



School News

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No. 7

19th October 2023

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 20th October - Non-Uniform Day for PTFA Fireworks Night Donations

On Friday, 20th October we will be holding a non-uniform day in exchange for donations for the bottle and chocolate tombola's being held at this year's Fireworks Night on 3rd November. All donations will be very gratefully received.

Friday, 20th October - Last Day of Term 1

Monday, 30th October - INSET Day - School Closed

Tuesday, 31st October - Start of Term 2

Tuesday, 31st October & Wednesday, 1st November - Fledglings Parents' Evenings

We will be holding parents' evenings for Fledglings on Tuesday, 31st October and Wednesday, 1st November for you to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher. Ten minute appointments can be made between 2.30 and 5.00pm on Tuesday, and 3.30 to 6.00pm on Wednesday. These meetings are a valuable way for sharing successes and concerns and I do hope you are able to make one of the evenings. Miss Gillmore will also be available to discuss any Special Educational Needs on Wednesday, 1st November.

To book an appointment please telephone the school office on 01304 611360 **after 9.00am** when an appointment will be made for you.

Wednesday, 1st November - Fledglings visit to Eastry Fire Station

Thursday, 2nd November to Tuesday, 7th November - Book Fair visiting the school

We are pleased to announce that we have a book fair visiting the school between 2nd and 7th November. The book fair will be open daily from 3.25 to 4.00pm in our School Hall or Nurture Room next to the school hall. It will also be open on Monday 6th November from 2.30 to 5.00pm. At the book fair you will be able to purchase and take away a large selection of books for all ages. We hope you will visit the book fair while it is in school, and may be pick up a Christmas present or two!

Friday, 3rd November - Year 1 Class Worship at 9.00am in the School Hall

Parents, carers and family are invited to join us for our Year 1 class worship at 9.00am in the school hall.

Friday, 3rd November - PTFA Fireworks Night

Tickets can be purchased in advance from the school office or at Bickers post office. Gates open at 5.30pm. Please see the PTFA section below for full details of the evening's events.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY CONT'D

Monday, 6th & Wednesday, 8th November - Year 1 to 6 Parent's Evenings

We will be holding our parents' evenings on Monday, 6th and Wednesday, 8th November for you to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher. Ten minute appointments can be made between 2.30 and 5.00pm on Monday, and 3.30 to 6.00pm on Wednesday. These meetings are a valuable way for sharing successes and concerns and I do hope you are able to make one of the evenings. Miss Gillmore will also be available to discuss any Special Educational Needs on both evenings.

To book an appointment please telephone the school office on 01304 611360 **after 9.00am** when an appointment will be made for you.

OPEN EVENING & SCHOOL TOURS

Open Evening
13th November
5.30pm

Parents of children who are due to start school in September 2024 are warmly invited to attend our Open Evening on 13th November and School Tours week commencing 20th November. For further information and to book a tour please call 01304 611360.

School Tours
20th to 24th
November

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Elite Community Coaching Holiday Club

Elite Community Coaching, who take some of our PE lessons and after school clubs, will be running courses during this half-term. These are being held at Shepherdswell, Saltwood and Christ Church Primary Schools. For further information please visit their website at;

<https://www.elite-coaching-uk.co.uk/>

Applying for a place at Secondary School

Applications for a place at secondary for children in year 6 have now opened. Applications are made online at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>. The last day for applications is **Tuesday, 31st October**.



Poppy Appeal

The school will again be supporting this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. When the children return after half-term the office will be selling various items including:- slap bands, wrist bands, reflective zip pulls, fabric zip pulls, pencil sharpeners and rubbers ranging from 50p to £2.00 during lunchtimes. Paper poppies are also available for a small donation.

PTFA News

Fireworks Night

Our annual Fireworks night will take place on Friday, 3rd November. This is an extremely popular event that is always well attended. **Please note there will not be a bonfire** but there will be a wonderful fireworks display, stalls and refreshments. The event can't go ahead without the support of our wonderful helpers. If you feel you can help please speak to a member of the PTFA or the school office—thank you.

Tickets are on sale now costing £7.00 per adult (£8.00 on the gate), £3.00 per child (£4.00 on the gate) and under 5's free. Tickets can be purchased at the school office or Bickers Post Office in the village.

Gates open at 5.30pm with the fireworks display starting at 7.00pm

Teddy Hoopla - We would very much welcome donations of teddy's or soft toys for our teddy hoopla.

Jars with lids - We also require jars with lids for one of our stalls, please hand to the school office.



Adults £7 | Children £3
(UNDER 5s GO FREE)
PRE-BOOK with PTFA, School Office or Bickers Post Office
OR buy tickets on the gate at £8 (adults) £4 (children)

BBQ • Tombolas • Teddy hoopla • Glow make-up
Glow stall • Refreshments (inc mulled wine & Baileys hot choc)

3 NOVEMBER
7PM
GATES OPEN 5:30PM

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Dates for your Diary

Friday, 20th October - Will be a non-uniform day in exchange for donations for the chocolate or bottle tombola's being held on Fireworks night.

Thursday, 23rd November - Bags2School, please keep any clothes, shoes and other items for our next Bags2School.

Week Commencing, 27th November - Christmas Gift Shop open all week in the library from 12noon until 1pm, further details will follow nearer to the time.

Friday, 1st December - Christmas discos, further details to follow.

OTHER COMMUNITY NEWS

Love In A Box 2023



We are very pleased to announce that we are collecting items for this year's 'Love in a Box' appeal. 'Love in a Box' is run by the charity Mustard Seed Relief Mission. Each year they show love in action by sending shoe boxes wrapped and filled with presents for children in Eastern Europe who won't receive anything this Christmas. If you would like to take part you can either fill your own shoe box or can donate items that can be used to make up a shoe box. Things that can be included in your shoe box are;

Boys or Girls 3-5 years

Toy cars
Ball
Jigsaw
Chocolate
Crayons/pencils/Paper

Boys or girls 6-11 years

Dolly
Skipping rope
Jewellery
Sweets
Pens/papers/pencil case

Boys or girls 12-15 Years

Marbles
Travel Games
Baseball Cap
Sweets
Pens/Pencils Pens

No clothes other than hat, scarf or gloves please. You may like your child to be involved when choosing items for a box and explain where they are being sent. Please wrap lids separately to the box as these are checked before being sent. A personal message can be included but please do not include your address. Please also include payment of £5 per box to help with shipping costs, thank you.

For further information please speak to Miss Bowers or Mrs Sampson in the school office.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Menu for Term 2

The menu for term 2 & 3 is now available to view on the School Meals page of the school website. On this page you will find menus including gluten free, dairy free, both gluten and dairy free together with allergen and carbohydrate information. Our School Meals page can be found under the 'Parents' tab.

PLEASE NOTE ON THE FIRST DAY BACK AFTER HALF-TERM, TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER, THE MENU WILL BE CHEESY PASTA/TOMATO PASTA. JACKET POTATOES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE DUE TO DELIVERIES TIMES ON THAT DAY.

Kind regards



Mr Neil Garvey
Interim Headteacher

INTERNET/ONLINE SAFETY SECTION

EA SPORTS FC 24

You child may have spoken to you about the new game EA SPORTS FC 24 which replaces the popular FIFA franchise. This may be something you are considering gifting this Christmas and so we have provided a guide with all you need to know before investing in this game. Please see the attached leaflet for further information.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Week commencing 30.10.23

MONDAY	
Home Learning Club (3.30-4.00pm)	NO
Creative Station (3.30-4.30pm)	NO
TUESDAY	
Netball Club (3.30-4.15pm)	Yes
WEDNESDAY	
Singing Club (8.00 to 8.35am)	Yes
Multi-Sports Club (3.30 to 4.30pm)	Yes
THURSDAY	
Football Club (3.30-4.30pm)	Yes
FRIDAY	



flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



- 1. Protect your child**
The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends**
Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid costs**
If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit
www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu i mmunisation
Helping to protect children, every winter

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Dover Story Walk

Meet us at the cafe
at Kearsney Abbey
in Dover (CT16 3DZ)
to read Room on
the Broom together
and take part in
fun activities

**Thursday
26th October
10.00am-11.00am
at Kearsney Abbey**

Suitable for children aged 0-8 years.

A fun educational outdoor trail which combines reading a book with promoting healthy physical activities.

We will travel to different areas of Kearsney Abbey, combining literacy skills with play, games and craft!



Please ensure your child is wearing suitable clothing such as wellies and coat



Follow us
@doverdistrictcc

No need to book.
Please call us on 03000 414941
or email dscc@kent.gov.uk for more information.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you – EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RECURRING RELEASES

EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template – meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT

FIFA 23 introduced cross-platform play, and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for youngsters who love to play with friends online – but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and far older online gamers.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time – so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

ULTIMATE TEAM SCAMMERS

Since the mode was introduced, Ultimate Team has been a target of scammers who attempt to coax players into buying or selling outside the terms of service from EA and console manufacturers. This shady practice can lead to accounts being banned and in-game items being lost. In some cases, young gamers have also been hoodwinked into handing over their payment details to the fraudsters.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

Just like real-life football, EA Sports FC 24 offers a thrilling, dynamic blend of tactical awareness and skill that fans find absolutely engrossing. Among younger players in particular, this could lead to identifiers of a gaming disorder as they plead for "just one more game" before bedtime or spend practically all weekend playing more matches to earn additional Ultimate Team packs.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS

EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that scam tactic), but never through the game itself – so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites: it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

AVOID EXTRA TIME

Many parents of young football-oriented gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play – or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD

Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers: voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

CELEBRATE THE VARIETY

Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 – including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation: an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

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. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.windowscentral.com/youngster-spends-over-8000-fifa-xbox-highlighting-predatory-game-design-ea>, <https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item/addictive-behaviours-gaming-disorder>, <https://www.eurogamer.net/16-european-countries-call-for-better-regulation-of-loot-boxes-following-new-report>



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