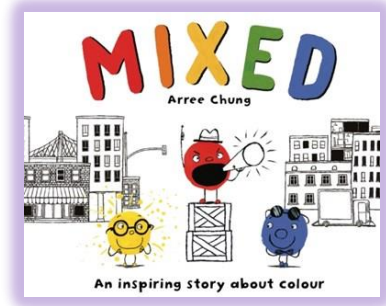


### Message from Head of School:

We have had a Brilliant Book Week! The children have enjoyed breaking the school rules, hearing about new books from the Bookery, and dressing up as a word. I have put some photos here for you to see the range and amazing creativity of the costumes, it is so fantastic to have this cornucopia of vocabulary on display.



We have also been astounded with the wonderful spoon book characters. Well done to you all for your imaginative use of a wooden spoon. We will display the spoons in school so all of the children can see them. One of our favourite parts of Book Week is following a whole school book and this year we have chosen 'Mixed' by Arree Chung. This has been a positive and inspiring message for everyone and has been enjoyed by all ages. Thank you to Miss Blake and the whole staff for organising all the activities this week.

The School Council met this week and have decided to continue with running some lunchtime clubs with KS2 pupils; something they have organised and supervised themselves. They have also put forward a suggestion of having mayonnaise with their Friday chips and this has been given the go-ahead by our kitchen manager.

We have also thought of some ideas for celebrating the Coronation of King Charles and I will outline these later in the newsletter.

### Online Safety Update:

We are aware that some children have been accessing online 'horror games' that might be upsetting. These games often have child friendly style characters to try to hook them in, and then frighten them with a jump scare or unpleasant content. In this newsletter there is a guide from the National Online Safety website which explains some tips for parents.

Finally, can I thank you all for your continued support. The many visitors we have in school always comment on the lovely positive, productive and happy atmosphere in the school, and the children are always so welcoming. You should be very proud of them!

Have a lovely weekend.  
Mrs Mackey

Spotlight on World Book Day:

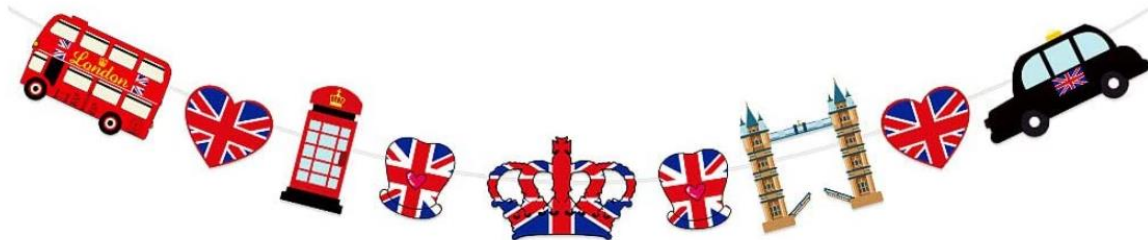


**Celebration of the Coronation of King Charles – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May:**

Children may come to school dressed either in red/white/blue or with the theme of 'royalty'. We will do themed activities throughout the day.

At 2pm all parents and carers are invited to bring an afternoon tea picnic to have on the school field with their child/ren (nut free please).

(The tea party picnic will only go ahead if the weather is fine due to limited space inside)



Further details will follow nearer the time.

**Pre-School:**

This week at Pre-School we have been reading the stories Jack and the Beanstalk, Jim and the Beanstalk and our World Book Day book, Mixed. The children have enjoyed all of these stories.

Each child has planted a sunflower seed and we have been watering them to help them grow. The children also painted some beautiful daffodils and we have made a lovely display of them.



On Wednesday we joined up with Rainbow Class and ate delicious pancakes and learnt a couple of new songs in the Music Room. On Thursday we joined up with Rainbow Class again as they had a visit from a Policeman. He let the children try on his coat and helmet which they really enjoyed and he talked about keeping safe and the children they asked lots of questions and talked about keeping safe.

Today we have dressed up for World Book Day, decorated some book marks and enjoyed reading the story called Mixed.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HORROR GAMES

Horror video games come in a such a variety that the genre can hard to define. The overlapping element is that these games are designed to scare or unsettle the player through gameplay, atmosphere, story, music, setting and 'jump scares'. The most common sub-genres are survival horror, action horror, psychological horror, jump-scare horror and reverse horror. These games originate from a range of developers, including smaller indie studios which release download-only titles (that is, they aren't physically sold in shops) and therefore aren't subject to age ratings.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ADULT THEMES

Horror games are typically made with adults in mind, which means, by definition that they often feature adult themes. Outlast, for instance, is a popular horror game series including material such as nudity and extreme sadistic violence. Other games, like Five Nights at Freddy's and its sequels, have a back-story that doesn't actually appear on screen but still hints at explicit adult themes.

### VIOLENT CONTENT

Not all horror games contain graphic violence (titles like Five Nights at Freddy's and Phasmophobia prefer a spookier, suspenseful aesthetic) but many do portray extreme brutality very realistically. Until Dawn and the hugely popular Resident Evil and Outlast franchises, for instance, feature incredibly graphic violence. The safest course of action is to thoroughly research a game in advance.

### ONLINE INTERACTION

Some horror games are played cooperatively with others online. Phasmophobia is one of the most popular titles in this category, and while it doesn't feature an excessive amount of gore, it does place a strong emphasis on online interaction – often with strangers. Dead by Daylight is another game in which frequent and prolonged online communication with other players is an advantage.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL HORROR

Rather than simply lading on the blood and gore, psychological horror games try to scare the player through subtle, mental and emotional means. For this reason, this type of game (notable examples include Alien: Isolation, The Medium and the Amnesia series) can have a longer-lasting effect on players; some occasionally 'break the fourth wall' – interacting directly with the player as if they were real.

### LONG-TERM FEAR FACTOR

Horror games are designed to be scary; most players accept this fact in advance. They can, however, include content which leaves an unwanted lasting impression. By focusing on our fears and concerns to elicit an emotional reaction, horror games can be triggering in unexpected ways for some players. It's difficult to predict when – and how – a game might have long-term effects on an individual's mental wellbeing.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### BWARE OF JUMP SCARES

Jump scares in video games are often no worse than they are in movies. If a young person doesn't cope well with being suddenly startled by something in a film or on TV, they probably won't be able to handle horror games featuring jump scares. Some games (such as Five Nights at Freddy's) are built entirely around this technique and aren't suitable for younger children or those who are easily frightened.

### RESEARCH THE GAME

It's best to look into a horror game thoroughly if your child expresses an interest in playing it. Many indie horror titles are download only and therefore aren't required to come with an age rating – so you'll need to do some background reading and judge the game's content for yourself. Check out the game's web pages, read any wikis about it (including fan ones), and watch videos of the gameplay.

### ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy to lose track of time when gaming, and horror games are no exception. A short break every hour or so is important to rest the eyes and relieve the posture – especially if traumatic situations in the game have built up tension and stress. For horror gamers, breaks also give the added benefit of feeling more relaxed afterwards, which can mean a scarier gaming session when they resume!

### IF IN DOUBT, SWAP IT OUT

If your child finds a horror game to play, but after doing some research you decide it doesn't look like the right one for them, swap it out! There are a lot of horror titles to choose from, and some will be more appropriate than others. Work together with your child to find a suitable game for them. Remember, horror games don't have to be gore-spattered and graphic to be enjoyably scary!

### STAY RECEPTIVE

Maintaining good communication with your child is vital for safe gaming. If they see something in a horror game that disturbs them in ways they didn't expect, then they should feel comfortable opening up to you about it. Try not to simply laugh it off or make light of it, and always make time to listen. It's a useful reminder that they can talk to you about any type of problem they have in the future.

### 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.



**NOS**  
National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

### **March 2023**

6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Parent/Teacher meetings  
8<sup>th</sup> Bag2School Collection  
8<sup>th</sup> Purple and Red Class Trip to Exeter Mosque and Synagogue  
9<sup>th</sup> Reception & Year 6 Height and Weight Measurement  
10<sup>th</sup> Celebration Assembly @9.10am  
14<sup>th</sup> CPTA Mothers Day Shop  
15<sup>th</sup> NEU Teacher Strike Action Day – some classes may be affected  
15<sup>th</sup> Purple Class Swimmers to The Waie Inn 9.30-10am  
16<sup>th</sup> NEU Teacher Strike Action Day – some classes may be affected  
16<sup>th</sup> Devon Schools Music Hub in school  
17<sup>th</sup> Comic Relief/Red Nose Day – Non-Uniform – wear something red  
17<sup>th</sup> Celebration Assembly @9.10am  
22<sup>nd</sup> Purple Class Swimmers to The Waie Inn 9.30-10am  
22<sup>nd</sup> Orange Class Residential Meeting @3pm  
23<sup>rd</sup> Green Class Trip to Paignton Zoo  
24<sup>th</sup> Blue Class Trip to Kents Cavern  
24<sup>th</sup> Celebration Assembly @9.10am  
27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> Purple Class Residential to Skern Lodge

### **April 2023**

**3<sup>rd</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> EASTER HOLIDAY**

**17<sup>th</sup> NON-PUPIL DAY**

18<sup>th</sup> All Pupils Return  
18<sup>th</sup> Tempest Class Vista/Studio Group Photos  
20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Orange Class Residential to Bristol  
28<sup>th</sup> Celebration Assembly @9.10am

### **May 2023**

**1<sup>st</sup> BANK HOLIDAY**

5<sup>th</sup> Celebration of the Coronation of King Charles

**8<sup>th</sup> BANK HOLIDAY - King's Coronation**

9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Purple Class SATs tests  
18<sup>th</sup> Summer Census  
19<sup>th</sup> Celebration Assembly @9.10am  
26<sup>th</sup> Celebration Assembly @9.10am

**29<sup>th</sup> MAY – 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE HALF TERM**

### **June 2023**

5<sup>th</sup> All Pupils Return  
5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Red Class Bikeability – information to follow

### **July 2023**

4<sup>th</sup> Sports Day  
7<sup>th</sup> CPTA Disco 5-7pm  
11<sup>th</sup> Reserve Sports Day  
18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Purple Class performance @ 5.30pm  
19<sup>th</sup> Pre-School Sports afternoon  
20<sup>th</sup> Purple Class leaver's assembly @ 9.15am  
**21<sup>st</sup> LAST DAY OF TERM**

