Ghost Hill Newsletter
6th November 2026

A message from Mrs Westall

Welcome back! I've heard many children talk about going on holiday as well as others talking positively about fun at the park, beach and at friends' houses. I've enjoyed looking at Tapestry and seeing pictures of our EYFS children's halfterm adventures. We have all returned refreshed. This was the first time we have had a 2 week halfterm. The Trust's parent survey in the spring term will include the opportunity for you to give feedback about this. We will take on board all of your views.
We were treated to a rainbow on our first day back. It was lovely to see on a rainy morning.



Our School Council have their next visit to Two Acres Care Home on Monday. We hope to take the parachute with us for some colourful fun!

We are very grateful that so many parents and family members attended our open session after school on Tuesday this week. It was a great chance for the children to show you their learning and their classroom environments. We hope to do this termly.

Have a lovely weekend.



Book Fair

We are hosting a book fair on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th November afterschool in the school hall. Please come along and support. The more purchases made at the event earns us free books for school.

In celebration of the book fair event, please send in a photo of your child reading. They could be reading alone, to you, a sibling or a pet. Every class has a £5.00 book voucher up for grabs.

Be Safe Be Seen!

Thank you to Master Wayne at SESMA Martial Arts for providing all children at Ghost Hill with a high vis vest. This will help keep all children safe on the school run as the mornings and evenings get darker.

Our School Council have tried them on today and they are a perfect fit!

Children will all come home with a high vis vest. We will collect them back in mid Spring and redistribute next October.

💡 Be Seen, Be Safe. 💡



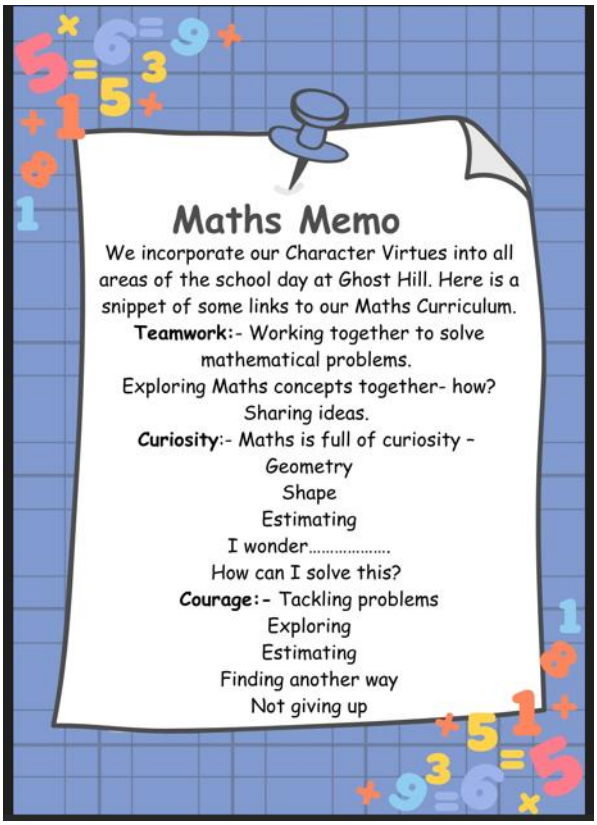


Friday 13th November – Children in Need Fundraising Day

Please wear yellow or non-uniform for a voluntary donation of £1.



Curriculum



Please do look at our Curriculum section on our website:

Our Curriculum - GHOST HILL INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

A Special Mention from Mrs Westall

Try Hard, be Brave, Be You.

Character virtue - Teamwork, Curiosity, Community Awareness, Honesty, Courage

Well done to Lena in Butterfly Class who I noticed being really kind to another child when they were upset. She talked to them, put her arm around them and then played with them.

Ready, Respectful, Safe



Sports News

We have had a busy week at Ghost Hill starting our new PE units and taking part in school sports clubs. Soon some year 2 children will be taking part in a tennis multiskills event hosted by school sports partnership. Shortly a letter will be coming out to year 1 and 2's asking what type of active clubs you would be interested in at school. Please look out for this and share your child's thoughts! Next week will be the end of golf club, Mrs Everett has been so impressed with the children taking part and has enjoyed every session! Mrs Everett will be running a yoga club and dates for this will also be shared soon.

Please keep sharing your child's out of school achievements we love celebrating them in Friday's celebration assembly.



Sports Star of the week

Sports Star of the week goes to Max in Butterfly Class for showing confidence performing his gymnastic moves in front of his class.

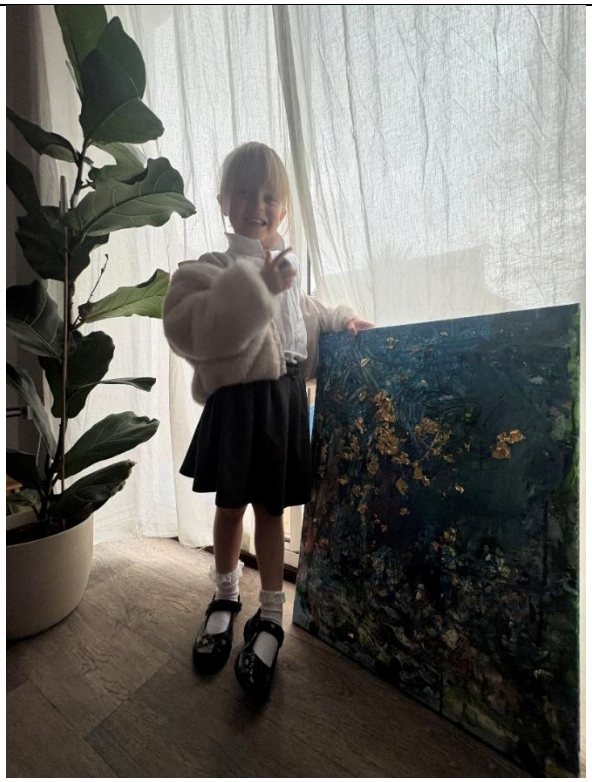
Achievements out of school

Please send us in your children's achievements big and small. Please email the school office to do this: office@ghosthill.set.education

Well done to Oscar in Butterfly Class. He was very proud to tell Mrs Westall that he can count in 2s to 50, and was able to do this at the school gates! This is amazing Oscar!



Well done to Chloe in Butterfly Class for creating this amazing piece of art work at home. This is a masterpiece!

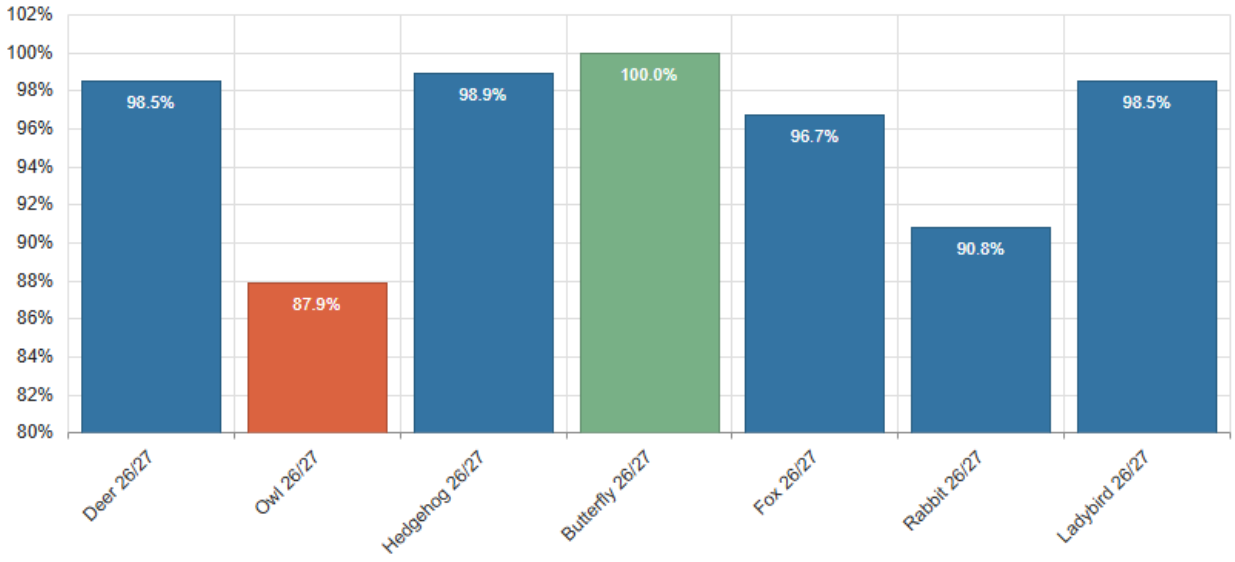


Well done to Bertie in Hedgehog Class. During the half-term, Bertie and his family went to London to see Pudding Lane and the Great Fire of London Monument. He really enjoyed learning about it in school and was very keen to see where it all started. This is something Bertie will always remember! How amazing!





Well done **Butterfly class** for **100%** attendance this week!!



Ghost Hill infant and Nursery school attendance target is **97%**
Current attendance this week is **95.8%**

Absence reporting: Always call the school office if your child is not in school for attendance purposes, 01603 860334 and leave a voicemail on the absence line.

Top Tips To Support Attendance

- Get into good routines: start the year right and make attendance a priority.
- Show an interest in school and education by going to parents meetings and other school events.
- Talk about school at home: ask your child what they're learning, how their friends are and how they're getting on. Encourage them to tell you about the good and the bad!
- Don't let your child take time off school for minor illnesses: particularly those that would not stop you from going to work.
- Take family holidays during school holiday time only.

If you think or know that your child is having any difficulties, give the school a call to talk about how they can help you and your child.

Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Westall, Mrs Hamill, Mrs Ferguson

All staff are responsible for safeguarding. The Designated Safeguarding Leads ensure staff are supported and well trained. If you are worried about your own child or another child in school, please talk to one of the designated safeguarding leads.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child out of school hours; the number to ring is: CADS – Children's Advice and Duty Service 0344 8008020

Please use the school office email address for any future emails. Office@ghosthill.set.education

Breakfast and After school club contact number

Please be aware breakfast and after school club has its own contact number. Should you need to reach them, please call 01603 558807

Breakfast and Afterschool club sessions are available to book on our 'my child at school' app.

November's Online Newsletter is on our school website. Here is a screenshot of it:

City Learning Centres

Online Safety Newsletter

Nov 2026

Spotify Parental Controls

Spotify is a music streaming service. You must be aged over 13 to access it. If under 18, parent/guardian consent is required. However, under-13s can access Spotify through a **managed account** set up by a parent or legal guardian.

Since July 2026, Spotify has provided parental controls for managed accounts on both free and premium plans. These controls:

- turn messaging off.
- turn explicit content off.
- turn videos and canvas off.
- allow you to block specific artists or tracks.

Further information

Read the news announcement here: https://newsroom.spotify.com/2026-05-13/managed-accounts-free-tier-expansion/

Spotify have produced this Parental Guide to assist you with further information: https://www.spotify.com/us/safetyanddprivacy/parental-guide

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translation tool on our web version: https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/november-2026-primary/

Online Grooming



What is Online Grooming?

Online Grooming is when an adult builds a relationship online with a child to manipulate, exploit, or abuse them.

How does Grooming take place?

Groomers often use fake profiles to pretend they are someone they are not, for example they may claim to be younger than they really are or pretend to be a person of influence. They will use flattery and attention to build trust and friendship. They may use online games or social media to initiate contact but then encourage your child to switch to a different app to chat with privately - usually on an app that offers limited or no parental controls and/or encrypts messages.

What can I do?

- Use appropriate parental controls.
- Set privacy settings.
- Show them how to use any blocking or reporting tools.
- Chat to your child regularly about what they do online and who they communicate with. Remind them that people online may not always be who they say they are.

What are the signs that my child is being groomed?

- Being **secretive** about who they are talking to.
- They become **withdrawn** from family and friends.
- Appearing **anxious or upset** after receiving messages.
- Receiving unexpected **gifts**.

Find out more here: https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/offender-gaining-trust

What should I do if my child is being groomed?

- If you think your child is in immediate danger, contact the police.
- Stay calm and reassure your child that they are not to blame.
- If you are worried about online abuse or the way somebody has been communicating with your child online, report it to CEOP: (https://www.ceop.police.uk).

Further information

- https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/11_18/lets-talk-about/sexual-abuse/online-grooming/

COM Networks

COM Networks are online communities where harmful and deeply disturbing behaviour occurs, including child sexual abuse, cybercrime and extremism. These networks operate on mainstream messaging apps, gaming platforms and through social media. **It is important to be aware that such networks exist and understand the risks they can pose to children.** Introductions to COM Networks can begin with harmless conversations on a game or social media platform, but then as trust builds, groups will gradually introduce harmful content, extreme challenges and pressure to prove loyalty. Some groups use threats, humiliation or the threat of exposing private information to control members. Images, messages or personal details may be used to blackmail victims.

What should I look out for?

- **Increased secrecy**
- **Emotional or behavioural changes**
- **Unfamiliar language:** using new expressions or discussing extreme content, opinions or beliefs.
- **Unexpected gifts**

Sky News investigation into COM Networks (and links on popular sites such as Roblox and Discord)

You may have seen Sky News' investigation into COM networks. The report highlights findings from a six-month investigation that found self-harm-themed avatars, clothing and related content available on the gaming platform Roblox, including items that could be **accessed by children as young as five years old**. The report can be viewed here, **please be aware that it contains upsetting content**: https://news.sky.com/video/inside-robloxs-dark-side-sky-news-finds-self-harm-avatars-available-to-young-children-13592551

How can I protect my child?

- Have regular and open conversations with your child. Ask your child what they do online and who they communicate with.
- Reassure them that they can always ask for help, even if they have shared something personal or broken a family rule.
- It is important to remember that threatening to confiscate their devices may make them less likely to talk to you when something goes wrong.
- Regularly review privacy settings and set up appropriate parental controls on all devices your child is using.
- Ensure your child understands the risks of sharing personal information or intimate images online.

Further information

- https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/escp/professional-resources/sadistic-online-exploitation/
- https://saferschoolsni.co.uk/understanding-com-networks/

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WhatsApp Channels and Parental Controls

Users must be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp. Children under 13 can access WhatsApp through a **parent-managed account.**

WhatsApp Channels

WhatsApp Channels are a one-way broadcast tool to send updates to followers. Channels can be found in the Updates tab. From here you can view a whole host of channels, including channels that will **not be age appropriate and may include adult content.** If your child has their own WhatsApp channel, then you need to be aware that they are **public. Anyone can view and follow a channel and anything you share on your channel is public.** We would recommend that parental controls are used to prevent children creating and accessing WhatsApp channels.

Parent Managed accounts

Parent managed accounts are required for those under 13. These accounts have additional safety restrictions and do not allow access to features such as Channels, Meta AI and location sharing. You also have control over which groups they can join.

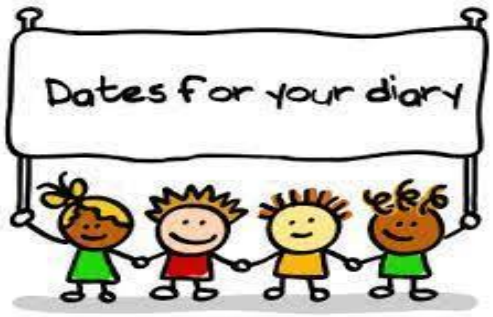
Parental Controls for Teenagers

For users aged 13 to 17, WhatsApp offers parental control settings to limit access to certain features such as Channels.

For more information, visit: https://www.whatsapp.com/parentalcontrols

Rage Bait

Have you heard of this term? Rage bait is when somebody deliberately posts online content to make people feel angry or frustrated to generate views and engagement. Find out more here: https://findmykids.org/blog/en/rage-baiting



Any dates that are added each week will be highlighted for easy reference.

Monday 9th November AM	Care Home Visit – School Council
Tuesday 10th November 3.30-5pm	Parents Evening
Friday 13th November	Children in Need fundraising day. Please wear yellow or non-uniform for a donation of £1.
Monday 16th – Friday 20th November	Antibullying week
Thursday 19th November 3.30-7pm	Parents Evening

Friday 20th November	Friends of School event: Non uniform day – please bring in an item for the colour raffle. Colours will be shared nearer the time.
Thursday 26th November PM	Friends event: Elfridges
Thursday 3rd December 9.45am	Reception Christmas Performance to parents. Note: There is only one show to parents for Reception as it has been clear previous years that this is enough for the children.
Monday 7th December AM	Care Home Visit – School Council
Tuesday 8th December 9.45am	Year 1 Christmas Performance to parents. Please only come to one of the shows.
Tuesday 8th December 2.30pm	Year 2 Christmas Performance to parents. Please only come to one of the shows.
Wednesday 9th December 2.30pm	Year 1 Christmas Performance to parents Please only come to one of the shows.
Wednesday 9th December 9.45am	Year 2 Christmas Performance to parents Please only come to one of the shows.
Friday 11th December all day – times for each class to be confirmed.	Christingle making workshops with the church for all children and their families
Wednesday 16th December	CHRISTMAS DINNER
Wednesday 16th December 2.30pm	Nursery Christmas Performance to parents
Friday 18th December	Last day of term.
Thinking ahead….. Friday 9th July 4pm – 6pm	Summer Fayre

September 2026

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November 2026

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March 2027

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April 2027

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June 2027

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July 2027

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August 2027

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Key: White dates - school open to pupils, Yellow dates - pupil holiday, Blue dates - Staff Training (school closed – pupil holiday), Red dates - bank holiday for staff and pupils.

