



## Fishergate Primary School Newsletter

4.4.2025

We have been contacted by the residents of the blocks of flats on Escrick Street, complaining that our parents are using their private carpark when dropping off and picking up. Please be aware that this carpark is private and not for public use.

After Easter the crossing patrol man will be assisting with crossing both parts of the road, rather than just the one directly in front of school. Please could you make sure that your children know to wait for him to get to their side of the road so that he can help them to cross safely.

We have had such a lovely Spring term – your children have shown kindness, resilience and always worked to the best of their ability. Thank you to you for your fantastic support and for helping to make Fishergate such a happy place to work.

Please see the bottom of this letter for details about a fundraising stall that some of our amazing Y5/6s are running after school on the first Friday back.

Have a lovely Easter holiday and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

The school building is used for lettings after school by a range of external providers. If you would like your child to join one of the following clubs, **please contact the provider directly** for further information about times, costs and availability.

Monday: KS2 Chess

[dan@chessinschools.co.uk](mailto:dan@chessinschools.co.uk)

Monday: Karate

[adamgoodison138@hotmail.com](mailto:adamgoodison138@hotmail.com) or

mobile 07859 903237

Monday: Rainbows and Brownies

[gracias.diddm@gmail.com](mailto:gracias.diddm@gmail.com) or mobile

07870 121135

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday: York Dance Works

[yorkshiredance@outlook.com](mailto:yorkshiredance@outlook.com)

Wednesday: York Allstars Taekwondo

[lambleyyork@gmail.com](mailto:lambleyyork@gmail.com)

Wednesday: Year 4/5/6 Art Club

[Lucy.monkman@btinternet.com](mailto:Lucy.monkman@btinternet.com)

Thursday: York Tai Chi

[paulpauljojo@gmail.com](mailto:paulpauljojo@gmail.com)

### FRIENDS OF FISHERGATE

The Spring Disco last week raised a fabulous £450! Friends would like to send out a big 'Thank You' to everyone who supported this event, it was a lovely evening - disco dancers, parent helpers and families, and teachers make these events shine!



### DIARY DATES

Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> – First day of summer term

## **PHASE UPDATES**

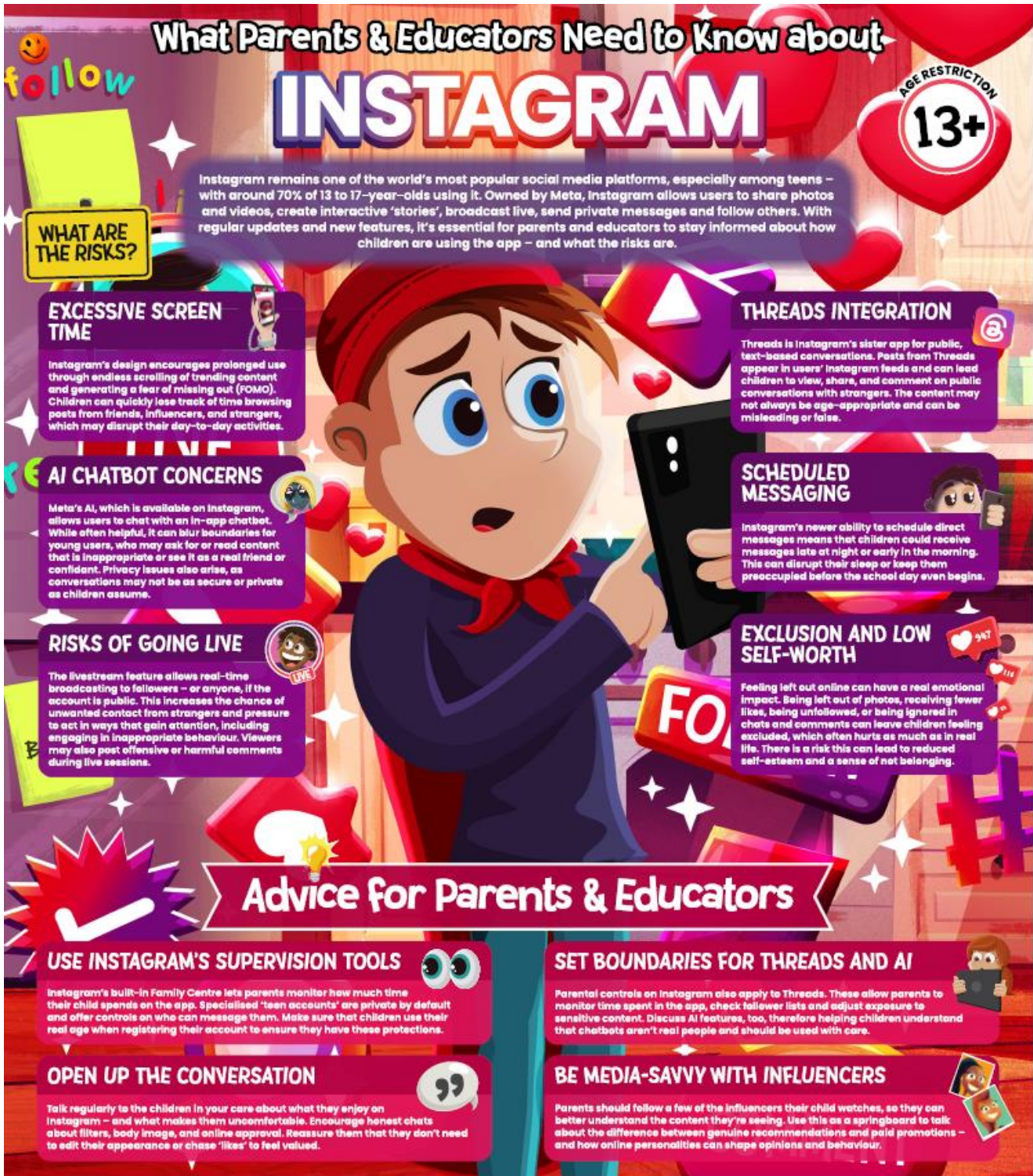
**EYU** – This week we have had an egg-cellent time in early years. We have been making our own Easter eggs by melting chocolate and adding mini eggs, we created Easter cards using play dough and photography and we read ‘Dora’s Eggs’ in story time. We had a lovely time hunting for ladybirds in the forest and spotting spring blossom and buds.

**Year 1/2** – KS1 have been finishing off our ‘Who Am I?’ dinosaur poems and making some moving dinosaur pictures. We’ll also be doing some Easter crafts on Friday to celebrate breaking up for the holidays. We hope all our families have a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break.

**Year 3/4** - This week Yr 3/4 have been writing very formally to Rachael Maskell , showing our concern about air pollution in York and what can be done to make our city a healthier place to live in. We have been impressed with our children’s formal and emotive language which we hope will persuade Rachael to respond with a reply!

**Y5/6** - Ms Rees and Mr Burnell’s class enjoyed a visit from Lightning, Oreo and Lily - three guinea pigs who were happy to be handled by the children. Equally exciting has been the completion of guides to a fictional country by Year 6 and terrific stories by Year 5 in English.





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

### AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

### RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

### THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

### SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

### EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

### SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

### OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

### BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.



## Our Fishergate Environment stall

We are going to be running a stall on the Friday after the Easter holidays to raise money for the RSPB and the RSPCA.

It is 4 items for £1 or 1 item for 30p, but cakes are 50p. We will be selling bracelets, cakes, biscuits, pokemon cards, loom band charms, origami bookmarks, fortune tellers, 3D printed things and more!

It will be in the playground after school. For all years.

**Please bring cash to help us!!!!**

**See you there!**

Amber, Anwen, Hester, Henry and Xanthe