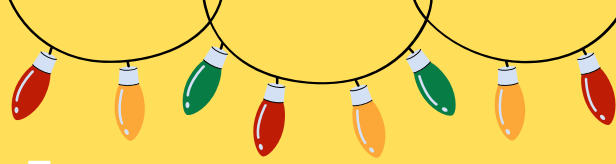


Friday 16th December 2022



# Newsletter



## Highlights

Well what a week this has been! The weather has certainly made things challenging but we got there in the end and managed at least some of our planned Christmas activities!

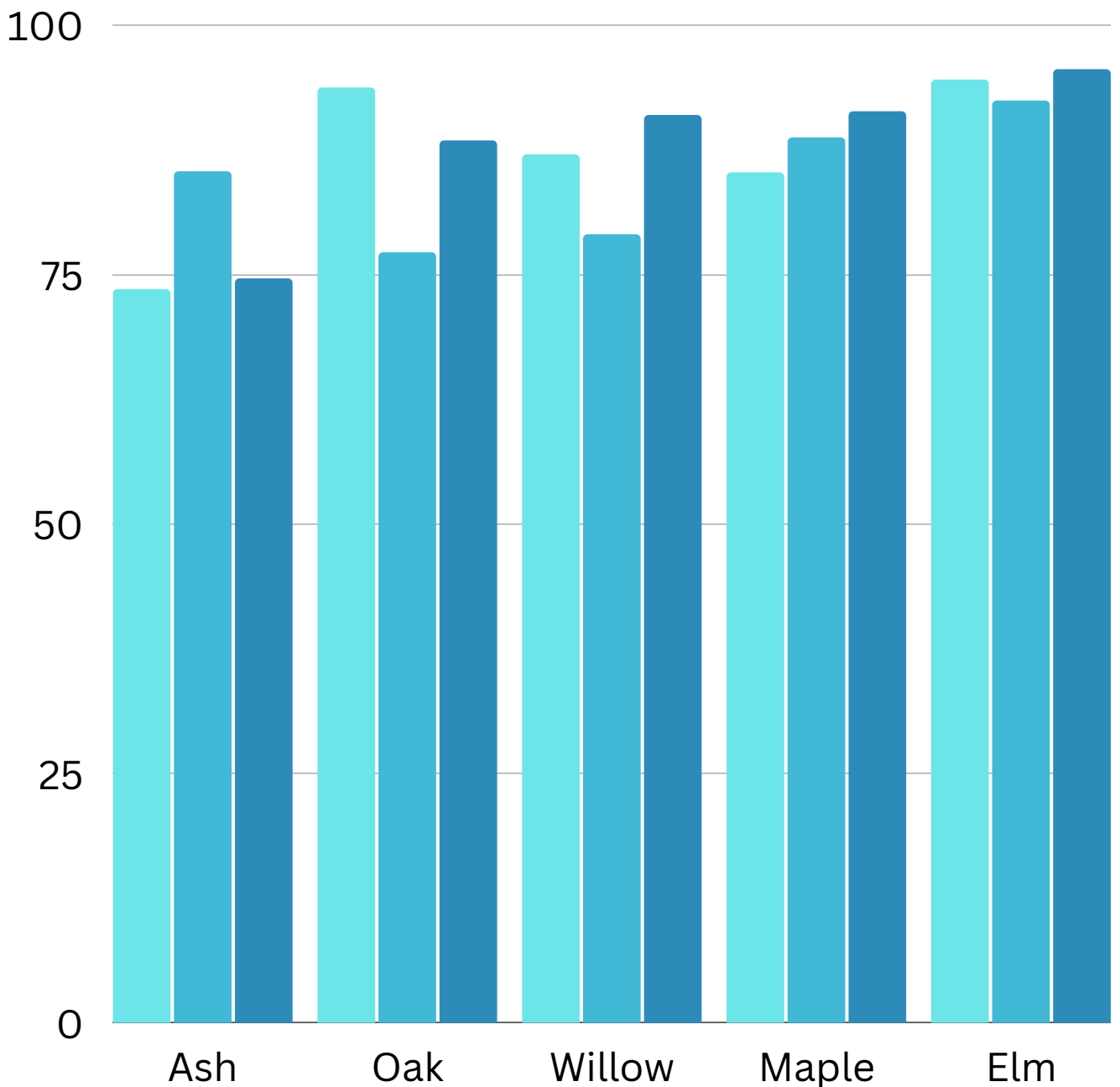
- The Christingle Service was just fabulous! The pupils had very little time to prepare due to us being closed for two days but they absolutely smashed it!
- Lancaster on Ice – this was an amazing trip for Years 5 and 6. Despite freezing temperatures, the children had great fun learning to ice-skate. We are so lucky to be able to do this each year thanks to Laura Sandham who organises it – definitely a highlight!
- A surprise visit in the night from a special visitor who has noticed how hard-working and well-behaved our pupils are! He was very impressed with the true meaning of Christmas wish lists they had written so left them all a little gift.



# Attendance

The whole school attendance for this week is 84.1%, with the half term average being 90.74%.

The chart below show attendance for last week, this week, and the half term average. Elm class achieved the best attendance figures for all ; Week 13 - 95.5%, Week 14 - 92.4% and 95.54% for the half term.



# Head Teacher Awards

The winners of the Head Teacher awards for this half-term are:

Jacob, Ethan, Rory, Ashton, Seth and Eliyse



Well done also to the pupils who have now gained their Bronze Dojo Award -

Chloe, Ebony, Holly, Macie, Sophie, Summere, Adelaide, Ivy, Kaleb, Lucas E-A, Fearne, Hazel, Lola, Eddie W and Seth.







## Clubs/Dance

The new timetable for extra-curricular clubs and dance will be sent out at the start of next term. Please look out for this and get children booked on as they will all start week beginning 9th January.

## Performances

The Bossy King/Bethlehem Bakes: These productions will now be on Thursday 5th January. The Bossy King will be at 10am and Bethlehem Bakes at 2 pm and 6:30pm. Tickets will just transfer across. I am praying for better weather conditions!



## Football league

The next football league at Poolfoot Farm starts on Tuesday 10th January. For this to be possible we will need parent volunteers to transport the team to and from the fixtures on a Tuesday. Please email Miss Brakewell for details - [cbrakewell@fleetwoods.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:cbrakewell@fleetwoods.lancs.sch.uk)

## Forest

Next half-term Maple Class will be in the forest on Wednesday afternoons starting the first day back! Please ensure pupils bring suitable clothes and footwear to change into – warm layers and waterproofs please! Ash Class will continue to have a forest session on Friday afternoon from 6th January.

## Swimming

Year 6 will be swimming next half-term from Wednesday 11th January. The pupils who have completed their preliminary award (25m) will just swim for 5 weeks and the rest of the pupils will swim for the term. Please sign and return the goggle permission letter if your child needs to wear goggles. Girls must wear a swimming cap, these can be purchased on Amazon, in sports shops or at the pool. The pool also requests that boys do not wear baggy shorts.

The coach leaves at 1:40pm and returns to school for 3:30pm. If your child can't go swimming for whatever reason, please contact Mrs. Simpson directly.

**On behalf of all staff in school, thank you for all the lovely cards and gifts that we have received. Your continued support is much appreciated, especially when we have challenging weeks like this one!**

**I would just like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I am excited to see what 2023 brings for our school community!**



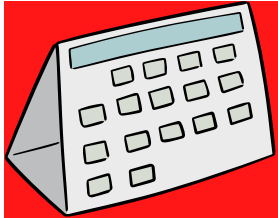
# Lost property

We have had a number of items reported as lost, some of which were named. Can you please check all uniform over the break and return any items which do not belong to your child(ren) in the new year.



## Lunches

Please complete the lunch form for ALL pupils in school  
<https://forms.office.com/r/exTQMJtNLL>



**Saturday 17/12/22** - Choir singing at Knott End Library (am)

**Tuesday 3/1/23** - INSET

**Wednesday 4/1/23** - School opens for all pupils - NO WALK TO SCHOOL

**Thursday 5/1/23** - No Stay and Play due to productions

**Thursday 5/1/23** - Pre school and Ash class Christmas performance in school; 10am

**Thursday 5/1/23** - Years 1 - 3 Christmas performance in school; 2pm and 6:30pm (Year 4 will support the singing)

**Tuesday 10/1/23** - Football league starts

**Wednesday 11/1/23** - Swimming starts



Meet at the park at 8:25am to leave at 8:30am



**FITNESS FRIDAY**

WALK TO SCHOOL WITH US ON A FRIDAY TOO!

MEET AT THE PARK AT 8:25AM WE LEAVE AT 8:30AM





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

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nesting 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).

18

## '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.

18

## 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.

## 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 (Fortnight 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.

16  
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## 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.

## 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.

## 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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