

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 7th March 2024

SPRING 2 TERM

Safeguarding at Leavening

Our Safeguarding Team

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Mitchell**

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Bennett**

Our Safeguarding Governor is: **Dr Neil Audsley**

Worried About a Child? Make a Referral



Where there are significant immediate concerns about the safety of a child, you should contact the police on 999

Everyone has a responsibility to refer a child when it is believed or suspected that a child:

- Has suffered significant harm and /or;
- Is likely to suffer significant harm and/or;
- Has developmental and welfare needs which are likely only to be met through provision of family support services (with agreement of the child's parent).

If you believe the situation is urgent but does not require the police, please call 0300 131 2 131 to make a telephone contact.

Should your call be outside of business hours (Monday – Friday / 9am-5pm) please still call 0300 131 2 131 to speak to the Emergency Duty Team.

Learn more about Child Exploitation

Follow this link for more information

[NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://www.nyscp.org.uk/safeguardingchildren.co.uk)

DIARY DATES

MARCH

Monday 11th

Science dress up day

Friday 15th

9.15-11.30 Nursery open morning
Red Nose Day/Science Games pm
Children to come dressed 'red to toe'
(red, home clothes or fancy dress).

W/C Monday 18th

Parent/Teacher Consultations –
please email the office to sign up

Wednesday 20th

Beechwood Visit (Acorns/Rec)

Thursday 21st

Non-uniform in exchange for a
chocolate donation for the bingo
Pop-Up Library Visit (afternoon)
FOLS Chocolate Bingo Event
5.30-7pm (Tickets on sale now)

Friday 22nd

Last day of term
Spring Concert 9.30am
with refreshments. All welcome!

APRIL

Monday 8th

Staff training day

Monday 15th

Bags 2 School collection 9am
(See poster within Newsletter)

Monday 15th

Seeing is Believing (9-10.30am)
All parents/carers are invited to
spend time in classes (please email
the office so we know to expect you)

REMINDERS

Please ensure you have fully paid up
for Young Voices, extra-curricular
clubs and all other payments.

ALL ParentPay balances
on your child's account
should be clear.

If you have any queries or
issues regarding your
ParentPay account, please
get in touch with the office.
Thank you.

School Attendance

26 February 2024 - 01 March 2024

Our school weekly attendance was:

95.38%

This was above the **primary national**

average: 94.6%

Attendance **this week** so far: **98.72%**

Attendance **this term** so far: **95.66%**



Follow the link on our Facebook page for more info: [Primary illness video](#)

Recent highlights from Conkers Class



This week, all Conkers have learnt about 'length and height' in their maths topics. The Reception children had a great time ordering feet, hands and themselves which proved challenging until a very tall Mrs Richardson entered the lineup! In computing, the children have studied data collection; experimenting with different data collection methods and presenting these in a pictogram form, including presenting their favourite fruits in 'human pictogram' form!! This week, we finally managed to start our Forest Schools sessions (every Monday) which proved a joy (in the sunshine!) - we worked in teams on a 'scavenger hunt' of natural items and had such fun getting fresh air, our hands dirty and working with our friends!

Recent highlights from Oak Trees Class

Country Life

“Last week, Leavening School went on a trip to Mrs Spencer’s farm to kick off our topic, ‘A Country Life. When we got there, Mrs Spencer took us into a room in her farmhouse where she showed us what the cows eat and some pictures of them. After that we visited some cows and even fed them. After seeing them Mrs Spencer showed us where they used to be milked. Finally, we went to see a tractor and we took turns going inside. We had the best time. Thank you Mrs Spencer and Mr Spencer for access to your farm” - Betty and Ted



Parent/Teacher Consultations: W/C 18th March

Our upcoming Teacher Consultations for children in **ALL** classes will take place w/c 18th March.

If you have not yet signed up, **please do so ASAP**. They will run in 10min slots as follows:

Acorns Nursery: Tues 19th (phone call appts only) : 10am-Midday or Weds 20th : 3.30pm-5pm

Conkers class: (Rec-Year 2) Mon 18th: 3.30pm-6pm (with Mrs Bennett). Priority on this date given to children with a sibling in Oak Trees class, or Thurs 21st : 3.30pm-6pm (with Mr Mortimer)

Oak Trees class: (Year 3-Year 6) Mon 18th 3.30pm-6pm -priority on this date given to children with a sibling in Conkers class or Tues 19th : 3.30pm-6pm

FOLS CHOCOLATE BINGO EVENT - Thursday 21st March 5.30pm to 7pm. Adult: £5/each Child: £3/each.

Tickets are on sale NOW from the office (cash only please)

Please support the school with this fundraising evening, which is sure to be lots of fun! 😊

The event will take place in the school hall. We encourage parents to bring their own snacks/nibbles for their table. We will be having a 'donation bar' with various refreshments on offer, in return for donations.

Please can we ask children to **bring in a chocolate donation** (which will be the prizes for the bingo) in exchange for **non uniform day** on the day of the event (21/03/24).

Aspire Week Fame!

Following on from our very successful Aspire Week, please see links from [ITV Racing](#) and the [Gazette & Herald](#) featuring highlights from school. A huge thank you again to all involved for inspiring our children.



Sports kits and water bottle reminders

Water bottles should be filled with water *not* juice. Children need suitable **outdoor sports kits** when it's raining. Lack of this prevents us going out to do it. Thank you for your support.

BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



Leavening Community Primary School

Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



PLEASE USE YOUR OWN BAGS (THERE IS NO LIMIT).

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

***The more we weigh the more we pay!
Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit***

Please return your Bag2School on:

Friday 12th April 2024 by 9am



01609 780 222



www.bag2school.com



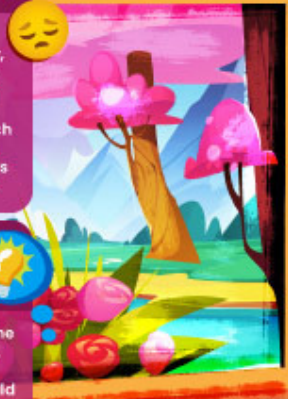
helpdesk@bag2school.com

Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.



2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.

3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.

4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.

5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.

6. STAY INFORMED

Make sure you know your child's school's definition of, response to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information should be in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Class teachers or form tutors are usually the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.

7. PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE

Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're resolving disagreements and arguments, or addressing unintended verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to work out with your child whether any harm was intentional, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting concerns accurately will get the best outcome for your child more quickly.

8. SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE

When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced: what happened; when; where; and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.

9. LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL

Any school has a duty to ensure that the members of its community feel safe and included. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to restore these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to keep parents and carers informed of any action taken – and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.

10. CHECK IN FREQUENTLY

Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to rebuild relationships or develop new ones. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any relevant information should be shared, so that further support can be planned if necessary.

Meet Our Expert

Bob Basley is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark-UK, which challenges and supports schools to develop sustainable whole-school approaches to prevent bullying, including working with parents and carers. More than 80 schools in England and Wales currently hold the quality mark.



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Source: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/788040/survey_of_pupils_and_their_parents_or_carers-wave_2.pdf
<https://www.oecd.org/education/tais/tais2018tables.htm> | https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/821070/health_behaviour_in_school_age_children_cyberbullying.pdf

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TEKKEN 8

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Thirty years after its debut on the original PlayStation, the Tekken franchise is back with its eighth mainstream instalment. A one-on-one fighting game series in the same vein as Street Fighter and Mortal Kombat, Tekken 8 can be commended for its relative lack of in-game purchases – but there's still plenty to consider in keeping young players safe from potential hazards.



FUTURE SPENDING?

Tekken 8 carries a PEGI 16 rating, with the assessors noting its violence, occasional profanity and in-game purchase options. The latter issue, however, is a little different to what you may expect from a modern game: unlike many high-profile releases, Tekken 8's content is all accessible without spending any extra money. The exceptions are new characters, which will become available to purchase separately in the future.

COPYCAT RISK

With characters flying across the screen using a mixture of authentic and fantastical fighting styles, younger children and impressionable teens may find themselves tempted to copy their favourite characters or act out their epic fights in real life. This could simply amount to harmless fun – but could also easily lead to accidents, injury and distress if young gamers start actually landing blows.

VIOLENT GAMEPLAY

As a fighting game, Tekken 8's gameplay is heavily based on punching, kicking and throwing opponents around – while some characters' attacks occasionally involve weapons. Most of the violence is comparatively cartoonish in its execution and lacking in gore, but the fact remains that the action still revolves entirely around intense combat and inflicting damage on an opponent.

FAMILY CONFLICT

Tekken 8's story mode, 'The Dark Awakens', focuses on two of the series' most important characters – Kazuya and Jin, a father and son who have been warring for years. The sight of two family members physically fighting each other may be hard to understand (and difficult to deal with) for some children – causing confusion and concern over why relatives would want to hurt one another.

RANKED ONLINE PLAY

Tekken 8 features an array of online modes – most notably its 'Ranked' section, where players battle to reach the top spot of a worldwide leaderboard. Many players will dedicate significant amounts of time to practising and – while the challenge can be fun – some of these matches can get extremely competitive. Children could become obsessed with climbing the rankings and dedicate an unhealthy amount of time to the game or grow angry if they wind up on a losing streak.

ONLINE CONTACT

Tekken 8 doesn't offer voice chat by default, but a player's platform ID is visible (such as their PlayStation Network ID, Steam account or Xbox gamertag). Rival players can, therefore, reach out via messages if they wish. Given the game's fiercely competitive nature, these communications can potentially put children at risk of online abuse if their opponent is a particularly sore loser.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TRY IT OUT YOURSELF

As with many popular games, we'd recommend checking it out for yourself in advance if you have any concerns. In the case of Tekken 8, there's a free demo version available (for all platforms) which lets you experience fights with a handful of the characters: a useful way of establishing first-hand whether some children might find the game's violence to be too intense.

EXERCISE YOUR JUDGEMENT

While Tekken 8 features a sort of 'spray' impact effect when attacks land, it's not the kind of game that most observers would describe as gory (unlike, for instance, the Mortal Kombat franchise). Of course, any fighting game worthy of the name will include a significant degree of violence – but the level at which the battles in Tekken are pitched may not be an issue for some children.

MARTIAL ARTS MOTIVATION?

With characters utilising real-world fighting styles such as jiu-jitsu, boxing and kickboxing, Tekken could represent an opportunity to channel a child's fondness for the game into a beneficial interest in real-world martial arts. Classes can help to build young people's confidence and physical fitness, as well as providing avenues for making new friends.

CONTROL COMMUNICATIONS

If a child plays Tekken online with anyone apart from their friends, then parents and carers could consider restricting communications – such as shutting off the facility to be messaged by other players (although the child's profile name will still be displayed) – to reduce the chance of contact from strangers. This can be done via the console's account settings or through the child's Steam account (if playing on PC).

Meet Our Expert

Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon, Lloyd Coombes has worked in the games media industry for five years. He's played every Tekken title since the series began and, as a parent, also values the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



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