



COURAGE CARE COMPASSION

Fingringhoe Church of England (VA) Primary School

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CALL FOR HELP!

May we ask ALL parents to think carefully about screen time and the type of computer games you allow your child access to? We are finding that some pupils have free access to technology in their bedrooms and are therefore playing unsupervised, late at night and/or playing inappropriate games.

This leads to tired children in class, arguments between pupils, and sometimes inappropriate language. We have even been asked to help sort out arguments between pupils which have taken place outside of school.

Not all time spent on computer games is bad. We recognize that some time playing could be beneficial. We ask that you:

- 1. regulate/limit screen time**
- 2. check games are age appropriate**

A couple of parents who had concerns about behavior, tiredness and irritability or mood swings have ALL reported an improvement since they followed this advice.

Please read the article overleaf about a well-known computer game.

7 Things Parents Need to Know About Fortnite Newspaper Article:

Advice from a parent: If there's one thing you should know about Fortnite as a parent, it's that you shouldn't let your kid play with voice chat on.

I heard about 50 F-bombs during the course of one game, many of them about my playing ability. There are also no filters of any kind to keep players from saying (or typing) whatever they want to each other. But that doesn't mean Fortnite is necessarily bad for kids, especially if you use the right in-game tools and properly monitor their play.

Here's what parents need to know about this game.

- **Fortnite is an online shooter that starts with 100 players and leaves one winner standing.**
- **The entire point of the game is to kill other players, but the violence is cartoon-like.**
- **Although the game itself seems pretty harmless, players can talk and type whatever they want to each other, and bad language is rampant.**
- **In-app purchases can turn this free game into an expensive habit.**
- **Short matches and accessible gameplay make the game addictive.**
- **You can regulate your child's playtime (as well as in-app purchases) via parental controls on platforms like PS4, Xbox One, Switch and iOS.**
- **If your child is showing signs of isolation or depression because of the game, seek professional help.**

What is Fortnite Battle Royale?

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online third-person shooter game in which 100 players parachute onto an island, and the last player alive wins. Each game lasts about 20 minutes (although you have the option to leave the game if you die, so if you aren't very good, games can be very short!). Even though it was released less than a year ago, Fortnite Battle Royale already boasts 125 million players, according to its publisher, Epic Games. While there are two different Fortnite games at the moment, we're going to focus only on Fortnite Battle Royale, since that game is free and is the one that most people are playing and talking about.

Is there anything that should concern parents?

The game is violent — it is a battle to the death, after all — but the violence is bloodless and rather cartoon-like. There's just lots of shooting and hacking and noise.

Although the game is free to play, in-app purchases can add up quickly. Players can buy things like new looks and new dances, and while these purchases don't affect a player's chances of winning, one of my friends told me that her son has spent more than £150 in the game. Most platforms allow you to block in-app purchases via parental controls so be sure to set up yours if you don't want junior running up the credit card bill.

There are both voice-chat and text-chat capabilities within the game, but not with solo play. You can turn off voice chat in the game's settings but your child could just turn it on again. You may be able to turn off all voice chat within the device itself using parental controls, but it's different for every platform.

Most parental control settings will allow you block the game completely. Macs, PCs and Xboxes, iPhones/iPods, Nintendo Switch and PS4s all have some version of parental controls.

Can other players talk to your child?

Text chat cannot be turned off, and there are no filters for voice or text, which may be concerning to parents. There's nothing to stop an adult from saying lewd things to a younger player, or to stop kids from swearing at each other.

FINGRINGHOE 'PB' CHALLENGE LATEST NEWS!

Mrs Harrington-Clark's PB Challenge.

As many of you know, we have recently been enjoying taking part in our PB Challenge in school. In April 2019, I will take on my own very big challenge, when I run the London Marathon. I'll be running as part of the Breast Cancer Now team, along with my identical twin sister, Lynne, who has run lots of marathons before. I never have!

In 2013 Lynne was diagnosed with breast cancer. she is now well, and a determination to get back to running played a big part in her recovery. It is this that inspired me to take up running too.

I've got a lot of hard training to do between now and April and I'm trying to raise as much money as I possibly can, with several up-coming fundraising events including a quiz night and cake sale - look out for further details soon.



Your support would mean so much to both of us and every donation makes a real difference – you can visit my JustGiving page here:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ClaireHCLondon2019

Thank you.

Outdoor P.E

As we come into the winter months we aim for P.E. to take place at the field. We will only make the decision to hold P.E. indoors if it is deemed dangerous to go to the field (ice & snow).

Please can we ensure that ALL pupils have the following in their P.E. bags to take them through the winter months.

Many thanks.

Outdoor P.E. Kit:

- blue / black jogging bottoms
- blue/black sweatshirt
- trainers

50p Fridays

A big thank you to the PTA for their lovely sweet treats on a Friday afternoon.

The staff will be 'taking over' 50p Friday on Friday 16th November.

The PTA members will be selling cakes that have been donated by the staff after school.

All funds for this event will go towards Mrs. Harrington-Clark's London Marathon, fundraising for Breast Cancer Now team.

Upcoming Dates

PLEASE PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY...

Friday 9th November – 2.30pm Church Assembly Armistice Day

Friday 30th November Non-Uniform Day “swap for chocolate” for PTA Fayre stall

Friday 7th December 2018 PTA Christmas Fayre

Monday 17th December 2018 Willow Class Nativity - afternoon and evening performances

Tuesday 18th December 2018 Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch, Pantomime at the Village Hall

Wednesday 19th December Last day of Term 1

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Thursday 3rd January 2019 First Day for pupils Term 2

Tuesday 12th February 2018 Parents' Evening 3:30-8:30pm

Thursday 14th February 2019 PTA Talent Show 6pm TBC

18th – 22nd February 2019 Half Term

Monday 25th February 2019 Non-Pupil Day

Last Day of Term 2 - 5th April 2019

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 23rd April 2019 First day of Term 3

Week beginning 13th May 2019 Year 6 Test Week

25th – 28th June 2019 Mersea Camp

Friday 5th July 2019 Sports Afternoon and PTA BBQ

Friday 12th July 2019 Sports Afternoon and PTA BBQ (if postponed due to extreme weather)

Thursday 18th July 2019 1:30pm & 6pm Elm and Maple Classes Performance

Monday 22nd July 2019 PTA End of Term Party

Wednesday 24th July 2019 9:15am Leavers' Service Church & Last Day of Term 3