

Dear Parent/Carer,

What a busy and exciting week for all at Churchfields!

Thank you to parents and carers who attended the early reading workshops at school earlier in the week. We hope you found these informative with practical ideas you can use at home to support your child's phonics and reading progression. A huge thank you to Mrs Nikita Reid for organising and running these events alongside the many other worthwhile activities for book week. Undoubtedly these experiences will have reignited pupils' love of reading which we will build on over the coming years.

We were delighted to welcome [Wiltshire Air Ambulance](#) in to school this week. I will resist stealing the children's thunder on this exciting activity, and allow them to feedback to you directly in next week's newsletter. Watch this space... In the meantime, a big thank you to Mrs Marsh for arranging WAA's visit to Churchfields.

It was great to see the vast majority of parents/carers taking advantage of this week's parent-teacher meetings. This is a clear indication of the level of support we have from the school community and we are thankful to you for working so closely in partnership with us for the benefit of your children.

I am pleased to report that the new owners of the White Hart, Atworth, have agreed to continue allowing parents to use their car park as a base to walk to/from school at the start and end of each day - a ten minute walk. Not only will this ease congestion around the Atworth base but will help children and adults alike with their daily exercise quota so please do consider taking up this generous offer – it is completely free of charge!

Finally, I am delighted to inform you that we have appointed Helen Thomson to the position of temporary, part time administration officer. Helen will be joining us with a wealth of experience which includes regular volunteering at the Atworth base. I am sure she will become a valued member of the staff team. She will take up her role within the next couple of weeks. Have an enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,

Simon Fletcher.

Churchfields Cookbook



Our school is planning on making a cookbook and we're going to need your help to do it by contributing some recipes from the children in the school. The recipes need to be tasty. There will be different food categories in the cookbook such as vegetarian, vegan, treats for pets, desserts, things to make with your family and evening meals. You will be able to buy this book hopefully in time for Christmas.

Please can you fill in the form and return it via your classteacher to Kestrels. We'll select a variety to appear in the final cookbook.

Ted and Francis (on behalf of the editorial committee)

Mathletics

Excitement this week as we see the first of our silver certificates awarded. That means that these students have already earned 5 bronze certificates. Great dedication!

SILVER: Alexis G, Maddox, Harry L

BRONZE : Sam D, India, William J, Laurie, Oliver H, Henry H, Josiah, Rufus, Quita, George R, Joseph, Leighton, Oliver CJ, Bodhi PH, Ted E, Ted L, Vinnie, Eloise, Emily J, Tomas, Isabella R, Benjamin CJ, Rupert, Harrison, Coralie, Morgan, Alexis M, Bodhi C, Hattie D, Maddy J, Christina, Otto, Oscar BH, Sam F, Julia, Henry J, Esme, Jasper

Contact details:

E: admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

T: 01225 703026

www.churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

The Big Ambition Survey

The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people, and parents across the country.

This is an opportunity to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting. The survey will be used to encourage policymakers to think about children and young people's needs, to ensure children's voices are reflected in the decisions that will affect them in years to come.

To find out more head to [The Big Ambition page](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition). To take part in The Big Ambition survey visit: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition



Speed awareness poster competition From Atworth Parish Council

We have launched a competition for young people under the age of 16 within Atworth parish, to design posters to raise awareness of speeding with drivers who are going through the parish.

We'd be delighted if pupils at Churchfields might consider entering the competition. Winning posters will be displayed initially during BRAKE's Road Safety Awareness Week during 19-25th November but could be displayed in the longer-term if we are able to get the necessary permissions for long-term display throughout the parish.

Further information on the poster competition and terms and conditions are available on our website here: [Atworth-Parish-Council Speedawarenessposter_competitionrules Final.docx \(live.com\)](https://www.atworth-parish-council.co.uk/Speedawarenessposter_competitionrules_Final.docx)

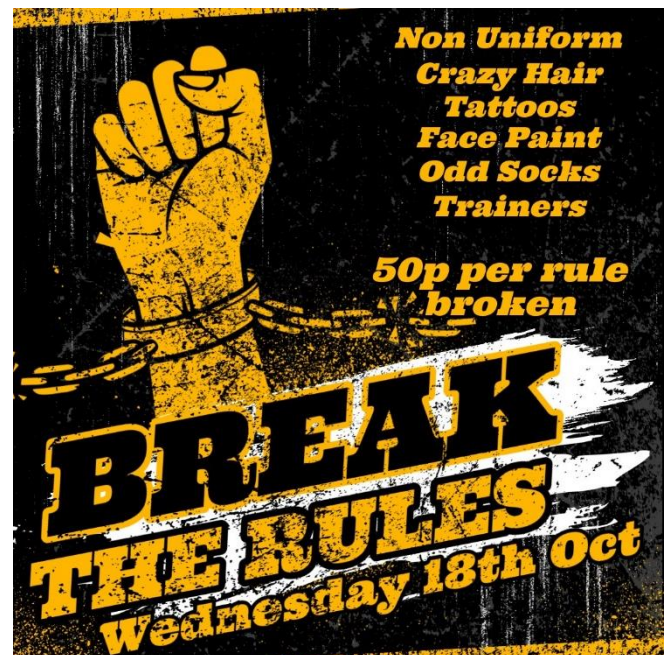


HARVEST FESTIVAL

St Michael's Church, Atworth
Tuesday 17 October, 1:15pm

It is our Harvest Festival on Tuesday 17 October 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. We will be welcoming donations in school for the local Foodbank from Monday 09 October until the day of our Harvest Festival. The Foodbank are grateful for all cupboard foods but are lacking currently fruit juice, sponge puddings, tinned ham, tinned meat, tuna and hot dogs/ meatballs.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



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ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE AND RAISE MONEY FOR SCHOOL

Pre order the size tree and select your tree at pickup

Nordman (non drop)		Spruce	
Size (CM)		Size (CM)	
125-150	£30	120-150	£18
150-175	£40	150-180	£22
175-200	£50	180-210	£25
200-225	£60	210-240	£32
		240-270	£40
		270-300	£65

Collect 2nd December Collect 9th December

To order your tree email: thevillageschoolpta@gmail.com
Payment By BACS to: Churchfields The Village School PTA
91812629 40-44-33
Please reference your surname plus TREE

Order Deadline Sunday 5th November
ALL PROFITS GO TO FOCs

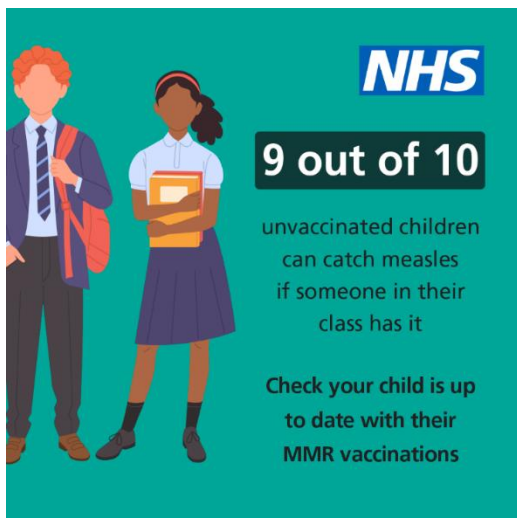
Nordman Pick up 2nd December
Spruce Pick up 9th December
9am - 4pm
South View Farm and Nursery - Norbin, Box, Corsham SN13 8JJ
www.southviewenterprise.com



NHS

102,000 children starting school in England are at risk of catching measles

Check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations



NHS

9 out of 10 unvaccinated children can catch measles if someone in their class has it

Check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be transferring to a secondary school in September 2024?

You must apply for a secondary school place

Apply online at wiltshire.gov.uk or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is **12 midnight, 31 October 2023**










All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010**

For more information or to request our guide to finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

October Half Term Activities at Melksham Library

Friday 20 th 2.30pm		Stories in the Dust Family Show Age 5+
Monday 23 rd 11am		Parachute Games for 3-8 year olds
Tuesday 24 th 10am		Teddy Bear Stories plus special guest
Tuesday 24 th 11am		Baby Rhyme Time
Thursday 26 th 11am		Toddler Rhyme Time
Thursday 26 th 2pm		Guide Dog visit
Friday 27 th 10.30am		Author Ben Harte Storytime & activities for pre-schoolers. Do you know the colours of the rainbow?
Saturday 28 th 11am		Spooky Stories & crafts
Saturday 28 th 2pm-4pm		Lego Club

Halloween Picture Trail on all week!

Booking essential for all activities except for rhyme times: email libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk or call us on 01225 702032



Wiltshire Council



All profits raised from the bingo event are for the village hall and rec.

Term dates for 2023/2024

Term 1: Monday 4 September – Wed 18 October <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friday 1 September – INSET DAY (school closed) Monday 25 September – INSET DAY (school closed) 	Term 4: Monday 19 February – Thursday 28 March <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 11 March - INSET DAY (school closed) Friday 29 March - Bank Holiday (school closed)
Term 2: Monday 30 October – Wed 20 December <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 30 October - INSET DAY (school closed) 	Term 5: Monday 15 April – Friday 24 May <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 06 May Bank holiday (school closed)
Term 3: Thursday 04 January – Friday 09 February	Term 6: Monday 03 June – Wednesday 24 July <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 24 July - INSET DAY (school closed)

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Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Friday 06 October 2023

Term 1 & 2

TERM 1	
Monday 09 October	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 11 October	Atworth Open Day
Friday 13 October	Monkton Farleigh Open Day
Friday 13 October	Bradford On Avon Cross Country Cluster event Friday 13 October St Laurence School Years 3 – 6
Monday 16 October	KS2 Settlements Trip
Tuesday 17 October	Harvest Festival Atworth Church (1:15pm)
Wednesday 18 October	Break The Rules FOCs event
Wednesday 18 October	End of Term 1
Term 2	
Monday 30 October	INSET DAY school closed to pupils
Tuesday 31 October	Term 2 Begins
Monday 13 November – Friday 17 November	E- Safety Week (Anti-Bullying Week)
Monday 13 November – Friday 17 November	Maths Week
Thursday 16 November – Friday 17 November	Bikeability for year sixes
Friday 17 November	Children In Need
Tuesday 05 December	KS2 Production 1:30 dress rehearsal; 4pm & 6pm @church Hall
Thursday 07 December	Fdn/KS1 Production 1:30 dress rehearsal; 4pm & 6pm @church Hall
Friday 15 December	Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 19 December	Carol Service Atworth Church 1:15pm
Wednesday 20 December	End of Term 2

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Parental Relationship and Parenting Programmes

Email: parenting@wiltshire.gov.uk

Being a parent can be amazing, but we all need some help, advice, and practical tips at times. Parenting programmes can provide just that, whether its from our trained facilitators or other parents and carers. We offer courses that are suitable from pregnancy all the way up to age 18.

Parenting Courses:

PREGNANCY TO PARENTHOOD

BEING A PARENT

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS (children with additional needs)

TRIPLE P (positive parenting programme)

SWAPP (autism parenting programme)

STOP (pre-teen and teen parenting)

Parental Relationship Courses:

OnePlusOne

TRIPLE P FAMILY TRANSITIONS

WITHIN MY REACH

"I feel so much more confident as a parent, and understand my child"

"It has changed my whole approach to parenting"

"I understand my special needs child better, also my own special needs and how to manage better as a parent."



"I felt so lost and alone, but this course helped with more than just my parenting"

"How to communicate and have a calm conversation when times are stressful"

"I have skills to cope better."

Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Children's Centres
Keeping in Touch
Autumn 2023

Spurgeons
together with families

Want To Return To Work?

Whatever your reason to return to work, our team are here to support you. Give us a call on 0800 970 4669.

Volunteering
Volunteering can be an excellent way to build your CV. It can also help you to brush up on some key skills and build your confidence.

CV & Letter Writing
We can offer you one to one support with your CV and help you towards your next steps. We can introduce you to some of our partners for further support.

Knowledge & Skills
Thinking of a new career? What skills do you need to take you there?

Want to stay up to date with our sessions, services and partner events? Be sure to like and follow our Spurgeons Wiltshire Children's Centre Facebook page

Don't forget that you can collect FREE Healthy Start vitamins from any Spurgeons Wiltshire children's centre. To apply for the Healthy start scheme click here

Click here to access our activity packs full of loads of ideas of things to do with your little one.

If you'd like support with the application process please give us a call on 0800 970 4669.

Find out more about the services we provide by clicking on the buttons

PROFESSIONALS

FAMILIES with children 0 - 5

FAMILIES with children 6 - 11

Contact details:

E: admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

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PRIVATE FOSTERING
ARE YOU CARING FOR
SOMEBODY ELSE'S CHILD?

If you're not a close relative and the child* has been living in your home for 28 days or more, you must let us know as we can provide support and advice.

*child = under 16 or under 18 for a child with disabilities

Call our Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on **0300 456 0108** or email **mash@wiltshire.gov.uk**

FOSTERING
with
Wiltshire Council

All National Online Safety, on behalf of participating parents, carers and schools, will be able to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe present risks about for parents of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guidance, have and tips for online.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AMONG US

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, Among Us enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 80 million regular players each month) thanks to its unique nature, simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguises and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young Among Us players need to be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SENSITIVE PREMISE

In Among Us, up to three players are secretly assigned to be 'impostors', tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivors try to uncover them. While the concept's not for removal from the game, the 'impostor' theme has been linked to TV shows such as The Traitors, where parents may find uncomfortable about their child playing a game in which deception and killing are central.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of Among Us, but the majority of the experience depicts that are exclusively cartoonish and only appear very rarely. However, it is worth noting that the in-game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain features (such as in-game chat) may not be suitable for younger players.

CHAT BETWEEN PLAYERS

With up to 10 people participating in each game online, a large part of Among Us is socialising with fellow players who the impostors might be in the making. This dialogue through the in-game chat can occasionally become heated – and even of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they don't know in real life.

GOING OFF PLATFORM

While Among Us provides basic ways to communicate, many players prefer to use external services such as Discord, a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These unmoderated voice conversations are, but can create a potential route for children to hear the parents to language – or be targeted to harass their privacy in an environment which isn't regulated by the game itself.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and costs less than £8 to play on console and PC. A reward for longer-term players, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing ads on the mobile version or adding cosmetic touches to characters (such as different 'skins'). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without realising it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although Among Us is hugely popular with young gamers, it's possible that some children might find the murder theme unsettling. If so, plenty of similar social deduction games are available (in both digital and traditional board game formats) which simplify the potentially grater elements (such as control, content, unmoderated chat, for instance, and there's even a board game version).

CHAT ABOUT CHATTING

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with voice chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strangers online aren't always who they claim to be. Encouraging the conversation about the platform, you could set up a secure space for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Among Us, with no access for people they don't trust.

DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent way for keeping online conversations together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the platform, you could set up a secure space for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Among Us, with no access for people they don't trust.

AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a virtual game of Among Us by connecting to a 'local' lobby – this is, only people connected to the same WiFi (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users – who may be local strangers – from joining and removing the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

If you're concerned about the possibility of your child making an unexpected bill on Among Us microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit. Likewise, you could specify in the game's options that adult supervision is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that the payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

Meet Our Expert

David Greenhalgh is father to child of gaming and supports the National Online Safety team in their research into gaming. A regular visitor to the app, he has tried out many of the games and understands the risks of online gaming. He has also been interviewed about building safe and healthy gaming habits.





National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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