

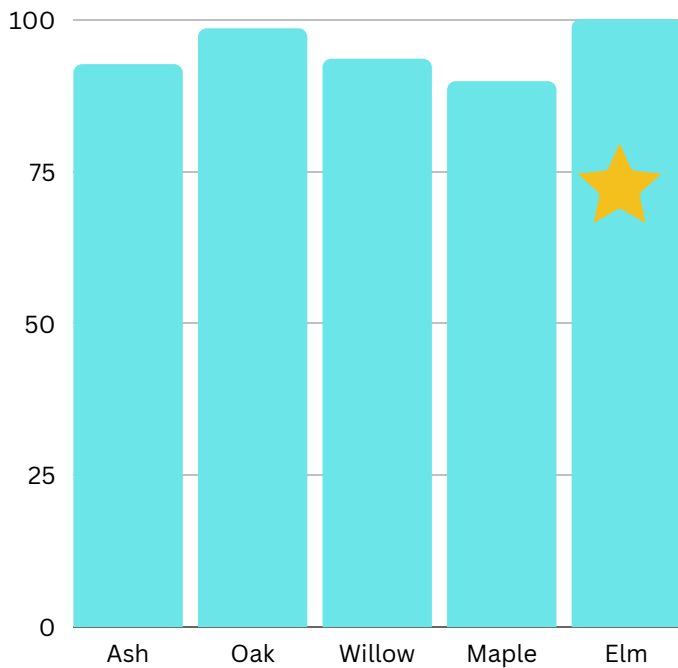
Friday 12th May 2023



Newsletter



Attendance



The whole school attendance for this week is 94.8%, with Elm achieving 100%.

Highlights

- On Thursday we planted our commemorative tree for the Coronation of King Charles 111. The ceremony was attended by Kath Shepherd, Mayor of Preesall and our Head Boy and Girl helped plant tree. It is a lilac tree named Charles!
- Preesall Town Council have kindly provided special Coronation medals for all our pupils. They will be bringing them home this evening.
- The whole school have been so supportive of Year 6 whilst they were doing their tests this week



Holidays in Term Time

As has been previously communicated, pupils are not permitted to take time off school to go on holiday. I recognise that a holiday can be a positive experience for a child and that they can learn a great deal from experiencing new places and different cultures. With this in mind, I will consider authorising holiday applications however the criteria are: the pupils should miss no more than 5 days of school; it must not clash with any assessment period; the pupil's attendance must be over 94%; there should only be one request within a school year.

Applications that do not meet the criteria will be unauthorised and holidays where the pupil is out of school for more than 4 days could incur a fine from the local authority. The best option is not to take holidays in term-time.

Year 6

All the staff would like to congratulate Year 6 on the maturity and resilience they have displayed this week whilst undertaking their SATs tests. I am sure you will have seen on the news the controversy around how difficult some of the tests were and how pupils across the country struggled to complete them in the time given.

The tests themselves are really not a true reflection of how much progress children make through school and a good education is about so much more than test scores. We have never been a school that teaches to tests and never will be!

All our Year 6 pupils did their absolute best and we are really proud of them. We didn't have any tears; they literally took it all in their stride and did everything asked of them.

Road Safety

It has been brought to my attention that there are some parents who allow their children to run down the hill at home time and therefore are unsupervised in the road. In order to ensure that all our pupils are kept safe, please can I request that you keep your children with you whilst walking away from school and also make them aware of the dangers associated with being on the roads.

Next half-term, we have some units of work to deliver linked to road safety however this needs to be enforced at all times to avoid a child being seriously hurt.

Lancashire Walks to School – Friday 19th May

We are taking part in this event which is to commemorate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles 111 and her Majesty The Queen Consort and to promote the benefits of choosing active travel options such as walking and cycling whenever possible.

We would like pupils to meet at Preesall Park at 8:25am where they will be met by staff. They may wear red, white and blue clothes if they wish (ideally incorporating items of their uniform) and we are encouraging them to bring their flags to wave along the way. Parents are also welcome to join us. The pupils who participate will receive a certificate.

Please note the wearing of red, white and blue clothing is only for pupils taking part in the walk. It is not a general non-uniform day.



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Don't forget to send in your out of school successes! Email head@fleetwoods.lancs.sch.uk or bursar@fleetwoods.lancs.sch.uk



Two of our pupils from Willow Class are looking for sponsorship for the next 2 football seasons - under 9 and under 10s. If you can offer sponsorship (or know of someone who can) for these aspiring stars, please let Mrs Adams or Mrs Gladwin know.

A pupil in Ash Class has received his water skills certificate 1 and duckling 3 award at swimming! Not only that, but he's also learnt to ride his bike without stabilisers...Super star !



Our winner and runners up of the Eco poster competition . Some fabulous designs were submitted - judging was a tricky task!

Dates for your diary



Tuesday 23/5/23 - Sports' Day

Thursday 25/5/23 - School closes for half term

Monday 5/6/23 - INSET (school closed)

Tuesday 6/6/23 - School reopens for pupils

Tuesday 13/6/23 - Class group photographs

Thursday 29/6/23 - Summer Fair - 3:30pm - 5:30pm
details to follow

Saturday 8/7/23 - Knott End and Preesall Gala

Friday 14/7/23 - Whole school party including Leavers Prom - St Oswald's Church Hall

Friday 21/7/23 - School closes (1:30pm) *No After School Club on this day*

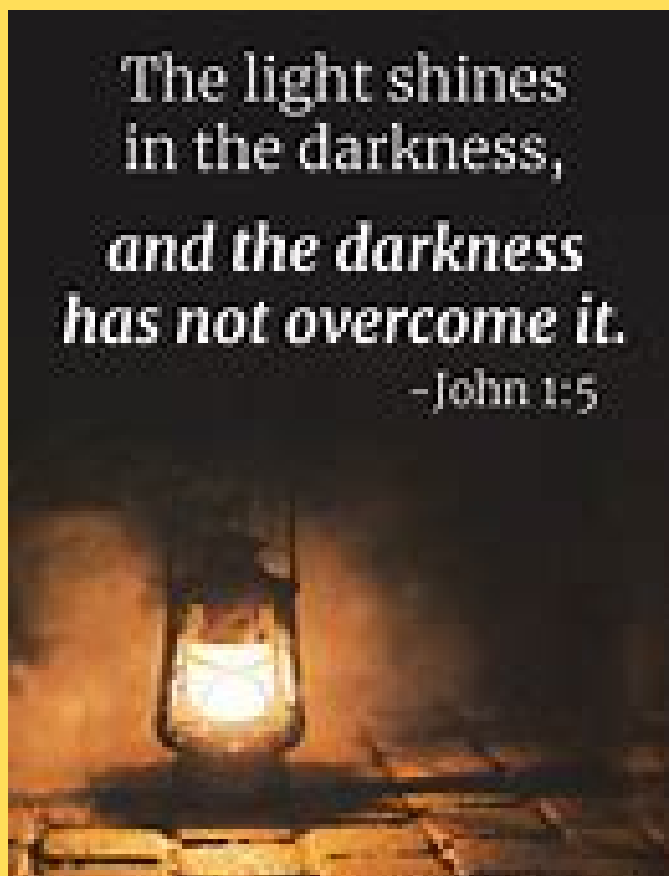


Lunches

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

The light shines
in the darkness,
and the darkness
has not overcome it.

- John 1:5





Here are the fun packed activities planned for next week in the Woodland Den.

Please book on via ParentPay - sessions run until 4:30pm (half session) or 5:30pm (full session), and all children are provided with a drink and a snack. Booking closes 48 in advance online, but contact the office if you need a last minute place in the afterschool club.

Date	Activity	Snack
15/05/23	Outdoor Games	Crisps and Nibbles
16/05/23	Creative Play and Kids Choice	Pizza
17/05/23	I-pads and Lego	Crackers & Breadsticks
18/05/23	Board Games & Jigsaws	Rice Cakes and Raisins
19/05/23	Craft & Jokes Night	Waffles

Lancashire Walks To School Day

19th May 2023

Join us by walking or wheeling to school to commemorate the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort.

Helping us to protect our environment to make Lancashire a greener, safer and healthier county
Visit lancashire.gov.uk/activetravel



Lancashire
County Council

Swing into Spring

18th May

Beef Tower Burger with Pommes
Noisettes & Spring Veggies
or
Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread
~
Chocolate Ice Cream Roll

lancashire.gov.uk

MULTISPORTS CAMPS

(TUESDAY 30th MAY - FRIDAY 2nd JUNE)



Carleton Green Primary (FY6 7TF)

FULL DAY (£14.00 PER DAY):
TIME: 09:00-16:30



Shakespeare Primary (FY7 7LL)

FULL DAY (£12.50 PER DAY):
TIME: 09:00-16:30



Fleetwood's Charity School (FY6 0NN)

FULL DAY (£12.50 PER DAY):
TIME: 09:00-16:30

Ages: 5-12 years
(4 year olds are eligible for half days AM or PM at half the price!)

BOOK HERE >
OR SEE WEBSITE BELOW



- Multisports, Games & Activities
- Fun Competitions Every Day
- Daily Prizes
- Daily Themed Sessions

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE VISIT: FTCT.EZFACILITY.COM
FOR ANY INFORMATION CONTACT: COMMUNITY@FLEETWOODTOWNFC.COM
OR CALL: 01253 208 442

POOLFOOT FOOTBALL CAMP

(TUESDAY 30th MAY - FRIDAY 2nd JUNE)



Poolfoot Farm (FY5 4HX)

**NORMAL DAY (£12.50 PER DAY):
TIME: 09:00-16:00**

- Football, Games & Activities
- Fun Competitions Every Day
- Daily Prizes
- Daily Themed Sessions

BOOK HERE >
OR SEE WEBSITE BELOW



TO BOOK YOUR PLACE VISIT: [FTCT.EZFACILITY.COM](https://ftct.ezfacility.com)
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OR CALL: 01253 208 442



Fortnite: Chapter 2 has finally landed! With a whole host of new in-game features including a brand-new map, more water-based activities, upgraded character skins and a more streamlined arsenal of weapons, this Fortnite is promising to be the best yet. Almost all of the changes are cosmetic which means the concept of the game remains the same, with players still aiming to be the last man standing. Players will no doubt find the game much more enjoyable with so much more to explore. For parents and carers however, it pays to remain vigilant.



What parents need to know about

FORTNITE

CHAPTER 2

BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.

IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.

FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.

SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.

CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.

IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



Top Tips for Parents

BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game.

GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chatapps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.

TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.

CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.

PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!

Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Starting gaming from 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.

