

NEWSLETTER

Monday 31st January 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a great Christmas break and are now back into the school routine. On behalf of the whole staff team I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very 'Happy New Year', and also say a huge 'thank you' for all the cards and gifts that we received. I would also like to welcome all the new children and their families to school, we hope that you are settling in well.

Communication continues to be an area that we are all working hard on to improve so if you haven't already signed up to 'ClassDojo' and the 'Pupil Asset Parent App' please speak to the office for details. Remember, you can also now follow us on Facebook 'Nelson Academy Primary School and Nelson Academy Nursery' and on Twitter '@NelsonAcademy1'. If you ever have any questions or queries, please can I urge you to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. Following this, you can always speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team – Mrs G Sykes (EYFS and Key Stage 1), Mr G Rossiter (Key Stage 2), Mrs J McAndrews (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) or myself.

This term has already been a busy one and we are delighted to share some photographs of what has been happening during January later in this newsletter. We are looking forward to sharing more news on lots of exciting learning opportunities and events being planned so please remember to check out all the dates and photographs in each newsletter.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Best wishes Sarah Wilson - Principal

School Diary Dates

Monday 31st January - Bagel Bar Starts

Friday 4th February - NSPCC Number Day 2022

Monday 14th to Friday 18th February

Half Term Holidays - School Closed

Monday 21st February - School Opens

Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day

Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th March - Parent Meetings via telephone (these will be bookable via Pupil Asset Parent App)

Friday 18th March - Red Nose Day

Panto Payment/Refund

As the panto trip was cancelled there is a £5 credit on each pupil asset account that was paid.

If you pay for school meals or breakfast/afterschool clubs we have moved over the £5 to help pay for these items.

If you would like a refund please email the office at office@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk with your bank details and sort code and we can arrange a refund.

If not the money will stay on the account for the next school trip.



Every one at Nelson Academy would like to say a big thank you to the following companies that donated prizes to our Christmas Raffle and thank you to all that bought the tickets we managed to raise a fantastic £466

Bearts of Stowbridge J W Sargeant Clay Heating Bell Inn Denver

Mo Beauty Denver Mill

Barkers Reeds of Downham Market The Original Factory Shop

Laina Crafts & Wools

King's Lynn Corn Exchange Thursford Collection Banham Zoo

John Lester Hair Design Skaters

Kings and Partners Princess Theatre Welney Wetland Centre

Tesco's Morrisons

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING NELSON ACADEMY

Next meeting - Tuesday 1st March @ 7pm via Microsoft Teams - please e mail

sarah.wilson@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk for an invitation to join the meeting. All welcome 😊

Smart Watchers/Watchers

Dear Parents and Carers



The use of Smart Watches or other types of watches and/or wrist devices with built-in cameras is not appropriate in school. This is due to risks associated with of loss and damage and/or of misuse in the same way as mobile phones or tablets. Please check your child's device for a camera function. If there is one present, please ensure that the device remains at home during the school day. Thank you for your support with this important safeguarding matter.

Eastern Multi Academy Trust

BatteryBack.org

Reminder

We still collect old batteries. You can send in your batteries for recycling, just send them into the school office where there is a container.

Thank you

Number Day 2022

On Friday 4th February, we will be joining in with the NSPCC Number Day to raise awareness of the charity, raise money and enjoy maths - sounds perfect!

Children can come dressed up in a number theme on that day. This could be something home-made like a domino, dice, calendar or an item of clothing with a number on. Maybe you could make a number badge to wear or a number crown. We are asking for a voluntary donation of roughly £1. Whatever you can afford, it is the thought that counts.

Children will be taking part in number activities throughout the day and each year group will come up with a fund raising idea. Class dojo pages will tell you more about that.
Thank you, I'm off to plan my number outfit!!!

School Attendance Percentage

Week Ending: 17/12/2021

Packham 97% & Boudica 96.88%

Week Ending 7/1/2022

Cleopatra, Cromwell & Tubman 98%

Week Ending: 14/1/2022

Banks, Boudica & Cromwell 98%

Week Ending: 21/1/2022

Fleming 97%

Well Done

PLEASE



**NO PEANUTS
OR
NUT PRODUCTS**

Congratulations & Well Done:

Lillie-Rae is excited to share the news on the crisp bag total. There was a grand total of 2170 bags so that will make about 16 bivy bags as some of the bags were counted as 2 as they were sharing bags. They have been counted and have gone off to the charity. Lillie-Rae would like to say a big thank you for helping her with this project.



We are still collecting so please add your empty crisp packets to the designated bin on the playground!



New Under 7's Football Team

Well Done to Freddie, Joel & Sonny who are enjoying football with a new Under 7's team



Well Done Ellie

She has completed her level 6 swimming and is now moving on to work on level 7



Look at what's been happening in January so far!

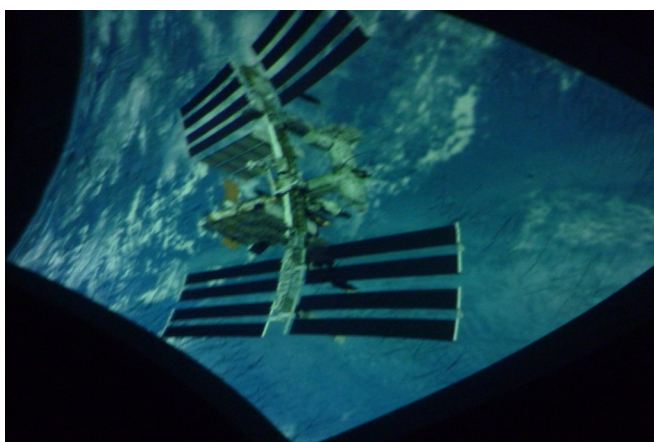
Cromwell & Wren Year 4 in action learning to play the Ukuleles.



Hepworth & Tubman Year 5 classes have been enjoying Burns Night



Also, Year 2 & Year 4 have enjoyed a visit about the Solar System



The Queen's Green Canopy: Plant a Tree for the Jubilee

Nelson Academy got a bit muddy in December. Thanks to grants from the Woodland Trust and the Tree Council, we were gifted with 5 fruit trees and 30 hedgerow trees. Classes worked together to clear the ground, dig the holes, and plant the saplings. All of this hard work not only brought us closer to our Green Flag Eco goals of creating wildlife habitats and growing fruits and vegetables, but it also helps celebrate the Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee through the Green Canopy initiative.





'Fortnite - Battle Royale' is a free to play section of the game 'Fortnite'. The game sees 100 players dropped on to an island from a 'battle bus' where they have to compete until one survivor remains. The last remaining player on the island wins the game. Players have to find items hidden around the island, such as weapons, to help them survive longer in the game. To make the game harder, there is an added twist called 'the storm', which reduces the size of the island from the start of gameplay, making the players closer together in proximity. The game is available on PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Mac and iOS.



What parents need to know about FORTNITE: BATTLE ROYALE

MICROTRANSACTIONS

New featured items are released daily and are only available to purchase within 24 hours of their release. These are cosmetic items, called 'skins', 'gliders' and 'emotes', which change the look of the characters but do not improve the game play. Once purchased, the player has full use of these in the future. The designs are made admissible for players to purchase and even celebrities are endorsing them. Also available to purchase in the game is a 'Battle Pass'. When a new 'Battle Pass' is released, users can play a series of challenges to receive more rewards (cosmetics) by progressing through different tiers. Whatever rewards they achieve can then be used in the game.

HACKER ATTACKS

News site Forbes said it had seen "dozens" of reports online by people who said their accounts had been compromised by hackers. Hackers gained access to users accounts in the game and spent hundreds of pounds in fraudulent charges.

NO PROOF OF AGE REQUIRED

Signing up to the game is relatively simple. Users have the option to log in with their Facebook or Google accounts or their email address. When signing up with an email address, there is no proof of age required. If your child is under the age of 12, it is important to check if your child has the game downloaded.

TALKING TO STRANGERS DURING SQUAD MODE

Interacting with other players in the game is part of the fun as players can communicate with their friends and other players in the game. Players will benefit from wearing headphones in the game to hear footsteps from other players trying to compromise their game. Wearing headphones makes it difficult for parents to hear what exactly is being said and children may be exposed to inappropriate language. Fortnite includes really good reporting features for players either cheating or misbehaving, and work towards having one of the best online gaming communities.

SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

There are many accounts on Facebook and Twitter which claim to give away free money (known as 'V bucks') for games which will be transferred to their Xbox Live or PSN cards. Any giveaway promotion from Fortnite will be in game. It is important to check the authenticity of these accounts before giving away personal information in order to claim 'V bucks'. The websites or accounts may ask you to share your account name and password in order to claim the money. If these offers seem too good to be true, they usually are.

IT CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Games can last around 20 minutes but this varies with each game. Children may feel angry if they lose the game and continue to play until they achieve the result they want. The competitive nature of the game may make it difficult for children to stop playing halfway through as it could affect their position in the game.

IT CAN BE PLAYED ON THE GO

The game was released on mobile in April 2018 meaning it can be played without a games console at home. Some schools have reported that the game is distracting their students whilst in the classroom. As the game is available outside of the home, parents may not be aware of how long their child is on the game.

WEAPONS AND VIOLENCE

PEGI has given the game a rating of 12+. Even though the game includes violence and weapons such as crossbows, grenade launchers, rifles, pistols, shotguns and more, PEGI say "more graphic and realistic looking violence towards fantasy characters is allowed. Any violence towards human characters must look unrealistic unless it consists of only minor or trivial injury such as a slap", making the game 'suitable' for children aged 12 and over.

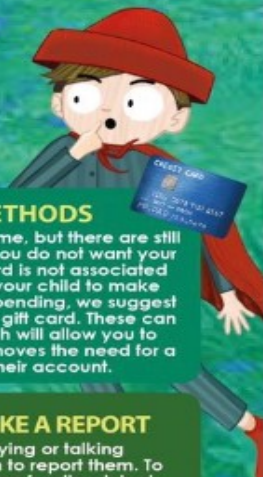
'FREE' TO PLAY

The game is free to play. However, if playing on Xbox, you will need an Xbox gold subscription to play the game which is chargeable.



National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents



#1 LIMIT GAME TIME

Parents can use parental controls on Xbox and PC to limit the time your child is playing games on the devices. Be aware that the game is available on iOS and will soon be available on all mobiles. With this in mind, it is worth having a conversation with your child to discuss and agree how long you would like them to spend on games. Even though the games last around 20 minutes, it may be hard to take them away from a game mid play. It may be worth using a limit of the amount of matches they play rather than a time limit.

#2 RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

'Fortnite: Battle Royale' is a free to play game, but there are still options to make additional purchases. If you do not want your child to make payments, ensure your card is not associated with their account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to limit spending, we suggest using a paysafecard, or a games console gift card. These can be purchased in specific amounts, which will allow you to limit how much your child spends and removes the need for a credit/debit card to be used with their account.

#3 PREVENT THEM TALKING TO STRANGERS

There is an option to turn off the voice chat feature, which means they wouldn't be able to talk to anybody, including their friends. Your child will still be able to use the in-app chat and hear other people's conversations. To turn off voice chat, open the Settings menu in the top right of the main Fortnite page, then click on the cog icon. Open the Audio tab at the top of the screen. From there, you can turn off voice chat.

#4 SHOW THEM HOW TO MAKE A REPORT

If your child believes a player is playing or talking inappropriately, you should advise them to report them. To report a player, you can use the in-game feedback tool located in the Main Menu of the game. Additionally, you can report a player in-game when spectating them.

#5 LOOK OUT FOR VBUCK SCAMS

It is important that your children are aware of the scams that they may come across online in association with the game. Open up conversation with them about scams and how they should never share their username or password with people in order to gain anything for the game.

#6 USE A STRONG PASSWORD

It may seem like a simple tip, but it is important that your child selects a strong password when creating an account, particularly if a credit/debit card is associated with the account. This will help reduce the risk of their account being hacked.



Sources

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/store/p/fortnite-deluxe-bonus-pack> <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-43428075>
<http://fortnitehelp.epicgames.com/> <https://pegi.info/> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/erikkain/2018/03/12/fortnite-accounts-hacked-how-to-protect-yourself-and-what-to-do-if-youve-been-compromised/#140c9e7ca779>

