

Summer 1 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents & Carers

This has been a really busy half term and we've achieved so much!

We are so very lucky to have such generous parents and I'd like to thank lots of Dads who have made resources for the school. Do read on to see our latest play and storage resources!

We will be launching our 'Spend a Penny or More' project in the Autumn term but I thought it might be useful for you to know why this is such an essential

and important campaign for us.

COVID and the guidance around hygiene rules have brought home to us just how desperately short of toilets we are. The school has adapted and changed over the years but, although numbers of pupils and therefore classrooms have increased, the numbers of toilets and additional hand washing facilities haven't.

Previously there were two cubicles (as well as urinal provision) for 110 boys. The girls facilities have five cubicles. Unlike most schools, our KS1 and KS2 children have to share the same sets of toilets. Separating bubbles of children has been a challenge, so to reduce risk, we gave our KS2 children the use of staff toilets and the disabled toilet outside the School Hall. The staff now share one toilet which I'm sure everyone would agree is far from ideal!

Governors, ACE leaders and staff are all agreed that a new suite of toilets for KS1 children are essential. We have plans drawn up by a local architect and we feel very excited and reassured that we can provide improved toileting facilities for our children.

We are able to make use of some school building funds but at the moment that only stretches to the sanitary ware and it will be the building works that will of course incur the greatest costs. So, we will need support with funding. Previously you, along with the PTFA, have managed to raise significant sums to make improvements to the school. I know this very worthwhile project will be something that you'll all want to be involved in. If you have any ideas about how we can raise the monies we need, or you know of anyone who can help, do please come and see me.

Watch this space for further details!

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and have a lovely half term break.

Katy Burns Headteacher



Danceathon

On Thursday 29th April, we had our first Danceathon in the playground. Children danced throughout the day to a variety of songs, joined by their teachers and all of the other members of staff danced too!

They picked up some choreography from Miss Gallacher and also taught her, and the other members of staff, some of their own moves including; high kicks, the worm and the splits! We were lucky that the rain held off and we had a bright and warm day, which just added to the excitement and positivity. We thoroughly enjoyed the day and it certainly created a buzz around the school. Thank you for your donations; overall, we managed to raise over £260, enabling us to start buying new playground equipment for all the children to enjoy.



Thank you to our wonderful Parents!

A huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Lee who have very kindly bought and donated this wonderful cupboard for our Reception children to use in their building area.

A massive thank you also goes to Mr Lamsin for making this beautiful tray table for our Reception Class.

A huge thank you to Mr Palmer who made us a beautifully crafted wooden giant Jenga game for the playground.

We are so very grateful to receive these items and they will be used constantly!

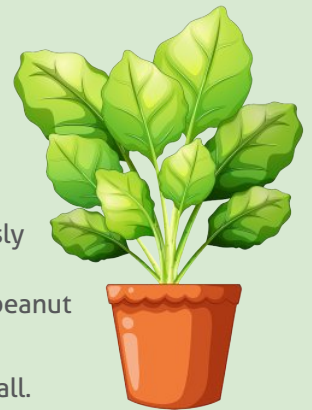


Garden Donations

A huge thank you to Graham and Anita who donated the lovely picnic table and painted the bench and table in the Eason Garden.

Marion Metcalfe very generously donated £40 to the school garden fund and gifted a bird peanut feeder.

We are so very grateful to you all.



Well done to our Amazing Readers!

Alistair Barnicott

Noah Fisher

Maisie Bennett

Neve Whitall

Marley Selway

Millie Bumby

Freda Palmer



Each child has accomplished reading over a million words on the Accelerated Reading Scheme since September! Well done to you all on this sensational achievement.

SUMMER FAYRE

A Message from FROGS

We are being optimistic and planning for the Summer Fayre to take place on Saturday 10th July 2021.

Due to Covid we feel we aren't in a position to ask companies for raffle prizes and successfully receive them as we usually do (although we will try), so we are asking if you have any contacts of companies (families and friends) that would be willing to donate towards one main raffle prize. It worked very well at Easter with our raffle of a hamper brimming full of goodies, we're hoping we can do just as well if not better for our Summer Fayre!

Please get in touch ASAP if anyone can help via our facebook page or through the school office!

The theme this year is Heroes!!

If anyone has any ideas please speak to Trudi or I, but rest assured, with 7 weeks to plan, we are on it!

Jade & Trudi



SUN CREAM, HATS & WATER BOTTLES

Slip Slop Slap!

With the weather getting warmer (we hope!), could we please ask that you apply sun cream to your child in the morning before school and also provide them with a hat and water bottle.



Year 3 Learning Enquiry

Last term, Year 3 undertook a scientific learning enquiry around rocks. Our learning enquiry question was "Why is Torbay a sheltered bay?" The reason we decided to explore this question was because of the cruise ships moored up in the bay.

First, we looked at the different features of Torbay's bay on Google Earth. We realised that the shape of Torbay was like a big letter 'C', due to the different rocks that it is made up of (red sandstone and limestone). To help us answer our question we went on to look at the 3 different types of rocks. We then investigated how each type of rock is formed and recreated the formation of the rock - using chocolate!

After comparing and sorting rocks like granite, limestone, pumice, and red sandstone, we went on to investigate their hardness and abrasiveness through a couple of class experiments. Finding that granite and limestone were the hardest rocks, and red sandstone and chalk were the softest.

In order for us to gain a better understanding of why the bay of Torbay is the shape of a 'C' and a sheltered bay, we researched coastal erosion and the effects on the shape of the bay. To end the learning enquiry, the children wrote some fantastic explanations answering our learning question.



Outdoor Learning

We've had in mind for some time, the need to develop and re-structure the "Living Pathway" (the perimeter area of our playing field).

So, now is the time..... we're going to kick this off as our "Summer Term Project".

Our hope is to develop and enhance the current "Living Pathway" into a forest fun / outdoor activity learning area for our children.

We want to be able to offer outdoor forest learning, activities and sessions to encourage an understanding and enjoyment of the natural outdoor environment. We're hoping to incorporate not only nature and wildlife learning, but also den building, a prayer space, and games areas. This will all work towards children's mindfulness, encouraging self-confidence, increased mental health, self esteem and self confidence, along with understanding their responsibility towards nature.

Leading on from this, to make the best of the space and consolidate our planning and ideas, we're asking for any items you may be able to provide to the cause from our wish list:

Wish List

PALLETS

A PETROL MOWER

LOGS OF ALL SIZES
(MAYBE LARGE ENOUGH FOR SEATING)

FENCE POSTS

OUTDOOR GAMES

TARPAULIN

**LONG BAMBOO
CANES / STICKS**


WILLOW

ROPE

TYRES OF ALL SIZES

MILK CRATES
(FOR SEATING)


PAVING SLABS



We're also putting a shout out to our parents (and extended family members / neighbours) to ask if you would be willing to volunteer some hours over a weekend or two following the half term holidays, to start creating this wonderful wilderness for our children (please contact the office so that we can draw up our list of volunteers – biscuits and cakes will be provided by our excellent catering team!).

Reading Volunteers Needed

Next year we will be asking for parent / community volunteers to come in and read regularly with some of our children. We will give training to support you and it would be great to have volunteers who can devote a regular slot each week. To fulfil our safeguarding and welfare checks, there is a form to complete and submit, as well as the DBS vetting check, which we must carry out for all staff / volunteers attending school who work with our children. **Please contact the office if you would be willing to spare an hour or so each week.**



Education
DIOCESE OF EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN DEVON

pray grow serve with joy

Funded by
Department for Education

English Hubs
Ilsham English Hub

Focus

- ★ Build reading communities
- ★ Share stories to help develop the love of reading
- ★ Use stories to increase vocabulary
- ★ Encourage reading for pleasure
- ★ Foster links between church, home and school
- ★ Serving the people of Devon with joy

Sharing the Story

LINKING SCHOOLS, HOMES AND CHURCHES

Could you support young people to flourish through listening and sharing stories together?

Join us for our Zoom training to find out more about this reading initiative in partnership with Ilsham English Hub on:

Thursday 20th May 2021 or 24th June 2021
10am – 11.30am

Book online at www.exeter.anglican.org/schools/training-and-events

Contact Tina Wilkes, Diocesan Education Adviser for more information
tina.wilkes@exeter.anglican.org or 07940 482934



Parking

We have received a communication from the local residents association regarding road use and parking in the school vicinity and have been asked to highlight some points to all our parents / carers:

- Please ensure you never park or stop to drop/collect your child on "double yellows" – this seems to be a consistent problem at the back of school around the "big tree".
- Please have the common courtesy not to park restricting access to residents driveways.
- Please drive with care and at slower speeds through the Village.
- A number of parked cars have been damaged when parked close to the junction opposite the main school entrance (Greenway Road / Galmpton Glade). We are regularly contacted to see if we can provide CCTV footage to owners of damaged vehicles. We advise that you do not park on that area to avoid possible damage to your cars.

Thank you for your assistance and consideration

Medicine and Absence Request Forms

There's a useful link on our Galmpton website where you can download the medicines and absence request forms. There are lots of other useful pieces of information on the website, including updated policies, which we are sure you'll find of interest.

**CLICK HERE TO
DOWNLOAD**



Thank you so much to all who donated their unwanted clothes and textiles.

Our PTA raised a glorious £141 from your donated items.

We'll book another slot in the Autumn term, so please do keep hold of textiles / shoes until then.



Fortnite: Chapter 2 has finally landed! With a whole host of new in-game features including a brand-new map, more water-based activities, upgraded character skins and a more streamlined arsenal of weapons, this Fortnite is promising to be the best yet. Almost all of the changes are cosmetic which means the concept of the game remains the same, with players still aiming to be the last man standing. Players will no doubt find the game much more enjoyable with so much more to explore. For parents and carers however, it pays to remain vigilant.



What parents need to know about FORTNITE

CHAPTER 2

BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.

IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.

FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.

SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.

CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.

IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



Top Tips For Parents

BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game.

GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns; that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.

TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.

CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.

PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!

Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



Galmpton Primary School

Calendar Dates

**Monday 31st May -
Wednesday 9th June**
(inc 3 x non-pupil days)

Thursday 10th June
Return to school.

Tuesday 22nd June
New YR intake 2021/22 meeting, 2pm.

Wednesday 30th June
Teddy Bear's Picnic for September intake
2021/22, 10.30am.

Thursday 1st July & Friday 2nd July
Y6 Transition days for Paignton and Brixham
& 1st only for Churston

Monday 5th July
Y6 Sailing Trip.

Tuesday 6th July
Y5 Canoeing Trip.

Friday 9th July
Y6 Sailing Trip.

Saturday 10th July
FROGs Summer Fayre (fingers crossed)!

Monday 12th July
KS1 Sports Day, more information to follow.

Tuesday 13th July
Y3/Y4 Sports Day, more information to follow.

Wednesday 14th July
Y5/Y6 Sports Day, more information to follow.

Friday 16th July
Y6 Bude Trip.



Citizenship



Leadership



Explorers



Expression



Flourishing