



# WEEKLY NEWS



**For week beginning Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

## Monday 7<sup>th</sup>

**Art Trip to Kingley Vale – invited pupils only**

**Football Club** – Year 5-6 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

**Netball Club** – Year 5-6 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Makaton Club** – Year 2-3 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

**Hockey Club** – Year 2-4 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Lego Club** – Year 4-5 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

**Construction Club** – Year 1-2 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

## Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>

STORY SACK LIBRARY RETURNS (EARLY YEARS AND YEAR 1)

Piano Lessons with Mr Clunes (West Sussex Music Trust)

Brass Lessons with Mr Wilkins (West Sussex Music Trust)

**Tri Golf Club** – Year 3-4 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Chess Club** – Year 3-6 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Reading Club** – Year 3-6 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Film Club (1<sup>st</sup> Half)** – Year 1-3 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

**Film Club** – Year 4-6 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

## Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>

Violin Lessons with Mrs Urquhart (West Sussex Music Trust)

## Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>

**Willow Class Trip to Tangmere Museum**

**Mindfulness** – Year 4-6 – 8.05-8.40am

**Family Assembly – Hazel and Maple Classes** – 9.00am

JUNIOR SAVERS

STORY SACK LIBRARY (EARLY YEARS AND YEAR 1)

**Sama Karate Club** – Year 1-6 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Brighton & Hove Football Club** – Year 1-6 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Touch Typing** – Year 4-6 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

**Recorder Club** – Year 2-4 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Colouring Club** – Year 1-4 – 3.15-4.15pm

**Old and New Friends** – Year 1-6 – 3.15-4.15pm – FULL

## Friday 11<sup>th</sup>

**Walnut Class Trip to Tangmere Museum**

**Swimming** – Pear and Poplar Classes – 9.00-10.30am

## THIS WEEK'S STAR AWARDS



Well done to:

**Birch:** Oscar, Thomas, Milo and Fred A

**Cedar:** Ana, Alex, Emily and Benji

**Hawthorn:** Layke, Ashton, Harvey and Daisy

**Mulberry:** Rebecca, Sophia, Biba and Liberty

**Pear:** Rueben, Marley, Lexi and Rudi

**Willow:** Bradley, Riley, Lucy and Mia

**Forest:** Liza

**Congratulations to you all!**

## Headteacher's Tea Party!



To celebrate the fact that we have such wonderful children at Parklands and for Mrs Henham Scott to spend some quality time with our pupils, we organise a Headteacher's Tea Party every Friday afternoon. Pupils are chosen for various lovely reasons to come along to the Library to see Mrs Henham Scott and enjoy a delicious treat!

Pupils this week are: **Beech:** Poppy F, **Birch:** Oliver S, **Cedar:** Archie, **Chestnut:** Zachary, **Hawthorn:** Ridley, **Hazel:** Braydon, **Maple:** Evie, **Mulberry:** Leo, **Pear:** Layla, **Poplar:** Sophie S, **Walnut:** William, **Willow:** Ghalia, **Forest:** George

**Hope you all have a wonderful time!**

# Superstar Corner

We have 2 Superstars to  
celebrate this week:



Emily – Beech Class  
Emily completed Stage 1  
of her swimming  
course and received a  
certificate.



Tom – Walnut Class  
Tom received a  
medal for working  
hard and being  
great at his physio.



**WELL DONE TO  
Emily and Tom!**



Thank you to everyone who  
supported our MacMillan  
Coffee Morning last Friday.

The School raised an impressive  
**£973.00**  
for this important charity.

## AUTUMN TERM 2019

2<sup>nd</sup> September – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

### Half Term

28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019

### Inset Days

25<sup>th</sup> October 2019

4<sup>th</sup> November 2019



Please speak to the  
School Business  
Manager for more  
information.

Application forms  
can be found on the  
WSCC School Jobs  
Website.

**Closing date:**  
17 October 2019  
(midday)

**Interview date:**  
23 October 2019

## **IT TECHNICIAN at Parklands Community Primary School**

We require an ambitious and motivated individual to be the school's IT support. IT plays an important role across this school in terms of support, network and curriculum.

As an integral and highly valued part of the school you will be proactive and where necessary reactive in order to support the continuous smooth running of the IT systems within the school. You will be competent in diagnosing and resolving issues and have the ability to work on your own initiative. You will add value by your methodical yet creative approach to problem solving, task prioritisation, as well as a calm and diplomatic approach to situations.

You will be required to troubleshoot hardware and software, set up and commission new equipment and implement changes to existing equipment, provide first line support to users including staff, pupils, parents and governors etc.

Working knowledge and experience of network systems and server administration is required and IT experience in the education sector would be advantageous.

The hours of work are 8.00am until 2.00pm each day (with ½ hour break unpaid each day), term time only. You will also be required to work on the five INSET days throughout the year.





There's a very good chance you've heard of Fortnite, but what exactly is it? And why is it so popular amongst young people? Fortnite is an online multiplayer "battle royale" game developed by Epic Games, and is playable on Playstation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch, PC and mobiles. It gained popularity in late 2017 and has since become the biggest game in the world, thanks to its rapid and engaging gameplay. As with most games, Fortnite itself is a highly enjoyable and safe experience, but it pays to be vigilant, as the safety is not water tight.



# What parents need to know about FORTNITE BATTLE ROYALE



## 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 movie, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (usually 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 addictive disorder, 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 the 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 can'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 'M', as it contains cartoon 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 banished 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 real 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 in 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, UNLAD Gaming and GAMINGible. 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.



<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2018/nov/30/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide-video-game-what-royale-choose>, <https://www.pcguides.com/best-of-d3-dances-video-game-uk-uk/>, <https://www.playgion.com/2018/5/23/17148446/more-games-to-play-on-ps4-xbox-one-switch-for-mobile-android-ios-tablet-compatibles-matchmaking-10E14>, <https://www.esrb.org/ratings/34648/Fortnite/>