



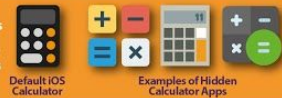
Safety Tips For Parents

TRY TO REMAIN VIGILANT

There is a natural human instinct to believe that what we see on screen is real and accurate. If you are concerned that your child might be using secret apps, you may want to look at their phone. The search feature on a device can be used to type keywords such as 'secret', 'hidden' and 'photo vault'. On iOS, this can be done by swiping down on the home screen to open a search bar. If the app appears and says 'Open' then the app is installed. If it says 'Get' then it is not installed. On an android device, you can go to the apps menu and use the search bar at the top of the screen.

QUESTION THE AUTHENTICITY OF DUPLICATE APPS

You should be aware that almost every mobile device will have pre-installed apps, such as notes and calculator, so the first major warning sign would be to look for duplicates of these apps. By default, the pre-installed apps are almost always displayed on the first page of the home screen.



DISCUSS THE DANGERS OF 'SEXTING'

Ensure your child is aware of the dangers of sexting, and how it is illegal to keep or distribute images of minors. Try to talk to your children in a positive way and encourage them to take control of their online persona and what they are posting to others. Remind them that they always have a choice and that they can say no to anything that makes them feel even the slightest bit uncomfortable.



LOOK OUT FOR IN-BUILT 'HIDDEN' FEATURES

IPhones have the option to lock notes within the default Notes app. Users can paste images into a note file and lock it using Touch/Face ID and a password. In addition, iOS allows their users to move images to a Hidden folder in the photos app. When an image is moved to the hidden folder, it is removed from the 'All Photos' folder. To find this folder, open the 'Photos' app, scroll down and click 'Hidden'. Users may also create folders to try and hide the app on their home screen or on a second or third page. If you see a folder on your child's device, ensure you check each page for hidden apps.

CONTROL APP USAGE

If your child's iOS device is linked to your Apple ID account, you are able to set a password for downloading apps which only you know. This will mean every-time your child tries to download an app, they will need your password to do so. If you do not have access to your child's Apple ID, you can delete the app without a passcode. This will delete any images stored on the app and will not be recoverable, even if the app is redownloaded.

Meet our expert

Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.



SOURCES: <https://www.businessinsider.my/apple-pulls-private-photos-calculator-from-app-store-2018-4/>, <https://smartsocial.com/private-photo-calculator-app/>, <https://offspring.lifehacker.com/is-your-teen-hiding-sexting-photos-in-a-fake-calculator-1829529749>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

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Striving for Excellence

PLEASE TREAT HEAD LICE

All hair must be tied up. Please check your child/children's hair regularly as per leaflet sent out via email this week.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child is in the correct school uniform. We have noticed some individuals not conforming to the expectations applied to all pupils - NO nail extensions or dyed hair.



STICK ON YOUR FRIDGE: DATES

Junior Citizens event at Brunel University - 9th March

Parents Evening - 11th and 12th March

Swimming Gala - 12th March

Year 3 trip to the Science Museum - 17th March

Mothers Day Shop - 20th March

Spring Disco - 27th March

End of Term - Friday 3rd April 2020

School finishes at 1.30pm **Infants**

School finishes at 1.35pm **Juniors**

Term Starts - Monday 20th April 2020

Bank Holiday - Friday 8th May 2020

Half Term - Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2020

End of Term - Friday 17th July 2020

School finishes at 1.30pm **Infants**

School finishes at 1.35pm **Juniors**

