

## Dring Digest w/e 6th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

➤ **Secondary School Application Deadline**



➤ **Attendance Matters**

Going to school every day is a great way for your child to make friends.

For more information on school absence in York visit:  
[www.york.gov.uk/SchoolAttendance](http://www.york.gov.uk/SchoolAttendance)



➤ **School Photo Day – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

Please can ALL children arrive in full uniform on this day. If this is normally your PE day, please bring your PE kit with you to change into. Don't forget to bring your smile!

➤ **October Half Term Tennis Club with Jonny Kay**

Jonny who teaches our popular breakfast tennis club will be hosting a tennis camp over the upcoming October half term break.

The camp will be held in Rowntree park from Monday to Wednesday and then at Bishopthorpe Tennis Club on Thursday and Friday.

Timings will be either 9am – 12pm for the morning session and/or 1pm-4pm for the afternoon. If you would prefer you can also book for the full day.

Costs are £20 for morning and afternoon sessions or £35 for all day .

Discounted rates are available for full week bookings as follows:

Full week mornings -afternoons £100

Full week / all day / £160

To register interest for your child please contact Jonny directly at

[jonny.kay98@yahoo.com](mailto:jonny.kay98@yahoo.com)

➤ **Harvest Festival**

Dringhouses Primary School

*harvest*  
**FESTIVAL**  
**16TH OCTOBER**

This year we will be celebrating harvest festival at St Edwards, children are asked to bring charitable donations with them to school that morning. Any donations will be used to support York Foodbank. The charity has mentioned needing the following items in particular:





- tinned soup/mea/fish
- UHT milk
- Pasta sauces
- tinned tomatoes/fruit
- Rice pudding/custard
- Biscuits
- Rice

York  
**foodbank**



➤ **Clare's Kitchen – new module**

From Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October there will be some spaces available in the Clare's Kitchen cookery club. The club takes place weekly, on a Thursday, from 3:15-5:15pm. For further information including cost, please refer to the leaflet below and contact Clare directly.

<p><b>"Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand."</b> <i>(Chinese proverb)</i></p>	<h2>Clare's Kitchen</h2> <h3>The Vision</h3>	
	<p>As a mother and a professional in Childcare, with some 20 years experience with 0-19s, I have had the pleasure of observing children grow socially and emotionally. Such experience has taught me that there is a direct correlation between a child's social and emotional development, behaviour and eating habits.</p>	 <p><b>I'm a Little Chef!</b></p>
<p>Promoting experiential learning and real life learning experiences 'in the kitchen'</p>	<p>My aim is to equip children with basic culinary knowledge and confidence, to enable them to make informed choices about the food they eat. Also, to support and develop their food preparation skills, knowledge and understanding of kitchen safety, all of which are life skills. This experiential learning will empower children and will develop their independence and confidence in the kitchen.</p>	<h2>Clare's Kitchen</h2> <p>Enrichment Cookery Programme</p>
<h3>Clare's Kitchen</h3> <p><i>Experiences so good, they're edible!</i></p>	<p>My long-term aim is to develop essential skill for life and nurture healthy attitudes to eating, food choices and culinary experiences. Also, to foster the social and emotional aspects of food preparation, appreciation and cultural experiences.</p>	<p><b>NOW AN AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB AT YOUR CHILD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL</b></p>
	<p><b>CONTACT US</b></p>	<h2>07813182216</h2>
<p><i>"Just fabulous! Highly recommend...my children can't wait to visit again!"</i></p> <p><i>"My son and niece absolutely loved it!"</i></p>	<p><b>Mobile No 07813182216</b></p>	
<p><b>FOLLOW US</b></p>	<p><b>clareskitchen@yahoo.co.uk</b></p>	<p><i>"Supporting children to reach their full potential in life"</i></p>
<p><a href="http://www.facebook.com/clareshkitchenyork">www.facebook.com/clareshkitchenyork</a></p>		
<p>Twitter; @ClaresKitchen1</p>		

<h2>What?</h2>	<h2>Where?</h2>	<h2>When?</h2>
<p><b>What is Clare's Kitchen?</b></p>	<p><b>What if my child's a fussy eater?</b></p>	<p><b>What will my child gain from attending Clare's Kitchen?</b></p>
<p>Clare's Kitchen is an after-school cookery activity, where pupils become 'little chefs'. They work as a team to cook their own nutritional meal, then enjoy dining together.</p>	<p>In Clare's Kitchen we see every opportunity as a learning opportunity. We therefore will foster an ethos to discuss our worries, concerns &amp; the emotions associated with food &amp; choices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hands on experience of how to prepare nutritional meals</li> <li>-An understanding of why we must eat seasonally &amp; buy locally grown food where possible</li> <li>-Broader tastes as they discover new produce, textures, herbs &amp; spices</li> </ul>
<p><b>Where are sessions held?</b></p>	<p><b>Is my child too young to use knives &amp; a hot oven?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Knowledge of food preparation &amp; kitchen safety &amp; hygiene</li> <li>-Essential life skills, in a fun &amp; nurturing environment</li> </ul>
<p>They are held at your child's primary school &amp; start when the school day ends.</p>	<p>In Clare's Kitchen, all knives used are safe cutters, especially designed for use by young children. Only adults will have access to the hot oven during sessions.</p>	<p><b>What time do sessions end &amp; how much do they cost?</b></p>
<p><b>What if my child has special dietary needs...can they still attend?</b></p>	<p><b>Can my child attend each week?</b></p>	<p>Letters containing full details of times &amp; prices are available from your school office.</p>
<p>Our differences make us all unique. In Clare's Kitchen, we fully embrace this &amp; ask that parents notify us of any dietary requests in advance of a session. This enables us to safely &amp; respectfully plan your child's session.</p>	<p>Yes, places are reserved by payment made in advance. Numbers are limited, but multiple sessions may also be booked in advance.</p>	



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 games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# AMONG US

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, Among Us enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 60 million regular players each month) thanks to its unique nature, simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguise and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young Among Us players need to be aware of.



### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### SENSITIVE PREMISE

In Among Us, up to three players are secretly assigned to be alien imposters, tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivors try to unmask them. While the concept's not far removed from traditional games like Wink Murder or TV shows such as The Traitors, some parents may feel uncomfortable about their child playing a video game in which deception and killing are prioritised.

#### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of Among Us, but the majority of the animations depicting this are deliberately cartoonish and only appear very briefly. However, it is worth bearing in mind that the game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain elements (however heavily stylised they may be) could still upset some younger players.

#### CHAT BETWEEN PLAYERS

With up to 15 people participating in each game online, a large part of Among Us' appeal is speculating with fellow players who the imposters might be and making accusations. This dialogue through the in-game text chat can occasionally become heated – and could, of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they don't know in real life.

#### GOING OFF PLATFORM

While Among Us provides basic ways to communicate, many gamers prefer to use external services such as Discord: a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These undeniably make cooperation easier, but also create a potential route for children to hear inappropriate language – or for strangers to message them privately in an environment which isn't regulated by the game itself.

#### IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and costs less than £5 to obtain on console and PC. A related longer-term pitfall, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing ads on the mobile version or adding cosmetic touches to characters (such as different costumes). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without realising it.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although Among Us is hugely popular with young gamers, it's possible that some children might find the murder themes unsettling. If so, plenty of similar social deduction games are available (in both digital and traditional board game formats) which downplay the potentially grislier elements: some centre around undercover spies, for instance, and there's even a Marvel superhero-themed variant.

#### CHAT ABOUT CHATTING

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with voice chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strangers online aren't always who they claim to be. Keeping the conversation relaxed will reinforce your child's confidence that they can always come to you with any online concerns – not just about Among Us, but any potential future issues as well.

#### DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent app for keeping online communities together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the platform, you could set up a secure server for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Among Us, with no access for people they don't know.

#### AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a private game of Among Us by choosing a 'local' lobby – that is, only people connected to the same WiFi (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users – who may be total strangers – from joining and removes the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

#### STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

If you're concerned about the possibility of your child racking up an unexpected bill on Among Us' microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit. Likewise, you could specify in the game's options that adult authorisation is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that no payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

#### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and experts site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.





# COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB!



**30th October—3rd November**

**Also Open for school training day 27th October!**

**7:30am until 6PM £30. 50 per day.**

**Morning and afternoon snack is provided, children will need to bring a packed lunch to each session.**

**Join us for some Halloween fun! We will be doing spooky arts and crafts, mask making, baking and lots more!**

**Join us on Thursday 2nd November in your best Halloween outfits for a day of games, party food and dancing!**



Please contact us at [dringhouses@dringhousesoosc.co.uk](mailto:dringhouses@dringhousesoosc.co.uk) for more information or book via your Cheqdin account

Weekly • Drop-in



**Every Tuesday**

**3.30pm – 4.30pm**

**Dringhouses Library**

[www.exploreYork.org.uk](http://www.exploreYork.org.uk)

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