



# Bishopton Bugle



Headteacher: Mr. A. Smith  
B.Ed (Hons), NPQH,  
PGCertSEnCo

w/c: 3/11/25

Tel: (01789) 205058



Welcome to the newsletter of Bishopton Primary School

*"Aim high, prepare to achieve"*



Thank you key workers



How to keep in touch:

E: admin2603@welearn365.com

W: www.bishoptonprimary.co.uk



@bishoptonprim

| What's on this week              | Monday                           | Tuesday                                                                                                                                   | Wednesday         | Thursday                                                                     | Friday              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Before school                    | BASH (7.50-8.50am)               |                                                                                                                                           |                   |                                                                              |                     |
| Activities during the school day | Y5 Swimming<br>Rock Steady       | Forest School Y1EW<br>Air ambulance assembly<br>Year 3 & 4 TTRS dress up day<br>Year 5 A Group to KES<br>2.30 Year 3 & 4 Parent mtg -TTRS | Forest School Y1R | Forest School YR Butterflies<br><b>KS1 WOW day</b><br><br>Year 4N to see BFG | Year 4BH to see BFG |
| Lunchtime                        |                                  | Choir                                                                                                                                     |                   |                                                                              |                     |
| After school                     | BASH (3.15-5.30pm)<br>Y4-6 Drama | Y1,2 Dance                                                                                                                                | Girls football    | Year 4—6 Football                                                            | Year 1—3 Football   |

Our values this half term: **RESPECT** and **PRIDE**

## WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN YEAR Busy bees

Busy Bees have had an exciting start to the school year. We have been able to engage with lots of outside agencies linked with our topic 'Me and my community'. We have had a visit from a dentist and some police officers, we are also having a doctor come in to see us. The children have been spending a lot of time building new relationships getting to know new friends and new staff. All children have settled into our routine really well and we have had a really enjoyable start to the year. We have just started teaching phonics and the children have quickly settled into the teaching routine and are learning lots of new sounds every week. We are so proud of all of the children with their recent Harvest performance to parents, everybody looked amazing in their incredible costumes and the children showed off their singing skills in front of everyone.



## GOLD AWARD:

Well done to these children who have been awarded Gold Awards this week. These are celebrated during our Friday morning 'Gold Award' Assembly: Reception Busy Bees: Mikael; Reception Butterflies: Leo; Year 1R: Millie; Year 1EW: Ellie; Year 2M: Liliana; Year 2P: Ryker; Year 3C: Penny W; Year 3A: Harrison; Year 4N: Ameya; Year 4BH: Adriana; Year 5SB: Azlan M; Year 5C: ; Year 6G: Nathan; Year 6CJ: Nell **Keep up the great work everyone!**



## Harvest in Reception

Having the joy of watching our youngest children perform amazingly in their first assembly, has confirmed to me, why I chose teaching. It's the pure love of making the difference in children's lives and for those WOW moments.

So PROUD





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## Important Dates:

Parents' evening 11th, 12th & 13th November

19th November 'Wear purple' in memory of Mrs Righton

8th December Rock steady concert.

## Christmas Concerts

8th December 2.30pm, Year 2 in School.

9th December 9.30pm Year 3 at Shottery church

10.30 pm Year 4 at Shottery church

2.30pm Year 1 in School

10th December 9.30pm Year 5 at Shottery church

10.30 pm Year 6 at Shottery church

2pm Drama Club performance

11th December 2pm Drama Club performance

16th December 2.30pm Reception in School

## Eco Warrior update—do your bit to help!

We are taking part in the Cut Your Carbon challenge.

This is a national initiative run by the charity Keep Britain Tidy. It encourages us all to take small steps to reduce our carbon emissions throughout the month of November. Please see the poster for more information. Children will bring home a checklist to record the challenges they complete. We will collect in these checklists at the end of November and will be able to calculate the positive impact we have made in reducing carbon. Please encourage family and friends to take part!



Dear Parents,

*This week has been a celebration of all things good. The children performed amazingly in their harvest celebrations and the messages they shared, were truly heart-warming.*

*I pride ourselves as being a community school, with the children at its beating heart and I was so immensely proud of them for recognising the importance of generosity, care for others, thankfulness and the importance of community togetherness.. Through your generosity, we are able to help restock the shelves at Stratford food bank, a vital service for those less fortunate than ourselves— Thank  you*

*To all the children at Bishopton—you are the fairy dust that makes our school shine bright. — thank you for being YOU!*

*I would like to wish you all a very pleasant weekend and restful half term. Mrs Charman*



"Share a book with your child and make their day"

## Computing—safeguarding children using Fortnite

Fortnite continues to reign supreme in the gaming world, drawing in millions of players with its bold graphics, fast-paced action and constant stream of new content. This guide looks at the latest developments in the game – such as themed updates, crossover characters and limited-edition cosmetics – and what they mean for young players and the adults who support them. It also unpacks some of the key online safety risks associated with Fortnite. With in-game purchases, cross-platform communication and regular seasonal updates creating an 'always on' experience, it's vital that trusted adults understand how to help children and young people enjoy the game without being exposed to unnecessary risks.

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



MUSIC MARK SCHOOL





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## Governor corner.

It's been a busy start to the term for the school governors. We've held two meetings – the first one was the meeting we hold every September where we sort out our various roles for the year ahead. Terry, our previous Chair of Governors, stepped down and Sam Smith was voted in as our new Chair. Sam has been a governor for a while and has a real passion for making sure our school is as good as it can be!

We had another meeting in October and welcomed some new governors to the team. We talked about the priorities for the year ahead and our school finances, as well as the funding for Special Educational Needs. We all agreed how we are going to spend time in school, which is the part of the role that governors like the most and find the most rewarding. Spending time in classrooms, meeting pupils and teachers and seeing how the school is working on a day to day basis is a privilege and gives us a real understanding of the great work being done as well as some of the challenges we face.

The first half of this term has gone so quickly – wishing you all a lovely half term break next week. Hope we get some nice autumn weather and have lots of Halloween fun!

Carole Hodson – Joint Vice Chair

**CUT YOUR CARBON**

Throughout November, we're challenging everyone to complete 6 small carbon-cutting activities at home with friends and family.

These actions will reduce your everyday carbon emissions and benefit our planet.

To find out how you can get involved, speak to a member of the school Eco-Committee.

**Family Support Drop In Sessions**

Would you like the opportunity to speak to a Family Support Worker?

Family Support Workers can offer support with:

- Developing Routines and Boundaries
- Understanding your child's behaviour
- Behaviour Management
- Health and Wellbeing
- Children's Mental Health

Join us for a consultation with a Family Support Worker at Stratford Children and Family Centre

Every Thursday  
12.30pm - 3pm



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Dave the digital mascot

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
PEGI 12

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

#### IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

#### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

#### CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

#### FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular releases help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

#### POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

### ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

### SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

### BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's leading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including iXm, Techradar, and plenty more.

**#WakeUpWednesday**

**The National College**

