



**11<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Christian Value this half term: **THANKFULNESS**

We've had our first full week in school now and the children have all made an excellent start. Our new Reception class have made a remarkable start after such a condensed induction. WELL DONE! ☺

Thank you for being punctual at drop-off and collection times. It is important that children continue to arrive and depart at the correct times to maintain the safety of the children and staff in each bubble/class. Please maintain a social distance during drop-off/ collection. It is great to see many grandparents back after such a long time but we need to be extra careful for all our school community including those who may be vulnerable.

**INTERNET SAFETY NEWSLETTER**

Please find our new monthly internet safety newsletter attached to this newsletter. If you have any safety concerns, please speak to Mr Baker ([lbaker@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:lbaker@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk) or 01995 603454). The children are due to bring home their class eSafety rules in the next week along with an acceptable use policy agreement to sign and return.

**FLU VACCINATION – WHOLE SCHOOL**

The vaccination team are due to be in school on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November. A permission letter is being sent out with the children today. Please return as soon as possible.

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUB VACANCY**

We have a vacancy for an after school club assistant. Please see the job advert for more information: <https://www.garstangstthomas.com/after-school-vacancy/>

**MULTI USE GAMES AREA**

Work begins to develop this area on the 21<sup>st</sup> September.

**FRIDAY CELEBRATION**

This year we've moved to live Friday Celebrations between all the classes in school. If your child has achievements outside school that they'd like to share, please do send certificates etc. in to their class teacher.

**PARENT PAY**

All our communications are sent through ParentPay – if you do not have an account set up, please contact school ASAP.

**DIARY DATES**

- Thu 17<sup>th</sup> Sep:** Year 6 archery (within the school day)
- Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Sep:** Yr 6 Outlaw day
- Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Sep:** Reception class photo (for the LEP)
- Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Sep:** Little Zoo visit (Y1)
- Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Oct:** School photographs: Individual
- Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Half Term Week
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov:** INSET day (teacher training day)
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Nasal flu vaccination
- Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Last day of school before Christmas
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan:** First day of the spring term

More dates to follow.

Full term dates available on our website:

[www.garstangstthomas.com](http://www.garstangstthomas.com)

**STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS**

-ALL OF RECEPTION-

JESSICA THOMAS

TEDDY MITCHELL

MIA SWEENEY

FREDDIE YATES

SAMUEL LOCKLEY

LEO SLOAN

ARCHIE BEESLEY

THOMAS BAKER

CRUZ CUBBINS

TILLY LEATHERBARROW

ETHAN THOMAS

ISABELLA MITCHELL

JOSH HELME

ABIGAIL EGLIN



## COVID-19 UPDATE – 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020

THANK YOU to the families who have isolated this week due to a child/ adult having symptoms or coming into 'close contact' with a confirmed case. COVID-19 is very much on our doorstep and our parents who have so diligently taken immediate action to isolate and get a test have helped stop the spread of the virus or else, at the very least, put others before themselves by not risking spreading the virus. Thank you all.

Local COVID-19 testing availability is poor and results seem to be taking, on average, around two days to come through. If you, or any members of your family develop symptoms, please isolate and book a test as soon as you can. We have a small number of emergency test kits in school but it may be quicker to book online and go to a drive through centre.

Please view the COVID information page on our website: [www.garstangstthomas.com](http://www.garstangstthomas.com) for information.

Jim Blakely

[head@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk)

### COVID-19 FAQs

#### WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS?

If your child has a new **continuous cough** or a **high temperature**, or has a **loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell** (anosmia), please follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#), which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and [arrange to have a test](#) as soon as you can to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

**Please contact the school as soon as possible to let us know the result by e-mailing: [head@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk).**

#### WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD HAS HAD CLOSE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

If your child has had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they must self-isolate. Please follow the [Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection who do not live with the person](#).

#### IS MY CHILD ABLE TO COME TO SCHOOL WITH A COLD?

If your child has **any** of the COVID-19 symptoms listed above, they must not come to school, however, runny/blocked nose is not recognised as a symptom of COVID-19 that would require a test.

If there is a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 in school, we will work with Public Health England (PHE) Health Protection Team and will contact those who need to self-isolate. In the event of a class having to self-isolate, staff will continue teaching and learning using Google Classroom for the period.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to Mr Blakely. [head@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk) or ring 01995 603454.

The poster features the HM Government logo on the left and the NHS logo on the right. In the center, there are four circular icons: a thermometer, a person coughing, a person wearing glasses with a red 'X' over them, and a hand with a red 'X' over it. Below these icons is the text: 'HIGH TEMPERATURE OR NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH OR LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL? Find out how to get a test, and how long to isolate, at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)'. On the bottom left, it says 'CORONAVIRUS STAY ALERT TO THE SYMPTOMS'. On the bottom right, there is a yellow and green striped box with the text: 'STAY ALERT CONTROL THE VIRUS SAVE LIVES'.



## Google Family Link

Does your child use an Android device? Then you may like to set up Google Family Link, which allows you to set digital ground rules for your child. Once set up, you will be able to view your child's activity so you can see what they are accessing and how long they are spending on each app (including setting time limits and adding a bedtime), manage in app purchases and hide specific apps from them as well as being able to remotely lock their device. If the device is connected to the internet, then you can also locate the device.

More information can be found here:  
<https://families.google.com/familylink/>



## Discord

### What is Discord?

Discord is a social networking app (rated as 13+ by the App store) that is used by gamers to chat to each other. Discord can be freely accessed via a website or app but does include in app purchases through Discord's premium subscription service.

### How does it work?

Discord is made up of 'servers', which are spaces for groups of friends to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server and they can either be public or private. Users have the ability to video call and send direct messages to either other individuals or to groups of up to 9 people. By default, all direct messages are scanned and explicit content is blocked.

### How can I make it safer?

Discord have created this article, which outlines four steps to creating a safer account, including how to block users.

<https://discord.com/safety/360043857751-Four-steps-to-a-super-safe-account>

### How is it linked to other games?

Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat about the game. Some gamers use Discord to chat when playing certain rather than using the in-game chat feature.

### What do I need to be aware of?

Discord should only be used by those over the age of 13. We always encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use different apps/websites and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It's important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered.

### Further information

These articles provide you with further advice illustrating the safety and reporting features:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/discord-everything-you-need-know-about-chat-service>

- <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/discord/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.  
Current as of the date released 1.9.20.

# YouTube An overview

## What is YouTube?

YouTube lets you watch, listen, stream, create and comment on videos. YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13, however the App store rates YouTube as 17+ due to the content that can be found on there.

## How can I make YouTube safer?

There are some steps that you can take to make it a safer environment for your child:

- Turn on Restricted mode – this mode restricts the availability of mature content. You will need to set up a Google account to do this. Once set up, you can find this setting in options.
- Sit with your child and see what they are watching or set rules that devices should only be used in family areas.
- Ensure your child knows how to report inappropriate content.
- Make sure your child understands that they can talk to you if they see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable online.

## YouTube Kids

YouTube recommend that YouTube Kids is used for children under the age of 13 as it provides a safer environment and offers greater controls such as being able to customise your child's viewing (you can select the shows that you would prefer your child to watch). Use this link to find out how to set up the parental controls on YouTube Kids.

<https://support.google.com/youtubekids/answer/6172308?hl=en-GB>

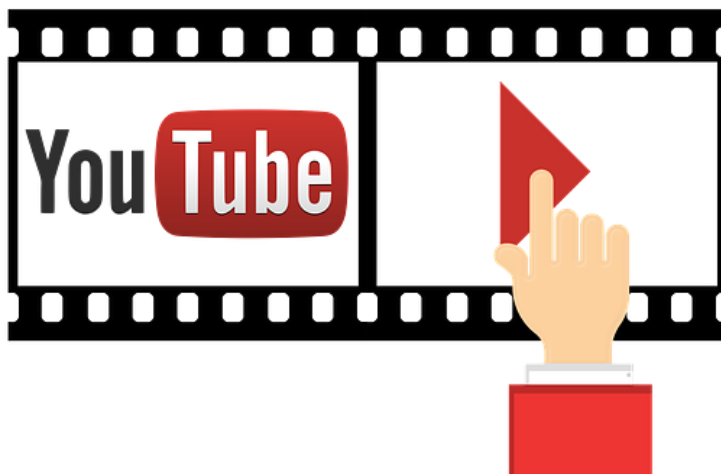
## Posting videos

To post videos on YouTube, you should be over 13 years of age. Talk to your child about posting videos, do they understand what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive any negative comments? YouTube have produced these tips for those that do upload content:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244?hl=en-GB>

## Further Guidance

- <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/youtube/>



## New Child Online Protection guidelines

The UK Safer Internet Centre have helped to release the new ITU (International Telecommunication Union) Child Online Protection guidelines.

They have produced resources for children across three age categories to enhance their understanding of how to manage risks online as well as guidelines for parents about the potential risks your child may encounter online.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/uksic-partner-itu-release-new-child-online-protection-guidelines>

## BT: Skills for tomorrow

BT Skills for tomorrow incorporates a wide range of free courses such as How to support your child's Online Wellbeing, Video Calling and Parental Controls.

<https://www.bt.com/skillsfortomorrow/home-life>

## Video Game database

Do you want to find out more about the games your child is playing or looking for game recommendations? This is a great website where you can search games by a number of ways e.g. by PEGI rating, genre or by those that do not have in-app purchases.

<https://www.taminggaming.com/hom>