

Half Term Success Stories

Here at Stanway School we've had a lovely start to 2023 with students taking part in various competitions and enjoying trips and visits, attending our Celebration Breakfasts and marking their achievements.

North Essex Maths Olympiad

This term, ten Year 9 students travelled to the Tendring Education Centre to take part in the North Essex Maths Olympiad (NEMOs). In this competition, teams of 4 from schools across Essex compete in a series of maths challenges to win a prize. Stanway School was proud to enter 3 teams who all exemplified the Stanway Standards and represented the school excellently. Narrowly beaten by some strong competition, the Stanway teams were not winners this time, however left the event having successfully completed some seriously tricky maths problems - well done to all those who took part.

In This Issue:

- VEX Robotics
- Say Yes to the Prom Dress
- Black Forest Trip

Plus more...

Sparx Maths

A huge well done to the top 5 students of the school who have been completing their Sparx homework and going above and beyond by doing extra work on it. Well done to everyone who has been completing their Sparx homework, keep it up!

sparx			Sparx Maths Top students			Sparx Maths Top students			Maths. Reimagined. www.sparx.co.uk													
7X1	Madeleine	8X1	Emma	9X1	Miruna	10X1	Finlay	11X1	Joseph	LEADER BOARD <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Student</th> <th>Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st Caitlin</td> <td>24458</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Keigan</td> <td>17000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3rd Jason</td> <td>16699</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th Aaron</td> <td>13029</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5th Isabella</td> <td>12915</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Student	Points	1 st Caitlin	24458	2 nd Keigan	17000	3 rd Jason	16699	4 th Aaron	13029	5 th Isabella	12915
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7A1a	Leo	8A1a	Kelsey	9A1a	Beckett	10A1a	Thomas	11A1	Keira													
7A1b	Harcy	8A1b	Ethan	9A1b	Richelle	10A1b	Keigan	11A2	Mase													
7A2a	Isabella	8A2a	Harrison	9A2a	Keighan	10A2a	Tegan	11A3	Arda													
7A2b	Daisy	8A2b	Lewis	9A2b	Calum	10A2b	Mia	11A4	Caitlin													
7B1a	Aaron	8B1a	Samuel	9B1a	Jason	10B1a	Eoin	11B1	Anastasia													
7B1b	Adrienne	8B1b	Oscar	9B1b	Anjel	10B1b	Harriet	11B2	Sebastian													
7B2a	Akosua	8B2a	Kareena	9B2a	George	10B2a	Fatima	11B3	Ethan													
7B2b	Ellie	8B2b	Laila	9B2b	Maddie	10B2b	Danny	11B4	Ami													

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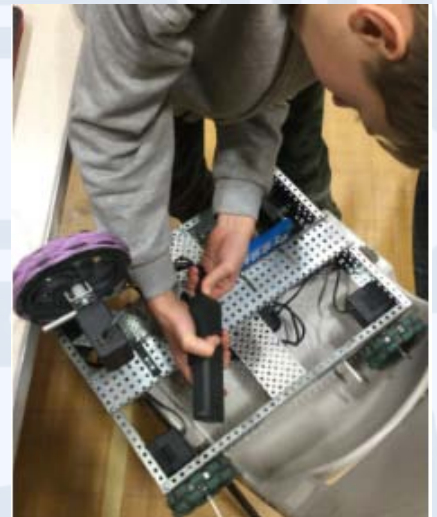
VEX IQ Robotics Competition

VEX, been busy! Four competitions run with students from Year 7-10. We have had a semi finals entry and even got through to the finals at one competition! Some excellent effort and teamwork were shown by the students who showed up so well we made the local newspaper as the lead image!

In addition to this we also had a student take away the judges award bringing home a trophy for the Stanway School. With a number of close calls during the competition's we are yet to hear if a team will be making it through to the national finals but the effort and hard work shown by all undoubtedly means they deserve a place!

Many thanks to the students and also the parents who supported the outstanding efforts.

Mr Russell



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Essex Schools contest robotics competition at St Helena

1 image

Practice makes perfect - Stanway school pupils test their robots before another encounter (Image: Daniel West, Newsquest)

By Daniel West
Local Reporter
[@Dan.West.NH100](#)

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STUDENTS from seven schools across Colchester, Sussex and London converged on St Helena School in Colchester to contest the Essex Christmas Clash of the Vex IQ Robotics competition.

[Get involved](#)

Well done to all the students involved for their excellent effort and teamwork.

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German Visit to the Black Forest

On 15 December 2022, 48 very excited students in Key Stage 4 left a cold and snowy Colchester with 5 staff for the very much longed for Christmas Market Trip to Germany. What an amazing time we all had!

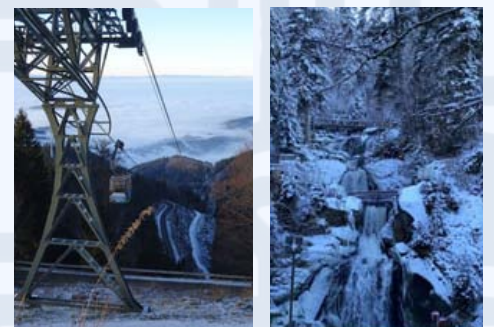
We began by taking a coach to Heathrow Airport and after check-in, we boarded our plane to Zurich, Switzerland. Although we had some first-time fliers with us, the students all behaved impeccably and, armed with copious amounts of sweets for the flight, we had a short journey to our hotel.

Once we arrived at the Hotel Rebstock in Rust, our home for the next 3 nights, we quickly put our luggage into our rooms and then all went off to the Lidl supermarket to grab some lunch. This was not as quick a process as we had envisaged as the students seemed very intrigued by some of the products available to buy and we all walked back to the hotel armed with fresh rolls, pastries, fruit juice, snack sausages and much more! One room even managed to buy some butter for their bread and use the outside of their windowsill as a fridge! That evening we enjoyed a three-course meal before heading out to the Magic Cinema to watch the new Avatar film in 4D, complete with jets of water, vibrating chairs and gusts of wind!

The next day was spent at the amazing Europa Park theme park, just 10 minutes walk away from our hotel. There were lots of shows for those not looking for too much adventure and exciting rides in and amongst the winter-themed park and some of the students bought food in the Food Loop restaurant – the world’s only restaurant where food arrives at your table via a roller coaster track! In a modern twist, some students also maximised their time in the park by using a theme park app to monitor queue times, which being a school day during the term time, were never too long, which was a real bonus.

Day three was our sightseeing day and we began by exploring the traditional Black Forest town of Triberg. Here there were a variety of attractions on offer – the Black Forest museum with its traditional costumes and cuckoo clocks on display, the Instagram museum (where students were able to take some fun photos against a series of themed backdrops, and a quick visit to Germany’s highest waterfalls, the Gutach Falls. After lunch we transferred to Freiburg, where we began by going up on the Schauinsland Cable car for a very mysterious panoramic view over the city. It took 20 mins to get up there, but it was so worth it, even for the faint-hearted members of the group! Later on, we transferred to the city centre where we walked to the famous cathedral, the Münster, and we had the opportunity to explore the Christmas Market at with its various stalls all tempting us to try traditional foods and drinks, such as sausages and fried potato cakes, chocolate covered fruit, or hot fruit punch. We saw beautifully decorated wooden huts all lit up against the darkness of the evening sky, selling lots of different Christmas products and some of our group bought Christmas presents for friends and family.

On our final day we we were taken by coach to Stuttgart for our final Christmas Market experience. During our free time, we had the chance to try some alternative foods whilst exploring the centre of a different city in the daylight this time, practising speaking in German and spending the last of our money before getting back on the coach and heading to the airport. We had a lovely trop and we all wished we could have stayed longer!



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Say Yes to the Prom Dress

Yes to the Prom Dress had an amazing 21 dresses go out this year on loan! The team worked so hard, giving up their own time and we are very proud.



Launched in 2019 and with the help of family and friends of the school plus the power of social media, we had over 200 dresses, suits and accessories donated to us (some new and some preloved), for our students to choose their outfit from.

We believe everyone should go to prom if they wish to. We do not charge for the use of the dress/suit, however we do suggest a small donation to cover the dry cleaning costs, and to support us as a school with being able to continue offering this service to future students.



Thank you to everyone who has supported us.



Say Yes to The Prom dress is not about affordability its about justification - many cannot justify spending hundreds of pounds on a suit or dress for one event, that's where the initiative steps in.

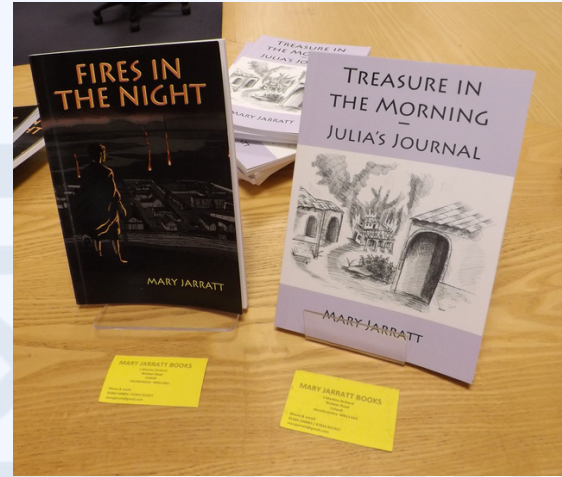


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Author Visit

On 2 February we were lucky to have a visit from Mary Jarratt, a local author, who has written two books based on the Roman period, *Fires in the Night* and *Treasure in the Morning*. Mary used to be a teacher herself and the stories that she has published are based on ones that she used to tell to her students in class.

Mary's fictional illustrated books are about what it was like as a young person living in Colchester at the beginning of the fall of the Roman Empire and about discovering the Fenwick Treasure.



Staff and students had the opportunity to talk to Mary about her books and on becoming an author, and for her to sign the books that they purchased.



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Year 7 Enterprise Challenge - Final

Last term our Year 7 students took part in the Brilliant Ideas Enterprise Challenge the final of which took place on 20 December with our students having the chance to demonstrate the games they had created.

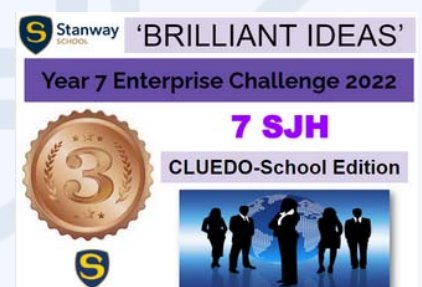
As a team they had to come up with a product design, consider who their customers would be. Come up with a marketing strategy, carry out financial planning, and then pitch their idea to the judges.



The winning team was 7CGH with Overgrown OASIS.

7SWH took second place with Ladder Race and 7SJH were third with Cluedo - School Edition.

A huge well done to all our Year 7 students and congratulations to our winners.



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Darcy's Charity Event in aid of CRY

"I'm Darcy and I'm in Year 8. Sadly I lost my big sister last year. Me and my family held a charity and awareness event in aid of CRY, the screening service for cardiac risk in the young. If we can help one young person and encourage them to book an appointment, then we are achieving our goal."

For more information about CRY and the services they offer please call 0203 691 0000 or visit <https://www.testmyheart.org.uk>.



At a recent screening event 211 people were scanned and 8 were referred for further testing so it was a worthwhile weekend.



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Jack Petchy Achievement Award

Last half term we invited nominations from students, staff and parents for the Jack Petchy Achievement Awards which recognise academic and community contributions of our students who have gone above and beyond. After the nominations, the Prefect Team gathered to select their winners and chose Tallulah (11SH), Yeva (9FMA), and Lauryn (10LWA) as their winners for demonstrating compassion, kindness and resilience towards others in our school. These three students, as well as those successfully selected by students from January - June 2022, have been invited to a celebratory awards ceremony in February too! Furthermore, both Mr MacPhail and Miss Murphy will receive recognition for their own nominations and awards of the Jack Petchy Leadership Award.

Christmas Reading Challenge

Congratulations to those who took part in the Christmas Reading Challenge. All entries were lucky enough to receive a free book and one lucky Year 8 student was picked at random to win a £10 Red Lion Books token. Well done everyone!



Wednesday
KS3 Lunch 12:40-13:10
Where? LRC
Who? MRS JARRATT and
MRS STAITE



Book Club



Thursday
KS3 Lunch 12:40-13:10
Where? LRC
Who? Miss Jones



Book Club



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School Clubs

KS3 Eco Club

Week B Tuesday Lunchtime

We will be working towards achieving the Eco Schools Green Flag.

If you want to be involved in making Stanway more environmentally friendly, we would love to see you!




Tuesday
After school 3:15-4:15
Where? C101
Who? Year 7-10,
MR RUSSELL



Friday
KS3 Lunch 12:40-13:10
Where? A001
Who? Mr Hanlon




Junior Stanway
Strings



Tuesday
After school 3:15-4:15
Where? A001
Who? Mr Hanlon





Showstoppers!

YEAR 7+8
CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Every Monday after school
3:30-4:10pm in B114

If you love writing stories and poems and would like the chance to enter competitions...then come along!

Are you interested in:

Crystals? 


Fossils? 

Rocks? 

Geology Club


C1.09 Weds
3:15 - 4:15




Monday
After school 3:15-4:15
Where? C101
Who? Year 7-10,
MR RUSSELL

STEM CLUB




Tuesday
After school 3:15-4:15
Where? C110
Who? MR BOCKING

Science drop-in



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Information, Events and Activities



IT'S NOT BANTER IF...

1	2	3	4	5	6
You would be upset if someone said it to you.	It's hurtful.	You're not friends.	Someone's asked you to stop.	The target isn't laughing.	It focuses on someone's insecurities.



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Information, Events and Activities



Kingsland Church are offering free packed lunches to children and young people over half term, no questions asked.

Dates: Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February

Time: Between 11.30am-2pm

Where: Kingsland Church Colchester, 86 London Road, Lexden, CO3 9DW (Above where Aldi used to be) Behind the first doors in the foyer. (This will be unmanned, so families may come and help themselves)

FREE FAMILY FUN DAY!



Saturday 18th February, 11am - 4pm

Blow away those winter blues in the Kingsland building and car park with a whole day of community fun!

Featuring: Live Music, Bouncy Castle, Games, Face Painting, Arts & Crafts, Dance Performance and much, much more!

ALL FREE!

Kingsland Church, 86 London Road, Colchester, CO3 9DW

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Information, Events and Activities

Firstsite Holiday Fun

February - March 2023
Every Saturday and Sunday
from 4 Feb - 26 Mar

Plus
Half Term
from Tue 14 Feb - Fri 17 Feb

Colchester

Activities take place at: Firstsite, Lewis Gardens, High St, Colchester, Essex CO1 1JH

Make
Free drop-in creative art activities
10:00am - 2:30pm

Move
Free fun movement activities
10:45am - 11:45am & 12:00pm - 1:00pm

FREE

Canteen
Free freshly-made hot meals for all the family
11:45am & 1:00pm

We will be providing our Holiday Fun programme every weekend throughout February and March, as well as Tue 14 Feb - Fri 17 Feb during Feb Half term. The Holiday Fun Programme is delivered with Art Fund support.

Our Holiday Fun activities are for families facing economic challenges or who require additional support during the school holidays, including those that qualify for benefits-based free school meals.

Delivered in partnership with:



How to book

Early bird tickets for all weekend and Half Term sessions available from 9am on Monday 30 January.

More tickets will be released three days in advance of each session.

Limited spaces available, offered on a first come, first served basis.

If you can no longer attend your booking, please let us know as soon as possible by calling 01206 713 700.

If you cancel 24 hours before the event your space can be made available for another family.

Thank you!

To find out about our Covid-19 safety measures, please visit www.firstsite.uk, email info@firstsite.uk or call 01206 713 700.

Book online at www.firstsite.uk or call: 01206 713700

- Advance booking is essential.
- Activities most suitable for 4 - 11 years, but all ages welcome.
- Carers are required to stay on site throughout the activities.
- Menu and list of activities available at www.firstsite.uk

Firstsite, Lewis Gardens
High Street, Colchester CO1 1JH

Registered in England. Company no 2894347. Registered Charity no 1031800



AUTHENTIC STREET DANCE TUITION
WITH
KERRI TAYLOR
TUESDAYS
5 PM - 7 PM

SUITABLE FOR
CHILDREN AGED 10-13

6 WEEK TERM

[21 / 02 / 2023 - 28 / 03 / 2023]
£60

@ THE THEATRICOOOL STUDIO,
BELLE VUE ROAD,
COLCHESTER, CO1 1XA

Fully Qualified Freelance Street Dance Teacher with the prestigious UK Street Dance company, Urban Strides (World's 1st Level 4 accredited qualification.)

For more information and to book your space (limited spaces available), please contact me on:

kertaylor1980@gmail.com
07721182253

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Information, Events and Activities

ENJOYMENT - TEAMWORK - SPORTSMANSHIP - FUN

RUGBY CAMP

FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 12 TO 18
WHO WANT TO DEVELOP RUGBY TECHNIQUE AND TACTICS



MULTISPORT FOR SCHOOLS
14-15 FEBRUARY 2023
HALF TERM RUGBY CLUB
WRITTLE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
RUGBY GROUND, LORDSHIP ROAD
CHELMSFORD, CM1 3RR

INFO/BOOKING
ADRIAN CUTHILL
adrian@multisportsforschools.co.uk
£35/DAY & £12/T-SHIRT
10am - 2pm

ELITE COACHING
FROM INTERNATIONAL COACHES AND
WORLD CLASS PROFESSIONALS



Dylan CAMPBELL



Stuart CORSAR



**RUGBY
ACADEMY**
rdjsports.com

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Information, Events and Activities



FAMILY LIVE WELL EVENT

C360 COMMUNITY HUB, 4-6 LONG WYRE STREET, COLCHESTER, CO1 1LH
WEDNESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 10.00 - 15.00

We invite you to join us in a warm and welcoming space for a drink and chat!

FREE practical help and advice on;

Health & Wellbeing

Cost of living - financial

Children & young people activities

Family matters

Volunteering

and a valentines craft table for children to get creative

HEALTH & WELLBEING

- **NEEDS North East Essex Diabetes Services**
 - **Heart health** - diabetes can affect your main organs. February is national healthy heart month! spend a minute to **get your heart checked with the team on their mini ECG.**
 - **Think you might be diabetic? get your blood glucose checked** and get advice on how to avoid becoming diabetic or, how to manage your diabetes better.
- **PROVIDE - FREE** general health checks for those aged between 40-74 years.
- **Essex County Council - Demonstrating technology which can support the maintenance of independence at home.** An Occupational Therapist will also be attending providing advice and support

COST OF LIVING - FINANCIAL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES ACTIVITIES

EMPLOYMENT / FAMILY MATTERS SUPPORT

- **Changing Lives - Offering young people social opportunities** through accessing sport/physical activities & work experience, building confidence and skills.
- **Colchester City Council - FREE** impartial benefit and financial advice / Support to claim the benefits that you may be entitled to / Offer a personalised service to help with the journey into employment.
- **Essex Family Support - are on hand to take referrals to assist families who are going through difficulties.** Tailoring support, guidance and advice specific to each individual case.
- **Department for Work & Pensions - There will be Disability Employment Advisers** on hand offering support and advice on job searching and CV writing.
- **Multiply - Don't think you're a numbers person?** If you're anxious about your maths skills, Multiply can help. Get Support to feel more confident using numbers at work or in everyday life. Come and visit our stand for an informal chat.

Community 360 Together We Thrive

Slipper Exchange - Prevent the risk of falling! C360 are able to offer (for those eligible) **NEW FREE anti-slip slippers. Pop in and see us.**

Essex Wellbeing Service - FREE My Weight Matters weight management programme. Come and find out more on this 12-week programme which focusses on healthy eating, portion management and keeping active.

Volunteering opportunities - what better way to learn new skills, meet new people and support your local community. Come and speak to C360 to see how you can get involved

Provide community Proud to be celebrating our 10 year anniversary as a CIC



Essex County Council



Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service



Essex Wellbeing Service

Essex Wellbeing Service



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Information, Events and Activities



Student Travel

Do you or your child travel to University, College or School by bus? If so, we've got the perfect solution!

Arriva Student and Child Saver tickets are valid for anyone in full time education and, is a cost effective and flexible way of paying for travel costs.

Unlimited Travel - You'll get unlimited access to travel on any Arriva bus, at any time, across all routes in your chosen area.

No Restrictions - The Saver tickets will cover your travel to and from University, School or College, evenings, weekends and throughout the holidays too at any time of the day.

Flexible Payments - Arriva's Direct Debit scheme allows you to spread the cost of your ticket over affordable monthly payments. It's an easy way to pay for travel and there's no contract involved, making it an ideal way to get reduced bus travel for the whole Academic year, without paying upfront.

Sign up in advance - Either set your direct debit a future date for when you need the ticket or, you can start your ticket now to get used to the local bus routes

Plan your journey - Please use our 'Plan a journey' tool on our website to work out which bus you require or, download our app on the Apple Store or Google Play

It's a simple process to apply, to arrange your Direct Debit please visit the website below and, select the region the school, college or university is in

www.arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets

Once registered you can select either to receive your monthly pass by post or sent to your mobile phone, so you won't have to worry about paying every time you board the bus.

This ticket will rollover every month for as long as the direct debit remains active.

For any queries regarding the scheme, please email: talktous@arriva.co.uk

***Our tickets do not cover Arriva London/TFL routes**



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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 for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

PEGI RATING 7+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/22067726/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-are-using-virtual-party-for-teen>
<https://corporate.roblox.com/parents/>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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