

ULLESTHORPE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

MAPLE CLASS FOCUS

FRIDAY 4TH APRIL 2025

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

MRS J. ALLEN



UPCOMING DATES

Dogs Trust Assembly & Junior Workshops:

Monday 7th April

Year 3 Faith Visit:

Friday 11th April

Easter break:

Monday 14th April -
Friday 25th April incl.

EYFS Farm Visit:

Wednesday 30th April

As we near the end of this unusually long Spring term, our Ullesthorpe School children continue to shine the light of their good choices by acting out our school's Christian values:

Respect, Perseverance, Forgiveness, Compassion, Friendship, Thankfulness and Community.

Collective Worship has continued with its focus on Lent and its meaning for Christians. We have also continued to explore the value of Forgiveness, learning from Bible stories such as that of the tax collector Zacchaeus. We are grateful that Rev Sister Liz has joined us here in school for a number of our worship assemblies recently, offering us guidance on how to further develop our collective worship and spirituality.

The past few weeks have been exciting and enjoyable with Science Week, Red Nose Day and Willow Class' Teddy Bears Picnic, for example. Congratulations go to the following children who were awarded 'star of the week' certificates at recent Celebration Assemblies: Isaac, Teddy, Scarlett, Ewan, Charlie, Sofia, Isabelle, Olivia, Jasmine, Ross, Remy, River, Freddie, Bella, Freya, Rudy, and Emily.

Well done to them all!

Please do feel free to come and speak with me at the school gates, or make an appointment through the school office.

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MAPLE CLASS

What a brilliant term Maple Class have had!

In our literacy lessons, the children have just finished writing their own version of the story, 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea', choosing their very own animal to visit their character's house.

As part of British Science week, the children explored the concept of camouflaging and how this can help animals to survive. The children took on the role of birds and worked in groups to collect as many red, yellow and green caterpillars as they could. We discovered that they had collected less green caterpillars than red and yellow because the green caterpillars were camouflaged in the green grass.

During our Geography lessons, the children have been learning about where is hot and cold in the world and why this is.

In our P.S.H.E lessons, the children have been exploring the importance of first aid and have learnt a key lifesaving skill- how to safely check if someone is breathing and help them into the recovery position.

As part of our Music lessons, the children have been exploring different percussion instruments and how these can be played in different ways to change the dynamics and tempo of a piece of music.

During our Art lessons, the children have been exploring the work of Anne Kelly and have been making some artwork inspired by her designs, using a mixture of textiles, paint and oil pastels.

Thank you for all of your hard work to help support the children at home this term!

Mr Gray



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MAPLE CLASS PHOTOS



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TEDDY BEARS PICNIC



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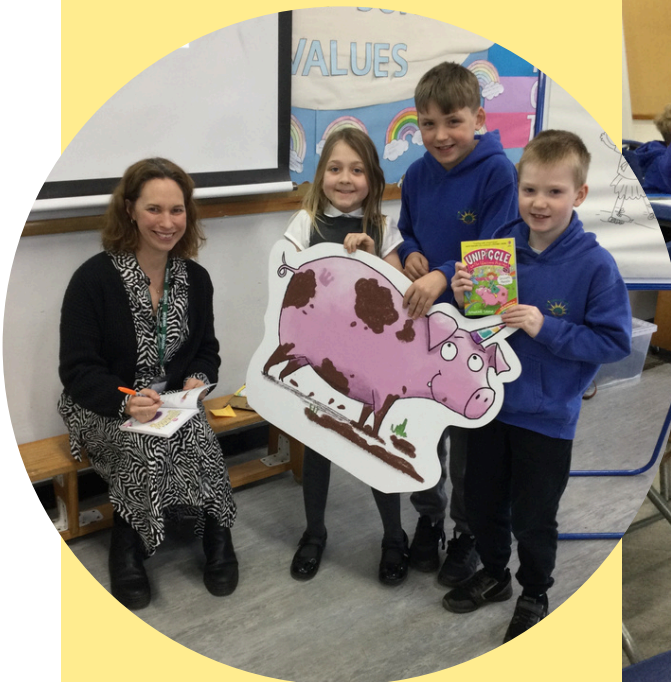
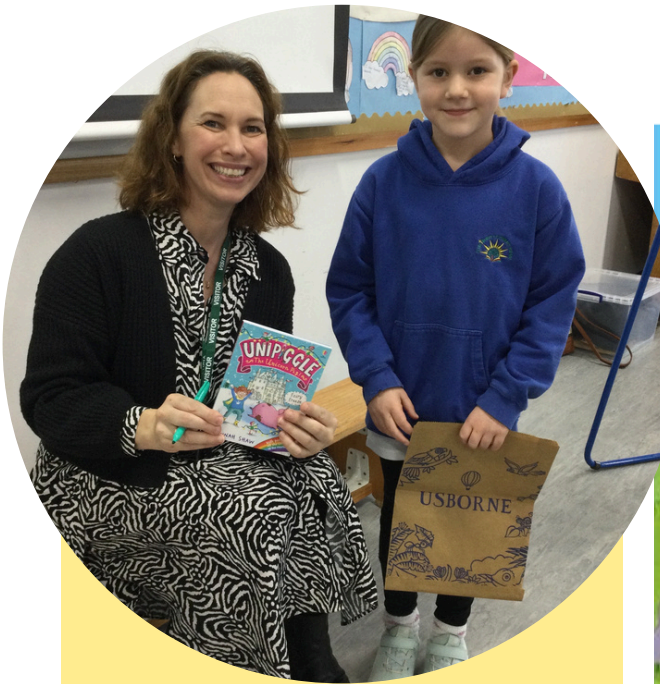
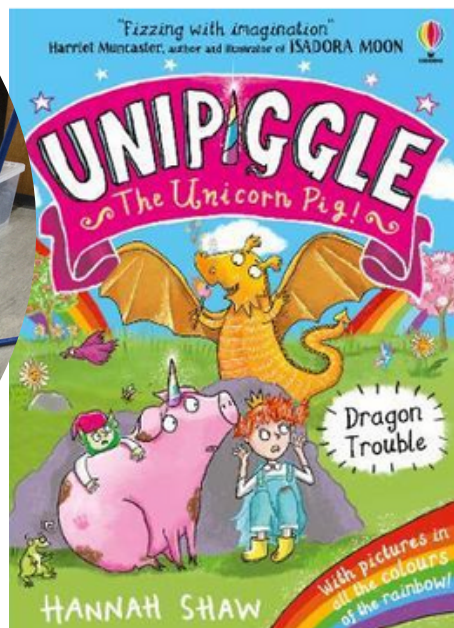
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AUTHOR VISIT

Many Thanks
to the PTA for
funding our
author visit &
workshops
from Hannah
Shaw



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RED NOSE DAY 2025



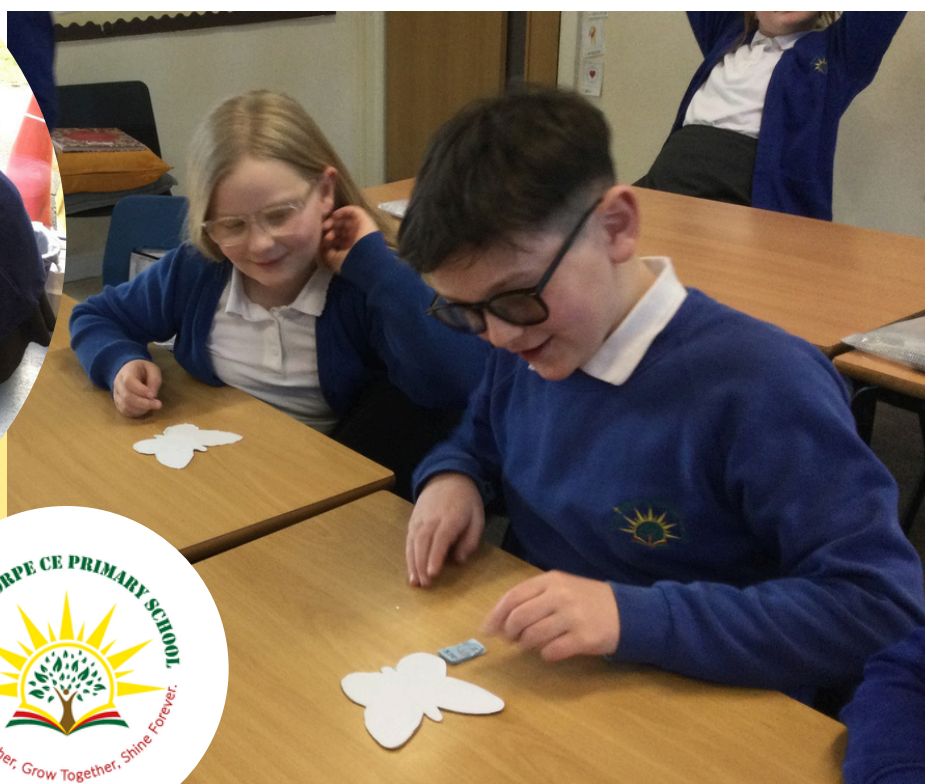
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BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK



 **BRITISH
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7-16 March 2025

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STOMP ROUND LEICESTER!

Ullesthorpe children have greatly enjoyed helping with painting and decorating the baby elephant sculpture; every child in our school community has their mark somewhere on the elephant, which is close to being completed and now includes our school logo, bug finger prints and the leaves from our four class trees.

We still need a name for our STOMP elephant: these sneak-peek photographs will hopefully help to focus your ideas for the name and the School Council are looking forward to deciding on their favourite!

Many thanks to Mr Sexton & the School Council for their design work, and especially to Mrs Pettigrew and Mrs Pettigrew-Hextall for their fabulous support with the artwork! Thanks also to the sponsors who have helped us raise funds for LOROS.

LOROS

Hospice Care for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland



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**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

ENCOURAGING ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CHECK-IN

LET'S ALL KEEP AIMING HIGH FOR
100% ATTENDANCE!

Class:	Last Week: %	This Week: %
Willow	91%	92%
Maple	94%	98%
Birch	98%	98%
Oak	94%	96%
EYFS	91%	92%
Year 1	95%	99%
Year 2	94%	97%
Year 3	99%	97%
Year 4	97%	99%
Year 5	98%	99%
Year 6	91%	94%
School Overall (this year):		National Average:
95%		94.5%

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

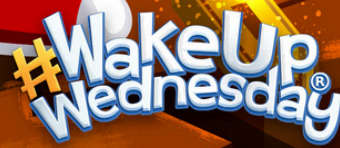
Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



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