

The Horsley School Bag

Friday 17th March

Newsletter 13 from Mr Price, *Head Teacher*

Our value this term is: **Generosity**



The Passion

Otters Class led our Easter assembly this morning, telling the story of the crucifixion with great sensitivity and thoughtfulness. We wish you all a very Happy Easter!



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL





At iRock we believe every child deserves an opportunity to express themselves! Our in-school rock and pop band lessons provide an amazing confidence-boosting experience for children by making music fun! Weekly iRock lessons help to unleash your child's confidence: playing in their very own band, learning their favourite songs, leading up to live concerts.

- ★ No musical experience is necessary.
- ★ iRock provide all of the instruments
- ★ Your child can choose from drums, keyboard, lead electric guitar, bass guitar or vocals
- ★ iRock lessons are held during the school day
- ★ Our experienced band coaches will guide the band through every lesson
- ★ iRock runs from Reception through to Year 6
- ★ Bands are grouped by age
- ★ Children choose their band name and learn their favourite songs
- ★ Rehearsals build towards a concert at the end of each term
- ★ Included in iRock is a brand new music qualification that children can achieve without needing to take an exam

Click here: <https://www.irockschool.com/enrol> to visit our website, type in the name of your school and register interest for your child to join iRock.

Orienteering

On Wednesday, 10 children were ferried to Westonbirt Arboretum to take part in an orienteering challenge. Despite the rain and cold, the children worked together to map-read and decipher clues, showing great teamwork as well as resilience. Great fun was had by all!



In the mosh pit...

Last Thursday, the whole school, along with lots of parents, were treated to a real live rock concert. Having worked with Carl, the i-Rock guru, all term, 4 rock bands confidently performed their rehearsed song in front of an appreciative crowd.



Atlas Games: The latest

Last week, an intrepid group of young athletes took part in a Panathlon Challenge with other Stroud schools, involving a circuit of activities to develop a variety of sporting key skills. Our children took part with enthusiasm and real sportsmanship, ending up in no less than 3rd place! We are very proud of them all.



Congratulations to our latest Special Award Winners
Harrison, Bryony, Kobi, Maisie, Taya, Sonny and Oliver



**The latest
'In it to win it'
winners are
Billy and Samuel**



Run, Kitty, Run!!!

In the next, exciting, instalment of our school running prowess, Kitty travelled to Loughborough last Sunday, to take part in the next stage of the cross country running competition. Competing against 170 runners from across the country, around at 2.4km course, Kitty managed to achieve NINETEENTH place!



Just order your school meal as normal, in the morning!

You are formally invited to celebrate...



King Charles III's
Coronation
May 5th 2023

Traditional British Fish & Chips

Or

Glamorgan Sausage with Chips

~

Peas or Baked Beans

~

Welsh Cakes with Strawberry Jam



caterlink
feeding the imagination

The race is on!

It may be all over by now, so let's hope that the best duck won (not sure it'll be the one below - she may find it a tight squeeze to get out of the wash pool). A massive thank you to all the parents who have helped to make this annual tradition happen!



Competition time!

Are you a young eco champion? Then why not enter Nailsworth Climate Action Network's

Recycling Competition?

Design an eye-catching poster to encourage recycling in our town and we'll display the winning entries at the Nailsworth Festival for all to see. You can use pictures, information or both - we'd love to learn new recycling facts from you!

Entries must be in colour and on an A4 sheet with your name, age and parent's contact details on the back. Please hand in at the **Nailsworth Library** by the **20th April** to see your name in print and your work come to life. Entrants must be 12 years and under.



Diary Dates

April

- 21 Otters swimming lessons start (until July)
- 28 May Day Celebrations

May

- 1 May Day Bank Holiday
- 2 Messy Church, 3.15pm in the church
- 8 Y6 SATS week (Monday Bank Holiday)
- 15-18 Owls Residential - Viney Hill
- 26 Foxes Class Assembly

June

- 7 Whole school photo + Y6 leavers
- 13 Messy Church, 3.15pm in the church
- 14 Y6 Leavers' Service, Gloucester Cathedral
- 26-27 Otters' residential @ Raffles Forest School
- 29 Sports Day (morning)

July

- 4&5 Y6 Induction Days at SWR
- 5 Parents Drop-in Evening 3.30-5.00pm
- 6 Reserve Sports Day (morning)
- 11 Y5/6 Production 6-7pm (tbc)
- 13 Y5/6 Production 6-7pm (tbc)
- 18 Move-up morning
- 21 Leavers' Assembly, 11am



2022-2023

2022/2023 Academic Year Dates

- Term 1:** Tues 6 Sep - Fri 21 Oct 2022
- Term 2:** Tues 1 Nov - Fri 16 Dec 2022
- Term 3:** Wed 4 Jan - Fri 17 Feb 2023
- Term 4:** Mon 27 Feb - Fri 31 Mar 2023
- Term 5:** Mon 17 Apr - Fri 26 May 2023
- Term 6:** Mon 5 Jun - Fri 21 July 2023

INSET days this year

- Mon 5 Sep 2022
- Mon 31 Oct 2022
- Tues 3 Jan 2023
- Mon 24 July 2023
- Tues 25 July 2023



See next page for a calendar dates for 23-24

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2023/24

SEPTEMBER

Mon	4 th	11	18	25	
Tues	5	12	19	26	
Wed	6	13	20	27	
Thur	7	14	21	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	3	10	17	24	

OCTOBER

Mon	2	9	16	23
Tues	3	10	17	24
Wed	4	11	18	25
Thur	5	12	19	26
Fri	6	13	20	27
Sat	7	14	21	28
Sun	1	8	15	22

NOVEMBER

Mon	6	13	20	27	
Tues	7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29
Thur	2	9	16	23	30
Fri	3	10	17	24	
Sat	4	11	18	25	
Sun	5	12	19	26	

DECEMBER

Mon	4	11	18	25
Tues	5	12	19	26
Wed	6	13	20	27
Thur	7	14	21	28
Fri	1	8	15	22
Sat	2	9	16	23
Sun	3	10	17	24

JANUARY

Mon	1	8	15	22	29
Tues	2	9	16	23	30
Wed	3	10	17	24	31
Thur	4	11	18	25	
Fri	5	12	19	26	
Sat	6	13	20	27	
Sun	7	14	21	28	

FEBRUARY

Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	
Sat	3	10	17	24	
Sun	4	11	18	25	

MARCH

Mon	4	11	18	25
Tues	5	12	19	26
Wed	6	13	20	27
Thur	7	14	21	28
Fri	1	8	15	22
Sat	2	9	16	23
Sun	3	10	17	24

APRIL

Mon	1	8	15	22	29
Tues	2	9	16	23	30
Wed	3	10	17	24	
Thur	4	11	18	25	
Fri	5	12	19	26	
Sat	6	13	20	27	
Sun	7	14	21	28	

MAY

Mon		6	13	20	27
Tues		7	14	21	28
Wed	1	8	15	22	29
Thur	2	9	16	23	30
Fri	3	10	17	24	31
Sat	4	11	18	25	
Sun	5	12	19	26	

JUNE

Mon	3	10	17	24	
Tues	4	11	18	25	
Wed	5	12	19	26	
Thur	6	13	20	27	
Fri	7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun	2	9	16	23	30

JULY

Mon	1	8	15	22	29
Tues	2	9	16	23	30
Wed	3	10	17	24	31
Thur	4	11	18	25	
Fri	5	12	19	26	
Sat	6	13	20	27	
Sun	7	14	21	28	

AUGUST

Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	4	11	18	25	

Term Time		Holidays	
Bank Holiday			

Term 1: Mon 4 th Sept – Fri 27 th Oct 2023	40 days
Term 2: Mon 6 th Nov – Fri 22 nd Dec 2023	35 days
Term 3: Mon 8 th Jan - Fri 9 th Feb 2024	25 days
Term 4: Mon 19 th Feb – Fri 22 nd Mar 2024	25 days
Term 5: Mon 8 th April – Fri 24 th May 2024	34 days
Term 6: Mon 3 rd June – Mon 22 nd July 2024	36 days
Total	195 days*

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 th December 2023
	26 th December 2023
New Year Bank Holiday	1 st January 2024
Good Friday	29 th March 2024
Easter Monday	1 st April 2024
Early May Bank Holiday	6 th May 2024
Spring Bank Holiday	27 th May 2024
Summer Bank Holiday	26 th August 2024

*195 days are defined as 'School days'. In the school year 2023/24 pupils must attend for 190 days. Schools may decide individually or collectively which 5 days in the year are INSET or non-contact days (days pupils do not need to attend).

Please Note: Schools considering alternative dates or considering changes to their school opening times may wish to contact our Transport Team to discuss transport implications and contact local childcare providers to discuss what impact this could have.

**HORSLEY
YOUTH
CLUB**



JUMBLE SALE

**HORSLEY
VILLAGE HALL**

**Saturday May 13th
12 - 2.30**

PLANTS | SOUP | TEA | CAKES

**Please
donate
your
jumble!**

DONATIONS can be dropped off on Wednesday evenings 6.30-8.30 and Friday 12th May 7.45-8.30pm at Horsley Village Hall or in Nailsworth (contact Tam 07880355644 to arrange)

For any other info please email Tam at horsleyglosyouthclub@gmail.com

Horsley Youth Club is supported by Horsley Parish Council

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT

AGE RATING
7+

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying: it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unnerve young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play – so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lot of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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