Newsletter

September/October 2026

AUTUMN GREETINGS

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic start to the academic year we have had at Pear Tree Community Junior School! It has been wonderful to see our children settle so well, embrace new challenges and make a positive start to their journey through Pear Tree. We thoroughly enjoyed welcoming families to our Warm Welcome sessions in September and look forward to inviting parents and carers into school for further opportunities to share in the children's learning throughout the year.



There has been plenty to celebrate across the school. Carsington pupils are growing in confidence during their weekly swimming sessions, while Derwent and Foremark have been enjoying their Thursday afternoon Drumba sessions, combining music, movement and exercise.

Our Year 4 pupils had a fantastic visit to Derby Museum and Art Gallery, stepping into the world of ancient Egyptian pharaohs, pyramids and gods. The highlights were workshops exploring the fascinating, and wonderfully gruesome, process of mummification. The children designed their own shabtis and even came face to face with two real mummies!

Year 5 have been exploring the wonders of space, alongside discovering Oymyakon in Russia, one of the coldest permanently inhabited places on Earth. They also visited a local place of worship to learn more about why places of worship are important to different communities.

Year 6 have made an excellent start to their leadership and citizenship opportunities through the Mini Police programme. They have also worked with Hot Poets on a special exhibition at QUAD, creating poetry celebrating people working collaboratively with the land, water and wildlife. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and their growing awareness of the world around them.

We ended the half-term with a wonderful celebration of Black History Month, alongside a range of Halloween-themed lunchtime activities. The children embraced the opportunity to learn, celebrate and have fun together, helping to strengthen the proud sense of community that makes Pear Tree such a special place.

As we look ahead to the next half-term, I would like to thank everyon for the positive energy and enthusiasm they have brought to the start of the year. Our values of Trust, Care and Grow continue to guide us as we build a school where every child feels they belong, can flourish and is encouraged to achieve their very best.



Have a happy half-term and spooktacular Halloween! Mrs Collins, Head of School

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INSPIRATIONAL VISITS

Dream Big, Aim High! At Pear Tree, we want our children to see what is possible when passion, determination and hard work come together. This term, we have welcomed inspiring performers and sporting stars who shared their journeys, celebrated their achievements and reminded pupils that setting goals, living healthily and making the most of school are important ingredients for success.



September: Simple Cypher – Creativity in Motion

Ahead of Derby Festé 2026, we enjoyed an energetic performance from Simple Cypher, blending hip-hop, acrobatics and circus skills. Following their spectacular performance, pupils took part in a Q&A, discovering more about the dedication, creativity and perseverance needed to turn a passion into a career. It was a fantastic celebration of movement, self-expression and aiming high.



October: Kid Karam – From Normanton to the World Stage

We were delighted to welcome Kid Karam of Trinity Warriors, the internationally acclaimed breakdancer, champion and ambassador. Having grown up in Normanton, just around the corner from Pear Tree, Karam began breaking as a child and went on to achieve success on the international stage, including becoming a world champion and working with major brands such as Nike. His story demonstrated that extraordinary opportunities can grow from passions discovered right here in our own community.

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INSPIRATIONAL VISITS

October: Raheem May-Thompson – Basketball Inspiration



Raheem May-Thompson of Derby Trailblazers shared his journey through professional basketball, including playing college basketball in the United States before competing professionally in Britain and France. His career is a powerful example of the commitment, resilience and determination required to succeed at the highest level.

Following the assemblies, Raheem and fellow basketball players led lunchtime workshops for children across the school and joined our Year 6 pupils for their afternoon PE lessons. These sessions gave children the opportunity to develop their skills and learn directly from experienced players.

A message for every pupil

Across all three visits, our guests encouraged children to set ambitious goals, aim high, look after their physical health and recognise the importance of education alongside pursuing their passions. Their stories showed that success takes time, effort and determination, and that the skills developed in school can help open doors to exciting opportunities in the future.

Click the logos to find out more and get involved in basketball and break dancing in Derby.

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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

FREE! Family Fun sessions!

FamilyHubDerby

BEST START IN LIFE

For 0-11s and their parents or carers

No need to book– just turn up!
For further information please contact any Best Start Family Hub

Exploring Autumn

Come along to our amazing Autumn event! Have a go at lantern making, create a sparkly firework, scavenger hunt, baby sensory area, small world play, outdoor activities and much more! **Take your lantern to the lantern parade on 28 November!** Please bring a refillable water bottle for your child.

Mon 26 Oct	10-11:30am	Best Start Family Hub - Rosehill
Tue 27 Oct	10-11:30am	Best Start Family Hub - Mackworth Morley
Wed 28 Oct	1:30-3pm	Best Start Family Hub - Osmaston Allenton

Fun with stories

Read, play and imagine! Come along and join us while we explore some of our favourite children's stories with themed activities, scavenger hunts, imagination and creativity.

In celebration of Black History Month collect your free copy of "Imagine Me" by inspiring local author Cadine Reid, who had one simple hope – to encourage children to see possibility in themselves and to dream, believe and become!

Tue 27 Oct 1:30-3:30pm Chapel Street Arts Centre, 19 Chapel Street, Derby, DE1 3GU

8-18 year olds

Wed 28 Oct, 9:30-11am Rollerworld

This is a TICKET ONLY event. Tickets are first come first served.
Exclusively for 8-18 year olds within Derby City.
To get your free ticket you must attend one of our ticketing sessions:

Mon 12 Oct	3-5pm	Best Start Family Hub - Sinfin
Tue 13 Oct	9:30-11:30am	Best Start Family Hub - Rosehill
Thu 15 Oct	4-6pm	Best Start Family Hub - Derwent
Fri 16 Oct	9:30-11:30am	Best Start Family Hub - Osmaston Allenton

Follow us on Derby Family Information Service Facebook page for regular updates facebook.com/DerbyFIS or scan here for further information

Funded by UK Government

Derby City Council

Community Action

NHS

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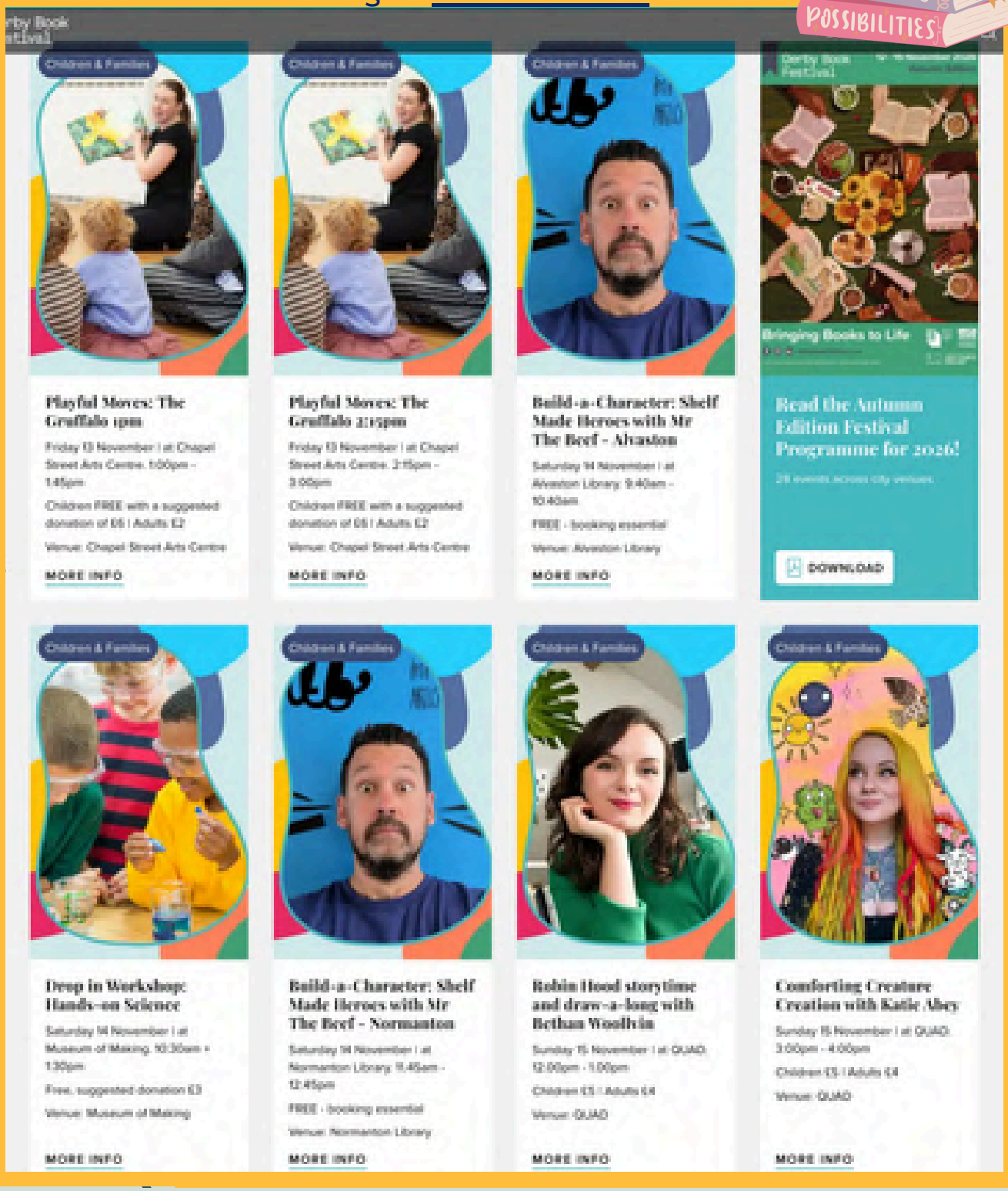
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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

Derby Book Festival Autumn Edition

Keep celebrating the National Year of Reading with local events for all ages. Find out more.



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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES



Juniors meet on a Wednesday 6 - 7pm. Club Homepage

Women and Girls Only (of any age) meet on Mondays 7pm - 9pm



Get five issues of the Beano magazine for £1

Subscribe Online

Newsletter

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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

BUSTLER

From discos to face painting and pumpkin painting, check out the FREE Halloween themed events at Bustler Market over the October half-term.



Reserve a Time



Book Online



Derby Museums What's On - Lots to explore this autumn and winter! Visit Pickford's House to discover the story behind Lara Croft, or head to the Museum of Making to explore the journey of British wool from field to fashion. With festive family activities coming up at Pickford's House in December, there's plenty to inspire curious minds and enjoy together.

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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES



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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES



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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES



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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

cyclederby

OCTOBER HALF TERM 2026

New to Two Wheels

For children (4-9 years) who can already ride a bike without stabilisers and are looking to build their control and confidence.

£15

at Markeaton Park

Friday 30th October
11am to 12pm
1pm to 2pm



This fun group session is the ideal next step after learning to ride. Children will practise key cycling skills including steering, cornering, braking and manoeuvring their bike in a safe traffic-free environment.

Bring your own bike and helmet. Loan bikes and helmets may be available on request, subject to availability.

To book a place please email cyclederby@derby.gov.uk with your child's name and age, a contact number and the time you'd like to book. Places are limited so booking is essential. Get in touch if there's anything you'd like to know about the session - we'd be happy to help!

www.cyclederby.co.uk

Derby City Council

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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

Derby County Football Club run Premier League Kicks sessions in and around the city. Its a FREE session for young people to meet new people and enjoy playing football without the cost. Details for these sessions are below and on their website.

Monday

Football at the Racecourse, DE21 6AL | 6-8pm (School years 4-9)

Tuesday

Football at Normanton Park Football Courts, DE23 8DA | 5-6.30pm (Years 4-13)

Wednesday

Football at Sunny Hill Community Centre | 4-6pm (Years 4-13)

Thursday

Football at Arboretum Park | 5-7pm (Years 4-9)

Bhangra Dance at Hindu Temple, DE23 6AQ | 6-7pm (Years 4-13) Girls Only

Football at Arboretum Park | 6-8pm (Years 10-13)

Friday

Football at the Racecourse | 6-8pm





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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES



WELCOME TO THE ONE SCHOOL OF DANCE

We are a fun, friendly dance school offering classes during the week in Chellaston.
Welcoming ages 3 to 18, we have a class for you.
Trusted by local families for over 10 years.







Try a class for £1

Scan the barcode to book any class for only £1!

the one school of dance

cara@theoneschoolofdance.com | 07811 127492

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SUPPORT

Upbeat Communities provides free English classes and social activities for refugees and asylum seekers in Derby.

Are you a refugee or asylum seeker? Follow their WhatsApp channel for updates.

Are you wanting to make a referral on behalf of a refugee or asylum seeker? Get in touch.

Calendar of Activities

upbeat COMMUNITIES

UNIFORM

We expect **all** children to be wearing the correct school uniform and shoes. Children dressed appropriately feel more connected to their community, take pride in their school and behave well.

Uniform Information on the School Website





winter ready: warm coat, not hoody

BREAKFAST CLUB

If your child is registered at Bbreakfast Club but does not arrive by 8:00, the school may contact you by telephone to check whether your child is absent. If we are unable to make contact, school may carry out a home visit to ensure your child is safe. This will be actioned on a case by case basis. Please be aware that if your child is late to breakfast club on three occasions, we will seek to understand the reasons and if the place is still required. This is to ensure that the club can operate effectively and that we can maintain appropriate safeguarding procedures.



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FAMILY HUB



Get the advice and support you need whilst having fun as a family! Derby's Family Hubs are there to welcome you and your family to find the help you need through support and friendship. They offer a range of free activities, sessions, advice and support for families and young people aged from 0-19 years and up to 25 years for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The offer changes termly and this edition contains events for the Summer Holidays. Latest Guide

HOUSE SYSTEM

Dragon	Phoenix	Pegasus	Griffin
Trust	Care	Grow	Flourish
Protect, respect and act with integrity.	Support, persevere and rise.	Explore, imagine and learn.	Be brave, ambitious and achieve.

Our House system recognises and rewards exceptional behaviour and celebrates children who go above and beyonid in showing our school values. **House Events and Rewards** will take place throughout the year – both big and small!

Ask your child which House they belong to!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Thank you to all the family members who attended our September and October Birthday Parties this half-term. We hope you had fun!

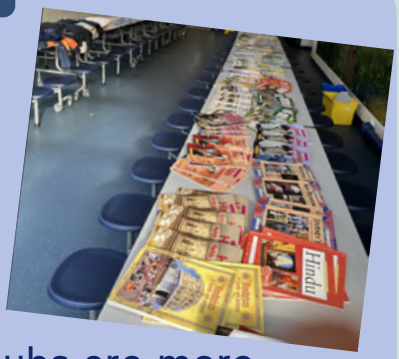
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Our recent **Book Gifting Event** proved to be a massive hit, and we are absolutely thrilled with the turnout and community spirit! Seeing the excitement and smiles in the dining hall reminded us just how powerful a shared love of reading can be.





Our Autumn term After-School Clubs are more popular than ever! Children have signed up for. range of creative and sports opportunities. Derbyshire Cricket ran two Dynamos sessions this half-term - including a girls only at lunchtime. Every participant received a cool personalised t-shirt!

SAVE THE DATE

Anti Bullying Week 16th November Children In Need 20th November	Diwali workshop 6th November 1:30pm November Birthday Party 24th November 2:00pm	Year 3 Hook day 4th November
Christmas Jumper Day Year 3 Nativity 17th December 1:30 pm Attendance Party 16th December	St Nikolas Day Celebrations 4th December 1:30pm (Mikulas) December Birthday Party 15th December 2:00pm Year 3 Nativity - 17th December 1:30 pm	Year 3 Recognition and Exhibition 9th December Rocksteady Concert 18th December 1:30pm









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ATTENDANCE

Parents will.....	School will.....
Value their child's education and value the importance of excellent attendance.	Provide engaging lessons where all children want to attend.
Absence. Phone school on 01332 760610 if their child is absent by 8:50am and provide any evidence to support the absence e.g. hospital appointm card, doctor's appointment.	Record absences on the register with the correct code.
Punctuality. Make sure your child is on time. Gates open at 8:45am.	Offer breakfast club for children needing to be in school earlier and offer support in an emergency.
Leave of Absence Complete a leave of absence form request at least seven days prior to the absence and hand into the office.	Consider a request on an individual basis and inform parents by letter. School will contact Derby City Council.
School and parents will support children to be in school on time, every day. In the case of no communication, school will phone home or complete a home visit to support the family.	





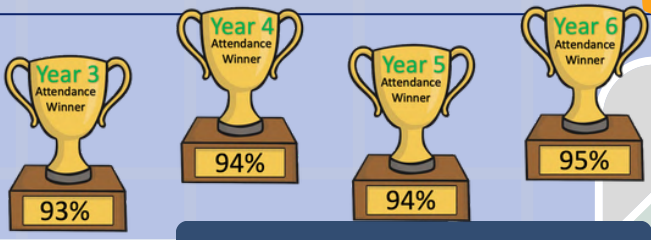








Whole School attendance is 94%
Let's keep making 'every day count'!



OFSTED

We are pleased to share the report from our Ofsted visit in July 2026. Available to view online.

Ofsted

STAFF JOINERS

A very warm welcome to Mrs Rowlands, Miss Singh, Miss Hanif, Miss Dale, Miss Hounsell and Mr Shanker. We are so pleased you're part of the team!

Welcome

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OFFICE NOTICES

Scooters are not to be ridden on the playground at the beginning and of the day. A reminder that dogs (other than those for mobility) are not allowed on site. We are a nut free school.

Please help keep our children safe.

URGENT: All family members need to sign-up for Arbor asap. Use this LINK. If you need more help, please visit the School Office.

VAPING - KNOW THE RISKS

Vaping is not harmless, particularly for children. Parents can help protect their children by understanding the risks and talking about the dangers.

The Dangers of Vaping:

- Nicotine addiction: Many vapes contain nicotine, which is highly addictive and can affect the developing brain and body.
- Lung health: Vape aerosol can contain harmful substances that may irritate and damage the lungs.
- Unknown long-term effects: The long-term health consequences of vaping are not yet fully understood.
- Peer pressure: Attractive packaging and sweet flavours can make vaping seem harmless, encouraging children to experiment.
- Unregulated products: Illegal vapes may contain unknown or dangerous substances.



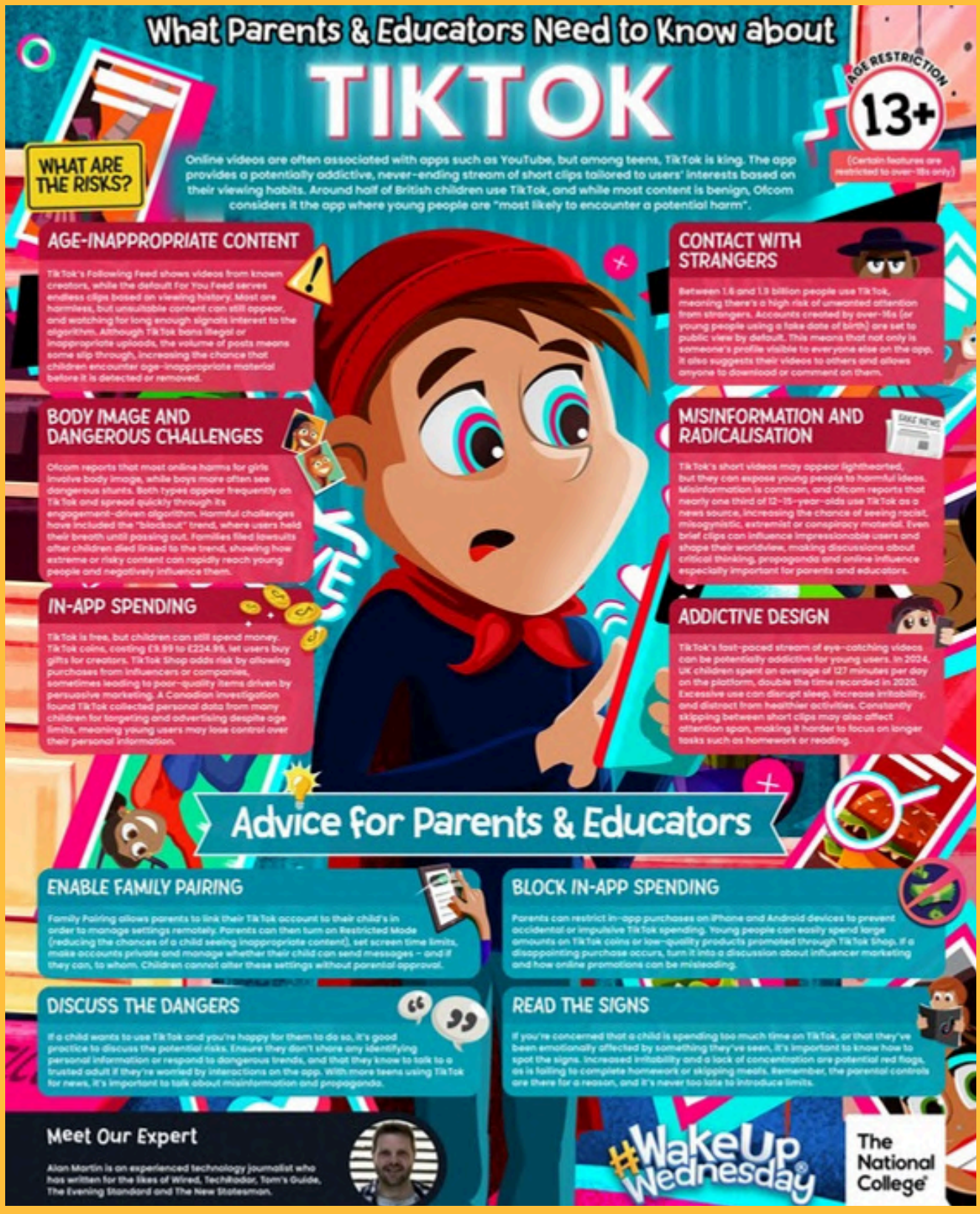
What Can Parents Do?

Talk openly with your child about vaping, ask what they know and discuss how to handle peer pressure. Explain that vaping is not intended for children or non-smokers, and that colourful packaging and sweet flavours do not make it safe. Set clear expectations, know the risks and signs to look out for, and reassure your child they can come to you for helpwithout fear of judgement. For further guidance, visit Help with Vaping - Need to Know.

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NEED TO KNOW - TIKTOK



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SAFEGUARDING



Worried about a child during the holiday?

If you believe that a child is at **immediate risk** and in need of protection then you should call the **police on 999 immediately.**
Alternatively, if you want advice from the police and the child is not in immediate need of protection, you can call them on 101.

Children's Social Care and the First Contact Team

You may want to discuss your concerns with a social care worker. The First Contact team deals with all concerns about children and young people across the city. Members of the team will help you to talk about the concerns you may have for a child and decide what actions may be required to make a child safe. You can contact them Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm. Telephone: 01332 641172

Social Care Out-of-Hours Support

Use Derby City Careline
It operates Monday to Friday from 5pm to 9am, with a 24-hour service during weekends and bank holiday. Phone: 01332 956606.
People who are hard of hearing or Deaf please email DCCcareLine@derby.gov.uk or text 07812 300177.
Concerns which are not urgent can be raised using their online form.

SAMARITANS
Call free day or night on
116 123
A registered charity

Other organisations:

NSPCC
Worried about a child?
0808 800 5000
help@nspcc.org.uk

ChildLine
0800 1111

01159 825090
TRANSFORM TRUST
'Together we Achieve'

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