

Dear Parents and Carers,



This week, we celebrated our school Founder's Day. Children in Key stage two went to St Bartholomew Church in Yarnton where our Founder William Fletcher is buried. The children learnt about the life of William Fletcher, including the generosity he showed to the people living in Yarnton throughout his life. Then, as requested by William Fletcher, the children in year 6 rang the church bell 87 times. This represented the 87 years that he lived. Then, everyone in school had cake, this was also a request from William Fletcher! I am very grateful to the staff from Fresh Start who provided the delicious cakes for us all to enjoy.



Tomorrow the PTA will be holding the next book exchange, this will take place after school in the school hall. Children can come along and choose books to take home, bring back books they took last time and have finished reading or donate books to the exchange they no longer wish to keep. The event was very well attended last term and I am very grateful to parents who help organise and run the book exchange for the benefit of our children.

Unfortunately, yesterday we had reported a near miss involving a child using the zebra crossing on Rutten Lane. Can I please remind all parents and carers to park sensibly on Rutten Lane and not to park on the white zig-zag lines or on the corner of the roads adjacent to Rutten Lane.

Best wishes Deborah Nind and The WF team

### Our assembly theme for the month of January is Generosity



Writer of the week – Neveah in Year 4  
 Mathematician of the week – Isla in Year 5  
 Reader of the week – Maxim in Year 4  
 School Value of the week – Cora in Year 6  
 BLP of the Week – Nathan in Year 5

#### **Celebration of achievements**

This week Georgia in Year 5, Claudia & Dora in Year 6 have been awarded their bronze merit arrows. Well done to them for successfully completing a range of activities to a high standard to be awarded their arrow badge.

Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 125 nights of reading at home: Ella & Seb in Kingfishers. Luca, Aiden & Saffy in Swallows. Amelia, Emily, Ingrid, Charlie, Tom, Senay & Emeran in Owls. Josh W, Maya, Anelie & Ben in Kestrels. Ethan, Georgia, Nancy & Charlotte in Eagles. Alissa & Evan in Sky Larks. Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 100 nights of reading at home: Chloe & Oscar WJ in Nightingales. Elliot, Edith & Olivier in Swallows. Daisy, Hannah, Georgie, Delcie & Hamish in Red Kites. Esme in Owls. Georgia in Kestrels. Joan, Annabel, Anoushka & Olivia in Sky Larks. Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 75 nights of reading at home: Teddy & Lucy in Kingfishers. Emilia, Belle & Simon in Nightingales. Tobias in Owls. Evie, Corey & Erin in Red Kites. June in Kestrels. Ellie-Mae in Eagles. Cheya in Sky Larks. Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 50 nights of reading at home: David in Kingfishers. Ianis in Nightingales. Violet in Owls. Ruby & Alex P in Red Kites. Lily-Rose & Aashir in Eagles. Beatriz in Sky Larks.

Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 25 nights of reading at home: Robert in Red Kites. Josh L in Eagles.

### **Attendance**

School starts at 8:45am, can you please make sure your child is in class by 8:45am.

#### **EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!**

There are only 190 statutory school days in one year and 175 days (weekends and school holidays) available to use for holidays. Parents should avoid taking their children out of school during term time in order to go on holiday.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance for 04.01.23 – 06.01.23</b>
Eagles	88.89%
Kestrel	100%
Kingfishers	77.91%
Nightingales	89.66%
Owls	94.44%
Peregrine Falcons	87.12%
Red Kites	97.67%
Sky Larks	91.67%
Swallows	72.62%
Wrens	92.86%
Total	89.32%

### **School App**

We are aware of a problem with the school app which is affecting some people. The school app team are working to fix this issue as soon as possible.

### **Yarnton Community Drop In**

Yarnton Community Drop In sessions are held every Monday afternoon in the village hall from 2pm to 4pm. All ages are welcome. They are run by and for villagers. If you would like a warm and friendly place to pop into on your way to or from school pickup please do come and have a drink, cake and a chat. There is no charge unless you would like to donate something towards our running costs. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Ignite After School Club Term 3**

Ignite are running an after-school sports club for children in Foundation to Year 6. If you would like your child to attend Ignite Sports Club for term 3, which will run every Thursday from 3pm to 4pm, starting on 5<sup>th</sup> January, please complete the Parent Pay form. It is based on a first come first serve basis and will cost £4.50 per session (£27.00 for term 3).

### **Friday cafe**

*Every Friday, 8.45am- 10.30am in the Howard Hillsdon Room.*

Pop in, meet other parents and carers, everyone welcome. Information available at each session, including:

\*Helping your child with maths \*Healthy lunchbox ideas \*Money matters \*Reading with your child.

Tea, coffee and biscuits available and younger siblings always welcome. For more

information, please contact: Clare Pink, Family Support Worker

clarepink@william-fletcher.gov.uk or, Karen Ariss: karen.ariss@abingdon-witney.ac.uk

### **PTA Update**

The next Book Swap event is after school this coming Friday 13th January, 3pm in the school hall.

### **How it works -**

Children choose a book to take home from the book swap collection.

If your child took books from the first book swap they can be returned either at this book swap (or the next) or by swapping for a new book on the bookshelves at the school reception.

Don't forget to bring along your Reading Heroes record card to get stamped!

Any questions please email [williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com)

The next PTA meeting will be on Monday 16th January at 7.30pm in the school hall.

Refreshments will be provided - all welcome!! If you'd like to find out more please contact us at [williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com)

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast club runs every day from 07:30 – 08:45 in the Howard Hillsdon building (old playgroup). The children enjoy a range of breakfast cereals, fruit juices, yoghurts and toast, followed by the opportunity to play indoor games. The cost is £5.00 per child. If you would like your children to take part in breakfast club, **please see the staff in the office to book prior to attendance.**

### **Knitting For All**

We have a knitting club at school run by Steph Radda on Tuesday's from 3pm - 4.15pm (term time only). If you would like your child to attend or for more information, please contact Steph on 07940564486 for further details.

### **Yarnton Brownies**

Yarnton Brownies currently have spaces. Come and join the fun! Open to girls aged between 7-10. We run Wednesday's during term time from 6.30-8pm. Please visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/> for more information and to register interest. Alternatively call 07866122863 - Heather Kimber Moss for any additional help.

### **Forthcoming Dates**

#### **January 2023**

19.01.2023 Year 4 Trampolining

26.01.2023 Netball Tournament at The Marlborough School

#### **February 2023**

06.02.2023 Heights & Weights for Foundation & Year 6

08.02.2023 Portals to the Past Workshop, Year 5 & 6

09.02.2023 End of term 3

10.02.2023 Inset Day

20.02.2023 Start of Term 4

23.02.2023 Sports Hall Athletics, Year 5 & 6

### **William Fletcher School Term Dates 2022/2023**

#### **Term 2**

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October to Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November INSET Day

#### **Term 3**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February

#### **Term 4**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February INSET Day

#### **Term 5**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

**Term 6**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June INSET

**William Fletcher School Term Dates 2023/2024**

**Term 1**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September INSET Day

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September INSET Day

**Term 2**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November INSET Day

**Term 3**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

**Term 4**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February INSET

**Term 5**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

**Term 6**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June INSET



\*\*\*\*\* FREE TOOTHBRUSH AND TOOTHPASTE FOR EVERYONE ATTENDING\*\*\*\*\*

Community  
Dental  
Services

# HAPPY SMILES

FRIDAY CAFE, HOWARD HILLSDON ROOM  
**WILLIAM FLETCHER SCHOOL**

9-10AM 13TH JANUARY 2023

Join Charlotte Iddon, manager  
of the Oral Health Improvement  
team, to get advice and support  
for your children on...

**BRUSHING**

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**DIET AND SNACKS**

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**DENTIST VISITS**

\*\*\*\*\* FREE TOOTHBRUSH AND TOOTHPASTE FOR EVERYONE ATTENDING\*\*\*\*\*



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# OF WORLD WARCRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION  
12+

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywood movie adaptation... but why are we still talking about it in 2023? World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game – as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

World of Warcraft is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Players create a character and head off on mythical quests to earn rewards and become more powerful. The game's environment is absolutely vast, and it can only be played online on PC or Mac – so there's a high probability of young Warcraft fans wanting to monopolise the family computer.

### REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As is common with many MMORPGs, World of Warcraft's developers, Blizzard, release regular expansions for the game (usually every 18 months to two years). So although there's still plenty of content for young players to experience right now, there will almost inevitably be a requirement to continue buying future expansion packs, which tend to cost around £30.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just like its genre contemporary Final Fantasy XIV, World of Warcraft requires a monthly subscription fee to play. It's currently £9.99 per month (although you can get it cheaper by signing up to a longer subscription). There are also many items which can be purchased from the in-game store that don't affect gameplay, but instead offer cosmetic alterations to a player's character.

### VOICE AND TEXT CHAT

Because World of Warcraft is played exclusively on PCs and Macs, it's easy for users to type out text messages if they aren't comfortable using voice chat. If you'll forgive the pun, that's a double-edged sword because – although there's less chance of them being harassed verbally – it puts young players at increased risk of being trolled or receiving spam through the in-game messaging function.

### SIMULATED VIOLENCE

The fact that World of Warcraft is almost 20 years old means that even its most violent battles look slightly cartoonish compared with the level of authenticity in many more modern games. The exception tends to be Warcraft's in-game cutscenes: animated sections which move the plot onto the next stage. These offer more realistic visuals, but they still aren't overly gory or scary.

### POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

World of Warcraft can trigger a powerful "just one more quest" mentality in players (especially young ones) as they rush to secure the next dopamine hit from levelling their character up or earning a new item or weapon. It's also a game that doesn't have a definite "end" – because as soon as a player finishes levelling up one character, they can start afresh with another one.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MANAGE PLAYTIME

World of Warcraft can be an extremely enjoyable game to play with friends, but it's important that your child doesn't let their adventures crowd out school work, socialising or anything else they also enjoy. You could, for example, consider imposing playtime limits – such as a set number of hours to play Warcraft per week, or restricting it to particular days or just weekends.

### MAKE IT A REWARD

If your child is excited about getting the next World of Warcraft expansion, you could consider using it as a reward for completing their weekly tasks (you could even call them "quests") like tidying their room or doing their homework. This will demonstrate that you're happy for them to play the game but will also help them to build good, productive habits, reinforcing that hard work earns rewards.

### SIGN UP FOR THE FREE TRIAL

Warcraft's monthly subscription effectively "pays" for the regular new content, but there's also a sizeable free trial that lets new players explore the world of Azeroth without paying a penny. Players can play up until level 20 for free, which is easily several hours' worth of gameplay. If your child does take this option, we'd suggest minimising in-game spending by not linking a bank card to their account.

### REMEMBER THE AGE RATING

Due to mild violence and the occasional use of offensive language, World of Warcraft has been rated as appropriate for players aged 12 and over by PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system, which gives games their age certificate). It isn't really suitable for anyone below that age, so you may potentially have to explain this reasoning to your younger children if they want to play it.

### ADVENTURE TOGETHER

Warcraft can certainly be addictive, but playing it together is also a great way to spend time with your child. The game's focus on cooperative questing and battling enemies can make it feel like you've accomplished something as a team, and you'll also be in a prime position to spot any early signs of addiction. Just remember to apply gaming time limits to yourself as well as your young ones!

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dextero and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including iGN and TechRadar, among others.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2011/aug/28/world-of-warcraft-video-game-addict> | <https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/start>



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