



St. Mary's News

"SHINE AS A LIGHT IN THE WORLD"

Matthew 5:16

Newsletter No: 41



Dear Families,

This week it was wonderful seeing our youngest children and their families enjoying a gingerbread house decorating workshop. A huge thank you to Miss Bown and Lesley for organising the session.

As you will all be aware our roof works are continuing at full speed and the team have moved onto the hall. Unfortunately, this has come with a large amount of disruption including our Rock Steady concert having to be postponed. We are very hopeful that no further performances will have to be changed. We have arranged for external spaces to perform our Nativity play next week just in case they are needed. Hopefully these won't be needed but, knowing many of our families have taken time off from work to be able to come and see the performances, we felt a back up plan was needed!

Next week we also have Christmas lunch where all children need to look out for a very special message being 'Zoomed' in directly from the North Pole. If you have not returned your child's Christmas lunch order form please contact Mrs. Johnson as quickly as possible as we are now past the food ordering date.

Our PTA have been as busy as Santa's elves recently. The bauble and photograph sale has been very appreciated. Having seen some of the photographs I can see you have stunning keepsakes to treasure. On Friday we are looking forward to the annual PTA Christmas disco. Please ensure all forms are returned to either a PTA member or put into the letter box in school reception. If you are arranging for your child to be collected by a different adult after the disco, please make this very clear on your form. We will not be able to dismiss any children with adults who are not family members with receiving consent. Our PTA will also be serving refreshments at both of our nativity performances next week. If you can help with proving mince pies or individual cakes, please drop them off to the school office by Monday 11th December.

Have a wonderful weekend and see you all on Monday ready for another busy week.

*Mrs. N R Brennan
Head Of School*

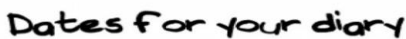
***Nativity Performance
Tuesday 12th and 13th December, All Cherry, Willow, Oak
and Silver Birch families' welcome.***

***SEND Coffee morning
All families of SEND children welcome 9am until 9:30am***

***Junior cadets'
Wednesday 13th December Year 4***

***Christmas Lunch
Thursday 14th December Childrens Christmas lunch, thank
you for all parents who have returned forms.***





**Nativity, 2pm start -
Cherry, Willow, Oak and
Silver Birch performance.**

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Cherry, Willow, Oak and
Silver Birch performance.**

SEND Coffee morning
9am-9:30am

Junior cadets' year 4

Christmas lunch for children

PTA School disco - See letters from school.

Carol Concert KS2, 2pm start

Junior Cadets' Year 4 award ceremony

Let's Read Together

2:45pm

Church Service - Information to follow

Inset day - School closed to pupils

All children welcome back!

Highway Safety for year 1 & 2

Parent consultations – Information to follow.

Safer internet day



Willow

Oak

90%

94.3%

94.4%

Silver Birch

Sycamore

96.8%

88.4%

Congratulations to all our classes who have reached our government's expectation of 96% or above..

or above..

Star of the week

Class

Pupil

Cherry

Millie

Willow

Izzy

Oak

Lily

Silver Birch

Lewis

Sycamore

Harley

**A massive well done to all children
for all their hard work this week.
We are proud to call you a part of
our St Mary's Family**

Free School Meals

Are you entitled?



Are you entitled to Free school meals, please use the link below.
<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx>



WEEK 1

Allergy information available on request



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main				
Margherita Pizza (v)	Cottage Pie	Roast of the Day with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Build your own Chicken Wrap with Mexican Rice	Fish and Chips
Vegetarian				
Teriyaki Noodles with Edamame (v)	Bean and Spinach Enchilada (v)	Onion Bhaji and Sweet Chilli Flatbread with Wedges (v)	Cheese and Tomato Quesadilla with Mexican Rice (v)	Veggie Nuggets and Chips (v)
3rd Options				
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw
Deli				
Deli Option with Ham, Tuna Mayo, Egg Mayo or Cheese				
Vegetables				
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables
Dessert				
Parsnip Cake	Flapjack	Vegan Autumn Cake	Jelly Crunch Pot	Fruit Mousse
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.

30th Oct, 20th Nov, 11th Dec, 1st Jan, 22nd Jan, 12th Feb, 4th Mar, 25th Mar

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

FORTNITE BATTLE ROYALE

'Fortnite - Battle Royale' is a free to play section of the game 'Fortnite'. The game sees 100 players dropped on to an island from a 'battle bus' where they have to compete until one survivor remains. The last remaining player on the island wins the game. Players have to find hidden items, such as weapons, to help them survive longer in the game. To make the game more challenging, there is an added twist called 'the storm' which reduces the size of the island from the start of gameplay, bringing the players closer together in proximity. The game is available on PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Mac and IOS.



What parents need to know about FORTNITE: BATTLE ROYALE

MICROTRANSACTIONS

Money, loot and items are rewarded daily and can only be used in the game for 24 hours of their release. There are various items, called skins, 'gliders' and weapons, which change the characters appearance, but do not improve the game play. Once purchased, the player has full use of these in the future. The designs are attractive for players to be shown and even celebrities are endorsing them. Also available to purchase in the game is a 'Battle Pass'. When a new 'Battle Pass' is released, users can take part in a series of challenges, receiving more rewards (notated by an glowing through different tiers). When new rewards they at have can be used in the game.

HACKER ATTACKS

News site Forbes stated that it had been 'doxxed' if online reports from people who said their accounts had been compromised by hackers, who had gained access to user's accounts in the game and accessed if records of purchases in fraudulent charges.

NO PROOF OF AGE REQUIRED

Signs up to the game is relatively simple. Users have the option to log in with either their Facebook or Google accounts or their email address. When signing up with an email address a proof of age is requested. If you think it is under the age of 13, it is important to check whether your child has the game downloaded.

TALKING TO STRANGERS DURING SQUAD MODE

Interacting with other players in the game is part of the fun so players can communicate with their friends and other players in the game. Players will benefit from having a friendliness to hear things from other players trying to represent a team game. Many people will not talk to children for parents to hear what exactly is being said and children may be exposed to inappropriate language. Fortnite is a chat room and reporting features for players without causing or receiving, and in the future having a chat in the end on how game play is conducted.

TALKING TO STRANGERS DURING SQUAD MODE

There are many accounts on Facebook and Twitter which claim to give you free money (known as 'Vbucks') for the game which will be transferred to their Xbox Live or PS4 card. Any of these promises from Fortnite will be in the game. It is important to check the authenticity of these accounts before a player is misled or informed in order to claim 'Vbucks'. The website or accounts are asking you to share your account name and password in order to claim the money. If these offers seem too good to be true, they usually are.

IT CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Games can last up to 20 minutes but the action according to the game. Children may have argued if they lose the game and not want to continue playing, until they achieve their desired result. It is a complete mixture of the game as it makes it difficult for them to stop playing, feeling it tough as their position in the game could be affected.

IT CAN BE PLAYED ON THE GO

The game was released on mobile devices in April 2018, meaning it can be played on their phone for a home game on their phone. Some schools have reported that the game is distracting their students whilst in the classroom. As the game is available outside of the home, parents may not be aware of how long their child is playing the game.

'FREE' TO PLAY

The game is free to play. However, if playing on Xbox, you will need an Xbox gold subscription, which does require a fee.

AGE RESTRICTIONS

PEGI has given the game a rating of 12+. Even though the game includes violence and weapons such as crossbows, grenades, launchers, rifles, pistols, shotguns and more. PEGI say 'more graphic and realistic looking violence towards fantasy characters is allowed. Any violence towards human characters must look unrealistic unless it consists of only minor or trivial injury such as a slap' making the game suitable for children aged 12 and over.

Top Tips for Parents

LIMIT GAME TIME

Parents can set their child's screen time on their own PC. The first time a child is playing a game on Xbox they can. The game is available on PC and will work for available on mobile devices. It is important to have a conversation with your child to discuss and agree how long you would like them to play the game for. Even though this game is rated 12+, it may be difficult to take them away from it, some not play. It may be worth agreeing a limit to the amount of minutes they play within a time limit.

LOOK OUT FOR VBUCK SCAMS

It is important that you as a parent are aware of the online chat they may come across online in association with the game. Open up conversations with them about scams and how they should never share their username or password with anyone in order to get something for the game.

SHOW THEM HOW TO MAKE A REPORT

If your child believes a player is cheating or making inappropriate, you should advise them to report them. To report a player, you can use the in-game feedback tool located in the main menu of the game. Additionally, you can report a player in-game when spectating them.

PREVENT YOUR CHILD FROM TALKING TO STRANGERS

There is an option to turn off the voice chat feature, which means your child would be able to talk to anybody, including their friends. However, they would still be able to see the in-game chat and hear other people's conversations. To turn off voice chat, open the Settings menu in the top right of the main Fortnite page, then click on the 'voice chat'. Open the Audio tab at the top of the screen. From there, you can turn a voice chat.

RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

'Fortnite Battle Royale' is a free to play game, but there are still options to make additional purchases. If you do not want your child to make purchases, make sure you do not connect your child's account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to restrict spending, we recommend using a prepaid card, or a game-specific gift card. These can be purchased in specific amounts, which will allow you to restrict the amount your child spends and remain in the need for a credit card to be used with their account.

USE A STRONG PASSWORD

It may seem like a simple tip, but it is important that your child uses a strong password when creating an account, particularly if a credit card is associated with the account. This will help protect the child if their account being hacked.



**National
Online
Safety**

A whole school community approach to online safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Find us at help@nationalonlinesafety.com or call us on 0800 286 6561