



Newsletter No 10

24th November 2023

Congratulations to Miss Pearce and our children!

In the past year, Zouch Academy had the honour of collaborating with the British Assistive Technology Association (BATA) as part of an educational series dedicated to supporting educators in the effective use of assistive technology.

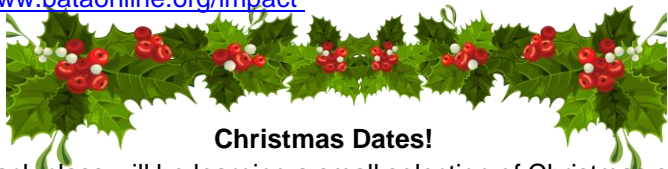


Our involvement in this initiative stemmed from the unwavering dedication and hard work of Miss Pearce, combined with our shared commitment to ensuring the success of every child at Zouch Academy.

Miss Pearce has played a pivotal role in delivering Continuing Professional Development (CPD) sessions and providing support to our staff in utilizing a variety of technologies aimed at removing barriers from children's learning experiences. This commendable effort has garnered recognition from BATA and resulted in our celebration alongside several other outstanding schools in three short films.

A heartfelt congratulations is also extended to our exceptional students, whose hard work and exemplary values shine through in these films.

To view the films, please follow the link: www.bataonline.org/impact



Christmas Dates!

Each class will be learning a small selection of Christmas songs to perform to parents and guardians. Please look at the dates section for when these are – they will be held in the KS2 hall, through the main office.

Values-Friendship

Each term, the children engage in lessons that explicitly teaches the value of friendship. We talk about what it looks like, how to show the value and the positive consequences that happen when a community uses their values. Below is a selection of work produced in these lessons.

Safeguarding

Roblox is popular online gaming platform, that offers a creative and entertaining space for children to explore virtual worlds, connect with friends, and unleash their imagination through game creation. While Roblox provides a positive gaming experience, it's crucial for parents to be aware of potential risks. The main concerns include exposure to inappropriate content, online interactions with strangers, and the possibility of encountering cyberbullying. To ensure your child's safety on Roblox, consider these three essential tips:

1. **Enable Parental Controls:** Utilize the platform's built-in parental controls to manage your child's account settings, restrict certain features, and monitor their interactions.
2. **Establish Open Communication:** Foster a dialogue with your child about their online experiences. Encourage them to share any concerns or uncomfortable situations, and provide guidance on appropriate behaviour and the importance of respectful online interactions.
3. **Regularly Review Friends List and Privacy Settings:** Periodically check your child's friends list and privacy settings to ensure they are only interacting with people they know. Educate them on the importance of not sharing personal information online and being cautious about accepting friend requests from strangers.

By staying informed and actively engaging with your child about their online activities, you can create a safe and enjoyable gaming environment on Roblox. I have also added a helpful guide to this newsletter. If you have any concerns regarding this, please get in touch.

Christmas Jumper Day

Get ready to deck the halls with festive cheer as we get ready to celebrate Christmas Jumper Day! On Friday 8th December, children are asked to come into school wearing their most whimsical and vibrant Christmas jumper. Let's embrace the spirit of the season and make this day a colourful tapestry of festive fun, all whilst we raise money for Save the Children.



Kind Minds Curriculum

This week, the children have been using the 'The Butterfly Hug'. Cross both hands over your chest and place each hand on your chest or shoulders. Gently begin tapping each hand one at a time on your chest. Tap for 10 counts. Pause and take a deep breath. Continue tapping until you feel calm and relaxed. You might want to say some kind words to yourself e.g. "I am calm" or "My body is a safe place to be." Please feel free to try this mindfulness at home too to establish calmness when needed.



Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

The multiplication tables check (MTC) is statutory for all year 4 pupils registered at state-funded maintained schools, special schools or academies, including free schools, in England. The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for current and future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided. In 2024, schools must administer the MTC to all eligible year 4 pupils between Monday 3 June and Friday 14 June. As mentioned in parents evening, please find a suggested website to use to practice the test [MTC - Multiplication Tables Check - URBrainy.com](https://www.urbrainy.com)

Parking Notice

We have been made aware that the carpark nearest the play area will close on the 27th November for 32 weeks. We understand that this is a valuable space to park whilst dropping off or picking up children. Whilst this area is closed, please remember to park safely – it is all of our responsibility to ensure the safety of the children.



Medical Appointments

Please notify the school office if your child has a medical appointment in the morning. This is so we can complete the register accurately and avoid any absent messages being sent to parents.

Reception 2024 Deadline

Reminder, the deadline for Reception 2024 applications is 15th January 2024. **If your child is currently in our Nursery, you must still apply for a space via the Wiltshire Council website, please see the link below.**
[Applying for a school place - Wiltshire Council](#)

Nut-Free School!

We would like to remind parents and carers that we are a nut-free school. Lunchboxes should not contain any items that may contain nuts. This includes fillings such as hazelnut spread, peanut butter and other snack items.

Future dates for your diary:

Christmas songs:

Monday 11th 9:00am – Reception

Tuesday 12th 9:00 – Year 1

Wednesday 13th 9:00 – Year 2

Thursday 14th LKS2 – 9:00- 9:30 Year 3 parents 2:30

– 3:00 Year 4 parents

Friday 15th UKS2 – 9:00- 9:30 Year 5 parents 2:30 –

3:00 Year 6 parents

Monday 18th – Nursery Christmas Singing 09.00am

Monday 27th and Wednesday 29th – Merlin Parents Evening. Same times apply!

Monday 27th and Wednesday 29th – Woodpecker Parents Evening. Same times apply!

Friday 1st December – Year 1 to 5 Christmas Panto, please pay on Parent Pay

Wednesday 6th December – Reception and Y6 Christmas Panto, please pay on Parent Pay

Thursday 7th December – Reception 2024 Open Morning at 09.30am, please book via school office

Friday 8th December – Christmas Jumper Day! Children to come to school in their favourite Christmas jumper with a donation.

Wednesday 13th December – Christmas Lunch!

Wednesday 13th December – Mrs Pelling Coffee Morning, 09.00 in KS2 Hall

NEW DATE! Tuesday 19th December – Year 3 Dance Performance to Parents, 9.15am in KS2 Hall

Wednesday 20th December – Last day of Term! School Finishes at 13.10pm.

Caterlink Job Opportunity!

Maternity cover. 15 hours a week, 11am-2pm. Any enquires should be emailed to 7280-larkhill@caterlinkltd.co.uk.

Parent Governor

If there are any parents who feel they would like to contribute to the school by being a Parent Governor, please enquire at the school office and we can give you more information.