



## A message from our Headteachers

This week has been an exciting busy week across school, in the run up to Christmas. Children across school visited the Theatre Royal on Tuesday to see the Pantomime 'Snow White' and were lucky enough to gain front row seats for the experience! The children who attended demonstrated exemplary behaviour out of school.

On Wednesday, children wore their Christmas Jumpers and celebrated by eating Christmas Dinner together. A huge thank you to the Warren Kitchen and Midday team who ensured that this ran as smoothly as possible – lunch was very delicious too!

Children in F1, F2, Year 1 and Year 2 have also taken to the stage this week to perform our nativity, 'Baarmy Bethlehem'. From hearing from our smallest and youngest children singing as a class, to hearing solo songs and brilliant acting skills of children across school, we are so proud of everyone! Thank you to parents and carers who came to watch the performances too!

It was also fantastic to see so many people from the school community at the Christmas Fayre last Friday. A special thanks goes to the PTA for organising activities for all children to access. We raised £84 at this event, and a further £220 has been raised by the PTA across the term from the tuck shops and the movie afternoon. Some of this money has been spent on purchasing aprons for our DT lessons and for cooking club to use. There will be further PTA events across this year too!

Here are some photos of our exciting week at Warren!



We are continuing our Christmas celebrations into next week and there are a number of events happening where we would love parents and carers to join us. Please see next week's dates on the following page.

Whilst Christmas can be a time to see loved ones and share joy, it can also be a stressful, overwhelming and lonely period too. It is important that you take time to look after mental health and wellbeing at this time of year, and know that it's okay to not be okay. Talking about how you are feeling is important, and if you wish you speak to someone over the festive period, lots of different support options can be found here: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/explore-mental-health/get-help>. If you feel you need help or support before we break up for the holidays, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We also say goodbye to Miss Miller, who is taking maternity leave from the end of this term. We can't wait to meet baby in the New Year!

We would take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and very Happy New Year. We are excited thinking forward to the Spring term, which is already full with lots of exciting opportunities, and staff are busy planning exciting lessons, visitors coming in and different trips out of school for children across school.

School will be closing on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm, and we look forward to seeing you again on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December for the first day back of 2023!









Thank you,

Mrs Salam and Mr Middleton



Here are key dates for next week and the first few days back at school in January.



| Event   | Date  | What you need to know  |
|---|---|--|
| Christmas Crafts<br>               | 19.12.22                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9-10.30am – EYFS and KS1 parents are invited into classrooms to take part in a Christmas Crafts morning with your child. Please join your child in the classroom from drop off. Leaving school at 10.30am will be through the office.</li> <li>2-3.15pm – KS2 parents are invited into classrooms to take part in a Christmas Crafts afternoon. Please join us through the front office to enter school.</li> </ul> |
| PTA Tuck Shop<br>                  | 19.12.22                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The PTA will be running a Christmas tuck shop in the playground after school on Monday.</li> </ul>  |
| Visit to the Church<br>           | 20.12.22 at 10.15am                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 2 to Year 6 will be visiting the church to sing carols and understand the Christmas story</li> <li>Parents and carers are welcome to join us at church – we may be a little tight on space so you may need to stand.</li> </ul>  |
| Christmas Parties<br>            | 20.12.22 F2, KS1 and KS2<br>21.12.22 for F1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children will have class parties on these dates. Teachers will communicate via ClassDojo if your child needs to bring anything in from home on this day.</li> </ul>   |
| Attendance reward<br>            | 21.12.22                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The class with the best attendance this half term will have a whole class reward on 21<sup>st</sup> December!</li> </ul>  |
| School closure for Christmas<br> | 21.12.22<br>Closure at 2pm                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School is closing at <b>2pm</b> on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December. This is for <b>ALL</b> children.</li> <li>The playground gates will be open from 1.45pm for parents to collect children from the classroom doors as usual.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Spring term</b>  |   |  |
| Inset Day<br>                    | 5.1.23                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School is closed to all pupils on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January for a staff Inset day</li> <li>School reopens to all pupils on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023.</li> </ul>   |
| Swimming for Year 5<br>          | 10.1.23                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming for Year 5 begins on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Please ensure your child has the correct kit ready for their lesson on this day.</li> </ul>  |



## Achievements this week!

Well done to the following children who have been given a certificate in our celebration assembly today!

**Y1:** Destiny & Harmony for having an amazing week, especially in Maths and the Nativity as the cheeky sheep.

**Y2:** Evie and Theodore for stepping in at the last minute on our Nativity performance.

**Y3:** Flynn for always making the right choices & Natas for being an amazing student and showing respect.

**Y4:** Cayla for determination in her Maths and timestables & Ruby for being a great role model for her peers.

**Y5:** Deborah for always trying her hardest and being respectful & Keira for great determination and effort in Maths.

**Y6:** Munashe for his depth of historical knowledge around WW2 & Evie for her resilience with long division.

**F1:** Lowan and Rufael for good singing and joining in during our school nativity.

**F2:** Eldana for being determined to do her best & Jacob E for confidently performing in the Nativity.

## Attendance

Our attendance target this year for each child to reach is 96%. It is important your child is coming to school every day to reach this target.

Here is this week's attendance:

**F2:** 78.8%

**Y1:** 86.7%

**Y2:** 90.9%

**Y3:** 85.2%

**Y4:** 89.5%

**Y5:** 80%

**Y6:** 94.7%

Well done to Year 6 who have the highest attendance this week and are the winners of our attendance cup.

The year group who will receive the whole class attendance reward for this half term will be Year 2.

## Free School Meal Christmas Hampers

We have been successful in gaining a grant to create Christmas food hampers for all pupils in receipt of Free School Meals across school. The hampers will contain different items for Christmas such as chocolates, biscuits, items for Christmas Dinners and celebration Crackers for you to use at home.

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, we will be texting you directly to arrange for collection of the hampers. Please keep an eye out for a text specifically about this next week.

## Safeguarding information for the Christmas period

If you are worried or concerned about a child over the Christmas period, please contact:

- Police on 999 if a child is in immediate danger or harm
- Nottingham City MASH for city – 0115 876 4800
- Nottinghamshire MASH for county – 0300 500 8080
- Ask Lion – all activities and support service in Nottingham -  
<https://www.asklion.co.uk/kb5/nottingham/directory/home.page>
- Women's Aid - <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/>

## Reverse Advent Calendar

We are running a community reverse advent calendar. The idea of the calendar is to give back to others by donating items. We will then share these items with the food bank. We will be collecting items in the office until 19<sup>th</sup> December.





# THE DANGERS OF FROZEN WATER

Every year children are at risk when they are tempted to play on the ice formed on open waters and adults find themselves at risk as they attempt to save them. Over 50 % of ice related drowning involved an attempted rescue of another person or a dog.

Areas with frozen waters can be beautiful to look at but they are also extremely dangerous. Here are some useful tips to help you enjoy these areas safely.

## TOP TIPS TO STAY SAFE

### NEVER GO ON THE ICE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

This includes attempting to rescue another person or animal who may have fallen through the ice.

### ONLY USE WELL LIT AREAS

Try to take walks in the daylight but if you must walk in the evening, only use well lit areas and avoid anywhere with water.

### KEEP AWAY FROM THE EDGE OF THE WATER

Never go close to the edge or lean over to touch the ice. You may over balance or trip and fall in.

### ALWAYS WALK WITH AN ADULT OR A GROUP OF FRIENDS

Look out for each other and if someone does fall through the ice there will be others around to raise the alarm and get help

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Keep calm and shout 'help'

Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you

Try to kick your legs and pull yourself out of the water and on to the ice

Lie flat, spreading your weight across the surface and pull yourself to the bank. you may find it easier to roll.

If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Keep your head above the water, press your arms by your side and keep your legs together

Once you are safe, it is important that you go to hospital immediately for a check up



## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE SOMEONE FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Shout for **'HELP'** and dial **999** or **112** if you can

**DO NOT** walk on to the ice to attempt a rescue

Shout to the person to **'KEEP STILL'** and offer reassurance.

If they are close enough, **LIE DOWN TO AVOID OVERBALANCING** and falling onto the ice, and try to reach them with a tree branch clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach.

If you cannot reach them, **SLIDE SOMETHING** which floats across the ice, such as a plastic bottle or a football, so that they can hold on to it to stay afloat whilst help is on the way.

If they are too far away, **WAIT FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES** and reassure the casualty from the safety of the bank.



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

## TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at [videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games](http://videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games).

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## 'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

## DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

## APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

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## CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

## LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

## IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

## WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnite rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

## STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

## CHECK THE SPECS

To avoid let-downs, check a game's specs before buying – especially for PC or Mac, where games often need a particular graphics chip or processor to work. Sites like [systemrequirementslab.com](http://systemrequirementslab.com) can scan your computer to see if it will run certain games properly. On consoles, make sure you're buying the right version: some newer Xbox or Playstation games won't play on older consoles.

## MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming – but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

## BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be earned through progress in the game – but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers; they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.



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