



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Once again we have been treated to two fabulous Christmas shows! Marshchapel Infants wowed us with “*Hushaby Nativity*” and Grainthorpe Juniors impressed us with “*Bah, Humbug!*” based on Charles Dickens’s “*A Christmas Carol*.”

Performance is a great way for children to build confidence and it supports speaking and listening skills. Learning lines is great for the memory and so often something clicks with a child and their reading improves too. It’s magic in motion!

If you are staying local over the festive period, do look out for *The Louth Leader* which will feature our Nativity in the Christmas Eve edition.





CHRISTMAS NATIVITY - WHERE IT ALL BEGAN...

Both schools designed and made nativity scenes this year as part of their technology learning. Working in groups they researched, drew pictures, made resource lists and then began creating.

At our Christmas Fair, we laid on an exhibition of the finished products for all to share. You could see clearly the development of skills from nursery through to year six.

Grainthorpe pupils designed the nativity as if Jesus had been born locally. I loved the pig in the stable and the nurses and teachers who visited the scene. There were even some inspired futuristic settings and it was obvious a lot of thought and care went into the process. Thank you to everyone for their hard work.





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CHRISTMAS FAIR AND RAFFLE

The children opened the Christmas Fair with a couple of rousing Christmas tunes. We had a great turnout for our stalls and Santa.

Our Christmas Fair profits amounted to £653 which is a fantastic effort from a small team! We do hope to have a re-vamp of the PTFA in 2026, so look out for a letter in January and come and join in.

Thanks to the Barn Owl School Councillors who enjoyed spinning the tombola to choose the raffle prize winners. Great work Chloe, Alfie, William and Emilia.



CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

It was lovely to be invited back to St Mary's Church to participate in the carol concert. Over 20 children joined in and were treated to a visit from Santa after the service. Thank you to all the families who attended the service and to teachers for practising the songs.





CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

What a busy month of decorating Christmas trees, making Christingles and learning about their origins, joining a Santa Dash and meeting Santa,

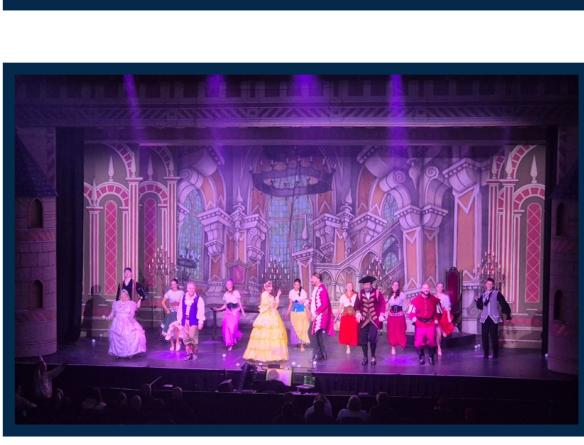




CHRISTMAS LUNCHES AND PANTOMIME

Mrs Gibson demonstrated her culinary skills with a traditional roast dinner at Grainthorpe and a Christmas buffet at Marshchapel. What a festive feast - huge thanks to Mrs Gibson!

Years 1 to 6 travelled to Grimsby Auditorium to see *Beauty and the Beast*. It was a treat for all with fun and laughter throughout the afternoon and ices provided at the interval.



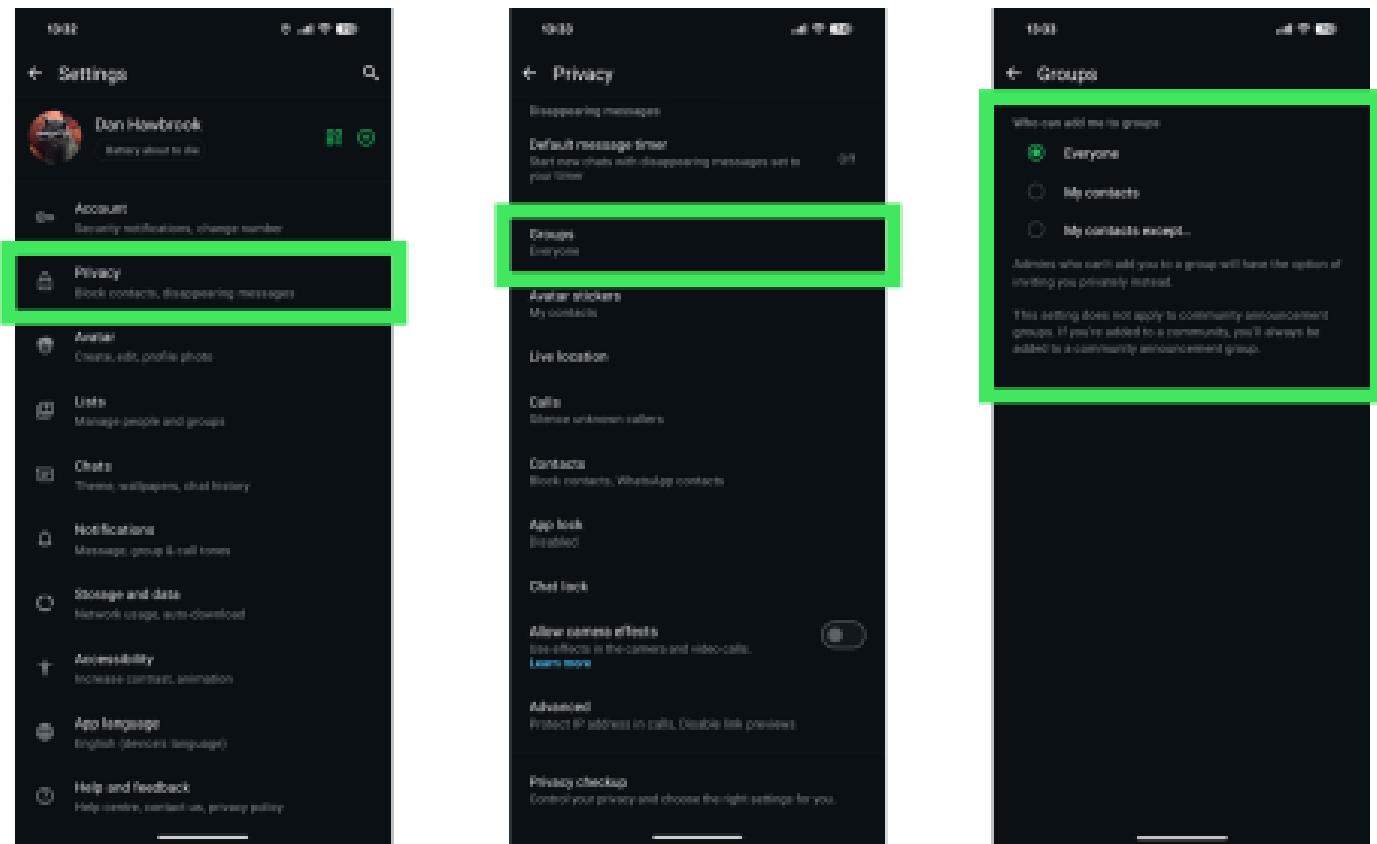
WhatsApp Group Chats



WhatsApp groups can be an incredibly useful communication tool but it can also become quite overwhelming when **EVERYONE** adds you to a group.

By default, WhatsApp allows **ANYONE** to add you to a group—they just need your phone number—but you can change this. If you tap on 'Settings' and then go to 'Privacy', one of the options is 'Groups'. This will give you 3 options to choose from:

- Anyone being able to add you to a group;
- Only people in your Contacts being able to add you;
- Anyone in your contacts can add you, but you can exclude people.



Once you have set this up, anyone who is not in your contacts (or anyone you have selected to exclude) has to send an invite to any new group they add you to—you can then either accept or decline.

This should help give your child some control over what groups they actually want to be involved in and can help them manage groups they don't want to be added to.



ONLINE SAFETY



A guide for parents has been released by the Children's Commissioner and was written with the support of children across the country on what they would like their parents to know and do around Online safety.

Please click on the link '[What I wish my parents or carers knew...: A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives | Children's Commissioner for England](#)



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TERMS 3 AND 4 DIARY DATES 2026

Tuesday 6th January 2026 - Term 3 Starts for children

Tuesday 6th January 2026 Healthy Relationships Workshops at Grainthorpe

Wednesday 7th January 2026 Swimming begins again for Year 1 at Marshchapel and Year 5 at Grainthorpe

Thursday 22nd January 2026 Year 3/4 Girls Tennis event with Wolds Sports

Thursday 29th January 2026 Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Glow in the Dark Wolds Sport Event

Friday 30th January 2026 Archery Day at Grainthorpe (Years 1 and 2 to join)

Monday 2nd February Speak Out Stay Safe NSPCC Workshops at both schools

Tuesday 3rd February 2026 Year 3/4 Boys Tennis event with Wolds Sports

Thursday 5th February 2026 Year 3/4 Boys Football event with Wolds Sports

Thursday 5th February 2026 Year 5/6 Boys Football event with Wolds Sports

Friday 6th February 2026 NSPCC NUMBER DAY - more details to follow

Thursday 12th February 2026 Year 1/2 Cricket event with Wolds Sports

Friday 13th February 2026 Term 3 ends

Monday 23rd February 2026 Term 4 starts

Monday 23rd February 2026 Parents' Evening at Grainthorpe from 4pm onwards

Tuesday 24th February 2026 Parents' Evening at Marshchapel from 4pm onwards

Thursday 19th March 2026 Golf Day at Grainthorpe (Years 1 and 2 to join)

Friday 20th March 2026 Red Nose Day - details to follow

Tuesday 31st March 2026 Easter Celebration - details to follow

Thursday 2nd April 2026 Term Ends for Easter holiday

Tuesday 21st April 2026 Term 5 Starts for children

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR COMMUNITY

If you have any safeguarding concerns about children, please let us know. We have a designated safeguarding lead professional (DSL), Mrs Turner and deputy DSLs, Mrs Manders and Mrs Clifford.

Please telephone school on 01472 869075 (M) or 01472 869035 (G).

If you have a safeguarding issue to discuss directly, you can contact Lincolnshire Children's Services on 01522 782111.