



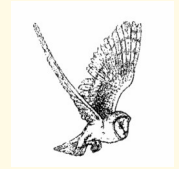
# Garras School Newsletter

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26th January 2024

Attendance last week (19.1.24—25.1.24)

(Whole School Target—97%)

Barn Owls – 93.7%

Hawk Owls-98.8%

Eagle Owls– 97.1%

Year to date (whole school)—96.47%

## Attendance

It is essential for children to attend school regularly in order to maximise the opportunities available to them. **Regular attendance is important because it affects learning.** Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning, as well as disrupting teaching routines which will inevitably cause gaps in learning and limit progress.

We are monitoring attendance on a regular basis and will send out letters to parents where attendance is a cause for concern, inviting them to meet with the head teacher to discuss any issues and work together to improve their child's attendance overall.

You will be aware that we provide weekly attendance information on the school newsletter, which we hope you find useful.

If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please contact the school office.



## Gym and Football



Year 3 and 4 took part in a football league event at Helston Community college on Monday after school.

Thank you to all those parents who brought the children along to support the event.

Earlier on Monday year 4 and year 5 took part in a gym competition at Penryn Gymnastics Club, accompanied by Mr Sturges.



Both teams were fantastic ambassadors for the school, and competed wonderfully well!!

## Barn Owls Forest School

Our youngest children enjoyed exploring the Trelowarren Estate on Tuesday. They were very thorough with their examination of the trees!



## Parking /dropping off on the zig-zag lines

Please can we ask our parents to avoid the zig-zag markings at morning drop off?

We fully appreciate how tempting it can be, especially when running late, to stop here for a quick drop off, but even this forces traffic out on the wrong side of the road just where traffic rounds the bend (blind) coming from the Garras direction. It could also result in a ticket if the parking enforcement officer is here on patrol.

These markings are in place to ensure the safety of everyone at the school; the children most of all.

Thank you for your co-operation.

DIARY DATES	
Fri 26 Jan	GAMES CLUB 3.15-4.15pm
Mon 29 Jan	'DRAW IT' CLUB 3.15-4.15pm
Tue 30 Jan	Y3 Forest School all day
Tue 30 Jan	SPORTS CLUB 3.15-4.15pm
Wed 31 Jan	Y6 SATS CLUB 3.15-4.15pm
Thu 1 Feb	NO FILM Club today
Fri 2 Feb	GAMES CLUB 3.15-4.15pm
Mon 5 Feb	KS1 Gym event 1-3pm - details TBC
Mon 5 Feb	Y3/Y4 Football league 4.15-5.15 @ HCC
Tue 6 Feb	Barn Owls Forest School 9-12
Tue 6 Feb	Mrs Rayner out on training- James Newman supply
Tue 6 Feb	SPORTS CLUB 3.15-4.15pm
Wed 7 Feb	Governors meeting 5.30pm *new date
Thu 8 Feb	NO FILM Club today
Fri 9 Feb	Y5/Y6 Bible Exhibition @ Light & Life
12-16 Feb	HALF TERM
Mon 19 Feb	INSET DAY-school closed to pupils
Tue 20 Feb	Barn Owls Forest School 9-12
More dates on the school website...	

## FORTNITE

We would like to remind our parents about the guidance around *Fortnite*.

Common Sense media has lots of guidance for parents—see the link below.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-fortnite>

### “What age should kids be to play Fortnite?”

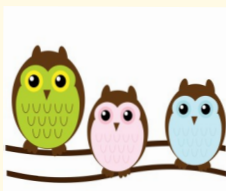
Common Sense recommends Fortnite for teens 13 and up, primarily because of the open chat and action violence.”

## Outdoor play equipment

At drop off and pick up times, can we please parents to ensure that the children keep away from the play equipment?

We always check the equipment before use to ensure the children's safety. Please assume that the equipment is not safe to use outside of school hours.

We thank you for your co-operation in this.



**Safeguarding Bulletin 10**  
January 2024– Staying Safe Online

### Get to know Age Ratings

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. **Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?**

Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence, if accessing the app/game etc.

It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls.

#### Artificial Intelligence (AI)

It can be difficult to keep up to date with new technologies and to know if there are any related risks that we need to be aware of when using new technologies. AI is being talked about a lot, so it is worthwhile learning more about it now to help support/answer questions if our children show an interest. Twinkl provide a brilliant overview of AI here:  
<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/parents-guide-top-tips-for-navigating-generative-ai-safely-with-kids>

#### Fake Profiles and Cyberbullying

Setting up a profile impersonating somebody else with the intention of being unkind to others/to cause embarrassment to the individual is a form of cyberbullying. If your child has set up a fake profile, talk to them about how this is a form of bullying and therefore not acceptable. It is important that we talk to our children about the issue of cyberbullying and let them know that if they are ever a victim of it then it is not their fault, and they should tell you (or a trusted adult) straightaway. Talk to your child about reporting and blocking tools on social media or online games and show them how to use them to report any form of bullying. You can read more about cyberbullying here:

- <https://www.childline.org.uk/in-fa-advice/bullying-abusesafety/types-bullying/bullyingcyberbullying/>
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

Additionally, Report Harmful Content have listed how you can report impersonation accounts on the different social media

#### Minecraft

Minecraft remains ever popular and with Christmas just gone, maybe your child received this game as one of their presents. Minecraft Legends is rated as PEGI 7 meaning it is suitable for those over 7 years of age. The App store rate Minecraft as 9+. You should be aware that there is a multiplayer option so players can chat to each other, and in-app purchases are available. Parental controls are available, either within Minecraft or on the console itself e.g. Nintendo Switch or PlayStation. Find out more here:  
<https://www.minecraft.net/enus/article/parental-controls>

#### What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. You must be 13+ to sign up. Users can send messages (snaps) to others that can only be seen for a set time e.g. 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours. What should I be concerned about? There are risks to using Snapchat, including the risk of your child viewing content that is not appropriate for them, location sharing and contact from strangers.