

Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Friday 4th Oct 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

It was lovely to see everyone popping in to look at and buy books from the Book Fair this week and thank you so much to our lovely parent helpers who have enabled this to happen – we appreciate all the extra time you have put into this.

This week we were lucky to have the author Alex Cotter visit both bases to share with us how she gets her inspiration for books. She delivered hands on workshops enabling children to work in groups and plan together the characters, settings and plots for stories - the children really enjoyed this – as did the adults!

Next week we are continuing the theme of books and stories with bedtime stories on Tuesday – we hope that your children will be able to join us for this.

I hope you have a lovely long weekend.

Best wishes

Heather Saunders

Head of School

Harvest Festival
Michael's Church, Atworth
1:15pm

It is our Harvest Festival on Monday 7th October and children are invited to bring donations of dried and tinned goods, which will be used to support the Bradford on Avon Foodbank and Melksham foodbank whose support extends to Atworth and Monkton Farleigh communities. We will be welcoming donations in school for the local Foodbank from 30th Sept Friday 4th Oct 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.

Contact details:

E: admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

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Ofsted and CQC announce an Inspection of Local Area arrangements for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/ or Disabilities (SEND) in Wiltshire

An OfSTED/CQC Area SEND inspection has been announced today. This is a three-week inspection which focuses on the effectiveness of local area arrangements for children and young people with SEND.

Inspectors' activities in the first two weeks are carried out remotely and then they will be on-site for the third week.

Surveys seeking feedback from parent carers, practitioners, children and young people can be found at these links:

- For parents – [Parent/Carer Survey \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk)
Easy read version - [Parent/Carer Survey \(Easy Read\) \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk)
- For children and young people with SEND - [Children and Young People Survey \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk)
- For practitioners [Practitioner Survey \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk)

Please share the survey links with your networks today, for this important opportunity to contribute to the inspection. The closing date for responses is Tuesday 08 October.



Churchfields
The Village School
Atworth • Monkton Farleigh

"Pupils thrive at Churchfields"

One school at the heart of two communities in Atworth and Monkton Farleigh

EMAIL: admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk
WEB: www.churchfields.wilts.sch.uk
TEL: 01225 703026

Visit our Open Days:
8th October (Atworth)
11th October (Monkton Farleigh)
2nd December (both bases)

Contact us for further details

Ofsted Good Provider

School Photos

For those parents who are yet to order **online**, you have until **Wednesday 9th October 2024** to take advantage of free delivery

Mathletics

Another busy week for our mathletes. As a school we have managed to achieve more than 200 certificates in September. Well done everyone who has played their part.

Bronze : Henry, Wilfie, Josiah, Freddie, Oscar BH, Scarlett, Oliver H, Theo, Rufus, Quita, George R, Ted E, Vinnie, Isabella R, Hector, Coralie, Hattie D, Olivia S, Jude, Esme, Louie, Ella B, Ellis, Anouk, William J, Joseph, Emily J, Morgan, Bodhi C, Christina, Henry J, William CJ, Jasper, Rosemary, Jason
Silver : Leighton, Oliver CJ, Benjamin, Jazmyne, Alexis G, Maddox, Felix

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In celebration of National Poetry Day, Kestrels and Key Stage 1 looked at, sang and listened to poems on the theme of counting and were inspired to create their own collaborative poems.

The number poem

A number can be anything – 3, 80 or infinity

1 tree in my garden
2 wings on a bee
3 horns on a rhino
4 legs on a dog (trust me, I know)
5 eggs in a nest
6 hairs in my chest
7 the lucky number
8 sides on a cucumber
9 dots on a ladybird
and a 10 inch fat pug

Oscar BH, Alex, Julia

Counting poem

10 tigers hid in a den
9 cheetahs climbed up a tree
8 lions hunting some prey
7 dogs barked at a cat
6 giraffes ate some leaves
5 beetles rolling some dung
4 crabs dancing in the sand
3 jellyfish gliding through the waves
2 owls hooting in the night

1 human counting them all

Josiah, Henry H, William CJ, Henry J, Elijah

Counting at the zoo

A giraffe with 90 spots
A shark with 300 teeth
A millipede with 100 legs
A worm that is 20 centimetres long
A spider with 8 legs
A tiger with 20 stripes
A leopard with 1 prey
A cheetah that can run 60 mph
A spider-dino with 8 legs
A t-rex with 2 short legs
A bear with 8,000,000 strands of hair
A hyena with 2 ears
A pterodactyl with 1 metre long wings
I enjoyed 1 trip to the zoo!

William, Eugene, Ellis, Jason, Maggie, Jasper

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Wiltshire Family and Community Learning

HELPING MY CHILD WITH ANXIETY AND WORRY



Online Course
Tuesday 22 October
10am - 12noon
Booking closes 15 October

Positive and realistic help for family life

- Explore the difference between anxiety and worry
- Understand how anxiety can affect learning
- Learn practical techniques and calming activities
- Manage anxiety and support wellbeing

Our courses are free if you are 19+ and have been a resident in UK/EU for 3+ years and meet eligibility criteria. Please see our website or contact us for more information.

<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>
01225 770478
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk



Wiltshire Council

Help fill your class

CHRISTMAS HAMPER

ECO-FRIENDLY
BOOZE
COSY WINTER
SWEET TREATS
PAMPER HAMPER
ARTS & CRAFTS

Please drop items to Reception by 18th October

Friends of Churchfields

FRIDAY DRINKS

Friday
18th October
from 8pm

53 Bath Road • Atworth

All parents welcome

Please drop in for some drinks & nibbles to celebrate completing the first few weeks of term!

Any questions please message Evie 07738 929089

Braeside Education Centre

October Half Term Activity Days!

£40 per day

Adventure - Challenge - Fun
For ages: 8 - 12 years
(Siblings up to 14 years)

Drop Off - 8:30am - 9:00am
Pick Up - 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday 29th - Canoeing
High Ropes Activities

Wednesday 30th - Mixed Activity Day
Archery, Life Line, Low Ropes, Autumnal Keyring Craft

Thursday 31st - Halloween
Pumpkin Carving
Biscuit Decorating
Rock Painting
Themed Orienteering

Friday 1st November - Climbing Wall
Zip - Wire
Abseiling

Please book online by visiting
www.braeside-education.co.uk/holiday-club

Contact us for more details,
01380 722657
info@braeside-education.co.uk

Activities will run in groups, in rotations, throughout the day.

Wiltshire Young Musicians

Helping young people make music since 1990

Calling all youngsters under 19 years

No experience necessary
Learn from scratch!

Pick up and play!

Instrument hire included
Highly qualified and inspirational tutors

Brass on Thursdays Woodwind on Thursdays Strings on Tuesdays





www.wiltshireyoungmusicians.org.uk info@wiltshireyoungmusicians.org.uk

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At The National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.org.uk.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it on-off functionality, but some don't, meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in 'trolling' – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These trolls often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident prying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's not really easy to take it back, glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, again to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the danger themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the difference between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online, be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of OGRcon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mostly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.






Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.10.2024

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Term dates for 2023/2024

<p>Term 1: Monday 2 September – Wed 23rd October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 2nd – INSET DAY (school closed) Friday 4th Oct – INSET DAY (school closed) 	<p>Term 2: Monday 4th Nov – Fri 20th December</p>
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Term 1 & 2

TERM 1	
Monday 7 th Oct	Harvest Festival St Michael's Atworth 1.15
Tuesday 8 th Oct	Atworth Open day
Tuesday 8 th Oct	Bedtime stories (5-6pm)
Friday 11 th Oct	Monkton Farleigh Open day
Wednesday 23 rd Oct	End of term 1
TERM 2	
Monday 11 th Nov - Friday 15 Nov	Anti - bullying week
Tuesday 12 th Nov	Odd Socks Day
Friday 15 th Nov	Children in need
Monday 2 nd Dec	Open day both sites Atworth 10-2 Monkton Farleigh 10-2
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Friday 6 th Dec	School nurse Whole school Flu immunisations
Tuesday 10 th Dec	KS2 Production 4pm/6pm TBC
Thursday 12 th Dec	R/KS1 Production 4pm/6pm TBC
Tuesday 17 Dec	Carols St Michaels Atworth 1:15
Wednesday 18 Dec	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 19 th Dec	Carols St. Peters Monkton Farleigh 1:15
Friday 20 th Dec	End of Term 2

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