

Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Friday 14 October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to parents who met with your child(ren)'s class teacher this week. I hope you found the time reassuring and informative.

As this will be the final newsletter before the half term break, I wish to thank the whole school community for their support throughout this extremely busy term! It is heartening to see how pupils, both those returning to school or starting for the first time, have settled in to school life and rising to the challenges set for them.

Please do come along to our Harvest Festival next week if you are able as everyone is most welcome. As a reminder, it is to be held at St. Michael's Church in Atworth at 1:15pm on the last day of term for pupils - Tuesday 18th October. We will continue to accept donations for the Foodbank up to and including that day. Thank you.

I am pleased to confirm I have received the draft report from Ofsted following our inspection on 29th September. There are always several further steps involved before the final report is published. Although not an exact science, I anticipate a release date of around mid-November. As soon as Ofsted makes the report publicly available, I will of course share it with the school community alongside a precis of its contents.

We hope children and their parents/carers are able to have some downtime over the half term break, and look forward to children returning to school for term two on Monday 31st October.

Kind regards,

Simon Fletcher

Mathletics

Another busy week for our Mathletes and huge congratulations to Eloise who has earned a gold certificate! Well

done. Earning a gold requires weeks of effort earning first bronze, then silver until reaching gold, so it is definitely worth celebrating.

GOLD: Eloise

SILVER: Bodhi C, Ted L, Vinnie, Eloise, Harry, George R

BRONZE : Sam B, Theo, Daisy, Bodhi C, Ezra, Benjamin, Oliver C-J, Tegan, Hattie, Josiah, Alexis, Maddox, Hector G, Oliver H, Isla, Laurie, Maddy, Tomas, Leighton, Livinia, Ted L, Vinnie, Eloise, Harry, Otto, Toby, Christina, Joseph, George R, Isabella R, Branwen

Please note that the Mathletics week runs until Sunday, so if children earn silver and gold certificates during the week they will not be presented until the following week's assembly



HARVEST FESTIVAL

St Michael's Church, Atworth

Tuesday 18 October, 1:15pm

It is our Harvest Festival on Tuesday and children are invited to bring donations of dried and tinned goods, which will be used to support the Bradford on Avon Foodbank whose support extends to Atworth and Monkton Farleigh communities.

Pupils from Monkton Farleigh will be transferred to Atworth by coach beforehand.

After the service, parents of pupils from Monkton Farleigh will be able to take their children straight after the service if they so wish. Please ensure you inform your child's classteacher at the time so they can make a note.

Children not collected will return to the Monkton Farleigh base by coach and be released at the normal time for collection.

Pupils of the Atworth base will be taken back to school after the service and released at the normal time.

As always, parents & carers are most welcome to attend our church service and we look forward to seeing you there



Last week Mrs Croker asked for resources to help our teaching team with their outdoor learning day on Wednesday 19 October. If you are out enjoying our lovely countryside over the weekend please can you keep an eye out for the following:-

- Conkers, acorns, pine cones
- Feathers]

And if you have any of these other items ready for recycling at home we would like them please:

- Plastic milk bottle tops (all colours)
- Ring pulls off cans

Mrs Croker has boxes at each base so that you can drop off any items you may have before school finishes for the term on Tuesday.

Thank you



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TERM DATES FOR 2022 – 2023

Term 1: Thursday 1 September – Wed 19 October <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday 01 September – children back to school Wednesday 19 October – INSET DAY (school closed) 	Term 4: Monday 20 February – Friday 31 March <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 20 February – children back to school Friday 31 March – INSET DAY (school closed)
Term 2: Monday 31 October – Friday 16 December <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 31 October – children back to school 	Term 5: Monday 17 April – Friday 26 May <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 17 April – children back to school Monday 1 May – Bank holiday (school closed)
Term 3 Tuesday 03 January – Friday 10 February <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 03 January – INSET DAY (school closed) Wednesday 04 January – children back to school 	Term 6: Monday 5 June – Tuesday 25 July <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 05 June – children back to school Monday 24 July – INSET DAY (school closed) Tuesday 25 July – INSET DAY (school closed)

DIARY DATES TERMS 1 & 2

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 18 October	Harvest Festival Atworth Church (1:15pm)
	END OF TERM 1
Wednesday 19 October	INSET DAY
Monday 31 October	TERM 2 SCHOOL CLUBS RESUME
Monday 07 November to Friday 11 November Maths & Finance Week	
Wednesday 09 November	Maths Passport information session Atworth 5pm
Friday 11 November	Maths Passport information session Monkton Farleigh 2pm
Monday 14 November Anti- Bullying week	
Wednesday 16 November	PTA Zoom Christmas planning meeting
Friday 18 November	Children in Need (details to follow nearer the date)
Monday 21 & Tuesday 22 November	Year 6 Bikeability
Sunday 27 November	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 06 December	KS2 Christmas Production performances at 4pm & 6PM
Thursday 08 December	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production performances at 4pm & 6PM
Friday 09 December	Christmas Dinner Day
Monday 12 December LAST WEEK OF TERM – NO SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK	
Wednesday 14 December	Christmas Service St Michael's Church, Atworth at 1:15pm
Thursday 15 December	Monkton Farleigh Carols on the Amphitheatre (1:30-2:30pm)
Friday 16 December	END OF TERM 2



Letter from the Governing Board

Wow, where did term 1 go? September went past in a flash and now half term is less than a week away!

A very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us this year. We hope both you and your children have settled in well. We've just had our first round of parent/teacher evenings, which I hope many of you were able to attend. It's lovely to hear how the children are doing and see all the amazing work that they do in school.

We've had the pleasure of welcoming a few new staff members, Nikita Reid, Lynn Blood, Rosanna Mayhew and Anna Evans. They're already making a great addition to the Churchfields team which keeps going from strength to strength. It's lovely that the school can attract and retain such a talented team.

There has also been a scheduled visit from His Majesty's School Inspectors at Ofsted, who assess all schools in the country to check the quality of teaching and to ensure children are kept safe at school. It's always a stressful experience, especially for the headteacher, but the inspectors were very kind and it wasn't an unpleasant experience. We look forward to sharing the final report with you all when it's been published.

Churchfields Governing Board has also been busy. We had our first full governors meeting in September which was lovely to be held in person this time rather than virtually, the last time we met face to face was in February 2020! The opening meeting is where we elect governors on the board to each of the key leadership roles. I've agreed to continue my role as Chair of Governors for this coming year with John De'Ath stepping up as our Vice-Chair. David Pritchard has reprised his role chairing the management committee and Kevin Derby has been elected as the Chair of the Educational Standards Committee.

It's wonderful that we've got such a capable and experienced team of governors supporting the school for the year ahead.

The beginning of the academic year is also a time to set our objectives for the year, and put together an action plan for how we are going to deliver them. Our updated version of our objectives and action plan is available on the school website. One of those objectives is to agree the School's overarching Vision and what our school's strategic plan will be for the next 3-5 years. We'll be working with Wilshire Council's Governance Development Lead to help us deliver one that works for the whole school community.

If you'd like to find out a little more about the Governing Board, there is a [dedicated section](#) on the Churchfields website where you'll find out about what we do and who we are. We currently have a few vacancies on our board. So, if you have an interest in how the school operates, and a desire to support the school in providing the best possible education it can for all our children, I encourage you to apply.

There are no specific skills required, as training is provided free of charge, but we're always on the lookout for anyone who has expertise they can offer in finance, marketing, PR, human resources, IT, law, and project management. If this sounds like you, please do get in touch with me and I can discuss what's involved. It really is a very rewarding way to volunteer your time and give much needed support to the school.

As always if you have any questions you'd like to raise with myself or the Governors I can be contacted at chair@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

Wishing you all a lovely break over half term,

Ed Latimer-Sayer

Chair of Governors, Churchfields the Village School.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FIFA 23

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA Sports' tweaks tend to focus on FIFA Ultimate Team mode, which can tempt gamers of all ages to spend real money recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock - meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.

AGE RATING
PEGI 3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RELEASE RAZZAMATAZZ

FIFA 23 will be the last in the blockbuster series, before EA goes solo with its own football title next season. This 'end of an era' theme - coupled with a huge advertising budget - means the new release is almost impossible to miss - will generate FIFA 23 hype even more of a 'must-have' for football-mad young gamers, no matter how minor the updates are on last year's version.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CHAT

Based on a popular sport which appeals to people of all ages, the FIFA franchise draws a huge audience of both children and adults. Communication is a key element, with many players enjoying in-game voice chat via headsets. With the robust age range of players and a lack of regulation, however, adults can often turn offensive or toxic - especially in the heat of competitive matches.

IN-GAME PROMOTIONS

Unless precautions are taken, children's FIFA fans can spend significant money when attempting to improve their Ultimate Team. Best top-level players can be unlocked by simply participating in matches, but some elite-level items can be obtained more quickly by linked-time promotions which ask a large amount of FIFA points (the in-game currency, often paid for with real money).

CIRCLING SCAMMERS

The popularity of FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode has led to online scammers convincing many impressionable gamers to pay real money for real-world FUT coins and player cards, or offering unwary FIFA fans to phishing sites. If your child gives these individuals their login details, the scammers can access all your child's currency but can't see your payment information.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

One match on FIFA (usually around 15 minutes, but often shortened by extra time and penalties) almost invariably leads to another. It can be a powerful temptation for young players, regardless of individual hardware or an approaching bedtime. If the 'just one more game' mindset starts to impact a child's daily routine, it could be a sign of gaming disorder, a recognised mental health issue.

GAMBLING-ADJACENT BEHAVIOUR

Ultimate Team has become a major feature in FIFA due to the rewards it generates. It can also be addictive, with children striving to earn coins and level up their avatars, selling and buying players. Spending FUT coins to spin a player pack (which many experts have likened to gambling) is designed to be an exciting act - with bright lights, features and attention-grabbing prizes.

Advice for Parents & Carers

BE SELECTIVE WITH CHATS

It's enormous fun for FIFA players to chat online with friends, even on their teams as battle in the game. It's probably the safest idea, though, to restrict contact with strangers. By turning off voice chat in FIFA and allowing cross-party chat in their device's settings, your child can speak to people who are already on their friends list but won't be able to talk to (or hear) strangers online.

STAY ALERT FOR SCAMS

There are some key things to remember about potential FIFA scams. Firstly, EA never contacts users via any method other than emails to the account holder (which may well be you). Neither will they ever ask for a player's username or password outside the game itself. EA's terms and conditions outline the buying of FUT coins, so anyone selling them should be treated as suspicious.

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child plays Ultimate Team mode on FIFA, ensure their account isn't linked to your payment methods - so they'll need your permission to make in-game purchases. Alternatively, you could use parental controls to limit spending - or set up a pre-paid 'allowance'. When carefully checking options on screen, it's easy for a young person to forget the real-world implications of online purchases.

AVOID 'EXTRA TIME'

If your child's spending a lot of time on FIFA 23 and seems less enthusiastic about other activities in their life, you could consider restricting how long they can play for each day with the parental controls in their device's settings. Even if they're not playing on their console or computer, there's a FIFA companion app for smartphones - but that can be limited through parental controls, too.

Meet Our Expert

David Chapman is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Games and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time fan of the FIFA franchise, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing regularly about tech and games, his articles have also been published on influential sites including iDOL and TechRadar, among others.



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National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalsafety.org

[@nationalsafety](https://twitter.com/nationalsafety)

[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/nationalsafety)

[@nationalsafety](https://instagram.com/nationalsafety)

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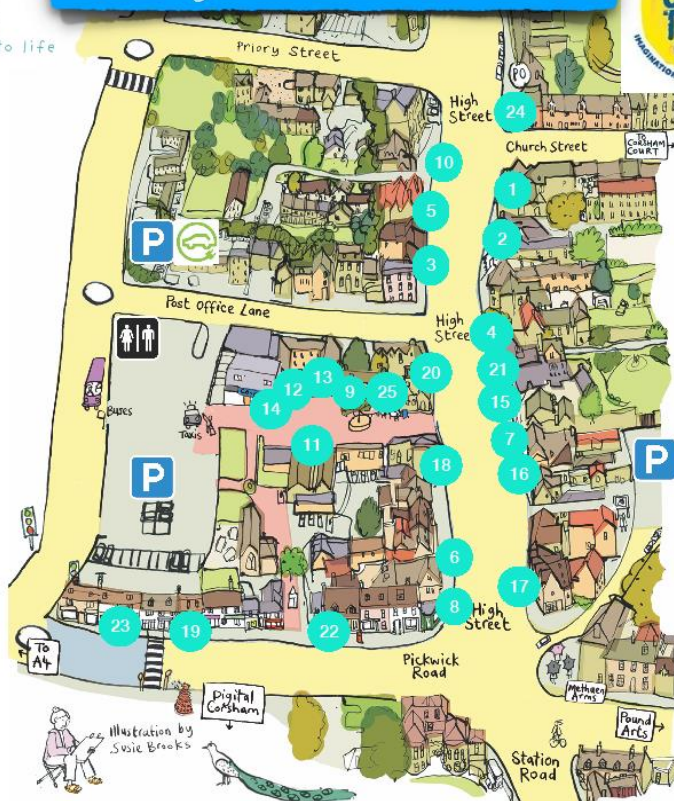
The Story Book Hunt 15th & 16th October



WILLOW @ No 70
ART, ANTIQUES & THINGS OF
BEAUTY FOR HOUSE & GARDEN

VENUE LETTER

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Thank you to all the local businesses for lending us their windows !

INSTRUCTIONS

Visit each venue on the map to find a book cover and a letter that will make up a well known phrase or quote from a children's book.

You will need to find each letter and drop the completed form into Willow at No 70 High Street on Saturday 15th October or through his letter box at times outside of the Story Town Event.

All correct entries will be put in a hat and a draw made on Saturday 22nd - the winner will be informed shortly after and receive a £25 book token to be spent at the Corsham Bookshop.

PEAHEN PUBLISHING DROP IN WORKSHOP
Create a book cover & learn about the world of publishing
All Ages Welcome. 10am-2pm Saturday 15th at WILLOW @ No 70

If you need any more help or information call Willow on 01249 716666 on the day or email Carly info@peahenpublishing.com

CONTACT DETAILS

Name
Age
Email
Mobile Number

As part of Corsham's StoryTown festival there is a Story Book Hunt around Corsham.

Find the 25 books dotted around Corsham to uncover the well-known phrase from a children's book. There's a £25 book voucher up for grabs!

You can print off the attached map. They can also be found at Corsham's Town Hall, Automattic Comics and Willow @ No 70.

Peahen is also running a FREE, drop-in children's writing workshop on Saturday the 15th at Willow @ No 70. All ages welcome.

Join us for an amazingly fun and creative session run in association with Wiltshire Scrapstore!

For families of children aged 0-5 yrs

Book your space now!

"Bursting with Creativity"

For more information or to book a space contact the children's centre central line on: 0800 970 4669
www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

Tisbury Library, SP3 6HJ
Wednesday 9th November 10.30-11.30am

Devizes Library, SN10 1DL
Wednesday 16th November 10.30-11.30am

Westbury Library, BA13 3BD
Thursday 24th November 10.30-11.30am

Booking for Scrapstore events will close one week before the scheduled event date