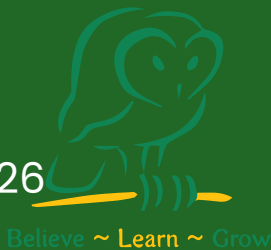


Lydiard Millicent CE Primary Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2026



Calendar

2026 – 2027 Term 1

- 28/9/2026 – James Carter Poetry day
- 1/10/2026 – Poetry Cafe (details to follow)
- 5/10/2026 – Y6 Residential to PGL – All week
- 14/10/2026 – Harvest festival @ All Saints Church (provisional date)
- 15/10/2026 – Sycamore Collective Worship – Parents welcome to attend @2:30pm
- 20/10/2026 – Term 1 ends for all pupils

2026–2027 Term 2

- 2/11/2026 – Term 2 begins for all pupils
- 11/11/2026 – Parents evening 3:30pm till 6:30pm
- 12/11/2026 – Parents evening 3:30pm till 6:30pm

Mr Farmer's message

Dear families,

We are absolutely thrilled to share that acclaimed poet James Carter will be visiting us once again on Monday, 28th September! James always brings incredible energy, inspiration, and creativity to our school, and the children are in for a fantastic day of wordplay and poetry workshops. Following James's visit, we will be hosting our much-loved annual Poetry Café on Thursday, 1st October 2026. This event is always a highlight of the term, giving pupils a wonderful platform to share and celebrate their performance skills. Full details, including timings and arrangements for parents to join us, will follow next week. On a fond farewell note, we are really sad to announce that Mrs Tasev is leaving her role at Breakfast Club. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to her for all her hard work and dedication in giving our children such a bright start to their mornings. We wish her every success and happiness in her future employment.

While we actively recruit a new Breakfast Club Play Leader, Tracey from our wonderful kitchen team will kindly be stepping in to cover for the next couple of weeks.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr Farmer

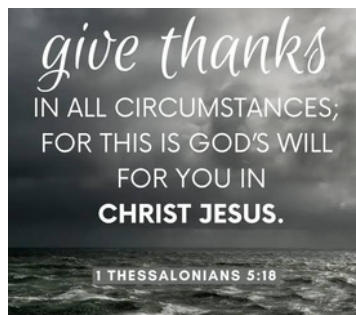


Unless you have obtained permission from the school please do not drive on the lane for the safety of all our children and community



This term's value is: Thankfulness

"Everytime I think of you I give thanks to my God" – Philippians 1.3



Church Links

Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m., which is followed by refreshments.

1st & 3rd Sundays: Morning Worship

2nd & 4th Sundays: Holy Communion (if ordained ministers are available otherwise Morning Worship)

5th Sunday (where applicable): Joint service with St. Mary's Purton

School Run Café – term time Wednesdays

8:45-10am. Free stay and play and refreshments

<https://www.allsaints-online.org.uk>

Happy Birthday to:

Grace Acorns

Attendance

Year to date: 97.11%

National: 93.07%

This week: 97.55%

Congratulations: Acorns- 99.26%

Contact us:

Lydiard Millicent CE Primary School
The Butts,
Lydiard Millicent,
Swindon,
SN5 3LR
01793 770571
admin@lydiardmillicentceps.org

Focus on: E- safety

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 apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION 13+
(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-18 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads means they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for photos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £199. TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthday.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people. Compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 90 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the "TikTok Now" feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a "TikTok Now" photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chance of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-18s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs: increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

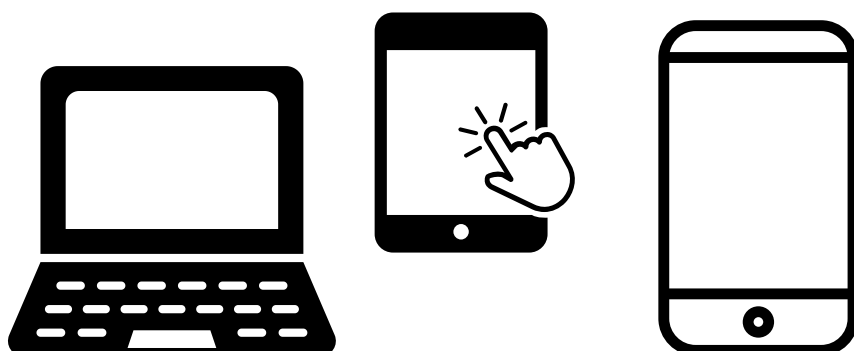
Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

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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: 02.03.2023

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



All Saints, Lydiard Millicent



Sunday 4th October

ALL AGE HARVEST CELEBRATION

Come and Celebrate God's Goodness!

Everyone is welcome as we celebrate God's provision and give thanks for all that He provides.
Do join us if you would like to for a Harvest lunch and enjoy good food, fellowship and fun together.

Refreshments from 10am

Service at 10.30 with lunch at about 12noon

