

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This week, Polar Bears class went to Danbury Outdoors for an overnight stay. They were incredibly excited and couldn't wait to take part in the many exciting activities planned. Look out for photographs in next week's newsletter!

On Tuesday, we will be holding our May Day and King's Coronation celebrations. It will be a wonderful afternoon of dancing from the children and we are excited to have a previous St. Cedd's pupil singing for us too! The PTA will be holding a cake sale and raffle, if you are able to donate cakes, please bring them into school on Tuesday morning. Celebrations will begin at 1.15pm, we hope you are able to join us! Bring a blanket or chair to sit on please.

Wishing you all a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and we will see you all on Tuesday.

Lyndsey Wood
Headteacher

GENERAL MESSAGES

Reminders

Monday 1st May 2023 – BANK HOLIDAY.

Tuesday 2nd May 2023 – School is OPEN not a Strike Day.

Tuesday 2nd May 2023 – May Day Celebrations 1.15pm in school playground.

Thursday 4th May 2023 – PTA Coronation Disco 5.30pm – 7.00pm in school hall.

Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

Thank you for helping everyone show respect to each other. Amen.

(Isabella, Polar Bears)

Enjoying a Love of Reading



“A book is a garden, an orchard, a storehouse, a party, a company by the way, a counselor, a multitude of counselors.”

– Charles Baudelaire

Reminder



Please remember to pre-book your child's meals before Sunday, if you have not done so already! You can book them via School Money. To help the office, please state if you are providing a packed lunch for your child.

If you are providing your child with a packed lunch, please ensure no chocolate bars or peanut butter. Please check ingredients in chocolate spread for nut traces. We are a NUT FREE SCHOOL due to severe allergies.

E-SAFETY

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information 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 trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FORTNITE

CHAPTER
4

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 12

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.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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 days out and holidays – than you might have expected.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic skins, 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 like The Walking Dead to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could find your child asking questions about the creature from Alien or who Geralt from The Witcher is a little sooner than you'd possibly anticipated.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with vast numbers of gamers ... of various ages. Crossplay lets friends play 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 combat.

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 comical touches to lighten the mood (fishing mini-games, for example). The machine guns, shotguns 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 sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different over-arching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'party'). These regular renewals help to hold 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 alongside their 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 numbers 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 splashing 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 tempted 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 also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £5 (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 Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about Tech and Fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



Categorising Attendance and Learning Hours Lost

Attendance in school is extremely important for your child's education. Below is a table of how much learning is missed when your child is absent from school. We do understand that your child/ren will have genuine illnesses

Descriptor	Threshold Attendance	Actual Attendance	Whole Days Absent	Learning Hours Lost
Excellent	100%	190 days	0	0
	99%	188 days	2	10
Good	98%	186 days	4	20
	97%	184 days	6	30
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5
Cause for concern	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5
	94%	179 days	11	55
	93%	177 days	13	65
	92%	175 days	15	75
	91%	173 days	17	85
Unsatisfactory	90%	171 days	19	95
	89%	169 days	21	105
	88%	167 days	23	115
	87%	165 days	25	125
Serious Cause for Concern	86%	163 days	27	135
Critical	85%	161.5 days	28.5	142.5
	84%	159.5 days	30.5 32	152.5
	83%	158 days	34	160
	82%	156 days	36	170
	81%	154 days	38	180
	80%	152 days		190



Creativity

Create your own animal by merging two animals together: e.g. Head of a Zebra, body of a Bear.

Can you draw it? What will you call your new animal? Where will it live? What is it like?

Extension - now create a new animal by merging three or four different animals.

Reflection Questions

Getting Started: How can you share what you imagine?

Intermediate: How can you come up with lots of different ideas?

Advanced: How can you combine different ideas to create new ones?

Mastery: How can you help someone else to be creative?

KS1 Word the Week



Word of the Week

overhead



Meaning

Something that is above you.



Challenge

Imagine you are at the funfair. What might be **overhead**?

CELEBRATING WORDS

KS2 Word the Week



Word of the Week

mournful



Meaning

Very sad. Sometimes because you have lost something or someone has died.



Challenge

If someone is feeling **mournful**, what might you say to them? Why?

CELEBRATING WORDS

Staff Vacancy

Catering Assistant

Start date: ASAP

15 Hours per week – Monday – Friday 10.00 am - 13.00 pm 38 weeks per year (term time only) Essex Salary Scale 2, Points 3 – 4, £20,441 - £20,812 (Actual annual salary £6,929 – £7,055), plus mileage payments.

We have a vacancy for a Catering Assistant to join our small, friendly catering team.

Duties will include:

- Setting up dining hall ready for service and clearing away ready for the commencement of the afternoon school session.
 - To assist in the preparation, cooking and serving of food for St. Cedd's Primary and St. Nicholas Primary.
 - Transfer meals from St. Cedd's Primary to St. Nicholas Primary.
 - Maintaining the workflow within the school kitchen with particular regard to washing up during and after service.
 - Correct usage of kitchen equipment in line with current guidelines.
- Ability to undertake all aspects of cleaning (light and heavy) under the direction of the Catering Manager, adhering to current guidelines with regard to health & safety, cleanliness and hygiene.
 - Flexibility to cover additional hours if required and a willingness to undertake relevant training.
 - The postholder is expected to have a responsible attitude and good self-presentation.
- A Full Driving Licence and access to a car is essential, including the addition of Business Use on the car insurance policy.

We can offer you:

- A warm, welcoming environment where the focus is on developing and nurturing a lifelong love of learning.
- A team of fantastic teachers and support staff who are committed to school improvement and achievement for all.

Please take care to complete the application in full as incomplete applications will not be considered. The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust is a company limited by guarantee and Registered in England No. 8709542. Registered Office 53, New Street Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1AT

Information about the School St Cedd's C of E Primary School is a friendly, small, village school located in the heart of Bradwell-on-Sea. We aim to provide a high-quality experience enabling all of our children to achieve their potential as individuals, within a distinctive Christian ethos. The aims of St Cedd's are founded on the recognition that the family and the school are working together for the development of our children. In 2018 SIAMs recognised that strong and seamless leadership and governance ensured the need of all pupils and their families are nurtured. Our school is committed to safeguarding and promotes the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment.

The appointment will be subject to a successful enhanced DBS check and additional pre-employment checks. A full job description and person specification, our Privacy Notice and our Recruitment & Selection Policy Statement are attached.

Application Closing Date: 8th May 2023 Interviews will be held: 11th May 2023 If you are interested in this post, please email any questions or your completed application form to gaye.dodds@dcvst.org If you would like to arrange a visit to the school please call the school office on 01621 776219.

MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Tuesday 2nd May 2023



Our celebrations begin at 1.15pm with the crowning of our May Queen and Green Man followed by a programme of dances from all classes. As usual, the festival will be held in the playground, so we hope for good weather for the event. However, if it is inclement we have set aside the afternoon of Thursday 4th May as an alternative. For the festival we would like children to bring special clothes to change into for the afternoon: **GIRLS** should bring a bright flowery dress or skirt which is suitable for dancing. If your child does not have a flowery dress or skirt a bright, one-coloured alternative will be fine. If wearing a skirt, girls should wear a plain coloured blouse or T-shirt which has no design or pattern printed on it. **BOYS** should wear normal grey school trousers/grey shorts and a coloured shirt or T-shirt, again with no patterns or designs. If parents/carers can find a waist coat for them to wear it would be super.

All children will dance in their school plimsolls or trainers.

To celebrate the King's coronation, we have organised for an ex pupil of St Cedd's, Michael Joslin, who was a contestant on the BBC series "All Together Now", to entertain everyone with familiar songs that everyone, young and old can enjoy!

Refreshments will be available to purchase from the PTA. If anyone is able to donate cakes for the stall or for the raffle that the PTA will hold, please bring them to school on the day.

We have a shortage of chairs for adults, so would be most grateful if parents would bring their own.

As is usual, on these occasions, parents/carers will want to take photographs or videos of their children at a school event. However, events like this involve other children and we are required to ensure that other parents do not object to their children being photographed e.g. as part of a dance. If you have any objections to this, please let me know by 28th April. Please note that videos/photographs are for personal use only and that images of children taken at school events should not be placed on sites such as Facebook.

We look forward to parents/carers joining us for the afternoon to enjoy a traditional celebration of the return of Spring!