

Weekly newsletter

Friday the 7th of November 2025

Manchester
Communication
Primary
Academy

A message from Mr Reed, our headteacher:

Welcome back! We have had a wonderful first week back at MCPA after our lovely 2-week break.

Whilst we were away, builders were busily working in our reception and Y1 classrooms to put doors into the archways, closing-off the classrooms. This will support pupils to focus on their learning whilst also making our building safer and more secure.

On that note, you will notice that the school gates are now locked 8-8:25am. If you are coming to breakfast club, please press the buzzer and do not leave the gate pinned open. This change has been made in response to parent feedback about security.

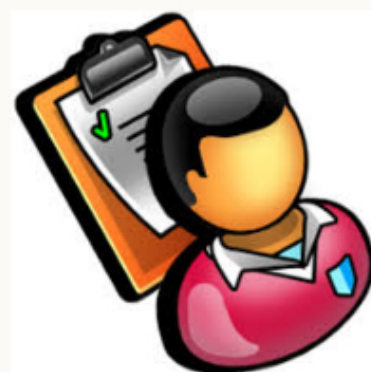
Parkstead Drive continues to be a school street at drop off and pick-up. Only blue badge holders and residents are permitted to drive down the street. All other cars risk a fixed penalty notice which can be issued by cameras.



Have you got the Trackit Lights app? You can see all your child's points on this. You can also see what their current attendance percentage is.

Don't forget to order your child's dinner on school spider

Class	This week's attendance:	This week's lates:
Y6 Elder	97.85%	0
Y6 Maple	98.77%	5
Y5 Hawthorn	99.62%	8
Y5 Aspen	91.57%	1
Y4 Ash	94.25%	3
Y4 Juniper	93.70%	7
Y3 Elm	95.83%	6
Y3 Silver Birch	95.91%	9
Y2 Oak	93.10%	2
Y2 Willow	98.47%	2
Y1 Beech	98.89%	6
Y1 Pear	93.42%	1
R Cherry	100.00%	4
R Hazel	100.00%	2
Nursery	95.05%	2



This week's best attendance:

Rec Hazel & Cherry!

Punctuality winner:

Y6 Elder

Which house has the most trackits?

Tib

Medlock

Irk

Irwell

8409

10008

8114

7398

Spotlight on: The football team!

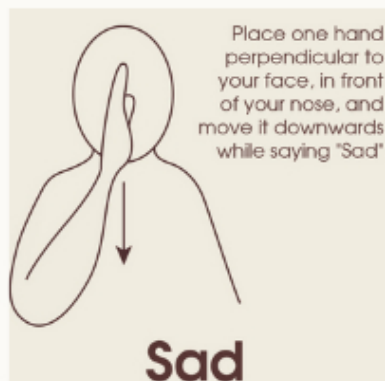


This week saw the boys Y5/6 team enter their first tournament. They performed brilliantly and were an absolute credit to the school.
Well done boys!

Sign of the week

Each week, we will be learning a new sign from MAKATON sign language.

Sad and happy



Song of the week

This week's song of the week is Happy by Pharrell Williams



Pharrell Williams' song "Happy" is a bright reminder to hold onto joy even during the cold, dark months. Its upbeat rhythm and cheerful lyrics encourage us to focus on positivity, no matter the season. When the days feel shorter and the skies stay gray, "Happy" reminds us that our mood doesn't have to match the weather. By clapping along and embracing its carefree energy, we can lift our spirits and spread warmth to those around us. Pharrell's message is simple but powerful: happiness is a choice—and even in winter's chill, it's something we can create and share.

Celebrating our weekly winners:

	Star of the week	Trackit champion:	Champion reader:
Nursery	Ellias	NA	Anays
Rec Cherry	Kemo	Grayson	Zayan
Rec Hazel	Leo	Natallie	Hoorain A
Y1 Beech	Harlen	Michael	Lynaya
Y1 Pear	Ava-Grace	Ayan	Kevani
Y2 Oak	Safa	Omer	Diyan
Y2 Willow	Elyam	Ruva	Kobby
Y3 Elm	Shouq	Annelise	Charlotte
Y3 Silver Birch	Alsideeg	Siona	Leon
Y4 Ash	Fatima	Khadijah	David
Y4 Juniper	Savannah	Kien	Kyan
Y5 Aspen	Sarim	Maria	Murad
Y5 Hawthorn	Arthur	Zaisha	Ane
Y6 Elder	Tiffany	Anastasiia	Elana
Y6 Maple	Hadi	Endurance	Rosie



Attitude



Behaviour



Courage



Determination



Enthusiasm



Friendship



Grit

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AMIGO

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more functions become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

AGE RATING

18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNICATION

While online chats and livestreaming are a great way to communicate with people that children can trust (such as friends and family), Amigo encourages users to connect with complete strangers and develop a friendship through private chats, calls and videos. This will be a clear red flag for most parents, due to the possibility of a child encountering inappropriate content or an online predator.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT

Within minutes of signing up for our trial of Amigo (and without using a profile photo), users of the opposite sex were messaging with suggestive statements such as "You're just my type" and "let's have fun". While the app's stated intent is to help people build friendships, some users obviously seek to take those relationships in a more mature and amorous direction.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Like many apps that are free to download, Amigo's business model is centred on in-app purchases. Users are encouraged to pay for VIP membership – enabling them to send more messages each day and boosting their profile's visibility. People can also buy coins (again, for real money) which allow them to send virtual gifts and further increase the number of messages they can send daily.

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Amigo makes no secret of the fact that it's for people aged 18 or above. There's no age verification, however, so a young person could simply sign up under a false date of birth. The app's algorithm claims to match users of similar ages (making them more compatible), but either the algorithm isn't very reliable, or most users have entered a fake age which doesn't correspond with their profile pic.

REWARDS FOR REPEATED USE

Amigo gifts virtual coins to users if they reply to messages within 10 seconds, while there are also daily rewards for posting comments, sharing a video, getting likes or simply opening the app. It also encourages increasing 'Intimacy Levels' with other users to unlock extra features: once someone's online 'friendship' reaches Intimacy Level 3, they can hold one-to-one video calls with each other.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MONITOR DOWNLOADS

As well as frequent catch-ups with your child about what they've enjoyed doing online, you could consider taking the additional step of physically checking their phone every so often to see which apps they've installed. The safest option could be to enable 'ask to buy' (Apple) or 'purchase approvals' (Android) on their device, meaning your authorisation is needed to download any apps.

RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS

Apps have age restrictions for a reason, and Amigo is very definitely a mature content platform. Given that many of Amigo's users apparently use a bogus date of birth, you might want to remind your child about the implications of setting up a fake profile – such as being exposed to messages and videos that make them feel uncomfortable or feeling pressured into chatting with strangers.

BLOCK, REPORT, DISCUSS

Many children already know that connecting with strangers online is dangerous, but it never hurts to refresh their memory. Whatever communication apps your child uses, make sure they're fully aware that if anything online makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or upset, then they can block the user responsible, report the content, take a screenshot as evidence and come to tell you straight away.

ACTIVE LISTENING

If your child does approach you with a concern, make time to stop what you're doing and actively listen. Let them talk without interrupting or showing any judgement, then discuss their options and the possible solutions: this empowers them and reassures them that you're there to be supportive. If the issue is one that has put your child at risk, however, you may wish to contact the police.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Key dates for Autumn Term 2:

Showcases – An opportunity for parents to visit their child's classrooms and join in with your child's learning 3:15-3:45pm

- Tuesday 25th November - Year 3 and 4 Showcase
- Tuesday 2nd December - Year 5 and 6 Showcase

Christmas events

Tuesday 16th of December, 9:30am. Y2 Christmas performance in the hall.

Tuesday 16th of December, 3pm. Reception and NEST class Christmas Craft sessions in classrooms.

Wednesday 17th of December, 9:30am. Y1 Christmas concert in the hall.

Wednesday 17th of December, 3:30pm. Christmas fair in the hall.

Thursday 18th of December, Christmas dinner & Christmas jumper day (£1 donation).

Thursday 18th of December, 2pm. Nursery Christmas stay & play.

Friday 19th of December, Christmas disco day, wear party clothes.

Other key events

- Thursday 13th November - School photograph day (individual and sibling photos)
- Monday 15th December - School reports go live on school spider
- Friday 19th December - School closes at 2pm for the 2 week Christmas break
- Monday 5th January - Return to school for Spring Term



Attitude



Behaviour



Courage



Determination



Enthusiasm



Friendship



Grit