



Newsletter

15th May 2026



Dear Parents and Carers of Greenleas School,

It was an exciting week of educational visits and journeys this week. Year 3 headed out to the Milton Keynes Museum on Tuesday, where they learned about all things Roman and came home with their own mosaic. On Wednesday it was Year 4's turn to make a flying visit (pun intended) to Duxford Air Museum as part of their History lessons.

Despite the fact that the heavens opened every time they went outside, the children returned enthusiastic and full of

new knowledge.

On Wednesday I had lunch with the well-mannered children of Reception and KS1 at Kestrel Way. Toby, Oscar, Sylvia, Grace, Lillian, Leo and I were joined by Emi who missed her turn last time because she was unwell. We talked about our favourite animals - horses, rabbits, dogs, cats and of course Hello Kitty (although opinion was divided on whether she was allowed) before heading off for play time.

I would like to share with parents and carers that I will be taking part in the Milton Keynes edition of the Race for Life on Sunday June 7th in support of Cancer Research and all those members of our school community and beyond whose lives have been impacted by cancer. If you would like to make a donation to this very worthwhile cause, my fundraising page can be [found here](#). For those who have made donations already—many thanks!

Our piece of writing this week is from Immy in Year 4 at Kestrel Way.

We are rounding off the week at Kestrel Way with 2 discos after school, hosted by our Fabulous PTA. I am hoping that the Macarena will feature on the play list so I can join in.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Rebecca Clarke,
Head Teacher



Greenleas' Value of the Month for May is...

Hope

Hope is a feeling that something you want is likely to happen; hope is a wish in your heart of good things to come. To help deepen our children's understanding of our value of hope this month, here are some questions you could discuss with your child at home:

- What do you hope for yourself and why? How can you make your hopes and dreams come true? What steps will you need to take?
- What hopes do you have for the people you love? What hopes do you have for the world?

Star of the Week

Derwent Road:
Kai
Kestrel Way:
Anya



Tidy Tortoise

Derwent Road:
Kingfishers
Kestrel Way:
Sandpipers



Click the icon to visit our school social media channels.



Safeguarding Matters

Playground Reminder

Children should not be on the school equipment before or after school and especially if not supervised. No dogs, apart from guide dogs are allowed on the school grounds.

Derwent Road Car Gate Reminder

When coming in to school and leaving school please can all parents/carers be reminded **not use the car gate when entering and leaving.** This is very dangerous and can lead to a serious accident.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and educators with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Part of our Gaming & Gambling Series

NOS
Gaming & Gambling

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www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What you need to know about... GAMES CONSOLES

What are they?

'Games Consoles'

Much like a television allows you to watch movies or a radio allows you to listen to music, a games console allows you to play video games. The most modern ones are names you might be familiar with – Sony PlayStation, Microsoft Xbox, and Nintendo Switch – and almost all of them can now connect to the internet and be enjoyed online with friends.

Know the Risks

Online Content

While modern consoles don't strictly need to be connected to the internet, many of them also double up as an internet browser or provide the ability to stream TV shows and movies, so it's important that the appropriate filters and parental controls are in place to restrict children viewing any unsuitable content.

Addictive nature

Games consoles require video games, and both can ultimately contribute towards an addictive habit. Playing too much and too often can force children to become reliant on the good feelings released when playing games, making them more likely to want to play them more frequently, and for longer periods of time.

Hacking risk

It's almost impossible to avoid signing up to different services when using modern consoles. Keeping track of all these accounts can be confusing and in a worst-case scenario, fraudsters could gain access to personal information, addresses and bank details by hacking online profiles.

Online Chat

Once connected to the internet, players can talk to each other either over headsets or using text chat functions on the consoles. Without the proper protections in place, children could speak to anybody at any age and then develop a relationship with strangers they know nothing about.

Safety Tips

Check contacts

Online predators and hackers often use sly tactics to build relationships with children get them to illicit personal details through gaming platforms or gaming communities. Be on the lookout for suspicious communications such as intrusive personal messages or people you suspect might not be who they say they are.

Look for behaviour changes

Becoming withdrawn, irritable and anxious when not playing on a games console are trademark symptoms of gaming addiction. If children turn angry when asked to stop playing, that could also be a sign that an intervention is needed.

Keep details private

Games consoles will almost exclusively ask you to enter your details securely on the console itself, or through a trusted website lead to the console maker. If somebody claiming to be working for Sony, Microsoft or Nintendo asks you to share your passwords or account details, do not give it to them.

Use parental controls

Most gaming consoles will have parental controls which can be used to set up things like family management accounts. From here, parents can often set age limits on games and content, spending restrictions, limit play time and set up passwords and authentications to help keep children safe.

Further Support

Block and report

If someone has made your child feel uncomfortable, make note of suspect players, usernames. Often, you'll be able to ban or block these players in a game's settings. If you have proof of their intentions, don't hesitate to contact your local police force or authority with as much information and evidence as you can gather.

Seek Support

If you're concerned about your child playing too much on their console and think they may have developed a gaming addiction, try and offer them support. The World Health Organisation has classified gaming disorder as a mental health condition and there may be external providers locally who can offer you more targeted help.

Keep IDs safe

Be sure to talk to your child about the importance of keeping their identity safe. If they ever receive messages claiming to be from companies but something doesn't feel right, tell them not to respond and inform you. Things like odd spelling and grammar, strange email addresses, or asking for personal information are tell-tale signs.

Our Expert

Mark Foster

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.05.2020

If you wish to report any safeguarding concerns, please contact the below staff members in the first instance:



Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Rebecca Clarke
Kestrel/Derwent



Derwent Road:
Sarah Horne



Derwent Road:
Bindia Sexton



Derwent Road/Kestrel Way:
Alexia Cook



Kestrel Way:
Amanda Wallace



Dorothy Smith
Safeguarding Governor

Devastating deforestation of the rainforests

By Immy

Close your eyes and think of a rainforest. What do you picture? A biodiverse world teeming with life? Thousands of different species living and growing in harmony? An incredible rainforest home to many plants and animals? Shockingly, the REAL truth is very different! Terribly, the cutting down of trees by us humans is leading to animals habitats being lost and destroyed. This is leading to horrid effects! In fact if we don't make a change now our incredible rainforests will be destroyed forever! This horrendous, horrid, hateful situation needs to change! Now! Here's why.

Excruciating Extinction

Firstly, if the rainforest gets cut down, 50% of the world's biodiversity would be gone forever! This would mean that only 50% of the world's animals wouldn't be extinct. It is a true fact that 80% of earths living things call the rainforest home. Some examples of special plants that only grow in the rainforest are Epiphytes, Cacao tress, Lianas, and Kapok trees. An amazing fact is that rainforests cover only 6% of the earth yet all that life lives there.

Loathsome Lung Loss

Unbelievably, the world would lose 20% of its oxygen. Most people know that this would lead to it being hard to breathe. Trees store carbon so if we cut down the rainforest there will be more carbon in the air. Furthermore, the rain forests have the name the lungs of the world because of this. They give us fresh air to live and we are destroying them! Is it ok that we are causing this to happen? Only a fool would think so!

Marvelous Medicine

Unfortunately, cutting down the rain forest will lead to a smaller supply of medicine. Scientists believe that there are still thousands of plants still undiscovered that might help cure illness and disease. It is a true fact that 25% of modern medicine came from rainforest plants. Some examples of medicine that comes from rainforest plants are Rosy, periwinkle, Quinine and many other pain killers and antibiotics. Is it ok for this to carry on?

It is clear from the evidence that the deforest of the rain forest can not continue. These terribly true facts clearly show that we need to act now! Surely you agree? We need to start the change! Join us, the time for action is now.

Milton Keynes Museum



SAFETY IN THE SUN

As we enjoy the warmer weather, it is timely to remind everyone about protecting your child against the harmful effects of the sun. Please apply sunscreen at home—there are several brands available that last for the whole day. Any sunscreen sent in to school will be returned as it will not be applied here. Please also provide a named water bottle so your child can stay hydrated.

Provide a named, brimmed hat or cap to protect against heatstroke, and to offer shade to the face and eyes. This is preferable to sunglasses. On hot and sunny days, children without hats will not be allowed to play out in direct sunlight, so please ensure your child has a hat in school. This is also important for PE.

Named sunglasses may be worn, offering UV protection, but not fashion sunglasses. These should be named and are the responsibility of the child. They must be removed for PE unless they are prescription sunglasses or worn for medical reasons. Children may be asked to remove their sunglasses if deemed appropriate for health and safety reasons by a member of staff.

Where possible, please can you avoid sunscreen products with nuts/nut oils. This may be labelled as *prunus amygdalus dulcis* (sweet almond).



Oakley Sibley in pre-school has a brain tumour and receives chemotherapy treatment at L&D. He has been inspired by his play therapist at the hospital that ran the London marathon this year and is trying to run a marathon himself in the month of may in between his treatments.

He is raising money for toy boxes for children receiving treatment at the hospital. His Justgiving page is below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jordan-ephgrave>

**DERWENT ROAD PTA
NON UNIFORM DAY -
BOTTLE DONATION
FRIDAY 22ND MAY**

Thank you for your support!

Support the school PTA with a bottle donation for our infamous summer fayre bottle tombola! Bring in a bottle of something Friday morning, to be collected at your classroom doors.

Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes. No make up please

Thank you so much!

MAY HALF TERM FARM DAY



The Grange Farm, The Grange Academy,
Halsey Rd, Kempston, Bedford MK42 8AU

Tuesday 26th May 2026

11am - 1pm

£5 per child (+ booking fee)



Book Online Now!

Click the link in post or scan
the QR code to book!





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BURGER DAY MAY 21ST

MAIN MENU
Breaded Chicken Burger
or
Beef Burger
or
Breaded Bean & Vegetable Grill
(Ve) (Free From*)

SERVED WITH
Baked Potato Wedges
Sweetcorn
Coleslaw

DESSERT
Ice Lolly

(Jacket Potato & Cold Options available where applicable)





[@hclcatering](https://www.instagram.com/hclcatering)
www.hcl.co.uk

Menus are subject to change due to supplier stock availability. * Free from the key 14 allergens and plant based/vegan



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World Environment

Reducing Food Waste 5th Of June

MAIN MENU
Chicken Fajitas
or
Mac 'n' Cheese (v)
both served with
Cajun Potato Wedges
Broccoli Stem and Apple Slaw
or
Cajun Potato Wedges (Ve)
loaded with Baked Beans
(Free From*)

DESSERT
Apple Charlotte Pudding
with Ice Cream
or
Banana and Oatmeal Muffins

Some of the most wasted ingredients include: bread, milk, potatoes, cheese, apples, chicken and bananas





[@hclcatering](https://www.instagram.com/hclcatering)
www.hcl.co.uk

Menus are subject to change due to supplier stock availability. * Free from the key 14 allergens and plant based/vegan



Primary School Health Clinics

Supporting the health and wellbeing of your child

We are pleased to share that the School Nursing Service is now offering Primary School Health Clinics for parents and carers of primary-aged children on a **termly** basis.

Who are we?

Your allocated **School Nursing Team** supports your child's health and wellbeing throughout their school journey. These clinics are delivered **in school**, making it easier for families to access support.

What the clinics offer

Bookable appointments where you can receive:

- ✓ Health advice and guidance
- ✓ Early intervention support
- ✓ Signposting or referrals to other services

Our aim is to work with you to support your child's **health, wellbeing, and development**, helping them reach their full potential.

Next Clinic Information

Date: 23rd June 2026

Time: 2pm - 3:30pm

Location (if applicable): Greenleas School Derwent Road

How to book

Appointments can be made:

- Through your child's school or
- By contacting the **School Nursing Service** directly or
- Alternatively, although we prefer you to book, please drop in on the day.

Please click the following link to view an animation explaining our service offer and how to contact us
<https://vimeo.com/840387234/0a3c6c32db?fl=pl&fe=sh>

School Nursing Team



Kestrel Way PTA

Father's Day Surprise Room

Children will have the chance to choose a gift for someone special this Father's Day

£5 per gift paid via the Arbor app, just change the quantity if you wish to purchase more than one

Payments will need to be made by Friday 5th June for gifts to be chosen on Monday 15th June

Available to all year groups including pre-school and pre-reception

