

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

27/10/2023



'Let your light shine'

It's been an incredibly busy half term at St Barnabas, with so much going on from trips, after school clubs, fundraising organised by our children and children taking on important leadership roles. In school, you will often hear me talking about 'letting your light shine,' and I don't think there has ever been a term when I have seen so many examples of our children living out our vision in so many different ways. From extremely high standards of work, superb sporting achievements, raising money for charity, kindness and support for friends, I could talk all day about the achievements of our children and they just keep getting better and better! A big thank you to our amazing staff team who all work tirelessly to support our children to be the best they can be.

Have a lovely half term everyone.

Miss Hodgkinson

HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS OUR AMAZING CHILDREN HAVE 'LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE' THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL...



Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Generosity'

"God loves a cheerful giver."

Corinthians 9 v8

This week we pray for all those living in places around the world affected by war and conflict. We pray for peace.

This week's big question is:

If everyone was generous in the world, would there be no more arguments?

Places in St Barnabas Nursery Available

We are now accepting applications for places in our nursery for January 2024.

Please ask the school office for an application form or to make an appointment to look around.

We can also assist with 2 year old funding applications.

If you think you may be eligible for 30 hours of free childcare please visit the Childcare Choices website:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/upcoming-changes-to-childcare-support/>



Confirmation Classes

We will be running Confirmation Classes for children in year 5 and 6 after school every Tuesday from 3:15 until 4:15 starting on Tuesday 14th November, in preparation for the Confirmation Service on Sunday 28th January. A link to sign up will be sent out next week.

Half Term Fun:

We have put together a list of ideas for ways to keep children active and healthy this October half term through a variety of camps and activities:

FREEDOM FOOTBALL HALF TERM CAMPS

<https://freedomfootball.classforkids.io/camps>

WARRINGTON WOLVES HOLIDAY CAMP

<https://register.enthouse.com/ps/event/HolidayCampActivity2023>

NETBALL CAMPS

- Appleton Netball Club -

www.nelliesnetball.co.uk/book-online

https://www.facebook.com/Nelliesnetball/posts/pfbid0262PfvzFLehWEo47rHGp8WylBYb3jguq3PFIhekmoEoRvXxGqseCLRCQESRj9PVpchl?locale=en_GB

- Warrington Sport for All Centres

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=337791721940932&set=a.217681593951946>

WARRINGTON SPORTS ACADEMY

[Warrington Sports Academy Half Term Camps - Facebook link](#)

THE MINI MAKERY - Halloween crafts & food art

<https://buytickets.at/theminimakerlytd>

WARRINGTON YOUTH ZONE

<https://warringtonyouthzone.org/young-people/holiday-club/>

Staying Safe Online

Our e-safety message this week looks at Five Nights at Freddy's, which has become a popular name among younger people. There are things about it readily available, but we need to be aware that this is a 12 rated horror series. Children will of course be curious about things that they may hear their friends talking about, so our guide this week discusses some of the hazards that children might face such as sinister characters and disturbing themes.

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S

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.

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 12

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT
18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?
Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF) for short, doesn't feature the most intense horror games - but it does have a reputation for being scary. The game's premise, which may be too intense for young players, involves the sinister and unsettling 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.

FRIGHTENING THEMES
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 behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

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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 £9.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

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 news coverage across the industry. Previously the author of tech books like the popular, Carly's House in Technology Journalist, author and co-author.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Twitter: @natonline_safety, Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety, Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety, YouTube: @national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 25.10.2023

School Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Friday 27 th October	School closes for half term
Monday 6 th November	School opens
Thursday 21 st December	School closes for Christmas break at 1:30pm
Monday 8 th January	School opens
Friday 9 th February	School closes for half term
Monday 19 th February	School opens
Thursday 28 th March	School closes for Easter break
Monday 8 th April	School opens
Monday 6 th May	Bank holiday - school closed
Friday 24 th May	School closes for half term
Monday 10 th June	School opens
Friday 28 th June	Warrington Walking Day - school closed
Friday 19 th July	School closes for Summer break

Have a happy and safe half term from everyone at St Barnabas.
School re-opens on **Monday 6th November**.

