

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope the weather of the last few days has not negatively impacted you too much. It is a welcome relief to see a break in the rain, at least at the time of writing!

Thank you for all the positive comments we have received about last week's first Curriculum Enrichment afternoon. I visited every group across both bases and was impressed to see the enthralling activities the teachers had planned for them, ably supported by teaching assistants where necessary. Every child was fully engaged in their learning and thrilled to be working with children they might not usually have the chance to. Woodpecker class demonstrated admirable maturity in dealing with the planned changes, and thoroughly enjoyed their learning time with Mrs Genner and Mrs Evans over last and this week. Several children have made a point of speaking to me about how much they are enjoying the new feel to their week which was delightful to hear. I would like to thank all our pupils for taking these changes in their stride and making the most of all the new opportunities. My heartfelt thanks also to staff for their committed approach to planning and teaching in these novel ways to secure these enriching educational experiences for our children.

Please do take the time to read the governors' newsletter which contains important information about the recent school vision work. Thank you to all members of the community who have taken the time to feed into this work which is most appreciated.

Kind regards,

Simon Futcher.

## Mathletics

An unusual week with no gold certificates, but still plenty of children working really hard on

their maths. Congratulations to all of you. It really does make a difference!

**SILVER:** Bodhi B, Bodhi C, Rufus, Harry, Kaan

**BRONZE :** Bodhi B, Bodhi C, Oliver CJ, Tegan, Teddy E, Alexis G, Maddox, Rufus, Oliver H, Maddy J, Emily J, William, Leighton, Livinia, Ted L, Vinnie, Morgan, Harry, Alexis M, Christina, Anna, George P, Alex S, Kaan, Isabella

## Message from David Pritchard School Governor

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2023.

Further to my message sent to you all before Christmas, I would like to thank all those who responded to our questionnaire. We canvassed all those who are key to Churchfields for their opinions and we received a good number of responses. The school took time to ask their pupils for their opinion about the Vision of the school. The children engaged with the process and it was excellent to get their views and insights. The results of the poll were that the current vision was seen as the most appropriate as it epitomised what all the stakeholders would like to the school to aspire and continue to be.

Please find the results in order of the percentage of the vote.

- Churchfields, the Village School's is a Church of England school at the heart of two communities, inspiring learners to become Reflective – Resourceful – Resilient - 26%
- Through creative teaching and an inspirational curriculum in a nurturing environment, children at Churchfields will develop the confidence, understanding and ability to shape a bright future for themselves and the world. – 19%
- Our vision is to create a safe and inclusive learning community where all children will be motivated to achieve their potential – 18%
- To be kind to ourselves, each other and our world – 15%
- To provide a safe and nurturing environment - where every child can reach their full potential through a love of learning – 11%
- Every child has a safe, happy and inspiring learning journey – 11%
- Churchfields aims to provide a nurturing and creative learning environment that enhances children's social, physical and academic development in preparation for their future lives. We value our individual pupils, staff and the wider school community for the breadth and variety of their talents and aim to encourage the growth and development of each pupil – 0%

We will continue to use the current vision but we will also look to incorporate some of the ideas from the other proposed visions within our Aims.

Thank you again for your participation.

David Pritchard



## TERM DATES FOR 2022 – 2023

<p><b>Term 1: Thursday 1 September – Wed 19 October</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thursday 01 September – children back to school</li> <li><b>Wednesday 19 October – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Term 4: Monday 20 February – Friday 31 March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 20 February – children back to school</li> <li><b>Friday 31 March – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Term 2: Monday 31 October – Friday 16 December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 31 October – children back to school</li> </ul>	<p><b>Term 5: Monday 17 April – Friday 26 May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 17 April – children back to school</li> <li><b>Monday 1 May – Bank holiday (school closed)</b></li> <li><b>Monday 08 May – Bank holiday (school closed)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Term 3 Tuesday 03 January – Friday 10 February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tuesday 03 January – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> <li>Wednesday 04 January – children back to school</li> </ul>	<p><b>Term 6: Monday 5 June – Tuesday 25 July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 05 June – children back to school</li> <li><b>Monday 24 July – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> <li><b>Tuesday 25 July – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> </ul>

## Diary Dates Term 3

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 18 January	Woodpecker Class Indoor Cricket AM
Thursday 19 January	Falcon Class Swimming AM
Thursday 26 January	Falcon Class Swimming AM
Tuesday 31 January	Spirituality Day
Thursday 02 February	Falcon Class Swimming AM
<b>Monday 06 February – Friday 10 February E-Safety Week</b>	
Tuesday 07 February	West Wilts Dance Festival at the Forum Bath
Thursday 09 February	Falcon Class Swimming
Friday 10 February	End of Term 3



# WARM SPACE



Atworth Village Hall  
is offering a warm space  
a comfortable place  
open to everyone

Chat, work or relax  
free WIFI  
soup/tea/coffee & biscuits




Friday 20th January 12pm - 15.00pm  
Friday 27th January 12pm - 15.00pm  
Friday 3rd February 12pm - 15.00pm  
Friday 17th February 12pm - 15.00pm  
Friday 24th February 12pm - 15.00pm







# MY SCIENCE FAIR

SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023

## CALLING ALL YOUNG SCIENTISTS!

Join us for a free, fun-packed day of workshops and activities exploring the worlds of music and science at Wiltshire Music Centre!



## TAKE PART IN THE MSF23 PROJECT COMPETITION!

- **DESIGN** your very own investigation about ocean sounds, planets, atoms or light!
- **GET ADVICE** from real scientists from the University of Bath
- **PRESENT** your findings at **MY SCIENCE FAIR 2023**



Sign up by **MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2023** — **PLACES ARE LIMITED**

**You do not need to know your project before you sign up!**

Our team of scientists can help you design and create your investigations at our Drop-in sessions

Learn more at: [www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk/msf](http://www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk/msf)



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**

**AB**  
Dynamics



BRITISH  
SCIENCE  
WEEK

**WILTSHIRE**  
*Live* **MUSIC**  
CENTRE



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an individual understand about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonsafety.com](http://www.nationalonsafety.com) for further guides, links and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WORLD OF WARCRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION  
12+

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandises and even a Hollywood movie adaptation... but why are we still talking about it in 2023? World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game – as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

World of Warcraft is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-playing Game. Players create a character and head off on mythical quests to earn rewards and become more powerful. The game's environment is absolutely vast, and it can only be played online on a PC or Mac – so there's a high possibility of young Warcraft fans wanting to manipulate the family computer.

### REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As is common with many MMORPGs, World of Warcraft's developers, Blizzard, release regular expansions for the game (usually every 18 months to two years). So although there's still plenty of content for young players to experience right now, there will almost inevitably be a requirement to purchase buying future expansion packs, which tend to cost around £30.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just like its genre contemporary Final Fantasy XIV, World of Warcraft requires a monthly subscription fee to play. It's currently £9.99 per month (although you can get it cheaper by signing up to a longer subscription). There are also many items which can be purchased from the in-game store that don't affect gameplay, but instead offer cosmetic alterations to a player's character.

### VOICE AND TEXT CHAT

Because World of Warcraft is played exclusively on PCs and consoles, it's easy for users to type out text messages if they don't preferable using voice chat. If you're fangirl the pun, that's a double-edged sword because – although there's less chance of them being harassed verbally – it puts young players at increased risk of being bullied or receiving spam through the in-game messaging function.

### SIMULATED VIOLENCE

The fact that World of Warcraft is almost 20 years old means that over its most violent battles look slightly out-of-date compared with the level of authenticity in many more modern games. The exception tends to be Warcraft's in-game auto-cast: animated sequences which move the plot onto the next stage. These often more realistic violence, but they still aren't overly gory or scary.

### POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

World of Warcraft can trigger a powerful 'just one more quest' mentality in players (and possibly young ones) as they rush to secure the next depreciable hit from leveling their character up or earning a new item or weapon. It's also a game that doesn't have a definite 'end' – because as soon as a player finishes leveling up one character, they can start afresh with another one.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MANAGE PLAYTIME

World of Warcraft can be an extremely enjoyable game to play with friends, but it's important that your child doesn't let their adventures crowd out school work, socialising or anything else they also enjoy. You could, for example, consider imposing playtime limits – such as a set number of hours to play Warcraft per week, or restricting it to particular days or just weekends.

### MAKE IT A REWARD

If your child is excited about getting the next World of Warcraft expansion, you could consider using it as a reward for completing their weekly tasks (you could even call them 'quests') like tidying their room or doing their homework. This will demonstrate that you're happy for them to play the game but will do so with their best school, productive habits, reinforcing that hard work earns rewards.

### SIGN UP FOR THE FREE TRIAL

Warcraft's monthly subscription effectively 'pays' for the regular new content, but there's also a 14-day free trial that lets new players explore the world of Azeroth without paying a penny. Players can play up until Level 20 for free, which is about several hours' worth of gameplay. If your child does take this option, we'd suggest withdrawing in-game spending by not linking a bank card to their account.

### REMEMBER THE AGE RATING

Due to mild violence and the occasional use of offensive language, World of Warcraft has been rated as appropriate for players aged 12 and over by PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system, which gives games their age certificate). It isn't really suitable for anyone below that age, so you may potentially have to explain this reasoning to your younger children if they want to play it.

### ADVENTURE TOGETHER

Warcraft can certainly be addictive, but playing it together is also a great way to spend time with your child. The game's focus on cooperative questing and battling enemies can make it feel like you've accomplished something as a team, and you'll also be in a prime position to spot any early signs of addiction. Just remember to apply gaming time limits to yourself as well as your young ones!

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Corbridge is Director of Technology and Research at National Online Safety and has been working in the gaming sector for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and has written many columns of advice on the safety of gaming. He has also been published on influential gaming sites like IGN and TechRadar, among others.



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National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/sep/18/world-of-warcraft-video-game-addict> | <https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/faq>



[www.nationalonsafety.com](http://www.nationalonsafety.com)



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## St Laurence School Presents

# *Mental Health and Wellbeing Fair*

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
February

3.15pm-4.30pm

in our School Hall

Attend our community event to meet  
the local people who can support  
your mental health and wellbeing



For full details of the event visit  
[www.st-laurence.com/newsandevents](http://www.st-laurence.com/newsandevents)