



INSKIP ST. PETER'S C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Learning, Loving and Living with Jesus



Keep your roots deep in Jesus Christ the Lord, build your lives on him
and always be thankful. *Colossians 2:7*

Compassion Friendship Respect Forgiveness Trust Thankfulness

Monday 28th February 2022

World Book Day



World Book Day takes place this **Thursday 3rd March**, celebrating their 25th anniversary. We can't wait to see some of our favourite book characters come to life! Your child's teacher will let your child know if there is a class theme.

Mrs Billington is also having a special **World Book Day menu** too. If your child doesn't usually have a school lunch but would like to have the special menu please ask them to let the teacher know in the morning and the £2.35 charge will be added to your Parentpay account. Thank you.



Topical Discussions



During each week Upper School and Middle School pupils have the opportunity to voice opinions about topical issues. It isn't necessarily their opinion they are saying as we phrase our answers as "Some people might say that..." so that we can appreciate another person's thoughts. Maybe continue discussions of these at home.

Last week's questions included 'Should all restrictions around COVID-19 be dropped?' 'Is it right for a country to invade another country?' 'Should Tigers and other wild animals be freed from the circus?'

School Website

Please take a look at our school blogs and see lots of the inspiring learning your children have been doing in class. Click on the title of the blog to open it in a new window. Please comment at the bottom of the blog posts your thoughts of encouragement for the children to read.

Middle School

[Typography](#)

[Trust & Trails](#)

Upper School

[Joan Miro Sculptures](#)

[PE - Dance](#)

News

[Our Oyster Catchers are Back!](#)

Christian Values

Our Christian value theme this half term is **'Courage'**.

Here's a way of exploring this theme at home.



READ TOGETHER...

The Courage of David the Shepherd Boy

One day as David the shepherd boy was carrying lunch to his older brothers in the Israelite army he heard an angry booming voice thunder across the fields. "I am Goliath, and I dare you to pick someone to fight me."

The voice was coming from the Philistine ranks and went on taunting the Israelites and their God. As David grew closer he could see the giant Goliath strutting up and down. He could also see the terrified faces of King Saul and his soldiers. This made David very angry and more than a little ashamed. He decided he must go and see the king.

"I will fight that bully Goliath!" David announced.

It was all that King Saul could do not to laugh out loud. "You are just a boy David, a small boy. Goliath has been a mighty soldier all his life."

"But when the wild animals attack my father's sheep," protested David, "I fight them off with my sling and staff. I have killed many lions and bears and I will do the same to this wicked Philistine. Do not fear for God is on our side."

King Saul was taken aback. "Well, I suppose you should be given a chance. At least let me lend you some armour and a sword." But the armour was heavy and David was not used to it. He returned the armour to Saul and instead picked up five smooth stones from the stream and marched out **courageously** to face Goliath.

The giant laughed scornfully at the small boy and shouted curses at him. David did not flinch. "This very day you will be defeated and everyone here will see that the Lord does not need swords or spears to save his people."

As Goliath lowered his shield and aimed his spear at the boy, quick as a flash, David loaded a stone into his sling, spun it around above his head and sent it spinning through the air towards Goliath. The stone struck the giant on his forehead and he crumpled to the ground. Goliath was dead. There was a moment of stunned silence before the whoops and cheers from the Israelite army echoed around the hillsides.

This was a day no-one would forget, when the **courage** of a shepherd boy saved a nation.



Bible story based on 1 Samuel 17



QUIZ Wordsearch

Find the words from the story in the grid on Goliath's shield.

- | | | |
|------------|----------|-----------|
| ARMOUR | BOY | DAVID |
| COURAGE | FOREHEAD | GIANT |
| GOLIATH | GOD | ISRAELITE |
| PHILISTINE | SHIELD | SLING |
| SOLDIER | STONE | STRUCK |



Online Activity

We all want our children to be safe online and with that in mind we will be providing you with information about online behaviours, apps and games which will be useful to you in supporting your child to stay safe. This will also support the daily teaching of online safety at school.

This week we inform parents and carers about 'Apex Legends', 28% of Upper School when surveyed say they went on this over 16s game at home.

Please also take a look on our website at [Our Safeguarding](#) page where you will discover a range of links to on-line safety information.



Apex Legends is a multiplayer battle royale video game which is free to play. In this game, twenty squads consisting of three players each are dropped onto an island from a dropship, where they compete against each other to be the last team standing. Each player on the squad gets to choose a 'Legend' to play with; one of eight unique characters with a specialised skillset in either 'Offense', 'Defense', 'Support' or 'Recon'. The players begin with no weapons or equipment and have to comb through an ever-shrinking play area for these, all the while killing enemies to emerge as the victorious trio. The game is currently available on PC, PlayStation 4 and Xbox One.

Publish Date: 14/03/19
Updated: 14/03/19



What parents need to know about APEX LEGENDS

VIOLENCE

Realistic versions of modern day firearms and gunfire, coupled with intense firefights, blood spatter effects on screen and large explosions make this game appear more violent than the less graphic Fortnite; a game similar to Apex Legends. Players use a variety of modern military weapons such as sniper rifles, machine guns, pistols, knives and frag grenades. Besides frantic gun battles, players also get to perform finishing moves on weakened enemies. These include electrocution, stabbing them with knives, beating them with fists, and using chemical gas attacks on multiple opponents before 'finishing them off'. These attacks are often shown up close and from the victims' perspective also. In light of this, PEGI has rated this game suitable for children 16 and older in the UK and Europe, while in the US it is rated 13+. Overexposure to such violence can cause distress to younger children.

IT CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Children love to play battle royale games, due to their competitive nature. However, the chance to play with friends against 57 other players might put undue pressure on your child to play at a certain time when their friends are online. This might also mean that quitting half-way through the game could prove detrimental to your child's team mates. Children might therefore feel compelled to play the game until they achieve their desired results. Even though a typical game might last around 25 minutes, children may feel angry if they lose and decide to play another round.

PLAYING WITH STRANGERS

Since Apex Legends is an online game with a squad of three players, your child will need two other friends to play with. If the friends are not on the same gaming platform, then your child will have to play with strangers. Players usually communicate with each other through headphones and microphones and this always carries the risk that they might be exposed to unpleasant graphic language or harassment (via the voice or on-screen text chat settings of the game), from people they don't know.

ABUSIVE PLAYERS & CHEATERS

As with any online game, there is a risk of players using intimidation and abusive language. This risk is increased when children play games with strangers. Another potential threat are the hackers who might encourage children to cheat in the game and make money off them.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Although anyone with an EA account can download and play this game for free, it does allow players to make a variety of in-game purchases with real money. Ranging anywhere between £7.99 and £79.99, players can purchase Apex Coins, the primary in-game currency. These in-game purchases allow the players to unlock cosmetic upgrades for characters as well as new 'Legends' more quickly than regular gameplay. Apex coins can be used to purchase Apex Packs containing 'loot boxes'. These allow players to collect rare items. Unlike many other battle royale style games, there are no duplicate items in 'loot boxes', which can incentivise children to purchase them more frequently. Other free in-game currencies such as 'Crafting Materials' and 'Legend Tokens' can also be used to unlock these upgrades through regular gaming.

GAMEPLAY VIDEOS

In order to better understand and improve their game, children might be tempted to use sites such as YouTube and search for Apex Legends gameplay videos. This might introduce them to obscene language used by gamers in these videos. Many videos on YouTube do not have age ratings and the ones that do display warnings for age restricted content are easy to bypass by signing in. In addition, children may be further exposed to inappropriate content when watching other 'suggested videos' that pop up on YouTube. Watching videos online of players opening their loot boxes on Apex Legends is one of the latest crazes. Although there is little risk attached to this, it may encourage your child to purchase loot boxes.



Top Tips for Parents

JUDGE FOR YOURSELF

Before exposing your child to any game involving violence, it may be a good idea to judge the appropriateness and impact of that game by previewing online clips of it first, or even by playing the game yourself. If you deem it suitable, only then allow your child to play the game. Moreover, you can take steps to ensure that the age restriction set by the particular game is being met and that no underage children are playing the game. You can also carry out regular open and honest conversations with children on the negative effects of violence, so that children have a clear idea of what it entails in real life.

MONITOR SEARCH ENGINES

In order to prevent your children from falling prey to obscene language online, it is important to monitor social media and search engine usage. Parents can restrict access to inappropriate content by blocking certain websites. With the help of activity log, parents can ensure that their children are not using any app or browsing any website unsuitable for their age. Parents can also look up safe search engines and browsers for children that have age appropriate filters and pre-screened child friendly content. When your child plays games online, it's important to have open and honest discussions with them regarding their activities and encourage positive behaviour towards others, as you would in 'real life'.

PREVENT YOUR CHILD FROM COMMUNICATING WITH STRANGERS

Communicating with teammates is an essential and enjoyable part of the game. Parents should encourage children to play the game with friends they know and trust. However, if that is not possible and your child is playing with strangers in their team, you can always mute them on the inventory screen during the game. In addition, the 'ping' feature can be used to allow players to communicate non-verbally i.e. by 'pinging' locations (within the game), objects, and enemies.

RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

If you do not want your children to make any in-game purchases or microtransactions, you must ensure that none of your debit/credit cards are linked to their player account or consoles. If your child plays the game on PlayStation 4 or Xbox One, you have the option of creating a child account which will prevent them from registering your credit card. Further to this, if you share your console with your child, you can password protect your account to prevent them from making any undesired purchases. You have to keep in mind that if you don't password protect your account and your child makes any unwanted purchases from an adult account, it's unlikely that you'll be able to claim refunds.

REPORTING ABUSIVE PLAYERS AND CHEATERS

Parents should make their children aware of how to report abusive players and block them while playing Apex Legends. The game's publisher, Electronic Arts (EA) has clear instructions on their website on how to report harassment. PlayStation 4 and Xbox One have their own reporting mechanisms and it is essential that your child knows these to report any untoward behaviour by any player. Children should also be told never to share any personal details with any players and report cheaters at once. The developers of Apex Legends take cheating quite seriously and banned around 16,000 players for cheating in the first two weeks of the game's release. Game developer Respawn announced that over 350,000 players were banned on PC alone through it's through its Easy-Anti-Cheat software.

LIMIT GAME TIME

With any new game that becomes an overnight success, it is important for parents to keep an eye on their children and see how it affects them. If you think your child is becoming addicted to playing the game, you can use parental controls on PC or on Xbox to limit the time they play the game for. For this particular game, since it would be difficult to leave partway through the game, you can find it more worthwhile to impose a limit on the number of matches your child plays, rather than the time the game is played for. As always, open and honest conversations with your children are critical; talk to them about the negative consequences of too much 'screen time'.

SOURCES:

<https://www.ea.com/games/apex-legends/about/frequently-asked-questions> | <https://www.digitalmomblog.com/apex-legends/> | <https://www.commonconsentmedia.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-apex-legends> | <https://www.commonconsentmedia.org/violence-in-the-media/my-kid-loves-violent-video-games-like-halo-should-i-be-concerned/> | <https://www.mirror.co.uk/tech/apex-legends-parents-guide-battle-14004313> | <https://news.co.uk/culture/gaming/apex-legends-parents-guide-violence-age-rating/> | <https://www.polygon.com/apex-legends-guide/2019/2/8/18217658/apex-legends-microtransactions-guide-coins-packs-tokens-crafting-materials> | <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/apex-legends-everything-you-need-know-about-battle-royale-game/> | <https://protectyourteens.com/parent-guide-apex-legends/> | <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/apex-legends-ban-hwid-cheat-account-respawn-a8817941.html>

Dates for the diary:-

Tuesday 1st March	Secondary School Places Confirmed
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day
Friday 18th March	Red Nose Day
Friday 18th March	Library Van
Friday 1st April	School Closes for Easter
Friday 15th April	Primary School Places Confirmed
Tuesday 19th April	School reopens
Friday 28th April	Library Van
Monday 11th July	Yr 6 Trip to Hothersall
Tuesday 12th July	Yr 6 Trip to Humblescough Farm

Clubs:-

MONDAY 28th	8:00am—8.50am Breakfast Club 3.30pm—4.30pm Forest School with Mrs Nash
TUESDAY 1st	8:00am—8.50am Breakfast Club 3.30pm—4.30pm Tennis with Simon Ardron
WEDNESDAY 2nd	8:00am—8.50am Breakfast Club 3.30pm—4.30pm Multi-skills Sports Club with Corey from Fleetwood Town
THURSDAY 3rd	8:00am—8.50am Breakfast Club 3.30pm—4.30pm Afterschool Games, Construction and Arts Club with Mrs Welsh
FRIDAY 4th	8:00am—8.50am Breakfast Club 3.30pm—4.30pm Multi-skills Sports Club with Corey from Fleetwood Town

Red Nose Day



Yay, Red Noses are back!

This year our School Council will be selling the famous Red Noses to help raise money for **Red Nose Day Friday 18th March**. This year's noses are the wildest bunch yet. There will be eight different designs to collect including the rare colourful **Cam the chameleon**.

All the noses are 100% plastic-free—including the packaging—making them green as well as red. They're made from a material called bagasse, which comes from sugar cane.

The noses will be **£1.50 each** with at least 75p going to Comic Relief. School have managed to get hold of **60 noses** and our School Council aim is to sell all of them, so **please wait to purchase yours and help our School Council reach their goal.**

When the noses arrive our school council will let the classes know.

