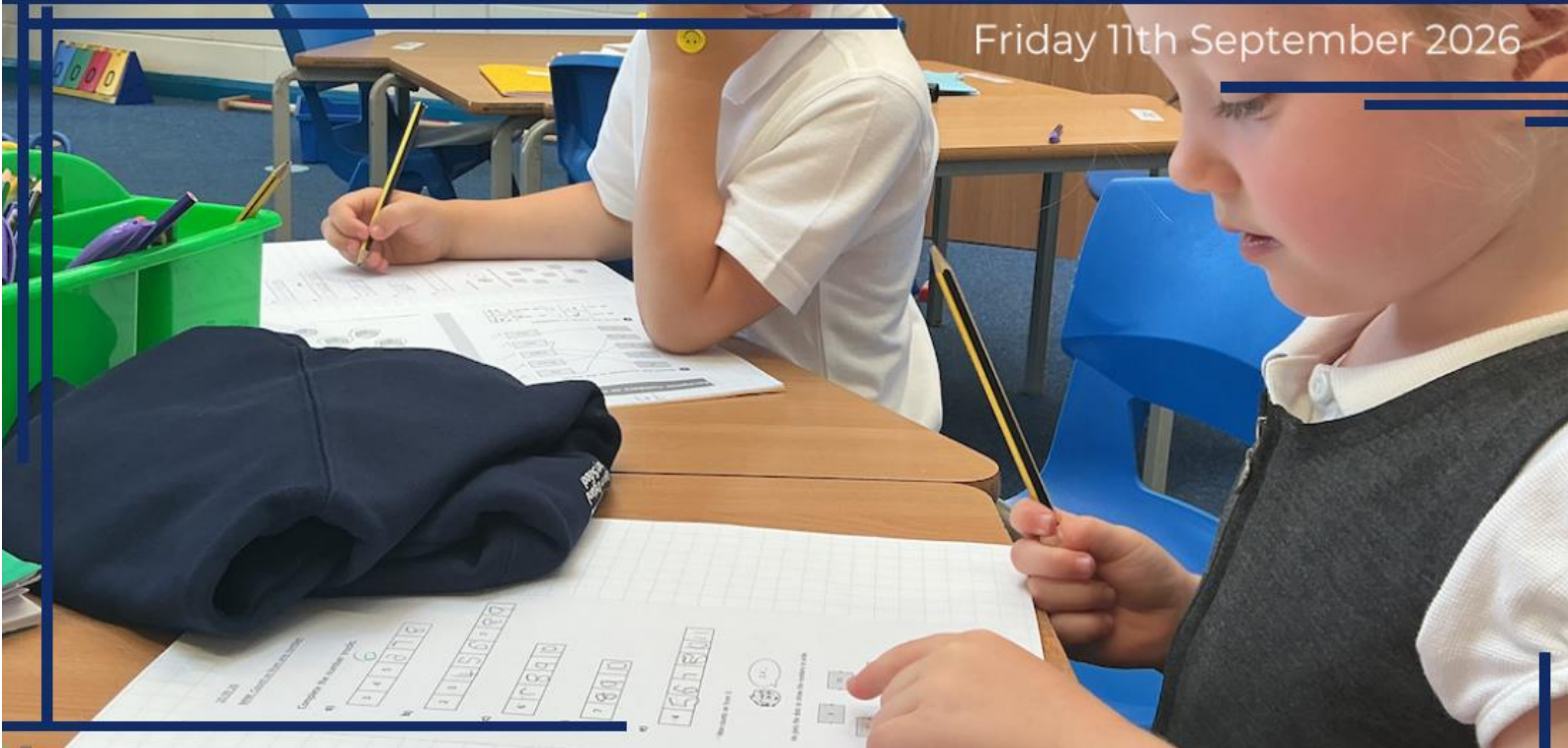


Friday 11th September 2026



We are one week in and it's been wonderful to feel that calm, productive energy permeating from classes and to talk to the children about a 'sense of belonging' for them in school. This has been our focus in Collective Worship this week: what it means to belong... and do we know when we do belong? I have spoken with the children about talking to others [having a voice], but importantly listening & being listened to... and that it's okay to healthily disagree with friends. I plan to continue this thread with the children this term and look at how we can extend the sense of belonging with our families too. With that in mind, I'll sign off with a quote from Dr Brené Brown: "Belonging is being accepted for who you are. Fitting in is being accepted for who you're not."

Have a lovely weekend when it comes.

Martyn Wells Martyn Wells
Headteacher
BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH, NPQEL

www.claypoleprimary.org



Believe & Achieve





What's Happening & When?

Key Dates



When

What

Thursday 3 rd September	Welcome Back To School!
Tuesday 22 nd September	Year 1 trip to Hartsholme Park
Wednesday 23 rd September	Year 3/4 trip to The Deep
Thursday 24 th September	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 7 th October	Whole School Harvest Festival [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am start – families are warmly welcomed]
Tues 20 th & Wed 21 st Oct	Parent's Evening [4-7pm both evenings]
Friday 23 rd October	End of Term
Monday 2 nd November	Back To School
Thursday 10 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity Performance [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am – families warmly welcomed]
Thursday 17 th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Service [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am start – families warmly welcomed]
Friday 18 th December	Finish for Christmas.

Term Dates for 2026/27: <https://www.claypoleprimary.org/term-dates>

Open Events For Prospective Parents

- Wednesday 14th October (5-7pm) – *Open Evening [more information to follow]*
- Wednesday 4th November (9:30-11:30)
- Monday 16th November (1:15-3:15)
- Thursday 3rd December (1:15-3:15)
- Thursday 10th December (9:30-11:30)



Online Safety

Filtering System

At **Claypole C of E Primary School** the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our highest priority, both in the classroom and online. In line with the Department for Education's (DfE) updated Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2026 guidance and the Filtering and Monitoring Standards, we are writing to share how we protect your child while they use school technology.

Our Filtering System: Securly

To ensure our pupils are safe from harmful content, we use **Securly**, one of the most widely used student safety and wellness tools in the UK. This system is a cloud-based web filter designed exclusively for schools, helps you keep your students safe with powerful features designed to make schools a safer, happier place for students and IT teams alike. Get visibility into online activity, download or email reports, and block inappropriate sites instantly.

Key principles of how we use this system include:

- **Blocking Harmful Content:** The system is configured to block access to illegal and harmful material, including content related to extremism, self-harm, pornography, and violence.
- **Differentiated Access:** We recognise that pupils may need different protections based on their age or individual requirements. Securly allows us to have different filtering policies for our children.
- **Safe Learning, without "Over-Blocking":** While safety will always be paramount, "over-blocking" should not lead to unreasonable restrictions on teaching. Our system is regularly reviewed to ensure pupils can still access high-quality educational resources while remaining safe.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) and leadership team (Mr Wells & Mrs Silby) have oversight of the filtering system, accessing reports on attempted access to blocked content. This allows us to identify and support any pupil who may be at risk or in need of further guidance.

Our Monitoring System

As well as filtering, we are also required to have a way of monitoring pupil behaviour on devices. Securly system monitors online activity across devices and platforms, and alerts our DSL to any behaviour that may be a safeguarding or welfare concern. Upon receiving an alert, our DSL will then assess this and offer any necessary support.



How You Can Support at Home

No filtering system can be 100% effective, and children often access the internet on personal devices which are outside of the school's control and environment. To support your child at home, we recommend:

1. **Talking Regularly:** Ask your child about what they are doing online (phone/gaming console/laptop/tablet/TV etc) and which apps they are using. Explore these together so you understand any associated risks.
2. **Setting Boundaries:** Consider using parental controls on home Wi-Fi, personal devices and individual apps/games/platforms. Consider putting in place a digital agreement with shared family rules such as no digital devices in bedrooms. See parentsafe.lgfl.net for help with this.
3. **Let us know:** if you have any concerns relating to your child's access to technology.

By working together, we can ensure that our children grow up with the skills and protections they need to navigate the digital world safely.



Food Standards & Relationship Education

Parent Forum

As part of our review work in school, we are looking to seek the support and ideas (and maybe some expertise) from our community. This term, we are looking to form a parent forum for:

- Food and Food Standards and;
- Relationship & Sex Education.

If you'd like to offer your support, please contact the school office.



Claypole
C of E Primary School
Believe & Achieve

*Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility*



Raising Concerns

(as a school and/or as a parent)



As a school

As a school, we have a responsibility to act on safeguarding concerns about children.

Where we have concerns about a child's welfare or safety, we will follow our safeguarding procedures and, where appropriate, make a referral to the relevant Children's Services / Safeguarding Team. The local authority will then consider the information provided and determine whether further assessment, support or intervention is required.



Parents and carers

Parents and carers can also report concerns about a child's safety or welfare directly to Children's Services using the contact details below. You do not need to wait for the school to make a referral.



If a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.

If you wish to contact the police for advice or report a non-emergency concern, call **101**.



For further advice and guidance about keeping children safe, visit the NSPCC website: **www.nspcc.co.uk**



Lincolnshire – Children's Services

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/safeguarding/report-concern>



During office hours:

Children's Services Customer Service Centre (CSC)
01522 782111



Outside office hours (24 hours):

Emergency Duty Team (EDT)
01522 782333



Nottinghamshire – Children's Services

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/childrens-social-care/nottinghamshire-children-and-families-alliance/pathway-to-provision/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub-mash>



Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH):

Email: info.nscb@nottsccl.gov.uk
Phone: **0300 500 8090**



Emergency Duty Team (24 hours):

0300 456 4546



*If you are worried about a child,
please get in touch.*





'Sadfishing' is described as a behavioural trend where people make exaggerated claims about their emotional problems to generate sympathy and attention. The term was created at the beginning of the year by a blogger using the term to describe certain celebrities who embellish their emotional difficulties to generate sympathy and gain more followers. The term has now gained traction and is seen as a growing trend on social media. The challenge with sadfishing is that sometimes real problems can become overlooked or young people can even be bullied for having shared their problems online.



What parents need to know about SADFISHING



ATTENTION NEEDING

This is sometimes also called attention seeking. The urge to belong is universal. Everyone seeks attention. The feeling of belonging and knowing that others are thinking about you is part of what it is to be human. As the use of social media has grown, the opportunity for attention is enormous but this sometimes comes at a price. Positive interactions (such as someone liking your tweet) trigger the same kind of chemical reaction (dopamine) that is caused by gambling and recreational drugs. This reaction reinforces a behaviour and for minimal effort, a young person is rewarded with dopamine and attention.

SHOWING VULNERABILITY

Being vulnerable and oversharing can sometimes lead young people open to being groomed online, offering predatory social media users an opportunity to gain their trust by offering sympathy. A Digital Awareness UK report includes the case study of a teenage girl who, after posting about her depression online, was approached by a friend of a friend who shared their experiences and later ended up pressuring her to send him explicit pictures.



OVERSHARING

Oversharing is the act of revealing too much personal information. When young people share too much about their feelings or problems they are often desiring very much to connect and belong. In order to gain more attention and likes a young person might be tempted to overshare their feelings beyond a normal face to face conversation. The challenge with this is that the young person is sharing personal thoughts and feelings with people they do not know and the support they gain back is 'unregulated' and might be very unhelpful.

BULLYING AND DISAPPOINTMENT

According to Status of Mind report by Royal Society for Public Health UK, social media platforms are a useful tool to maintain or build on real world relationships, improving mental health and wellbeing. When young people do share their feelings and worries online, they are seeking emotional support from others. However, whilst some friends may comment and like a post to be helpful, other friends may accuse the post of 'sadfishing' and trying to gain attention, ultimately making the situation and feelings about themselves worse.



Safety Tips For Parents

A CULTURE OF OPENNESS

Maintain and commit to having a culture of openness at home where your child can express their feelings without judgement, and you acknowledge their world and current difficulties. Support your child to navigate growing up in a world with social media and their developing sense of self.



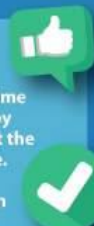
ASK MORE THAN ONCE

Being a parent of a teenager means a constant negotiation between keeping them safe and letting them go. If their behaviour has changed or they have a prolonged bout of low mood or stress, let them know you are there for them when they are ready to talk. Sometimes this may mean asking them more than once. This gives them the message that you are there for them and that they are not alone.



POSITIVE ATTENTION

Provide opportunities during the week for time together. Teenagers sometimes prefer side by side conversations like going out for walk, at the dinner table or driving in the car somewhere. Regularly commit time to a family evening together where you can share time and/or an experience together like a home movie and popcorn, a game (even an online game which may be suitable), shopping or cooking.



PROMOTE HEALTHY FACE TO FACE RELATIONSHIPS

Where possible, help your child maintain healthy relationships with friends who are helpful and supportive. This may mean inviting them over regularly, providing transport to and from activities with the group of friends, or helping your child organise activities. Spend time helping to encourage healthy, supportive face to face relationships.



TALK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF BOUNDARIES

Discuss the consequences of oversharing, particularly on social media. Maintaining a healthy privacy outlook is important when we are perhaps sharing our feelings with people who are not known to us. But as friendship and trust develop, it is healthy to share more information and talk more openly.



Meet our expert

Anna Bateman is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



Dyslexia Outreach

Support Your Child's Learning at Home

A free, online workshop, for parents and carers, to support your knowledge and understanding of how to support your child with their learning at home.

We will be sharing recommendations for effective ways to support your child at home to ensure the best outcomes for your child.



Wednesday 30th September 2026 at 7:00 – 8:00pm

If you would like to attend, please email
dyslexiaoutreach@lincolnshire.gov.uk



Contacting Staff

Emailing School



Emails (including correspondences intended for staff) are to come via the school office via adminoffice@claypoleprimary.org

We understand that parents will sometimes have questions, concerns or news that they feel are best directed to their child's class teacher or another member of staff.

To help us respond as quickly and appropriately as possible, we ask that **parent emails are sent via the school office**, rather than directly to individual members of staff.

We want to make sure that your message reaches the right person and, where appropriate, that relevant information is shared with other members of staff who may need to know. For example, a parent may contact a class teacher about something that appears to be a classroom matter, but the information may also be relevant to our **SENDCO, Designated Safeguarding Lead... or a member of the leadership team**.

Having correspondence come through the office allows us to make that judgement and ensure that the appropriate person is involved.

It means that we can:

- make sure your query reaches the **most appropriate member of staff**;
- ensure that important information is **not inadvertently missed or delayed**;
- identify when a concern may require input from another member of staff;
- provide a consistent response when a member of staff is absent or unavailable; and;
- ensure that matters relating to your child are dealt with by the people who are best placed to support them.

We recognise that some messages may be very straightforward and may only require a response from your child's teacher. Where that is the case, the office will simply make sure the message reaches them.

Our aim is to make communication between home and school **clear, efficient and supportive**, while ensuring that the right people have the information they need to help every child.



Claypole

Church of England

Primary School

