



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2023

ISSUE NO.7

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



Ofsted
Good
Provider

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

As always, it was a pleasure to welcome so many parents to our first parents evening of the year on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. As Headteacher, it's evident to see our parents/carers value their child's education. Your engagement across the school is always something I am extremely proud of. Thank you for completing our parents voice questionnaire which was extremely positive. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and I have taken on board the wealth of positive comments and areas of improvement and will endeavour to ensure that we continue to provide **excellence in everything** across the school. There are lots of exciting educational opportunities and developments in the pipeline and your feedback is integral to supporting us in shaping an excellent education for our children.

A special note on the front page of the newsletter this week, for the continued improvement in attendance across the school. This week we had 6 classes above our school target of 96%, with a whole school attendance of 95.8% for the week - falling only 0.2% short of our aspirational whole school target of 96%. Moving into the last week of this half term, please make sure that your child is in school, on time....EVERYDAY. Don't let the team down!

As the final week of this half term approaches, there is no letting up and we don't take our foot off the gas! There are a number of SPOOK-TACULAR activities planned across the school, including pumpkin carving for our Nursery (Tuesday) and Reception (Thursday) children, parents and carers. This will be followed by our Halloween disco on Friday. On Wednesday 25th October we also have our open day for our September 2024 Reception intake. Please spread the message to friends and family about the opportunities open to children at Warren Farm as we deliver *Excellence in Everything - achieving greatness that lasts a lifetime*.

Thank you for your continued support and recognising the hard work of teachers and support staff across the school on a daily basis. As one parent commented this week "My child has developed so much since they have started, I would definitely recommend this school to another parent! Her confidence has increased so much."

Make it a great weekend

Mr Taylor

**SMALL DISCIPLINES REPEATED WITH CONSISTENCY
EVERYDAY, LEAD TO GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS GAINED SLOWLY**

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 20th October	Boys Football Match Minworth Away
Wed 25th October	Open day for Reception intake September 2024
Tues 24th October	Nursery Pumpkin carving 9:00am-10:30am
Thur 26th October	Early Years Pumpkin carving 1:30pm -3:00pm
Thur 26th October	Nursery Parents Evening
Fri 27th October	Halloween Disco 1:00pm -3:00pm
Fri 27th October	Break up for Half Term
Mon 6th November	Return to school

COURAGE

HONESTY

INTEGRITY

RESPECT

**SELF
DISCIPLINE**



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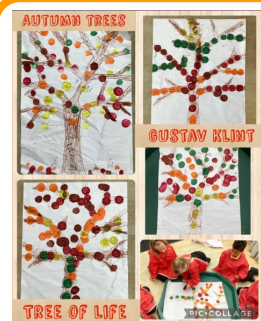


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EARLY YEARS

This week in Reception, we have been exploring nocturnal animals and animals that hibernate. We have made hibernation boxes and explored the materials we might need to keep animals warm. In art, we have looked at Gustav Klimt's *The Tree Of Life* - we have practised creating our own versions of this through collaborative artwork pieces using Autumn colours. Nursery have had a very busy week of exploring animals they found in their story, *Dear Zoo*. They have also been looking at different habitats for a variety of zoo animals. Finally, we shared our poetry performance with the rest of the school. We are so proud of how confident nursery and reception children were in front of such a big audience!

KEY STAGE 1

It has been another busy week in KS1. Thank you to everyone who attended parents evening. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and hear all about the 'Excellence in Everything' that Warren Farm has to offer. What can you do to help your child at home? Please, remember to read daily and question your child's understanding of the text, log onto bug cub and access the different books allocated by your child's teacher, point out maths in everyday life, help them to recite their times tables and log onto TTRS and find lots of opportunities to write together - make lists before you go shopping or write letters to friends and family. Please remember to share any excellent work completed at home with your child's class teacher or myself so the hard work at home can be recognised in school.

ATTENDANCE

In some areas of the school, attendance has been excellent this week. It is brilliant to see so much green on our attendance chart.

You may have seen the dojo post that was sent out by Mr Davis on Thursday which spoke about 'statutory attendance'. In simple terms, this is all the children who are 5 years old or above. Currently, our statutory attendance is out-performing our whole school attendance. For children in Nursery and Reception, it is really important that we instill good habits around attendance and punctuality from a young age. It is proven that these good habits will have a positive impact on children's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. We want all children to have the same opportunities and experiences, and the only way we can ensure that, is if children attend school every day.

NAH	88.4%
RMH	89.5%
1CO	98.6%
1/2YG	89.1%
2HM	94.7%
3AB	95.5%
3/4SK	96.3%
4DN	98.6%
5AG	96.7%
5/6NW	98.7%
6BP	97.3%

HALLOWEEN

On the last day of this half term - **Friday 27th of October** - we will be inviting children to come to school dressed in Halloween costumes and clothing. This will be a non-school uniform day. During the afternoon each phase will have a time allocated for their Halloween disco in the main school hall. Please bring a donation of £1 for fancy dress and each child will receive a tasty halloween treat at the disco
It's sure to be **SPOOK-TACULAR!**





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SAFEGUARDING

The safeguarding focus for this week is early help. Early help means providing support at the earliest possible time in a child's life to help improve their outcomes or prevent escalation. Early help can be given to families and children from a range of external agencies that can include school. Examples of early help can include; a family support worker allocated to the family, food bank, parenting support, school nurse support and mentoring. An early help referral can be made by school, health or the police, the referral is then sent to a panel which decides which agency would be best to support the family. Early help is an important service that can help families from spiralling towards the social care system, it is important if early help is given that the recipient then whole heartedly engages with them.

SEND

As a parent/carer of a child with SEND, it can be sometimes be difficult to know where to go for support and who to contact. In Birmingham the aim to work alongside the parents to offer the best possible support. The SEND Parent Link Service is the first point of contact for parents or carers of children with a Special Educational Need or a Disability to get advice and support. The service is here for you if you are not sure who to contact, where to go for advice or support you need, or you just want to ask a question. To access the service you can call them on 0121 303 8461 or email on ParentLinkService@birmingham.gov.uk

CHILD OF THE WEEK

NAH	Saad Ali
RMH	Phoebe Maddix
1CO	Zion Amanuel
1/2YG	Matei Stoian
2HM	Olivia-Lillie
3AB	Darius Bustiuc
3/4SK	Maisie Leigh Turner
4DN	Imaan Khan
5AG	Dhansiga Gunaseelan
5/6NW	Emmanuel Sambayi
6BP	Noah Martin

LOWER KEY STAGE 2

This week Year 3 and 4 performed in front of the whole school as part of our Black History Month Performance Poetry. It was amazing to see everyone's confidence flourish and listen to what they have been studying recently.

In RE, we have been studying the festival of light- Diwali. The children have made their own rangoli patterns and diva lamps. We have looked at the importance of celebrating Diwali, how to celebrate it and how people would feel on the day. 4DN have been making great progress in swimming this half term and we look forward to when they can earn some badges!



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

As part of our Black History Month celebrations, the children in Year 5 and 6 performed poetry by Joseph Coelho. The children did a wonderful job and really brought the words to life - we even had instruments!

Also this week, Year 6 have completed past SATs papers which will provide us with a baseline and identify any starting points. It is a useful tool for teachers to spot any misconceptions and determine our teaching in the future - it is a supportive measure and no pressure will be put on the children. Please continue to support your children at home if it causes any worry for them.





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KS1 MULTI-SKILLS

On Wednesday this week, 10 children from Year 1 and Year 2 attended Erdington Academy after school. Warren Farm participated in this event with a number of other schools from across Birmingham. The children participated in a carousel of activities focusing on key skills. There was also an emphasis on working together and teamwork. The children completed each activity twice with the aim being to better their scores. Everyone represented the school amazingly and had lots of fun! Well done to all!



MOVE MORE FESTIVAL

Warren Farm welcomed Spark Active to school on Friday to host a School Games event in our school hall. This event was to promote increased levels of activity in school allowing the children to participate in a variety of fun physical activities. The children also trialled the use of an amazing piece of technology- moki bands which track their activity levels and monitor how hard they are working. It was lovely to host this event at our school and we look forward to hosting more events as the year goes on.



WARREN FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Excellence in Everything - achieving greatness that lasts a lifetime

COURAGE

HONESTY

INTEGRITY

RESPECT

SELF DISCIPLINE

Reception Open Day

Wednesday 25th October 9:30am and 5:00pm

Warren Farm invites you to our Reception Open Day. We look forward to welcoming you into our environment where you can explore our curriculum, meet our staff and experience a taste of our Warren Farm culture.

Rated **GOOD** in all areas by Ofsted September 2023

"The school's motto, 'excellence in everything', captures the high expectations set for all pupils"

Scan the QR code to book your place now



Please have a look at our twitter page @warren_farm_pri for a glimpse of life beyond the school gates



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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 nationalonline.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you - EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RECURRING RELEASES

EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template - meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT

FIFA 23 introduced cross-platform play, and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for youngsters who love to play with friends online - but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and far older online gamers.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time - so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.



ULTIMATE TEAM SCAMMERS

Since the mode was introduced, Ultimate Team has been a target of scammers who attempt to coax players into buying or selling outside the terms of service from EA and console manufacturers. This shady practice can lead to accounts being banned and in-game items being lost. In some cases, young gamers have also been hoodwinked into handing over their payment details to the fraudsters.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

Just like real-life football, EA Sports FC 24 offers a thrilling, dynamic blend of tactical awareness and skill that fans find absolutely engrossing. Among younger players in particular, this could lead to identifiers of a gaming disorder as they plead for 'just one more game' before bedtime or spend practically all weekend playing more matches to earn additional Ultimate Team packs.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS

EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that scam tactic), but never through the game itself - so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites: it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

AVOID EXTRA TIME

Many parents of young football-oriented gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play - or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD

Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers: voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

CELEBRATE THE VARIETY

Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 - including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation: an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mostly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



Source: <https://www.winiflosscentral.com/youngsters-spend-over-800-million-a-year-highlighting-prosperity-game-as-a-cash-cow>, <https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item-detail/behaviours-gaming-disorder>, <https://www.eurogamer.net/18-eurogamer-scouts-a-call-for-better-regulation-of-loot-boxes-following-new-report>



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