

# Abacus Primary School

## Newsletter 409

### 11/6/21



WELCOME  
Back

Welcome back to the second part of the Summer term. We hope that you all had a lovely half term break and managed to enjoy the warmer weather. We have a number of events/planned for this half term, so please ensure that you keep up to date of these things by reading our weekly newsletter or checking the calendar page on our school website: [https://](https://www.abacusprimaryschool.co.uk/school-calendar)

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Now the warmer weather has arrived, please can we ask that all children have a water bottle in

school, that sun cream is applied before the children arrive and that they bring a hat to keep them cooler. Children will be outside for lunchtime, playtimes and their P.E. lessons. Taking regular sips of water throughout the day will ensure that children are kept hydrated during these warmer days.

Our chick eggs have arrived! We will be closely observing as the eggs start to hatch.


Next weekend, we are offering one of our families the opportunity to look after the chicks for the weekend. If this is something you would like to do, please let us know by Thursday 17th June 2021 and all families will be put into a hat— good luck!



**Next week, we will be on Week 3 of our Summer menu**

Due to staff absence, there will be a slight change to next weeks menu- Wednesday Green band will be vegetable nuggets and pasta.



<b>Silver Class</b> 1st: Keira N 2nd: Daniel C 3rd: George R	<b>Purple Class</b> 1st: Neev V 2nd: 3rd:	<b>Gold Class</b> 1st: George P 2nd: Peyton R 3rd:
<b>White Class</b> 1st: Ethan L 2nd: 3rd:	<b>Black Class</b> 1st: Erin E 2nd: Chloe L 3rd:	<b>Green Class</b> 1st: Charlotte S 2nd: Isabel R 3rd:
<b>Lilac Class</b> 1st: Bobbee B 2nd: Darcey S 3rd: Henry J	Well done to everyone. The top child in each class will be entered into a draw which will be drawn at the end of term. 	

			
 	 	 	 
132	150	110	120



Polite reminder that PE kits which are worn on PE days should be unbranded sports wear without logos. Many thanks for your support with this matter.

House points will now be displayed on the newsletter with the points for each week and the overall running totals are available to view on the website:  
[www.abacusprimaryschool.co.uk/school-house-page](http://www.abacusprimaryschool.co.uk/school-house-page).

Well done to St David's this week!!



# Let's Celebrate!



**Well done to our Sporting stars this week.**

Troy, Bella and Joe for their achievements at the Gifted in Sport session and to Jaxon for his swimming achievements.

It was lovely to meet our September 2021 new intake families on Thursday evening at our outdoor induction event. The presentation has been added to our website.

Please remember to get in touch should you have any further questions— our school office number is 01268 571018

Early Years  
Foundation Stage



# HOME LEARNING



The world number two female tennis player, Naomi Osaka, has withdrawn from the French Open tennis tournament after the controversy over her refusal to speak to the media at the tournament. She announced her decision in a recent Twitter post. The 23-year-old Japanese player said last week she would not do news conferences at the event to protect her mental health.

*Things to talk about at home...*

Are there any sports stars who you admire and enjoy watching?

Do you watch any sports on television or online? If so, which do you enjoy?

Have you seen any interviews with sports stars after the match or competition has ended?

Do you think interviews after the sport has finished are important? Why?





# Spotlight on our Curriculum



We have started the new part of our topic this week and learning the story- The Little Red Hen. We drew maps of a farm in our topic books. We had an excellent PE session run by a sports coach this week and played some new games including elephant football! A lovely start to this half term.



What a lovely first week back in Year 1, it's like we've never been away. We have been busy learning another suffix (-ed) and how it changes the meaning of a word as well as using alliteration to write a poem. Ask us what alliteration is and you might be impressed. In Maths we have also learnt another new word - chronological which was a little bit hard to say at first, but we will keep practising. In Topic work, we have enjoyed observing the weather, practising our use of oil pastels and creating our own Gods of Nature. Super busy in Year 1.



This week in Year 2 we have been looking at word classes in GPS. Ask your child what is a word class? Can they tell you any? We have started to look at Traditional Stories in English and in Maths we have been learning about position and direction. Children have been learning about clockwise, anti-clockwise, whole, half and quarter turns. Can your child explain these terms? In DT we investigated building a structure using plasticine and spaghetti.



In English, we have created Kenning poems linked to Ancient Egyptians. In Maths, we have been learning about right angles, acute angles and obtuse angles. Ask your children if they can identify any right angles around the house. We have really enjoyed our week or art lessons where we have been doing printing.



This week in Year 4, we have been looking at poems in English. We have been writing poems about wolves. Can you ask your child why we have been writing about wolves? In Maths this week we have started to look at shapes and specifically angles. In R.E this week we looked at the symbol associated with Sikhism and discussed its importance. In History we have been looking at the legacy of the Romans. What have the Romans done for us?



This week we have been learning about ratio in Maths. Did you know that the ratio of a jelly baby's head to its body is 1:2? We mixed paints according to different ratios and learned about the Golden Ratio linked to our bodies. Ask us to show you some of the amazing things we learned. In English and History we have started finding out about World War II, which we are all finding really interesting. We have made some fantastic learning links with our own family histories.





## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# FIFA 21

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
3  
Suitable for  
all ages

You don't need to be a football fan to have heard of the FIFA series of games (named after the Federation Internationale de Football Association: the worldwide governing body for the sport). Part of the franchise's massive appeal is that official licensing gives users the opportunity to play games as their favourite teams, controlling their favourite footballers. They either compete online against other players or work through a solo-player career mode. With updated editions launched annually, FIFA is playable on a range of consoles, with mobile versions available for smartphones and tablets.

### Recurring Costs

FIFA's trump card is that it includes real current players; a feature no other football arcade game can offer. However, this means that a new version of the game is released every year, with updated teams, players, kits and stadia, plus gameplay tweaks and extra features. Young FIFA fans usually want to be playing the latest version, so the pressure to buy each annual update is likely to be considerable.



### Online Chat

While the game of FIFA itself is suitable for children of all ages (as it does not include any inappropriate content), there is the issue of in-game chat. Your child can play against other people online and audio chat with them using headsets. As this communication is largely unregulated, it could mean that your child is exposed to language or conversations that are inappropriate.



### Possibility of Scams

Your child may receive an email or see a message on social media or in forums which appears to be a genuine FIFA promotion, but could be a scam. Following these links would take them to what may seem like a FIFA login page but is actually a phishing attempt to capture their login name and password. Scammers often use a legitimate-sounding name, such as EA Admin or 'FIFA Developer'.



### In-Game Purchases

FIFA offers an array of in-game purchases. The FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode lets gamers build their own team, playing matches to win coins. These coins can be used to recruit better players or packs containing random players. Some purchases can be made with in-game currency; others require real money – which can become expensive. There have been reports of parents receiving large credit card bills after their children's in-game spending.



### Addictive Gameplay

Your child could end up playing FIFA for long periods of time. Matches last around 20 minutes, so playing through an entire tournament can quickly eat up a large chunk of the day. Children sometimes struggle to control their gaming behaviour, at the expense of their daily routine. This is called 'gaming disorder' and is classified as a genuine mental health problem by the World Health Organisation.



### Over-Competitiveness

FIFA has occasionally been criticised for its competitive gameplay leading to disproportionate aggression and negative emotion in some players. This can be amplified by the in-game audio chat with opponents in real time. The potential for an emotional outburst can sometimes reach unhealthy levels – especially if your child's team is losing heavily or is defeated by a very late goal.



National  
Online  
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Set out Your Strategy

As a parent, it's worth considering that – if they like gaming and football – your child's fascination with FIFA probably won't be short term. It's more likely to be the start of a relationship that could last for years, involving repeated outlay on each updated edition of the game. If you think this may pose a problem, it might be best to make your child aware of it beforehand to avoid disappointment later.



### Give Abuse the Red Card

The facility to chat to other players certainly adds to the overall enjoyment of FIFA, and it's unlikely that you'll be able to convince your child to play the game without using it. It would be wise, however, to make sure beforehand that your child is aware of how to mute the audio of any abusive players and knows how to report anyone who is being offensive or intimidating.



### Defend against Scammers

Teach your child to stay clear of scams. Explain why they should be suspicious of any link which asks them to verify their username and password or provide other sensitive information: game developers never send messages asking for players' login details. Correlate messages, emails and social media posts promising in-game content if a player inputs their login information are fake.



### Control In-Game Spending

To spend real money in FIFA, a player's account must have a payment method enabled. Check whose debit or credit card – or PayPal account – is linked to the device that your child plays FIFA on. Most devices' parental controls can be adjusted to limit spending. There is also the prepaid option of Paysafecard – you can top up the balance, making it easier to control your child's purchasing in the game.



### Avoid 'Extra Time'

Devices' parental controls can also be used to restrict the amount of time spent playing. If you feel it's necessary, keep an eye on how long your child spends playing FIFA. Just like you might monitor how long they watch TV for. Warning signs of over-playing include disinterest in other activities, tiredness or fatigue, neglect of personal hygiene or becoming angry when they have to stop playing.



### Encourage a 'Half-Time' Break

Monitoring in-game chat is difficult, as you can usually only hear one side of the conversation. But your child's reactions will be a good general indication. Dealing with the frustrations of a game and troublesome people can be useful life lessons – but if your parental instinct is that your child is getting too upset or angry, that's the time to intervene and encourage them to take a break from the game.



## Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world: UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Having started gaming at 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.



SOURCES  
<https://www.ea.com/en-gb/games/fifa/fifa-21> | <https://www.who.com/en-gb/games/fifa/fifa-21/scores> | <http://help.ea.com/en-gb/help/fifa/be-safe-with-fifa-ultimate-team-coins-and-fifa-packs>  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/men/relationships/10896939/my-son-spent-hundreds-of-pounds-on-in-app-purchases-without-me-knowing.html> | <https://help.ea.com/en-gb/help/fifa/report-players-for-cheating-abuse-and-harassment/>

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