

NEWSLETTER



The Forest Family

Have a great weekend.

Awards

30th September 2022

ALL SAINTS

Class 1: **Alaynah A** Class 2: **David S** Class 3: **Archer C** Class 4: **Dylan A**

Badges:

Headteacher awards: **Bonnie B**

NEEDWOOD

Class 1: **Albert S** Class 2: **Sebastian** Class 3: **Blossom**

Badges: ★ **Matthew P (Green Star)**

Headteacher: **Hazel-Blossom G, James R**

Dear Parents,

This is a very difficult time for many people as the cost of living crisis is having an impact across our communities. With the rising energy prices, increases in fuel costs, escalating food prices and other bill increases, there will be families who are worried about how they will get through the months ahead. During these challenging times we want everyone in our family of schools to know that we are here to help, and we will support families as much as we can. If any of our families are experience worries or concerns, please come and talk to us at any time.

On page 2 of the newsletter there is a list of resources that may be useful for you, or any families you are in contact with that you know are struggling.

Best wishes,

Mr Baxter

DIARY - ALL SAINTS

3.10.22	BOOK FAIR (AFTER SCHOOL)
7.10.22 AM	HARVEST AND THANKS GIVING SERVICE
11.10.22	PARENTS EVENING
13.10.22	PARENTS EVENING
21.10.22	INSET DAY
24.10.22	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
31.10.22 - 2.11.22	WILLESLEY CASTLE RESIDENTIAL C4

DIARY - NEEDWOOD

6.10.22 9.00 am	NW PTA AGM (IN SCHOOL)
7.10.22 pm	HARVEST AND THANKS GIVING SERVICE
11.10.22	PARENTS EVENING
13.10.22	PARENTS EVENING
21.10.22	INSET DAY
24.10.22	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
31.10.22 - 2.11.22	WILLESLEY CASTLE RESIDENTIAL C3

RESOURCES LIST

Please see below a resources list for families that are struggling due to the current cost of living crisis.



<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Staffordshire County Council has a free online '**entitled to**' calculator that enables people to find out what benefits they may be entitled to. It takes about 10 minutes to complete, is anonymous and can be found here: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Business/Workplace-health/Entitled-To-Benefit-calculator.aspx>

Money Saving Expert blog 'heating the human not the home' gives advice on the most cost-effective ways to keep warm: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/utilities/heat-the-human-not-the-home-save-energy/>

Contact have a short article with advice for families of children with disabilities on coping with the cost of living crisis: <https://contact.org.uk/about-contact/news-and-views/cost-of-living-crisis-6-things-all-families-with-disabled-children-can-do-now/>

Citizen's Advice have advice if you are living on a low income or struggling with living costs: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/help-if-on-a-low-income/if-youre-struggling-with-living-costs/>

Gingerbread have research that shows a quarter of all single-parent families have already gone without food: <https://www.gingerbread.org.uk/what-we-do/news/cost-of-living-crisis-single-parent-families-gone-without-food/>

Big Issue have produced an article explaining the cost-of-living crisis and signposting to further sources of information and support: <https://www.bigissue.com/news/politics/five-ways-the-cost-of-living-is-going-up-and-how-to-get-help-if-youre-struggling/>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE

ALL SAINTS

CLASS 1 - 88%

CLASS 2 - 97%

CLASS 3 - 96%

CLASS 4 - 97%

NEEDWOOD

CLASS 1 - 93%

CLASS 2 - 97%

CLASS 3 - 98%

WELL DONE EVERYONE

HARVEST DONATIONS (BOTH SCHOOLS)

This year as part of our Harvest and Thanksgiving Service we shall be collecting any donations of non-perishable food that will be given to local residents and also to Burton HOPE who are desperate for items for their food bank. Here are some ideas of suitable donations which would be very much appreciated:

Tins
Dry goods
Pasta
Rice
Long life milk
Cereals
Soup tins
Packet noodles
Vegetable tins etc

Items can be brought into school from **Wednesday 5th October** in preparation for the service on the 7th, thank you.

BOOK FAIR - RANGEMORE ONLY

The fair will be open in the hall for parents/carers on

Monday the 3rd October

straight after school to purchase books.

We can take cash, pre payment gift vouchers (available at www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents) and card payment via a QR code using your smart phone (posters will be displayed around hall).

Hope you can make it!



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



What parents & carers need to know about ...

AMONG US

PEGI
7

Among Us is one of the most popular games of 2020. A space-themed 'social deduction game' where 4-10 players take on the guise of Crewmates, who must complete various tasks around their spaceship, while randomly selected Imposters must try their hardest to sabotage the others' efforts. The Imposters have to remain undetected through rounds of voting to win. While Among Us is a largely safe game, it's still prudent to be aware of any potential risks young ones might encounter when playing.

Inappropriate chat



While Among Us can be enjoyed locally via wi-fi, it is commonly played online. Between rounds, players come together to discuss who they think the Imposter is with a text chat, and it's here where children will come into contact with others. There is a profanity filter on the game as standard, but it can very easily be disabled and (like any unmoderated chat groups) children can be exposed to inappropriate, sexual or explicit language.

In-game purchases



Among Us is currently available on both PC (via the gaming service Steam) and mobile devices. On the PC, the game costs a flat amount of £3.99 and has some in-game purchases, whereas the mobile version is free to play but contains adverts and in-game purchases. You can pay to remove the ads or purchase in-game cosmetic items. While these amounts are relatively low, there's still the possibility that young ones could accidentally spend lots of money on the game without realising it, as the process is complete in a couple of taps if a card is connected to your store account.

Risk of hacking



Among Us has been the target of hacking activity. Indeed, only recently the game's developer, InnerSloth, tweeted advice that users play private games or with people they trust, in response to hacking issues. As yet, there has been no breach in player accounts. However, if a big enough hack were to take place and player details were accessed, it could lead criminals to having access to credit card data and other personal credentials.

Use of external apps



Many players use external apps like Discord to voice chat with each other while they're playing. The problem with this is that it is unregulated by the game. Usually on Discord, players will only talk to other people they know in private chats, but a stranger could add a child on an external app: pretending to be interested in playing Among Us with them, when in reality they could be attempting to bully, groom or extort.

Mild violence

The art style of Among Us is cartoony but does contain some very mild violence. Imposters must kill off Crewmates one by one and can do this in a number of different ways. Some younger children might find this uncomfortable and could get scared or become upset when an Imposter is chasing them, or if they are the Imposter and are forced to kill. An age rating of PEGI 7 should help guide you in deciding if the game is appropriate or not.



Safety tips

Play with your children

Playing with your kids is one of the best ways to understand the game, and what makes it so popular. Among Us is free on mobile and is incredibly easy to pick up and play. It's also a great way to bond with your young ones - unless of course you're the Imposter or vote them out of the spaceship! You can do this by picking 'Local' on the main menu then 'Create Game'.

Use private lobbies

ENTER LOBBY



Among Us uses private lobbies to let players keep track of who they're gaming with. Using a uniquely generated code that can be given to friends prior to a game starting, it gives parents peace of mind knowing who their kids are playing with. To get a game code, simply select 'Host', choose the game settings, press 'Confirm', then send the six-digit code at the bottom of the screen to friends to invite them.

Deactivate credit cards



Having your credit card automatically paired with any online accounts that can be accessed by children is asking for trouble. A solution could be setting them up with their own account with no credit card attached. They can still ask you when they want to make a purchase, but it's totally up to you as and when that transaction happens.

Use an alias

By default, your name on Among Us will be set to whatever name your device recognises you as. If this is your child's real name, you'll want to ensure they change it before hopping into a game. This is really easily done by clicking 'Online' on the main menu, then simply typing in a new name at the top of the screen.



Talk about the risks



It's a good idea to talk to your child about the risks associated with online gaming, especially when there are chat options and an ability to communicate with others. Try to maintain an open dialogue with your child: talk about their experiences of the game and who they're playing with. This will help you to stay on top of how they're feeling and ensure they know they can come to you if ever they feel upset or uncomfortable about anything they've experienced.

Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for five 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.



Sources: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.innersloth.spacemafia>

COMMUNITY

October Half Term Holiday Sports courses.

**FOOTSTEPS SPORTS ACADEMY
@ HENRY CHADWICK SCHOOL**

**24-28
OCTOBER
8:45 - 15:00**

OCTOBER SPORTS CAMP!



**SIBLING
DISCOUNT**

**AGES 4-12
£70.00 PER WEEK
OR £16.00 PER
DAY**

OUR ACTIVITIES

- ✓ 20 DIFFERENT SPORTS TO TRY
- ✓ HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES
- ✓ PUMPKIN HUNT
- ✓ DANCE LESSON
- ✓ SINGING & DANCING COMPETITIONS

**TO BOOK:
07841262179 OR
FOOTSTEPSSPORTSACAD
EMY@OUTLOOK.COM**

soccerstarsuk FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOL YEARS 1 TO YEAR 6

OCTOBER HOLIDAY COURSES

PINGLE ACADEMY
Coronation Street, Swadlincote, DE11 0QA
Wednesday 26th October - Friday 28th October 2022

Join our team of highly qualified and experienced coaches for a fun and action packed day this October! Our programme enables the children to improve their skills in a fun and safe environment and every day it includes activities such as individual ball skills, shooting games, team events and themed tournaments.

COURSES RUN FROM 9.00AM - 3.30PM

BOOK IN SEPTEMBER	BOOK BY SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER	STANDARD PRICE
★ £18.00 PER DAY	★ £18.00 PER DAY	★ £20.00 PER DAY

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!

www.soccerstarsuk.co.uk 01332 368000
footie@soccerstarsuk.co.uk 07385 670939

soccerstarsuk FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOL YEARS 1 TO YEAR 6

OCTOBER HOLIDAY COURSES

ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE
Hilton Rd, Etwall, Derby DE65 6HZ
Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October 2022

Join our team of highly qualified and experienced coaches for a fun and action packed day this October! Our programme enables the children to improve their skills in a fun and safe environment and every day it includes activities such as individual ball skills, shooting games, team events and themed tournaments.

COURSES RUN FROM 9.00AM - 3.30PM

BOOK IN SEPTEMBER	BOOK BY SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER	STANDARD PRICE
★ £18.95 PER DAY	★ £18.95 PER DAY	★ £20.95 PER DAY

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!

www.soccerstarsuk.co.uk 01332 368000
footie@soccerstarsuk.co.uk 07385 670939

October Tennis Holiday Camps - Barton Tennis Club

Hi Parents

Hope you are well.

Microsports who run weekly tennis sessions at Barton Tennis Club are running another holiday camp this October half term. We would like to invite to invite your child to join us this October.

Even if your child has never played tennis before this is a great way to start their tennis journey. It is also a great way to keep your child active through the holidays.

Barton Tennis Club

Dates: Monday 24th - Thursday 27th October

Time: 10am - 12pm (Ages 4 - 11) / 12pm - 2pm (Ages 12+)

Fee: £12 Per day or £48 for 4 Days.

To book please visit the link below or email Tom@micro-sports.co.uk

<https://microsportsltd.co.uk/barton-lawn-tennis-club/camps>

We look forward to seeing you on the tennis courts this half term.

Kind regards,

Charlotte Ward

Admin Team | Microsports

M: 07981288726

E: staff@micro-sports.co.uk

W: www.microsportsltd.co.uk



Disclaimer: We are proud to have a newsletter which shares information with you for our parish, village, WI, social club, Rascals and our local communities. We do try to vet all items which go into

School information can be provided in different languages, large print, simple text only or Braille.

Please speak to Mr Baxter if you have a particular requirement.

