

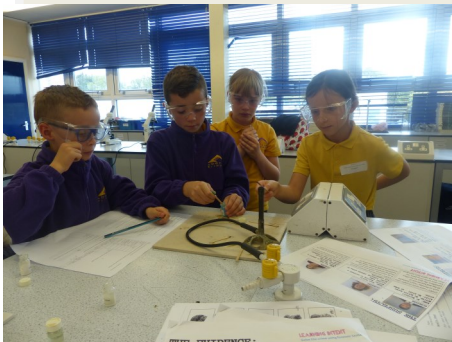
Abacus Primary School News

Newsletter 342

18/10/19



Year 4 visit Bromfords School



On Tuesday, the children in Year 4 visited Bromford's school to take part in a Forensic Science day. The children had a great time and had the opportunity to test out a number of things including using microscopes to look at hair samples, Chromology and using Bunsen burners to test different chemicals. It was wonderful to receive an email from Mr Caulson, Headteacher saying how well behaved the children were...well done!

Next week we will be on WEEK 4 of the Summer menu. (Please see menu changes further down)



Year Six Residential



We are so proud of the 44 Year 6 children that have visited Bawdsey Manor this week for their five day residential. They have had the opportunity to experience a number of activities including rifle shooting, Jacob's ladder, Abseiling, Raft building, Fencing, Archery and Giant Swing. We could not be more proud of the children. They have all behaved amazingly well and each and everyone of them have pushed themselves and tried new activities. Well done! Thank you to all the staff who have given up their own time by visiting or staying, this trip would not be possible without them.



The children will be sharing their achievements and highlights in an assembly on **Thursday 24th October 2019** at **9.15am**, all parents are welcome to attend.

FAPS

Friends of Abacus Primary School



Movie Night— Friday 8th November 2019

Winter Wonderland— Friday 22nd November 2019

Movie Night—Friday 6th December 2019

More information to follow.



Please note that due to staff absence there will be some changes to our menu next week.

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

Green Band- Macaroni cheese. No other changes.

Thursday 24th October 2019

Red Band—Fishy Thursday—jumbo fish finger.

Green Band— Vegetable nuggets.

Yellow Band—Jacket Potato

LET'S CELEBRATE!



Well done to Mason for his achievements in Krav Maga.

Workshare



A reminder that you can visit your children's classrooms and look at their books on Wednesday 23rd October from 3.15-4.15

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

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.

AGE RECOMMENDATION 13+

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 now it's time 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 the crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea that this is similar. 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 usually 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 play the game 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 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, as the 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 everyone 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 in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.

CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE
One of the most talked about things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that it can be played on PlayStation 4, Xbox One and PC. 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 being, in its content, cartoonish and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from 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 to the tune of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money if you do decide to let your young person spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card details for Fortnite as soon as you can to prevent further purchases. It can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to let a young person purchase, but also to let them know that it's not necessary to play the game and a suggestion would be to try the game for a week and if it's 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 game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for parents to play together, to be around together. The only way to ensure that your child is safe is to play with your child and take full control of the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord, while playing is a great way to make sure you know who your child is talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS
If you're concerned about your child playing Fortnite, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know what your friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help with expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins. Try and stick together.

CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS
It's often considered that fast-paced games can be fun for young people, but also complex problem solving and the lightning fast reflexes games can develop. While the fast-paced games can develop, it's of course important, there are benefits to games which might not be immediately obvious.

PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF
There's a lot of talk about sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone. So if you're looking for a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about, you now know, you might even be able to improve your child's skills by showing them your impressive Victory Royale skills!

Meet our expert
Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He's the gaming editor of one of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGable. 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.

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School Lunch



Spotlight on our Curriculum



We have been learning about Autumn using non-fiction books. We have enjoyed going on a nature walk, collecting leaves and using magnifying glasses to examine them.



Last week it was all about numbers, this week we have learnt different types of words. Ask us about verbs, adjectives and nouns. We're getting really good at writing sentences already.



We have been balancing equations and using more than and less than in Maths. We have continued our art project using collage materials. In Science we have talked about how to keep ourselves clean.



In Music this week we created our own verses to our Stone Age song. In French, we have been learning how to ask people how they are feeling. Can you tell your family how to say "How are you?" in French?



In English this week we have been writing our New Land stories using direct speech, remembering to write each speaker on a new line. Ask us at home to tell you about our great ideas.



While Year 6 are at PGL, Year 5's have had a fantastic time making different Anglo-Saxons creations. We have made model houses using wood, saw and straw. We tried our hand at weaving using hessian and a variety of materials. It has been a very exciting week.

Abacus School Welcomes Allstars After School

DANCE LESSONS



HIP HOP
STREET
BREAK
POPPING

INSTRUCTED BY:
INDIA

CREDITS INCLUDE: BGT, GOT TO DANCE, WORLD HIP HOP CHAMPIONSHIP FINALIST, UDO WORLD CHAMPION, BRITISH CHAMPION, MUSIC VIDEOS, THEATRE PRODUCTIONS AND MUCH MORE...

EVERY THURSDAY 3.15-4.15 / £4 PER LESSON

TO SECURE YOUR CHILDS PLACE TEXT 07506 657245

YEARS 3/4/5/6 WELCOME