

Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Friday 21 April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to school for the summer term which is always a busy one!

Children will be undertaking their end of year assessments this summer, including the statutory phonics screening check for year one, Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) for years two and six, and multiplication tables check for year four. The staff are highly skilled in ensuring children undertake these with the minimum of stress, reinforcing they are simply opportunities for our pupils to show just how amazing they are!

Please do spread the word about our open days next week, at Atworth on Thursday and Monkton Farleigh on Friday. Both days will be running from 10am to 2pm with no appointment necessary, just arrive whenever is convenient. These days are an opportunity for prospective parents to look around the school, including before they make their final choices for Reception year this coming September. We are always pleased to provide tours to prospective parents outside of these dates if they are not suitable.

We are looking forward to celebrating the upcoming coronation of King Charles III which will take place on Saturday 6th May. We will be holding our own in-school celebrations with children on the afternoons of Thursday 4th May at Atworth and Friday 5th May at Monkton Farleigh. Children may come to school wearing red, white and blue on these respective days and will be taking part in an afternoon tea party with a crown making activity! Thanks to the Friends of Churchfields (PTA) for providing the resources for this. I am sure the children will have a memorable afternoon. Pupils are not required to be in school on Monday 8th May as this has been allocated as a bank holiday in recognition of the coronation. This is in addition to the regular early May bank holiday on Monday 1st.

You may have noticed the attached slides "Prevent and Countering Extremism in Young People" with this newsletter. This has been issued by HM Government and is a useful resource for parents and carers who wish to know more about extremism and how it is addressed in the UK, including within schools. Please do let me know if you have any questions that arise from viewing this document.

Finally, I am able to confirm that all Churchfields' classes will remain open as normal over the upcoming National Education Union (NEU) member strike days, scheduled for 27th April and 2nd May.

Kind regards,

Simon Fletcher.

Competition Time

The PTA are changing their name to Friends of Churchfields.

We need some help to design a new logo.
All Children are invited to enter the competition to design a new logo for us.

The logo must

- Contain Friends of Churchfields
- Be simple and catchy
- Be bright and colourful
- In keeping with the word friends

Be Creative, What can you come up with?

There will be a prize for the winning entry and you will see your design on our new signs, posters and banners.
Please print out the competition form attached and get creative.

All entries to be handed into school by Tuesday 2nd May.

We look forward to seeing all your beautiful ideas

Friends of Churchfields

Mathletics

Wow!

That's all I can say!

Well, actually, I can probably find a few more words.... Just look at this! Have you ever seen so many high achieving mathletes? This is amazing work Team Churchfields. I have never seen so many gold certificates! And nearly every class in the school is represented. Well done to all of you, but particularly well done to our golden octet! We've never had so many children sharing the top of the podium so this is definitely special.

Gold : Daisy B, Bodhi C, Rufus, Emily J, Quita, Joseph, Alexis G, Imogen W

Silver : Daisy B, Bodhi C, Rufus, Oliver H, Emily J, Leighton, India, Quita, Asahi, Joseph, Harrison, Alexis G, Maddox, Finlay, Imogen W

Bronze : Daisy B, Holly, Bodhi C, Ezra, Teddy E, Alexis G, Maddox, Rufus, Oliver H, Emily J, Leighton, Livinia, India, Quita, Morgan, Buddy, Alexis M, Finlay, Bella, Asahi, Joseph, George R, Charlie, Harrison, Martha St, Clara, Kaya, Imogen W, Alice, Sam B, Theo, Alexis G, Maddox, Alexis M, Finlay, Bella M, Bodhi B, Alexis G, Maddox, Quita, Alexis M, Finlay Bella M, Asahi, Isabella R, Amelie, Imogen W



Term 5 Curriculum Letters

Summer term curriculum letters will be sent to all parents/carers today via Parent Mail.

Wiltshire Council Survey

Do you have a child who has accessed an early years setting (nursery, pre-school, childminder) District Specialist Centre (DSC)/Opportunity Group and or Wiltshire Portage in Wiltshire in the last three years?

To make sure our children get the best start in life, Wiltshire Council provide a range of services including additional support in your child's existing nursery, pre-school or childminder, as well as district specialist centres and a home visiting specialist education service (Portage).

[Please complete the survey.](#) Your views will help us understand the difference these services make, what they do well, and help us to continually improve, making sure these services provide the best support to Wiltshire children in the future as well.

National testing of the UK's new Emergency Alerts system

There will be a national test of the UK's new Emergency Alerts system on Sunday 23 April at 3pm.

The test alert will be sent to most mobile phones across the UK. Devices will make a distinct, siren-like sound for up to 10 seconds, including on phones switched to silent mode. Phones will also vibrate and display a message about the test.

CLOTHING COLLECTION

THURSDAY 27TH APRIL



BRING YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHING SHOES BAGS BELTS



TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL

PLEASE LEAVE BAGGED DONATIONS AT
ATWORTH RECEPTION AREA
OR
MF FOYER
FROM WED 26TH APRIL

RAG BAG CLOTHING COLLECTION

The Friends of Churchfields (PTA) have arranged for another clothing collection on Thursday 27th April. Please donate as much as you can - ask your friends and family too. The school will get paid £400 per tonne!!

Please leave all donations at Atworth Reception or MF Foyer from Wednesday 26th April.

Thanks for your support

What is not accepted:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| • Work wear | • Table Cloths |
| • Uniforms (including School Uniforms) | • Linens |
| • Wet/Soiled Clothes | • Cushions |
| • Curtains | • Carpets |
| • Towels | • Suitcases |
| • Duvets or Duvet Covers | • Books |
| • Pillows or Pillow Cases and Blankets | • Bric a Brac |
| | • Clothes Hangers |
| | • Electricals |



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Friday 21 April 2023

Term 5: Monday 17 April – Friday 26 May

- Monday 17 April – children back to school
- Monday 01 May – Bank holiday (school closed)**
- Monday 08 May – Bank holiday (school closed)**

Term 6: Monday 5 June – Tuesday 25 July

- Monday 05 June – children back to school
- Monday 24 July – INSET DAY (school closed)**
- Tuesday 25 July – INSET DAY (school closed)**

Term dates for 2023

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 25 April	KS1 WOW Day
Thursday 27 April	Atworth Open Day (10am-2pm)
Friday 28 April	MF Open Day (10am-2pm)
Monday 01 May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Tuesday 02 May	No Teacher led clubs
Thursday 04 May	Atworth Coronation celebration
Friday 05 May	Monkton Farleigh Coronation celebration
Monday 08 May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Tuesday 08 May – Friday 12 May	KS2 SATs week
Monday 15 May	Class Photos with Tempest Photography
Tuesday 16 May	KS2 WOW Day
Tuesday 23 May	Year 7 Reunion at Monkton Farleigh
Friday 26 May	End of Term 5



Term 6	
Monday 05 June	Start of Term 6
Wednesday 07 June	R23 Meet the Teacher 5pm Atworth; 5:30pm MF
Wednesday 14 June – Friday 16 June	UKS2 Residential WOLT
Wednesday 14 June	R23 Induction afternoon
Wednesday 21 June	Cluster music project St Laurence
Wednesday 21 June	R23 Induction afternoon
Tuesday 27 June	Melksham Oak taster day YR 6
Wednesday 28 June	R23 Induction afternoon
Wednesday 28 June	ST Laurence YR 5 Cluster Curriculum Day
Friday 30 June	Y6 Corsham induction day
Tuesday 04 July	YR6 leavers trip to Bath
Wednesday 05 July	R23 Teddy Bears picnic
Thursday 06 July	EYFS/LKS2 trip
Thursday 06 July	YR6 Induction day St Laurence (1 of 2)
Friday 07 July	Sports afternoon with PTA event 1pm onwards
Monday 10 July to Friday 14 July	Sports Week
Thursday 13 July	YR6 Induction day St Laurence (2 of 2)
Thursday 13 July	Move up morning
Friday 14 July	Provisional Sports Day
Friday 14 July	Pupil Reports go home
Wednesday 19 July	Leavers service St Michaels Church 1:15pm
Friday 21 July	Last Day Term
Monday 24 July	Inset Day
Tuesday 25 July	Inset Day



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FORTNITE

CHAPTER
4

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite may be something of a veteran in gaming terms (having launched back in 2017), but it remains massively popular – with more than 250 million people playing online every month. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons', which bring more subtle changes. The latest iteration, Chapter 4 Season 2, adds a cyberpunk-themed city and anime-style areas, for example, along with new weapons and characters.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite. It can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away of a certain length – such as day out and holidays – than you might have expected.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various optional purchases – cosmetics alone, rare weapons and so on – which don't really impact on gameplay, but can cost quite a significant amount. These items are bought with game's currency, V-Bucks – which can be earned through playing, but are also often purchased from the game's store for real-world money.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows to The Walking Dead comic book. Crossovers including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could find your child asking questions about the creature from Alien or the Death from The Wither in a little sooner than you'd possibly anticipated.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with vast numbers of gamers... At various times, players can team up with and against each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation or PC – while party chat allows them to communicate during the game. This chat feature can also, therefore, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual conflict.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them. That said, there's no blood or gore: the violence is generally rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent optional tactics to lighten the mood (firing 'mini-games' for example). The machine gun, shotgun and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update adds items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different 'winning' theme (such as 'middle-aged' player or 'party'). These regular releases help to keep players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep returning to their screens.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to want to play Fortnite every day, with friends. With this in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of your child's social group and trying to coordinate their gaming around certain hours of the day. Safety in Fortnite is obviously a factor here, but it will also help your child feel that they're getting adequate opportunity to socialise with their friends online.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into spending out on those sought-after items before they disappear again for weeks. This could potentially lead to surprise outlays on your card if your child is targeted into an impulse purchase. You could consider setting up a prepaid card for them to use – or ensuring that any online purchases require adult authorisation.

USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free – but each one brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The pass can cost around £10 (and are available as part of larger bundles) and can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for chores like tidying their room.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with more trusting younger audiences means that there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game: make sure your child knows this.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously via the same TV or computer. That's ideal for siblings or when your child's friends visit – but it also offers you an opportunity to spend time doing something fun with your child, while also being able to make sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows, you might even teach them a thing or two!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Father in Charge of gaming and esports at Churchfields and has worked in gaming retail for around four years. Along with games, he is also a parent and carer of two children at primary school. Working with parents and carers, he has published an infographic about gaming and esports.



NOS
National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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

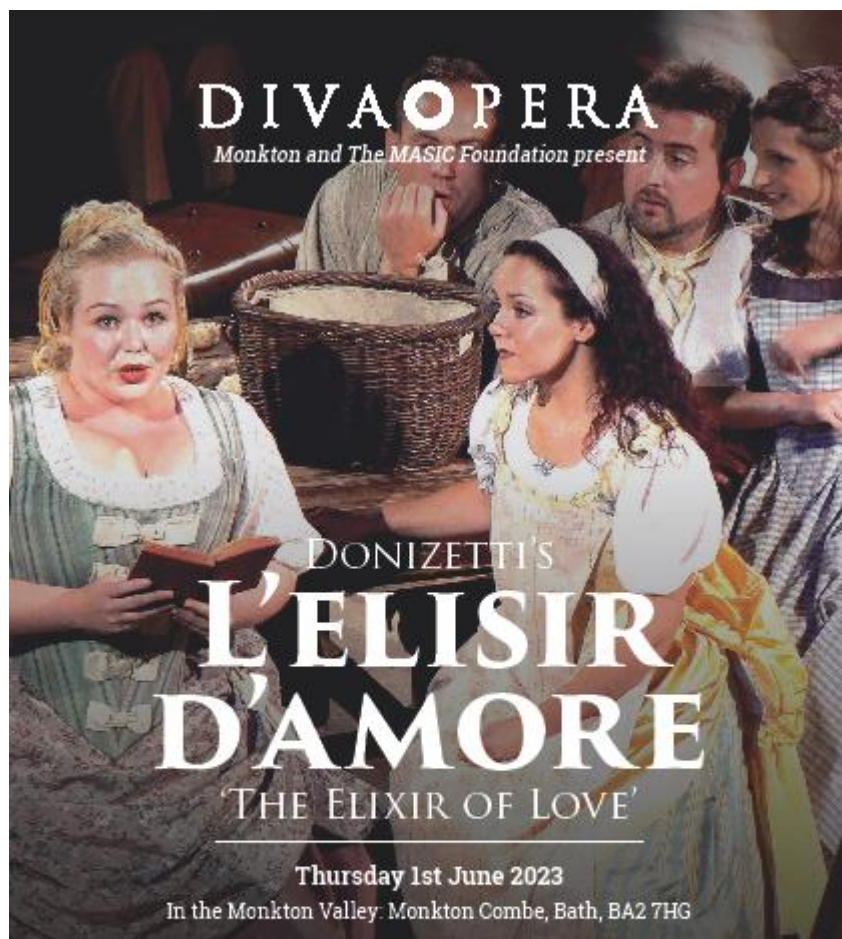
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HUGH JAMES

Leigh Day



Miriam Mitchell

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