

Boorley Park News and Updates



3rd November 2023

Boorley Park School

School Closure

Thank you for your understanding over our decision to close the school yesterday. It is never an easy decision to make and our intention is always to remain open as we know that every day of education matters. The decision we made to close all of the schools in the Wildern Multi Academy Trust was based on the information we had that the storm was likely to be much more severe than it turned out to be.

Children are coming home with logins today for a range of online learning tools, including an online learning platform—please make sure you keep these logins safe as the children will need them for their weekly home learning.

Mrs Sillars

Spotlight On... Behaviour

We have been working hard with the children to help them to understand the expectations of behaviour for all children in school and why it is important that they follow our behaviour rules.

Our teachers have been working with the children on our 'behaviour curriculum, explicitly teaching the children the behaviours we expect of them. This week we have been focusing on learning how to safely walk around the school in lines and before half term we focused on keeping our cloakrooms tidy. By teaching the behaviours we expect, we know that all children know what is expected of them.

We always focus on recognising those children who are following the expectations of them and praise those going above and beyond our expectations. The school council are currently working with their classes to review and improve our positive behaviour reward system. We want to make sure that the praise and rewards the children get are meaningful and important to them.

In assembly on Monday, we went through again with the children what happens if they are not following the behaviours we expect of them. First, children receive a reminder of what is expected of them (e.g to put their hand up if they want to share an answer). If they continue to show the same behaviour they receive a warning. If they continue for a third time, they receive a consequence which is time off their breaktime or lunchtime. The number of minutes this lasts for is proportionate to the behaviour shown.

Any instances of swearing or physical aggression towards another child is an immediate consequence. This includes rough play and playfighting.

Any time lost up to 5 minutes is managed in the classroom by the teacher. If their time lost is over 5 minutes, children attend a lunchtime group run by Mrs Sillars to complete their consequence.

The same expectations are in place for all children. Where children do have additional needs, appropriate adaptations are in place to support them to meet the high expectations we have of them.



Maths Workshops

Next week we are holding Maths Workshops for each year group.

These are a chance for you to learn more about key concepts in maths and how we teach them at Boorley Park. There will be a short presentation in the hall for 15 minutes followed by a chance for you to go to class to complete a maths activity with your child. The dates and times for each year group are below:

- Year R—Monday 6th November— 9:15am
- Year 1—Tuesday 7th November—9:15am
- Year 2—Wednesday 8th November—9:15am
- Years 3 and 4 —Thursday 9th November—9:15am



We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Miss Ozanne and Miss Batchelor (Maths Leads)

School Lunches

Please can we remind you to make sure you order your child's lunches on ParentPay at least 24 hours before they are due to have the lunch. We had nearly 50 parents who had not ordered lunches for their children this week and this caused a huge amount of extra work for our kitchen and office staff.



Coats



As the weather gets colder and more unpredictable, please can you make sure that you send your child to school with a named coat every day. Even if the weather is fine in the morning, it has often changed by lunchtime and our field and playground can be very chilly.

Dates for Your Diaries—2023-2024

Whole School

Autumn Term 2023

- Thursday 16th —Monday 20th November – Book Fayre in School
- Friday 17th November—Children in Need (Non-Uniform Day)
- Friday 24th November—INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
- Saturday 25th November—PTA Christmas Event
- Wednesday 6th December—Open Box Pantomime in school for all pupils
- Thursday 14th December—PTA Christmas Neon Disco (Year R and Year 1 4:15pm—5pm; Years 2-4 5:15pm-6:15pm)
- Friday 15th December—Last Day of Autumn 2 Half Term



Spring Term 2024

- Tuesday 4th January—First Day of Spring 1 Half Term
- Friday 26th January—After School—Messy Church in our school hall
- Thursday 1st February—4:30pm—6pm—PTA Film Night for KS1 Pupils
- Monday 5th February—3:30pm—7pm-Parents' Evening
- Thursday 8th February—3:30pm—5:30pm—Parents' Evening
- Friday 9th February—Last Day of Spring 1 Half Term

Year R

- Monday 6th November—Maths Presentation and Workshop—9:15am
- Year R Christmas Play—Tuesday 12th December—2:15pm
- Year R Christmas Play —Thursday 14th December—9:15am

Year 1

- Tuesday 7th November—Maths Presentation and Workshop—9:15am
- Wednesday 22nd November—2:45pm—Parent Event—Science Workshop
- KS1 Christmas Play—Tuesday 5th December—9:15am
- KS1 Christmas Play—Thursday 7th December—2:15pm

Upcoming Events and Reminders

Year 2

- Wednesday 8th November—Maths Presentation and Workshop—9:15am
- Thursday 23rd November—2:45pm—Parent Event—Car Workshop
- KS1 Christmas Play—Tuesday 5th December—9:15am
- KS1 Christmas Play—Thursday 7th December—2:15pm

Year 3

- Thursday 9th November—Maths Presentation and Workshop—9:15am
- Friday 17th November—Year 3 and 4 trip to Butser Ancient Farm—**note change of date**
- **Deer Class** Wednesday 29th November—2:30pm—Fossil Painting Workshop with parents
- **Mouse Class** Thursday 30th November—2:30pm—Fossil Painting Workshop with parents

Year 4

- Thursday 9th November—Maths Presentation and Workshop—9:15am
- Friday 17th November—Year 3 and 4 trip to Butser Ancient Farm—**note change of date**
- Tuesday 28th November—2:45pm—Parent Workshop (Science)

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Five Nights at Freddy's is a series of indie point-and-click horror games whose word-of-mouth success and widespread spin-off content on YouTube have helped each of the nine instalments so far to sell almost five million copies on Steam (the PC gaming platform) alone. Set in various deserted locations at night, with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life, the games are rated PEGI 12 for disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.

FRIGHTENING THEMES

Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF for short) doesn't feature bloodshed like many horror games – but it does build tension and use jump scares, which may be too intense for young players. The sinister animatronic characters and the sensation of being trapped and defenceless could be particularly unsettling, as could the inclusion of disturbing elements such as murder or possession by evil spirits.

STRESSFUL SITUATIONS

Due to FNaF's suspenseful atmosphere, it can be extremely stressful for players. Constantly checking that one's surroundings are safe is a crucial part of the gameplay and could create residual stress or even obsessive-compulsive behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

IN-GAME SPENDING

FNaF doesn't foreground in-game purchasing as strongly as many other well-known games, but some titles in the series do offer additional content that promises to enhance the experience. Five Nights at Freddy's: Help Wanted, for instance, is complemented by a Halloween-themed expansion pack called 'Curse of Dreadbear' (costing £8.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As a result of FNaF's popularity, a sizeable YouTube community based on fan-made content has developed around the game. While the majority of this material is still child friendly, there are a number of channels which are geared more towards mature audiences: they contain adult and disturbing themes, for example, and (in some cases) age-inappropriate language.

PLAYING IN ISOLATION

Many parents will be relieved to learn that Five Nights at Freddy's is a single-player game which doesn't include any online chat functionality. Conversely, however, this could also make playing FNaF quite an isolating experience – especially if your child is spending a lot of time investigating the game's spooky, shadowy environments alone in their room, for example.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't have conventional parental controls. However, if you're concerned about the potential impacts of the game's themes and content, you can simply choose not to let your child play it. If they use an Android or iOS device for gaming, you can adjust Apple and Google's built-in parental controls to restrict your child's access to certain content.

TRY IT YOURSELF

Every child is different, of course, so it could be worth playing Five Nights at Freddy's yourself for a while to gauge how your young gamer might cope with the series' more frightening and disturbing aspects. If they're old enough, you could spend some time playing it together – after all, it usually only takes between two and ten minutes to complete a level.

LIMIT SPENDING

Unlike many popular titles, Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't bombard players with tempting in-game purchase offers. It's worth noting, however, that some instalments in the series do provide the option for players to spend real-world money. With that in mind, it's important to either keep a close eye on your child's expenditure or limit their access to digital payment options.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on Five Nights at Freddy's, or you're worried that the game's scary themes are taking a toll, watch out for warning signs. Young people may start to prioritise gaming over everyday essentials like schoolwork or sleep; irritability or a lack of concentration could also indicate that their gaming sessions are going on too long.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

Before you allow your child to play Five Nights at Freddy's, it's wise to have a conversation about the game so that they're aware of the potential risks. Ensure that your child understands that the series is purposely designed to be tense and unsettling, and that they should stop or take a break if the intensity of the gameplay is making them feel uncomfortable or putting them on edge.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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