

# Kentish Town C of E Primary School Newsletter

Love — Equality — Compassion

Excellent Teaching, Excellent Effort, Excellent Progress:  
Every Child, Every Lesson, Every Day

[www.kentishtown.camden.sch.uk](http://www.kentishtown.camden.sch.uk)  
@KentishTownCE



As drawn by the Secret Artist NW5

Issue 7: 10th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the last newsletter for the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your incredible support for the school and to wish you all a very restful Christmas break. I look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Tuesday the 6th January 2026**.

## Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair was held after school on Friday 5th December. It was incredibly well attended and was a thoroughly festive event! A massive thank you to all parents/carers who supported this event. We really appreciate all of your efforts and generosity. We are still counting all the money raised and will let you know once we have the grand total.

## Infant Nativity — Thursday 11th December at 2 pm

Tomorrow, 11th December at 2pm Acorns, Oak, Ash and Willow will present their nativity show. Parents and carers of these year groups are all welcome to attend the performance in our school hall. **As Willow class are the main actors, the parents and carers of Year 2 children will have reserved seats at the front of the hall**. It is sure to be popular so arrive from 1:45pm. You are in for a real treat!

## Carols By Candlelight — Thursday 11th December at 6pm

At 6pm, our older children (Cedar, Sycamore, Chestnut and Beech classes) will tell the Christmas story at St Benet's Church, Ospringe Road, NW5 2JB. Although led by our older children, **all** families, whatever your tradition, are welcome to attend. Many families bring grandparents or other relatives to this event. The service will begin at 6pm and usually lasts around an hour. It truly is a magical evening and really does get you into the Christmas spirit.

## Christmas Parties

On Monday the 15th December the children will be having a class party in the afternoon. Children are expected to wear school uniform but are welcome to bring a Christmas jumper/hat etc that they can wear for the afternoon. I have arranged a special online call with Santa. He may have even left a present or two in class!

## Christmas Lunch

Our whole school Christmas meal will be on Tuesday 16th December. Nikki and her team will be preparing a delicious festive lunch for us all to enjoy. All adults and children eat this special meal together in our school — look out on Instagram / our school website for photos.

## Wider Opportunities in Music Concert / Christmas Singalong/Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday 18th December, at 9:45am we will be holding our annual concert with performances by: Choir, Rock Band, instrumental groups in Years 4 and 5! As usual, parents and carers are welcome to join in, particularly with "The 12 Days of Christmas". It will be great fun and everyone is welcome to attend. **Everyone is also invited to wear a Christmas Jumper which really adds to the festive atmosphere.**

## Christmas Charity Appeal

Christmas is also a time to reflect on how fortunate we are and how we should not take anything for granted. It is also a time to think of others and we are therefore raising funds for **Save the Children**. As a Rights Respecting School we always try to support charities with a particular focus on children. Save the Children exists to help every child get the future they deserve. In the UK and around the world, they make sure children stay safe, healthy and keep learning, so they can become who they want to be. We will be collecting donations over the Christmas period to donate to their very worthy cause.

## Reminder-School finishes at 1:15pm on Thursday the 18th December for Christmas holidays.

Finally, Sashka Jones in Year 6 will be leaving us at Christmas to move forward in her career. We thank her for all of her support and diligent work in our school. We will miss her in the new year and wish her all the best in her new endeavours.

Best wishes,  
Grant Jacobson  
Headteacher



## Festive events

**Drop in to your local Children's Centre & Family Hub for FREE:**

- Toys
- Tooth-brushing kits
- Books
- Pre-loved clothes — including winter coats (children's and adults)
- Refreshments
- Information on our free support and services



## Dates and locations:

**Monday 15 December:**

**1a Children's Centre & Family Hub — 1pm–4pm**

**Tuesday 16 December:**

**Regent's Park Children's Centre & Family Hub — 9am–12pm**

**Hampden Children's Centre — 1pm–4pm**

**Wednesday 17 December:**

**Harmood Children's Centre & Family Hub — 9am–1pm**

**Thursday 18 December:**

**Kilburn Grange Children's Centre & Family Hub — 1pm–4pm**



✉ [familyhubs@camden.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@camden.gov.uk)  
☎ 0800 389 5789  
🌐 [families.camden.gov.uk](http://families.camden.gov.uk)



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nesting under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

## TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at [videostandards.org.uk/lookingfor/games](http://videostandards.org.uk/lookingfor/games).

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## 'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

## DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

## CHECK THE SPECS

To avoid let-downs, check a game's specs before buying – especially for PC or Mac, where games often need a particular graphics chip or processor to work. Sites like [systemrequirementslab.com](http://systemrequirementslab.com) can scan your computer to see if it will run certain games properly. On consoles, make sure you're buying the right version: some newer Xbox or PlayStation games won't play on older consoles.

## MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming – but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

## BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be spent through in-app purchases in the game – but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers; they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

## APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app is appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 1, for example.

## CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

## WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnite rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

## LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Warn for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

## IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

## STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

## Meet Our Expert

Benny Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the Sunday Times, which? PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and ITV News at Ten. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.



**National  
Online  
Safety**

#WakeUpWednesday