

# NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

## 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Headteacher's Weekly Awards - WELL DONE TO OUR STARS OF THE WEEK

All the children get a special mention in the Achievement assembly on Friday and will bring home a certificate detailing the reason for their award.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Alex Mya-Mai	Theo K Fiyinfoluwa	Heidi Mobeen	Harry Alice	Thomas Lucia	Darcie Molly	Amina Anand	Toby Fazian



It's been all about safety this week!

Safety Seymour came to visit school today and spoke to the children in year 2 and year 3. They have learnt about carbon monoxide and how to protect themselves and make homes safer. Each child will bring home a CO monitor for you to use at home. You can find out more information here <https://safetyseymour.co.uk/>

We also hosted an online safety session for parents this week, thank you to those who came along. Please take a look at the online safety posters we share each week in the newsletter for help and support. We have lots of information for parents on our website so please take a look

<https://www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk/page/e-safety/25059>

Don't forget you can join the online safety session on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 6-7pm – full details and link are below.

*Dear Parent/Carer*

*We have an opportunity for you to come along to a virtual session to explore how you can help your child to stay safer online and what you need to look out for. This will include guidance and resources, securing devices, what is age appropriate and establishing healthy digital routines. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and learn some parenting skills around a subject which can be difficult to manage.*

*The session starts at 6pm and we aim to finish for 7pm. Please click on the link highlighted below to join the session, can we ask you join at 5.55pm to enable a prompt start.*

*Your presenters will be, Terry Franke, Salford E-Safety Safeguarding Specialist, Hollie Bowker, Cyber Crime Prevent Officer*

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 379 275 625 843

Passcode: dPz5vS

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Christmas Events:** Polite reminder – please make your contribution for the events below on The Evolve Hub as soon as possible. Many thanks



DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	CLASS	CONTRIBUTION
FRIDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER	LUXURY CHRISTMAS HAMPER ITEM IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAY		ALL CLASSES	ITEM DONATION
MONDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER	HAMPER RAFFLE TICKETS TO GO ON SALE	12.00	ALL CLASSES	£1 PER TICKET £5 FOR 6 £10 FOR 12
MONDAY 4 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	SUPPER WITH SANTA KEY STAGE 1	3.15 - 4.00	KEY STAGE 1 CHILDREN	£2.50
FRIDAY 8 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY - ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO ORDER ON THE EVOLVE HUB	11-1.30	ALL CLASSES	ORDER ON EVOLVE HUB
TUESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 MOVIE AFTERNOON – CHILDREN CAN BRING A BLANKET AND A PILLOW TO GET COMFY	1-3.00	KEY STAGE 2	£2.00
WEDNESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 1 PARTY AFTERNOON (PARTY CLOTHES ALL DAY)	1.30- 3.00	KEY STAGE 1	£2.00
WEDNESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 OPERA HOUSE TRIP- JACK AND THE BEANSTALK	12-4.00	KEY STAGE 2	£20
THURSDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	EYFS CHRISTAS PARTY AFTERNOON (PARTY CLOTHES ALL DAY)	1-3.00	EYFS	£2.00



**School Photographs:** Don't forget to order your photographs – there are some brilliant value for money packs that could be used as Christmas gifts or simply a memento for yourself. You simply scan the QR code on the slip your child brought home which will take you to the website to order. If you don't have this we can print off another copy for you. Parents have until **1<sup>st</sup> December** to place their orders and qualify for free delivery to school, the photos will be delivered one week later so in plenty of time for Christmas!

### Punctuality and Attendance

Please remember school starts at **8:45am** – Doors will be open from 8.35am. Children arriving after 8.55am must enter through the school office and be signed in.

**Last week's attendance – Our School target and individual pupil target is 96%**

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Class attendance award	85.8	89.6	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>	92.8	91.4	95.7	94.1	93.4
Late arrivals	3	2	1	4	2	<b>0</b>	2	1	15

**Online Safety:** We have some helpful advice below about Among Us and we will share different supportive advice each week in the newsletter.



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# FORTNITE

CHAPTER

4

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
12

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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.

## 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 £8 (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.





**School communication:** Please ensure you are logged into your school spider app so that you receive all the important messages we send out. If you need to download the app again, its 'School Spider' and then you can simply go to the log in page and click forgot password to reset your log in details.

**Contacting School:** If you wish to contact school then you can email us on [NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk](mailto:NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk) and we will respond the same day or call 0161 921 2921.

**DIARY DATES:** Whilst we aim not to change dates once set sometimes circumstances mean we have to, please always check the dates each week and update your plans accordingly. Any changes will be highlighted.

DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TIME	CLASS
TUESDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER	DENTAL PROGRAMME	9-12	RECEPTION & YEAR 1
THURSDAY 23 <sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER	PARENTS ONLINE SAFETY SESSION – please come along so we can help you to keep your child safe online – find out about the newest apps your child may be accessing!	2pm – 3pm	ALL PARENTS WELCOME
FRIDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER	CO2 SAFETY SESSIONS FOR Y3 AND Y5		YEAR 3 AND 5
FRIDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER	LUXURY CHRISTMAS HAMPER ITEM IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAY		ALL CLASSES
MONDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER	PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE – good quality uniform on sale from £1	8.30 – 3.30	ALL WELCOME
MONDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER	HAMPER RAFFLE TICKETS TO GO ON SALE	12.00	ALL CLASSES
THURSDAY 30 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER	NURSERY STAY AND PLAY	9-10.00	NURSERY PARENTS
FRIDAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER	LAST DAY TO ORDER SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS		ALL CLASSES
FRIDAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY DAY	10.00-3.00	ALL CLASSES
MONDAY 4 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	EYFS NATIVITY DRESS REHEARSAL SHOW FOR SCHOOL	10.00	YEARS 1-6 TO WATCH
MONDAY 4 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	SUPPER WITH SANTA KEY STAGE 1	3.15 -4.00	KEY STAGE 1 CHILDREN
TUESDAY 5 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	EYFS NATIVITY PLAY FOR PARENTS	9.15	EYFS PARENTS
TUESDAY 5 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 1 CHRISTMAS SHOW FOR SCHOOL	10.30 APPROX	YEARS R AND KEY STAGE 2 TO WATCH
WEDNESDAY 6 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	EYFS NATIVITY PLAY FOR PARENTS	9.15	EYFS PARENTS
WEDNESDAY 6 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 1 CHRISMAS SHOW FOR PARENTS	2.15	KEY STAGE 1 PARENTS
THURSDAY 7 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 1 CHRISMAS SHOW FOR PARENTS	9.15	KEY STAGE 1 PARENTS
THURSDAY 7 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	YEAR 3 CHRISTMAS CHURCH EXPERIENCE	1.30PM	YEAR 3 CHILDREN
FRIDAY 8 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY	ALL DAY	ALL CLASSES
FRIDAY 8 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY - ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO ORDER ON THE EVOLVE HUB	11-1.30	ALL CLASSES
MONDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR PARENTS - TWO SHOWINGS	9.15 & 2.30	KEY STAGE 2 PARENTS
TUESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 MOVIE AFTERNOON	1-3.00	KEY STAGE 2
WEDNESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 OPERA HOUSE TRIP- JACK AND THE BEANSTALK	12-4.00	KEY STAGE 2

WEDNESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 1 PARTY AFTERNOON (PARTY CLOTHES ALL DAY)	1.30-3.00	KEY STAGE 1
THURSDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS HAMPER TICKET WINNERS DRAW		SCHOOL COUNCIL TO DRAW THE WINNERS
THURSDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	EYFS CHRISTAS PARTY AFTERNOON (PARTY CLOTHES ALL DAY)	1-3.00	EYFS
FRIDAY 15 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	SCHOOL CLOSSES	<b>2:00PM</b>	WHOLE SCHOOL

Kind regards, Mrs Warburton