

# Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

*Caring, Sharing, Learning Together*

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**On this day in history:**

**1610** Galileo Galilei discovers Callisto, 4th satellite of Jupiter.

**1930** "Mickey Mouse" comic strip 1st appears

**1938** The Church of England accepts the theory of evolution



## Whole School Attendance Weekly Attendance figures

Reception = 89.2 %

Year 1 = 90.4 %

★ Year 2 = 92.7 % ★

Year 3 = 91.8 %

★ Year 4 = 94.0 % ★

Year 5 = 93.9 %

Year 6 = 88.9 %



### Congratulations

Well Done Year 2 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 4 for the best attendance in Upper School across the whole week.

### Reminder

Please remind children not to bring expensive items of jewellery to school as these often get lost or damaged and our jewellery policy does not allow for necklaces, rings and bracelets partly for this reason. Children are also not permitted smart watches.

### Feeding Family Food Parcels

We are continuing to work with Feeding Families this year, a charity that offers support, hope and security to those experiencing food poverty. During these difficult times if you feel that you would benefit from one of these parcels please don't hesitate to contact the Lower school Office and make arrangements to collect a parcel outside of normal school drop off and collection times. The number of parcels is limited and are therefore available on a first come, first served basis.

Lower School Office : 01207 610355

### Spring First Half Term Sports and Music Timetable

Below is a timetable of sports and music provision covering all classes from EYFS to Year 6 for this Half Term – any additional PE slots will have been shared by the class teacher on Class Dojo.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Adam – Dance Year 2 and EYFS	SEND Sports Intervention		Swimming Year 6	
Forest Schools Year 3 and Year 5	Adam – Dance Year 4 and Year 6		Little Kickers Year 1 and Year 2	
Music EYFS and Year 2	Little Kickers EYFS		Taekwondo Year 3 and Year 5	

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## School Dates

### School Holiday Dates

The next school Holiday is February Half Term and the School closes on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February and reopens on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

### School dates confirmed so far :

27<sup>th</sup> Jan – Year 4 Outreach Vikings Visit in school  
6<sup>th</sup> Feb – Year 4 Captain Chemistry  
14<sup>th</sup> Feb – Lower School Non Curriculum Day – Aboriginal Creative Day  
17<sup>th</sup> Feb – Upper School Non Curriculum Day  
17<sup>th</sup> Feb – School closes for Half Term Holiday  
2<sup>nd</sup> March – Word Book Day  
15<sup>th</sup> March – Golf Day sessions – EYFS and Keystage 1  
17<sup>th</sup> March – Golf Day Sessions – Keystage 2  
27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March – Parents evenings  
31<sup>st</sup> March – School closes for Easter Holiday

More dates including visits and visitors will be added once confirmed in the coming weeks

### Revised School Uniform Policy

Parents are reminded that our school uniform policy is currently out for consultation on our school website before going to the Governors – should you have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to send a class dojo message.



### SEND Coffee Afternoon

Come and Join Us  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March  
2pm – 3pm

A friendly Chat with a Cuppa at Lower School

Does your child have special education Needs?  
Would you like support?  
Could you offer support to others?

Share with others in similar situations in a friendly, supportive environment.

All welcome



Leadgate Primary School  
Parent and Toddler Playgroup

Sharing  
Caring  
Learning together

Lot of games, toys, stories, music, soft play, activities and fun!  
Come for a play and a chat!

West Street, Leadgate, DH8 7PN  
Every Friday (term time only)  
1.30pm – 2.30pm  
(to vacate by 2.45pm ready for school pick ups)  
Tea & coffee available  
£1 admission

# E-Safety Update / Information

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 game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WORLD OF WARCRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION  
12+

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywood movie adaptation – but why are we still talking about it in 2023? World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game – as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

World of Warcraft is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Players create a character and head off on mythical quests to earn rewards and become more powerful. The game's environment is absolutely vast, and it can only be played online on PC or Mac – so there's a high probability of young Warcraft fans wanting to monopolise the family computer.

### REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As is common with many MMORPGs, World of Warcraft's developers, Blizzard, release regular expansions for the game (usually every 18 months to two years). So although there's still plenty of content for young players to experience right now, there will almost inevitably be a requirement to continue buying future expansion packs, which tend to cost around £50.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just like its genre contemporary Final Fantasy XIV, World of Warcraft requires a monthly subscription fee to play. It's currently £9.99 per month (although you can get it cheaper by signing up to a longer subscription). There are also many items which can be purchased from the in-game store that don't affect gameplay, but instead offer cosmetic alterations to a player's character.

### VOICE AND TEXT CHAT

Because World of Warcraft is played exclusively on PCs and Macs, it's easy for users to type out text messages if they aren't comfortable using voice chat. If you'll forgive the pun, that's a double-edged sword because – although there's less chance of them being harassed verbally – it puts young players at increased risk of being trolled or receiving spam through the in-game messaging function.

### SIMULATED VIOLENCE

The fact that World of Warcraft is almost 20 years old means that even its most violent battles look slightly cartoonish compared with the level of authenticity in many more modern games. The exception tends to be Warcraft's in-game cutscenes: animated sections which move the plot onto the next stage. These offer more realistic visuals, but they still aren't overly gory or scary.

### POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

World of Warcraft can trigger a powerful "just one more quest" mentality in players (especially young ones) as they rush to secure the next dopamine hit from levelling their character up or earning a new item or weapon. It's also a game that doesn't have a definite "end" – because as soon as a player finishes levelling up one character, they can start afresh with another one.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MANAGE PLAYTIME

World of Warcraft can be an extremely enjoyable game to play with friends, but it's important that your child doesn't let their adventures crowd out school work, socialising or anything else they also enjoy. You could, for example, consider imposing playtime limits – such as a set number of hours to play Warcraft per week, or restricting it to particular days or just weekends.

### MAKE IT A REWARD

If your child is excited about getting the next World of Warcraft expansion, you could consider using it as a reward for completing their weekly tasks (you could even call them "quests") like tidying their room or doing their homework. This will demonstrate that you're happy for them to play the game but will also help them to build good, productive habits, reinforcing that hard work earns rewards.

### SIGN UP FOR THE FREE TRIAL

Warcraft's monthly subscription effectively "pays" for the regular new content, but there's also a sizeable free trial that lets new players explore the world of Azeroth without paying a penny. Players can play up until Level 20 for free, which is easily several hours' worth of gameplay. If your child does take this option, we'd suggest minimising in-game spending by not linking a bank card to their account.

### REMEMBER THE AGE RATING

Due to mild violence and the occasional use of offensive language, World of Warcraft has been rated as appropriate for players aged 12 and over by PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system, which gives games their age certificate). It isn't really suitable for anyone below that age, so you may potentially have to explain this reasoning to your younger children if they want to play it.

### ADVENTURE TOGETHER

Warcraft can certainly be addictive, but playing it together is also a great way to spend time with your child. The game's focus on cooperative questing and battling enemies can make it feel like you've accomplished something as a team, and you'll also be in a prime position to spot any early signs of addiction. Just remember to apply gaming time limits to yourself as well as your young ones!

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Destructoid and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



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Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2011/aug/29/world-of-warcraft-video-game-addict> | <https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/start>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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