

Wraxall's School News



Inspiring – Nurturing – Achieving

It has been so lovely being back in school this week and seeing the children's smiling faces once again. I'd like to thank the staff who stepped up in my absence, in particular Carol (Miss B) who I know kept everything running smoothly and kept me in contact with the school – I am hugely grateful to her.

What a busy couple of weeks it has been in school. I was so proud of the Year 5/6's during their residential trip. Hooke Court spoke really highly of them and their amazing behaviour and also sent huge thanks to the staff for their hard work and support throughout the trip. Super proud of you Oak class!

This week we have been enjoying Health and Wellbeing Week with drumming workshops, extra PE sessions, outdoor learning, dance workshops and lots of mindfulness activities. The real highlight though has been sports day. It was great to once again have our families back on our school site and able to celebrate the children's achievements. A MASSIVE well done to Dragon House for winning Sports Day 2022! Although we managed to hold our sports day last year with the children acting as the crowd, it didn't compare to the amazing support of our parents and families on Wednesday who's cheering really spurred on the children. I have to say, I am sure that we have some future Olympians in our midst. What was brilliant, was that amongst the competitive nature of the sports events taking place, was Miss B's craft tent! Just in case the excitement of sports day wasn't enough, the children were able to do a quick sketch in between events – only at Wraxall!

Next week we have all the excitement of the Year 5/6 performance of Peter Pan which all families are invited to attend. This promises to be a real treat for all. With only four school days left we break up for the summer holidays on Thursday 21st with the children heading back to school on Tuesday 6th September. As a treat, they are welcome to wear non-school uniform on the final day of the year. With weather warnings in place it promises to be a hot one, so please check out the weather update I have explained to you later in the newsletter. We will email you over the weekend if the situation changes.

Hoping for a happy final week of term – where we can really celebrate with the children their successes of the year!

I am so proud of each and every one of them and their unique talents and skills and am already looking forward to watching them grow even more next year.

Amy Townsend

Dates for July 2022

Sunday 17th July – Summer Fayre @ Failand Village Hall 10am-1pm

Tuesday 19th July – Year 5/6 Performance 6-7pm (children to arrive at 5.30pm)

Wednesday 20th July – Year 6 Leavers' Service 2pm – Year 6 families invited to attend

Thursday 21st July - Last day of term

Friday 22nd July - School closed to all pupils and staff



Star of the Week

Reception - Jesse & Harper

Year 1 & 2 - Pippa & Levi

Year 3 & 4 - Corbin, Archie, Elsie, Tom & William

Year 5/6 - Lily and Alfie

Headteacher's Award

Ivan, Stefaniia, Yeseniia, Grace, Lawson



Build a SandCastle



WAYS TO HELP THE WORLD

Take a reusable/refillable cup or bottle with you if you go on a day trip in the holidays.

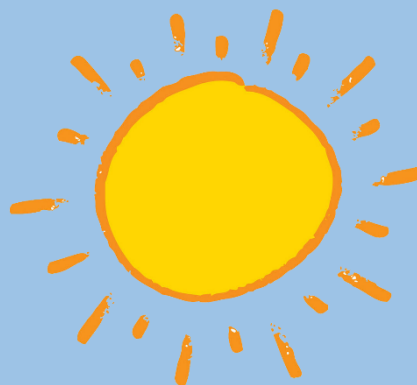


Holiday Bookings

A quick reminder if you are thinking about booking holidays for next year.

As a school our attendance is carefully monitored by our Education Welfare Officer. If your child has a total of 10 or more sessions (10 half days) of unauthorised absences they are likely to receive a fixed penalty notice from the Local Authority.

The school does NOT receive the penalty notices or any financial benefit from referring penalty notices. The money is paid to the Local Authority and NOT the school.



INSET DAY REMINDERS

2022-2023

Thursday 1st September

Friday 2nd September

Monday 5th September

Monday 31st October

Tuesday 3rd January

Monday 5th June

Health and Wellbeing Week 2022...

I loved watching the classes doing the races on Sports Day and I loved the rocket lollies.

Grace - Oak Class



I loved doing the egg and spoon race, it was great fun. It was good to see everyone happy when we won some of the races.

Ada - Oak Class

I enjoyed the running races especially the egg and spoon race. I liked being part of a team.

Corbin - Silver Birch Class



Sports Day Scoreboard

Phoenix 660

Griffins 800

Dragons 810

Health and Wellbeing Week 2022...

I liked helping Miss Madge set up the field for Sports Day. I loved doing the races with my friends and having fun on the day.

Lawson - Oak Class



A BIG thank you to the FWSA for our sports day ice-lollies, for paying for the drumming sessions for Reception –Y4 and the first aid workshop for Y5/6.

Thank you also for the refreshments on Sports Day!

I have really liked wearing my sports clothes to school this week and playing with my friends. I loved Sports Day.

Archie - Silver Birch Class

Year 5/6 Residential Trip





EXTREME HEAT AND WRAXALL



CURRENT SITUATION

North Somerset is in an AMBER region for both Monday and Tuesday and advice is for schools to stay open.

If over the next few days our region does come in the scope of the red warning, then advice will be for school closure on health and safety grounds. I advise you that the decision will be directly related to the colour of the warning and the scale of the risk. If it was red for Monday and Amber for Tuesday, that would be a single day's closure.

Any change during the weekend, will be emailed to you.

WHAT ARE WE DOING IN SCHOOL?

- Air conditioning in all of the classrooms
- Will ensure that children drink at key times in the day as part of the timetable.
- PE will be reduced and children will also be able to sit in the shade.
- Lunchtimes and playtimes will have reduced time running around and cool down time in the shade.
- Shades drawn on windows where appropriate.
- All doors and windows opened from early in the morning.
- All staff and first aiders given information on heat stroke, heat stress and heat exhaustion and what to notice/ how to help.

What YOU need to do:

- Ensure your child is wearing loose, light- coloured clothes that will reduce heat absorption (does not need to be uniform).
- Ensure your child has a hat in school to protect their heads. Sunglasses can be worn but please ensure they are NAMED.
- Ensure your child is covered in sunscreen of at least factor 15. They can bring in an additional supply in a NAMED bottle into school to put on before lunchbreak. They will need to apply this by themselves (Children will not be able to share sunscreen due to skin allergies – please tell your child this.)
- Ensure your child has a water bottle. We recommend that you put some bottles in the freezer overnight so they remain cool. Children must drink and stay hydrated so for these TWO DAYS ONLY other drinks (not pop/fizzy) can come into school – but water is best!

Shade during the day

A HUGE thank you to the FWSA for the Gazebos that we used for Sports day and to the Wood family who have loaned one to school several times this year. These have remained at Wraxall this week for the children to use at break, lunch and with wrap-around care.

In addition, both Wraxall and St Mary's have now purchased, as schools, 2 additional gazebos which will be used across both schools, with a further two available next school year. This has been hugely beneficial this week with both schools being able to access them for sports days this week and Wraxall's FWSA borrowing them for the Summer Fayre on Sunday to help keep everyone cool.



A WARM WELCOME FROM WRAXALL PRIMARY SCHOOL TO OUR NEW STUDENT.

We would like to welcome our new student, Ivan who joined our lovely Year 4's. Please give him a warm Wraxall welcome when you see him around the school.

Ivan

"I have made friends and I really like being here"

SAFEGUARDING & E- SAFETY

"Everyone is responsible for safeguarding"

Wraxall CofE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils. If you are a parent, child, volunteer or member of staff you should share any concern you may have about a child or an adult with either our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Amy Townsend or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Tamsin Hayward or the Safeguarding Governor, Hazel Mallett. If this is not possible or appropriate and you need to report a concern yourself the numbers below are the main contacts:

Local Area Designated Officer (LADO) 01275 888211 (weekdays 8.45am-5pm or 4.30pm on Friday)

Emergency Duty Team 01454 615165 (outside office hours)

Anyone can refer a safeguarding issue via the NSSCB website (North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board).

If you would like more information then please check out the school website for the LSP Safeguarding Policy and a Wraxall School Policy Summary.

CHURCH NEWS

20th Nailsea Skatefest scheduled for June 25th – POSTPONED

Good afternoon Nailsea congregations we just wanted to keep you updated that sadly due to inclement weather forecast the 20th Nailsea skate Fest which was scheduled for Saturday 25th of June, has had to be postponed and rescheduled for Saturday, 16 July.

We wanted to make sure that this day was a day of celebration after 20 years of running the event and at the moment at best the forecast for the afternoon is of showers, sometimes heavy, blustery winds and quite cool. Phil Williams (Nailsea Skatefest Team)

Men's Breakfast, Saturday 2nd July, 8:00am, Old Farmhouse Pub. Following a good breakfast, our own Rev'd Morey Andrews will be speaking about "Angels on the Mountainside". Email Morey to book: rector.wraxallwithfailand@gmail.com

Sunny Saplings

Sunny Saplings have been enjoying the sun the past couple of weeks with sessions running outside and in! We run weekly during term time with our fresh coffee and fruit/cake treats on Wednesday mornings in the Cross Tree Centre from 9.00am-11.00am, families welcome! For more info contact the Parish Office: 01275 852442.

Pupil Premium (Free School Meals Benefit)

Free School Meals

There are two schemes for free school meals:

Universal infant free school meals for all children in reception year, year 1 and year 2 – you don't need to apply as they're automatically given at the school

Free school meals for people on qualifying benefits – you'll need to apply for these

If you claim qualifying benefits and your child is entitled to universal infant school meals, you should still apply for free school meals so as the school is given additional funds, known as pupil premium, to support those children with their learning in school and to assist with other school costs. This can include: 1-1 support, extra reading, phonics and contributions towards trips and enrichment activities.

Qualifying benefits for free school meals

Your child will be entitled to free school meals if you get any of these benefits:

- income support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit with annual take home pay/met earnings below £7,400 (which equals £616.67 per month) benefits not included.

How to apply

Free school meals entitlement is for the child, not the family, so you will need to apply for each child when they start school.

If your child is starting school in September, you should apply during the summer holidays as we cannot deal with your application earlier. Applying too early could result in your application being removed.

If you are moving into North Somerset from another area you will need to apply. You will need your National insurance number to apply.

When to reapply

Due to the roll out of Universal Credit, all pupils that are currently eligible for free school meals will be protected until the end of the school stage they are in on 31 March 2022. This means if your child is receiving free school meals at primary school in March 2022, you won't need to reapply for them until they start secondary school. Children do not receive free school meals in college. If your child changes school or address before 31 March 2022, email fsm@nsomerset.gov.uk so we can update your free school meals record.

Bouncy Castle * Cake stalls * Face painting

* Tug of War * Penalty Shoot out

WRAXALL SCHOOL
SUMMER
FAYRE

Sunday 17th July

10am-1pm

Failand Village Hall

2022



Hook a duck * Raffle * Races

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about STEAM

Steam is a computer gaming digital distribution platform and storefront. It is the biggest platform for desktop- or laptop-based gaming, with a range of more than 30,000 games available. The platform has become a lively social environment for many gamers, and allows people to trade, sell and buy gaming items for real money. Valve, the developers behind Steam, have also released different hardware that works with the platform, including the Steam Deck – a hand-held console that lets users play their favourite games while away from their computer.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNSUITABLE GAMES

Among the 30,000+ games on the platform, there are many that aren't appropriate for children. Individuals can view and download games featuring adult content if they verify their age – but, of course, it's easy to enter a false date of birth online. This can lead to children and young people finding games that they shouldn't have access to: featuring violence or profanity, for example.

SPENDING SPREES

Steam hosts regular sales – including some where game prices are reduced by up to 90%. Some sales promotions also include a mini-game or event which encourages users to spend more money. The sales can be an excellent time for young gamers to purchase the titles they've been wanting, but the attractive discounts can also promote impulse buys driven by the fear of missing out.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Steam isn't a social media site, but it certainly shares some of their elements. Users can add other people as 'friends', for example (whether they know them in real life or not), and then communicate privately with them using text or voice chat. The platform also hosts public discussions and groups for socialising. Steam users can also leave comments on the profiles of other players.

POTENTIAL SCAMS

Sadly, Steam's immense popularity has made it a lucrative destination for internet scammers. The most common ruse is phishing: scammers send links to other users, aiming to trick them into entering their login details – which are then stolen. Once in control of the account, the scammer sends messages to everyone on the victim's friend's list, in an attempt to hijack their accounts too.

SHADY TRADERS

The Steam Community Market is a built-in trading area where players can trade resources for their games on the platform. Gamers can exchange items, or buy and sell them using real-world currency. It's possible for unwary users to be scammed through bad trade deals, and Steam doesn't usually get involved when this happens. There are also third-party trading websites, which can be risky to use.

SPARSE AGE RATINGS

Steam is a digital distribution platform for games of all kinds, including ones not rated by regulatory bodies. Getting a game rated takes a long time, and can be expensive, so developers only tend to follow that process when releasing a title that will be physically sold in shops. Most games on Steam, therefore, don't have an advisory age rating on the store page.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Steam does have some limited parental controls that can restrict exactly what games someone's account can view and access. This can be set up by navigating to the 'Family' tab in 'Settings', then selecting 'Manage Family View'. The platform then allows parents and carers to share a Steam account with their child and limit them to age-appropriate games.

USE GIFT CARDS

Having payment methods (like card details or PayPal) linked to a Steam account makes it very easy for a child to purchase new games or spend money on items in the marketplace. An excellent and safe alternative would be to buy a Steam gift card and let your child make their purchases with that instead – putting a manageable cap on how much they can spend on the platform.

APPLY STEAM GUARD

Steam Guard is an optional additional layer of security that protects accounts. Enabling it ensures that anyone attempting to log in to that account also needs to provide authorisation via their phone or email. The computer that your child uses Steam on can be authorised to prevent having to provide separate authentication for each login.

SHARE A LIBRARY

Using Family Library Sharing lets everyone at home share games across accounts (while still keeping their accounts separate). The entire game library from each account is shared with the other account holders – a great way to avoid having to purchase a different copy of the game for each of your children. However, if two users want to play the same game separately, you would need to buy it twice.

SAFE MODDING

Modifying a game to customise it or to introduce new content – known as 'modding' – is common on Steam. There's nothing inherently bad about modding, but installing the wrong mods can be disastrous: they can stop games from working properly, or at all. Steam's mods are unlikely to contain viruses or malware, but it's still possible – so ensure your child reads the mod's reviews first to avoid anything dangerous.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

Sources: <https://help.steamowered.com/en/blogs/view/7023-908-2338-4376>
<https://help.steamowered.com/en/blogs/view/5707-5030-299F-8548>

NOS
National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 06.07.2022

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about VIRTUAL REALITY

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PREMATURE EXPOSURE

13+

While VR has already found its way into schools worldwide – allowing teachers to take their class on digital field trips – most manufacturers advise an age restriction of 13. This safeguard is based on the idea that children's brains, eyes and bodies are still developing. With the technology still in its infancy, not enough research has been conducted as to how VR affects children in the longer term.

EYE STRAIN

One of the main worries about VR is that essentially having TV screens so close to your eyes could harm them with prolonged use. Lenses inside each headset have been specifically designed to trick the human eye into focusing to infinity (just as they would in the real world) to mitigate possible eye strain. Even so, longer VR sessions should be limited to adults only.

PHYSICAL ACCIDENTS

When used correctly, VR isn't dangerous as there are safety features built in. A common concern is that a child wearing a headset could bump into real-world objects while playing – so creating a clear, tidy gaming space is essential. Headsets also come with 'Guardian' or digital barrier systems that can be set up beforehand, indicating where walls and furniture are located so nobody trips over and hurts themselves.

SOCIAL VR

VR is more immersive than normal gaming and makes players feel very present in the moment. There are additional online safety fears, therefore, relating to trolling and abusive comments as players engage with each other in social VR spaces. Personal information shouldn't be given out and privacy and safety controls (who can see your real name, for example) need to be activated where possible.

MOTION SICKNESS

Children who are prone to travel sickness might encounter what's known as 'simulator sickness'. This is nausea caused by the eyes seeing images which tell the brain that the person is moving, while the rest of the body knows it is stationary. Most apps have features to reduce this discomfort, while some games simply don't feature locomotion to make for a more comfortable experience.

VIOLENT CONTENT

Among the growing range of VR games and apps, not all of them are appropriate for young players. Violent content can be far more visceral and disturbing in VR, so it's important to consider the age and maturity of your child before giving them access to this type of gameplay. As the majority of VR content is digital, online store access is easy – so careful curation is advised.

Advice for Parents & Carers

START OFF SLOWLY

Just like regular video games, if your child wants to try VR the best way to reduce risks is moderation. Keep their VR sessions to short stints – and for young adults new to the technology, build up their usage time gradually to let them get acquainted with it. If they feel any discomfort, remove the headset and try again at a later point.

NO SURPRISES

It's easy to get lost in the moment in VR – and possibly forget where you might be standing in the real world. A minimum 2m x 2m play area is recommended, with no plant pots or other delicate objects within reach of flailing arms. Take pets into account, too: don't let the cat or dog walk into the room, for example, because a VR player won't see them and could certainly trip. A child is far more likely to get over-enthusiastic in VR, posing a risk to themselves and anything in their path.

KEEP A WATCHING BRIEF

It may seem that a VR player is in their own world, but all VR headsets allow external viewing via a linked monitor or mobile phone. This is the best way to ensure whatever a child is playing is appropriate. More VR supervision tools are on the way, such as securing specific apps behind unlock patterns or sending an approval notification to the parent if their child wants to purchase a game.

ANTI-NAUSEA OPTIONS

It's wise to get used to VR while comfortably seated and progress to standing or 'room-scale' VR (where players physically walk around an area) later. Look at the in-app options first: switching between seated and standing adjusts the player's height, while a vignette or 'tunnel' darkens the peripheral vision to reduce nausea. Teleportation Mode and Snap Turning are also important options for enhancing comfort.

RESEARCH CONTENT

There will be information online about most games and apps, explaining what type of experience they provide. They'll list age ratings indicating how violent the gameplay might be; comfort, so you'll know the intensity of the experience; and how much access the game requires to personal information or features like the built-in microphone.

Meet Our Expert

Peter Graham is the editor at XR (extended reality) and Web3 specialist site gmw3.com and has been writing about VR, augmented reality and the Immersive tech industry for more than seven years. He's served as a panel speaker and a judge at awards events and game hackathons.



Sources: gmw3.com / xrlong.com

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.06.2022