



Edition No. 76

WORKS

Wisdom - Optimism - Resilience - Kindness - Service

March 2023



"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord."

Colossians 3:23.

04. YEAR 12 VISIT TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY

An overview of the recent Year 12 visit, hosted by our link college

05. BIN TWINNING

Learn more about our bid to become the country's first Bin Twinning school

06. ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS

A review of our recent drama production of One Man, Two Guvnors, written by Phoebe

08. LIBRARY NEWS

Hear what the library have been up to so far this term!

09. YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Information about what our Year 12 Young Enterprise team have been up to, recently selling their sustainable products at local markets

10. ARCHITECTURE MODELLING

See the twelve fantastic architectural models that were produced this year, as part of a school challenge

12. GEOGRAPHY FIELDTRIP

Learn more about the recent Geography visit

13. BORDEAUX VISIT

Learn more about the recent French visit

14. YEAR 8 LANGUAGES DAY

Hear about what Year 8 got up to during Languages Day back in January

16. CADBURY WORLD

Learn more about the recent Humanities visit





16. MUSIC TECHNOLOGY VISIT TO HUDDERSFIELD

Learn more about the recent Music Technology visit

17. MSPTA

An update provided by the MSPTA on fundraising and meetings

18. ONLINE SAFETY

An update on online safety, by Mrs Zannetou

UPCOMING EVENTS

Further information is available on our website

OXBRIDGE EVENING
Tuesday 7th March 2023

YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING
Wednesday 8th March 2023

UNPLUGGED
Thursday 9th March 2023

LCM EXAMINATIONS
Friday 10th March 2023

SENIOR CABARET EVENING
Thursday 16th March

**YEAR 9 RUGBY SEVENS
TOURNAMENT**
Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st March 2023

YEAR 7 - 9 DANCE SHOWCASE
Tuesday 21st March 2023

YEAR 8 HPV VACCINATIONS
Wednesday 22nd March 2023

PIANO COMPETITION
Thursday 23rd March 2023

CURRENT VACANCIES

INCLUSION COORINATOR ASSISTANT

The Minster School wish to recruit to the post of Inclusion Coordinator Assistant. We are seeking a dedicated individual, with the patience and understanding to assist the Inclusion Coordinator to deliver an internal support programme to students to build resilience and develop positive and trusting relationships.

HR ADMINISTRATOR

The Minster School is now looking to appoint a HR Assistant to provide basic front line HR administrative support services to the School liaising with trust-based HR staff to ensure a seamless provision of HR related services to the School.

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To keep up to date with our current vacancies please visit our TES page here:



31st January 2023

Year 12 Visit to Oxford University

Department: SIXTH FORM

Article: MR SAMUELS

Year 12 students recently enjoyed a fabulous opportunity to visit Oxford University, hosted by our link college Magdalen. The students were able to talk to current undergraduates, learn about the application process and what it takes to be successful. In addition we got to see some of the wonderful university buildings and facilities.

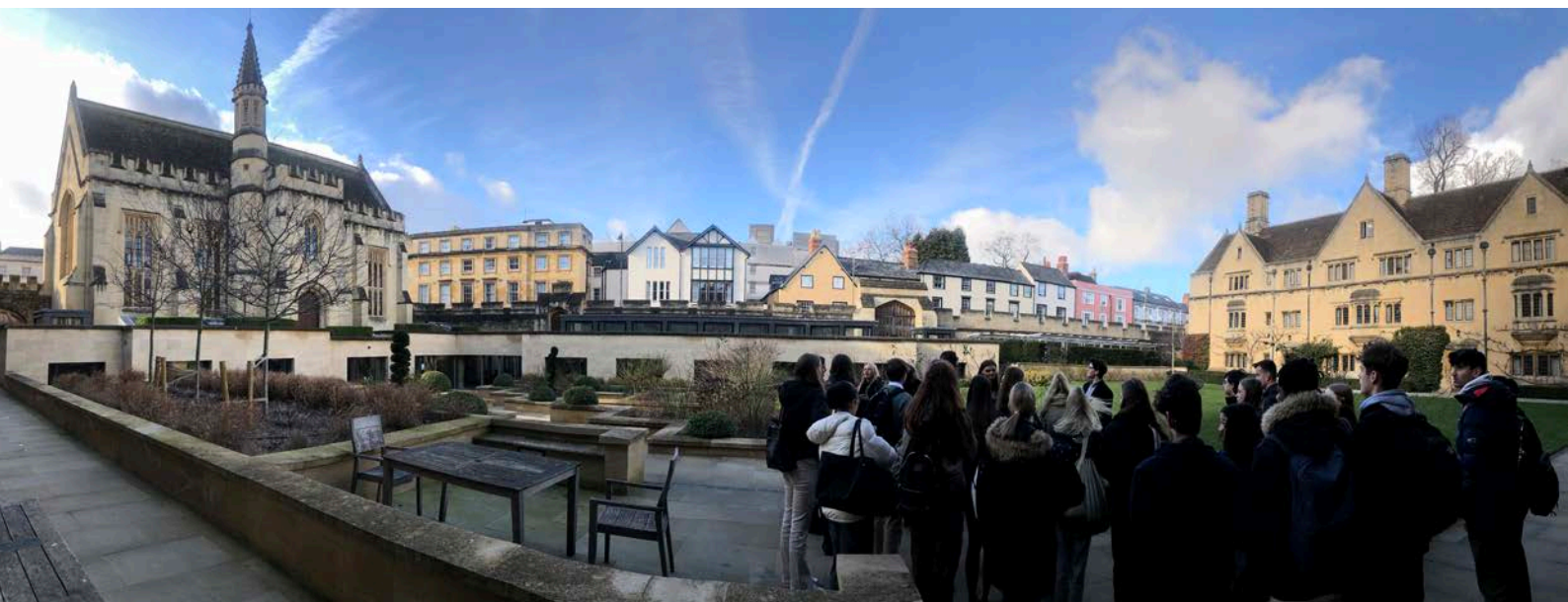


A number of Sixth Form students being given a tour of the wonderful university buildings.



The students discussing with current undergraduates about life at Oxford University.

Students learning about the application process at Oxford University



Bin Twinning

24th February 2023

Article: MR WALL



On Friday, members of the school's Ugive Uganda group, a student run charity group, took up the challenge to go litter picking around the school site. This was part of our bid to become the country's first Bin Twinning school. Bin Twinning is part of Tearfund's global Environmental and Economic Sustainability programme. Through it you can twin your bins with different recycling and community projects around the world aimed at recycling, preventing disease, and protecting the environment. <https://www.bintwinning.org/>

As a school we previously twinned all our toilets with toilets in Uganda through the same charity. Now we have set ourselves the challenge of twinning all our bins. So far we have raised over £3000 through different fundraising events to twin 70 of our recycling bins. Over the next few weeks and months the Ugive Uganda group will be hosting a variety of events aimed at raising further money to complete our Bin Twinning project.

Huge congratulations to all the students involved from Years 7 through to Year 13.



ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS

From the 31st January to the 3rd February, The Minster School hosted four fabulous evenings of entertainment, from two student casts of 'One Man, Two Guvnors'. The play which involves threats, revenge, live music, physical comedy and a woman playing a man began casting and rehearsing back in September 2022, commonly 3 or 4 nights a week. The students, ranging from Year 10 (14 years old) to Year 13 (aged 18) demonstrated a clear aptitude for the mature content of the play (based in the 1960s) and immense talent from the first read through.

This Drama Department led play was aided by the help of an all-pupil backstage and stage management crew, a standout all-pupil band, and an all-pupil operated sound and lighting team. With many of these students being taught and learning new skills on the job, it was impressive, especially with the intricacies and professionalism of the performance. The band, despite joining the production in early

January, delighted audiences during scene changes, and maintained a jolly atmosphere in the school's theatre all evening long.

A standout performance came on night 4 for the 'red' cast, where Year 13 Head Girl Freya, delighted audiences with Laurel and Hardy worthy skits involving a lot of whipped cream and a hurried, unplanned costume change in the interval. A fantastic end to an incredible show.

Written by Georgia

(Year 12, Stage Manager for One Man, Two Guvnors)



*Cast members from a
performance of One Man, Two
Guvnors*



*Student cast members ranged
from Year 10 to Year 13*

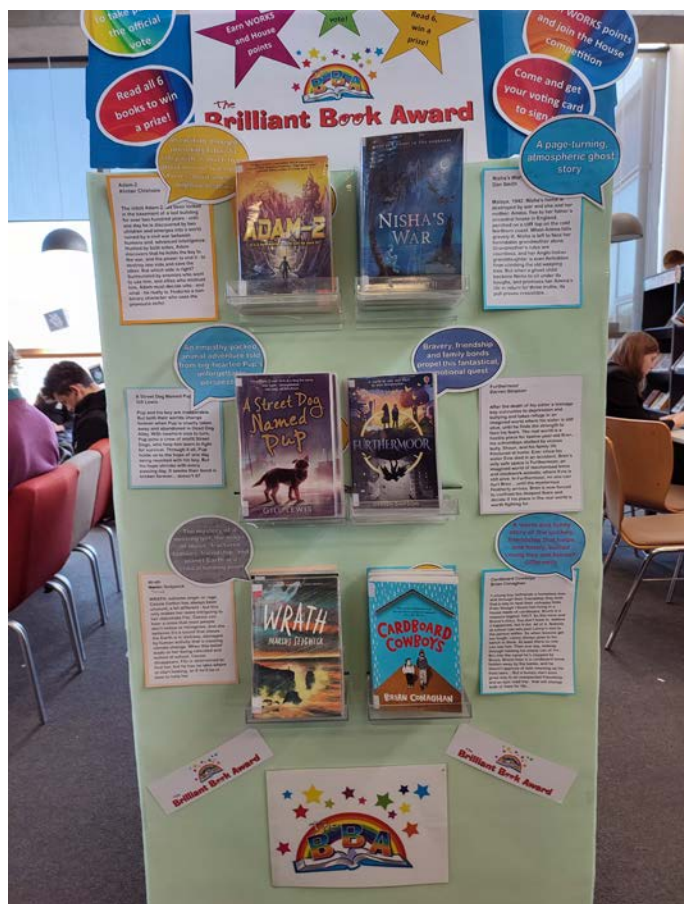
Library News

We have been busy in the library this term! Our annual Blind Date with a Book Award for Valentine's Day was a huge success! We wrapped and decorated over 100 books so students who wanted to take part would have to use our verbal clues and pictures to choose a book to read. 70% of students who 'Rated their Date' said they would read a book by that author again, proving that you shouldn't just judge a book by its cover!

World Book Day was on Thursday 2nd March and we had some fantastic free books to give out to our KS2 and KS3 students in their library lessons. We also have our Design a Bookmark competition for World Book Day. Winners and Runners up will be chosen from each year group. The closing date is Friday 17th March, so come and pick up a template from us and get creative!

The Brilliant Book Award runs until Monday 6th March. Students only need to read one of the books to take part. House points will be awarded based on the number of participants! If you read four of the six shortlisted books you can take part in the official vote and there is a prize for any students who can read all six! Our votes will be added to those from schools all over Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire and the winner and runner up will be announced towards the end of March.

If you like Graphic Novels and Manga, the Excelsior Award is for you! There are ten books shortlisted and we have two copies of each. Come and choose a book and pick up a Rating Form from us if you would like to take part. WORKS Points and House Points are available!



Year 12 Young Enterprise Team Attend West Bridgford Farmers Market

25th February 2023

Article: MS TAYLOR

Our Year 12 Young Enterprise team took their fantastic, sustainable products to the Farmers Market in West Bridgford at the weekend and managed to sell dozens of their grow-your-own herb kits! The team have been developing the products for their company- Grow It- and are now trading at markets across Nottinghamshire, look out for them at Southwell Market soon and pick up your kit!



Year 12

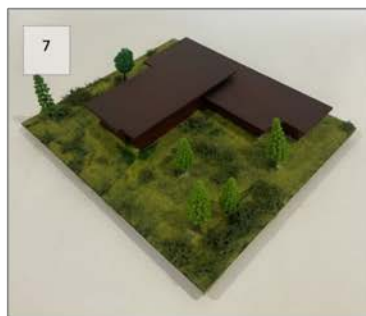
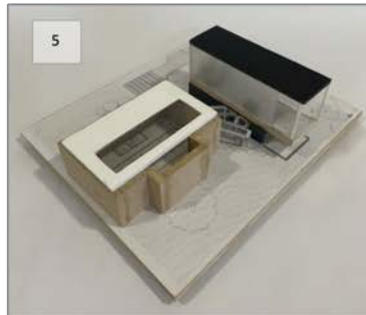
Architecture Modelling

Department: DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Article: MR MELLOR

Our Year 12 Design & Technology students were set a challenge to model an existing piece of architecture to test their model making skills as part of their skill development. Twelve fantastic architectural models were produced this year.

1. Sophie - Bahrain world trade centre - Scale 1:1500
2. Drew - City Ground – Scale 1:750
3. George M - The Taipei 101 – Scale 1:100
4. Chloe - Reversible Destiny Lofts – Scale 1:150
5. Evelyn - Toshiko Mori Building - Scale 1:200
6. Henry - Burj al Arab – Scale 1:800
7. Hugo - Herbert Jacob's House – Scale 1:100
8. George - Frank Lloyd Wright-falling water – Scale 1:250
9. Jack - The Galaxy SOHO Building - Scale 1:800
10. Emily – The Royal Albert Hall - Scale 1:350
11. Freddie - Hearst Tower - Scale 1:250
12. Oliver – Big Ben – Scale 1:250



Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip

In February, 31 Geographers travelled to Snowdonia, Wales, to study fieldwork techniques in preparation for their A-Level NEA (non-examined assessment) projects. They visited the FSC Rhyd-y-creuau and studied in the beautiful landscapes of the Nant Ffrancon Valley, Cwm Idwal and Betws-Y-Coed.

Students had the opportunity to learn about carbon storage in deciduous woodland along with examining landscapes of glacial erosion and deposition. On their final day they used iPads to collect geo-located data on sounds and smells!

The staff at the FSC centre said they were 'the most polite set of students'; we'd completely agree! A big thank you to all the staff and students who participated in the trip.



"Students had the opportunity to learn about carbon storage in deciduous woodland along with examining landscapes"



Bordeaux Sixth Form French Trip

It is undeniable that Bordeaux is an alluring city, lying along the crescent moon of the Garonne River, located in the South-West of France. A region filled with cultural distinction. Our group of fourteen A-Level students, accompanied by two teachers, were charmed by the incandescent beauty of this city. From exploring the Medieval wine village of Saint-Émilion and frequenting the centre of Bordeaux for French gastronomy; to acquainting ourselves with the much-loved characters Astérix and Obélix during our trip to a French cinema.

Our days were brimming with linguistic engagement as we discovered the unmissable heritage sites across the city. The Place de la Bourse, Grosse Cloche and the Place de Quinconces are amongst the multitude of hypnotising historical sites which we beheld. Alongside this, we took in the work of Salvador Dalí through a visually immersive experience, called 'The Endless Enigma'. This incomparable exhibition did not only introduce us to the world of French art, it also involved us in the intangible heritage of the country.

Sampling the delights of French cuisine was a highlight of our visit. Developing our knowledge of classic gastronomy, we journeyed into various local cafes, a Crêperie - where we tasted both the savoury galette and the sweet crêpe – as well as 'Canard Street', where students tried duck burgers.

As the enrichment visit to Bordeaux pleased our eyes and our stomachs, additionally, it deeply stimulated our learning, allowing us to grow as budding linguists. Thus, empowering our independency by ordering our own food, asking for guidance when needed and even

chatting and joking in French with our friends.

Moreover, Bordeaux gave us every opportunity to build friendships, refine our French and even advance our skills at playing pool: whilst making memories in one of the world's most astonishing cities. Thank you Bordeaux and thank you Miss Texier-Salter and Miss Sogas for such an unforgettable opportunity.

By Phoebe



"Our days were brimming with linguistic engagement as we discovered the unmissable heritage sites across the city"

YEAR 8

LANGUAGES DAY

On 13th January Year 8 participated in the Year 8 Languages Day, an exciting event where they could learn more about languages. Students were working in small groups and at first they had to choose a multilingual team name. Well done to the 'Linguanas' and to 'Turkish Delights' who won the award for best team names. Students then completed the big Minster languages quiz as a warm up. Round 1 was on general facts about languages and in round 2 they had to match greetings in foreign languages with the correct language. Next up was the language detectives activity where students were given the same sentence in 8 different languages and had to work out what the different components meant. Well done to the teams 'Sush-it' (Finn, Sam, Amelia, Olivia, Ethan, Owen) who scored most points across these activities in the CR half and well done to 'the Greek Yoghurt Pots' (Thea, Natalie, Lydia, Gaby, Freya, Annie, Lily) and 'We are bing chilling' (Josh, Noah, Eleanor, Spencer, Harry and Jess' who came joint first in the TW half.

The main part of the day was to learn a new language themselves. Students could choose from a list of languages including Japanese, Ukranian, Arabic,

Turkish, Korean, Swedish and Greek and then had to research how to say a list of basic phrases in that language and teach those phrases to each other. After learning the phrases, they were then paired up with another table and had to teach them their newly learnt language.

Our students engaged really well in all the different activities and made the language department proud. There was a real buzz about languages in the hall and students went home knowing that they are not limited by the languages we offer at school but that they can learn any language they want.



Department: MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES
Article: DR ZINDLER

Year 8 Humanities Trip - Cadbury World

Year 8 students visited Cadbury World on the 1st and 2nd February to kick start a cross curricular Humanities project. On the day, students had a talk about the location, history and growth of Cadbury as a company as well as a tour of the factory to see chocolate being made. They were able to see where cocoa is grown and the journey it goes on to be turned into a chocolate bar, as well as learning about the Cadbury family and their values.

Over the subsequent 2 weeks in school, students built on this work in a project that involved all of their Geography, History and RS lessons. This aims to help students to see the important links that can be made between the 3 subjects and to consolidate and reflect upon the work started on the trip.

24th January 2023

Department: PERFORMING ARTS

Article: MS BILODEAU

Music Technology - Trip to Huddersfield University

Year 12 and Year 13 Music Technology students went for a taster day at the University of Huddersfield, exploring the fantastic facilities and spending 'a day in the life of a University student'. They attended workshops and seminars along with other university students and gained valuable insight into what life might be like in the future. The lessons ranged from live sound engineering, recording sound for film (as pictured) to the development of electronica. The students really enjoyed the day and they were a real credit to the school with their commitment to the workshops & professional interactions with staff.





Minster School Parent Teacher Association

We are an enthusiastic, committed group of parents and teachers who work to raise money for our school and students to enable those extras that are much needed to be purchased. This academic year we are fundraising to help school purchase ICT equipment. As you are aware everything has increased in price and budgets are stretched, however there are a number of ways of supporting outlined below.

Why not join us at our regular meetings, or if you feel that you could give up some time to support in serving refreshments at school events, please contact us directly via email for more information. mspta@minster.notts.sch.uk. The more parents that join us the more we can do to help support our school.

Current fundraising

For £10, you could be in with a chance of winning some lovely spending money. Last term, three winners shared £700.

To join in, log into Parentmail (<https://pmx.parentmail.co.uk>) and go to 'Payments' then 'Shop'. The £10 entry for the 50/50 draw should appear here. Half of this fundraising goes into the prize draw, which you could win, and the remaining half benefits our

pupils. The closing date is Friday 12th May with the draw taking place on Monday 15th May.

Full draw details are here: <https://www.minster.notts.sch.uk/mspta>

Easy Fundraising

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be raising a free donation for MSPTA? There are nearly 3,000 retailers including Waitrose, John Lewis, Aviva, the trainline and Sainsburys, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to MSPTA to say thank you for shopping with them. Find out more here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/msptasouthwell>

Meetings

Our next meeting is on Friday 10th March 8.50 at school. We are hoping that by moving our meetings that more of you may be able to join us.

Thank you and good luck with the draw!

The Minster School Music Department
2022-2023

UNPLUGGED



9 MARCH '23
7:00PM, Recital Room

Contemporary, acoustic, singer-songwriter evening

AP-8- EASTER RUGBY CAMP

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Online Safety

Article: MRS ZANNETOU

Last month we sent you a communication about online safety, as well as a training opportunity. Online safety is a continual focus for us in school, however last month with online safety week we focused on staff training and highlighting areas with students through tutor time activities.

Prevention is always better through education, through helping young people understand the internet better as well as the possible dangers. We would like to draw your attention to three online safety resources.

The first is an article that The NSPCC published earlier this month 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.' The article highlights ways in which we all can have sensible, non-accusatory conversations about the online world, and young people's role within it. To find out more follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/want-to-talk-about-it-making-space-for-conversations-about-life-online/>

The second link we would like to draw your attention to is published by the UK Safer Internet Centre who have worked with Adoptive UK to create a range of resources for carers and adoptive parents.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/foster-carers-and-adoptive-parents>

And finally, please take time to review the Spotify resource which focuses on advice for parents and carers around keeping your young person safe whilst using Spotify.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SPOTIFY

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.

EXPLICIT LYRICS

As per Spotify's terms and conditions, people need to be at least 13 to use it. That said, the platform doesn't censor lyrics unless instructed to do so in the settings – so it's worth noting that young teenagers could still be exposed to age-inappropriate songs which contain explicit references to sexual behaviour, violence, discriminatory language and swearing.

GROOMING TACTICS

Although Spotify doesn't come with dedicated chat functionality, concerns were raised in January 2023 after reports of an 11-year-old girl being coerced into sharing explicit pictures of herself on the platform. The case highlighted predators' tactics of sharing empty playlists with other users: their messages were being exchanged undetected through edited song titles and descriptions, bypassing security measures.

OVERSHARING

Spotify provides a perfect way to play music, with the ability to connect to another device, such as a Bluetooth speaker or an in-car stereo. While this is a useful feature, it's also easy to forget your surroundings and inadvertently play content which isn't appropriate for all listeners (especially those under the age of 18), potentially causing alarm or distress.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Spotify's podcast community has grown exponentially and it's become a popular base for millions of users to listen to shows, stories, interviews and more – with content covering an array of topics. This includes some material which isn't suitable for minors, including audio which is obviously adult-themed, but can be just as easily accessed as everything else.

ACCESS TO SPOTIFY LIVE

If your child has a Spotify account, they'll also be able to access the platform's audio-only chat service: Spotify Live. While it's a separate stand-alone app, Spotify Live allows people to listen to live discussions on the main Spotify platform and, more notably, lets users enter virtual rooms to chat with other users, opening up direct conversations with strangers and individuals who might not necessarily be there for the right reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SWAP TO SPOTIFY KIDS

If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, Spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 12 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

Regardless of what type of account your child uses to access Spotify, there is an option to turn off explicit content in the settings – greying out all songs marked with an 'E' tag. If your child has their own individual account, it's easier for them to turn it back on – whereas with a family plan, you're in control and your child can't alter the setting without knowing the password.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.

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.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

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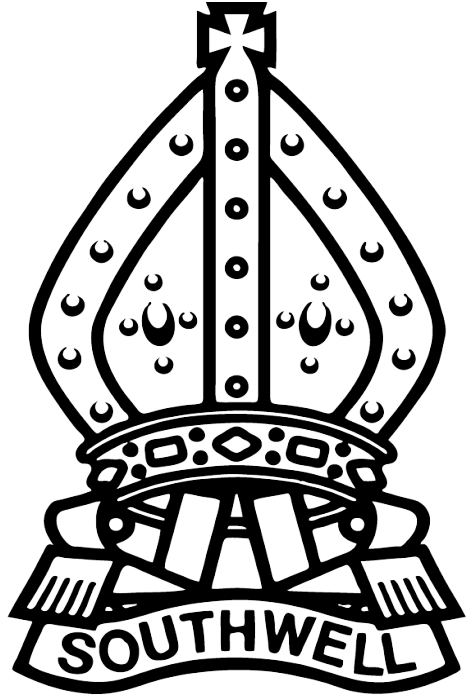
/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

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WORKS



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