

## A Quick Guide to Twitter



Every class has a Twitter account to share, connect, and collaborate with the world around us. Please follow your child's class on Twitter to share snippets of their learning and life in school.

@SquirrelsTroon @HedgehogsTroon @BeechTroon @HazelTroon @OakTroon  
@MapleTroon @HollyTroon @TroonSchool

<b>Tweet:</b>	A 140-character message.
<b>Retweet (RT):</b>	'Quoting' or reposting someone else's tweet you think might be of interest to others. RT usually precedes the original post to give credit to the user who published it first.
<b>Feed</b>	The stream of tweets you see on your homepage. It's comprised of updates from users you follow.
<b>Handle</b>	Your username (e.g. '@TroonSchool')
<b>Mention/Reply(@)</b>	A way to reference another user by their username in a tweet. Users are notified when @mentioned. It's a way to conduct discussions with other users. If you are replying to a tweet and want everyone to see your response, place a full-stop/period prior to the user name.
<b>Hashtag (#)</b>	A way to highlight a topic of conversation or participate in a larger linked discussion (e.g. #ReadingRocks). You can also click on a hashtag to see all the tweets that mention it in real time — even from people you don't follow.
<b>DM</b>	This is a private Direct Message sent to a twitter user. You must follow that user before you can message them. DMs don't appear in the public twitter stream.
<b>Follow</b>	These are the accounts you are following and the tweets will appear in your time-line.
<b>Follower</b>	Someone who follows you and your tweets. Be grateful for any feedback.
<b>Link</b>	Including a URL (web address) in your tweet. Twitter will automatically shorten the URL

### **Getting started . . .**

Create an account - decide on your 'handle' (e.g. @TroonSchool), upload a photo and add a short 'bio' so people have an idea of who you are or stand for (e.g. 'Learning for Life').

Decide who to follow - you can find other Twitter users to begin with by using the search function. Once you've found who you're looking for, simply click 'follow' and all their Tweets will automatically appear on your 'feed' (n.b. your feed is part of the Twitter app or website so you will not be notified of other people's Tweets (like you might a text message for example) unless you request this for any user you are following). Who you follow is clearly down to what you want to get out of the Twitter experience. Many people choose to follow various celebrities; others find it a really use tool for keeping informed on various issues by following organisations such as the BBC, Downing Street, NASA or various national and international publications. Once you are following a number of other users, Twitter will become more intuitive in suggesting others that might be of interest.

Tweet! - this is actually an entirely optional activity - many users use Twitter purely as followers. If you do decide you want to, bear in mind that your Tweets can be seen by anyone - **unless** you make your account protected in which case only approved users can view them.

A popular way to enter the fray for the first time is to 'Retweet' a comment from someone else. This is a bit like quoting someone else and will be done primarily because you want people who follow you to see it. It will appear on your personal feed but with the original author credited with the Tweet.

For more info visit: <https://support.twitter.com/categories/281> or <https://support.twitter.com/articles/215585>