

Open Gates



Dear Parents,

Sense of Belonging

The past three weeks since the return to school have flown by, with the reintegration of the children and daily routines becoming further embedded each day. As a whole school we have taken part in two theme days -World Book Day and Red Nose Day, learnt about the national Census and focused on science during national Science week.

Year groups have reintroduced the Cycle B curriculum, prioritising English and Mathematics and in particular, reading. **Please encourage your children to read daily at home- it is a vital skill they need to practise regularly; without the ability to read many pupils cannot access learning in other curriculum areas and it holds them back.**

School is finally beginning to feel a little more like normal.



We are pleased to welcome **Miss Lynch** to the teaching team this week; she has been employed through the DfE Catch-Up premium as an additional member of staff to work under the guidance of school leadership on specific interventions.

Next week is a four-day week, with school closing for Easter at the end of the day on **Thursday**.

Whilst rates of new cases of Coronavirus in Tamworth are falling they are still higher than the national average and **household mixing is the biggest factor in this**. Please stick to the lockdown rules. What you do at home impacts on the safety of everyone at school and our own families too. **Nobody wants to be ill or having to isolate over Easter.**

Follow this link to your nearest test site if you want to pick up lateral flow tests for your family:

<https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/findatestcenter.html>

The PTA have arranged a fund-raiser for the last day....see details below:

Please remember we are here for you and your children and if you need to talk, just call us at school 01827 213 855 or drop us an e mail- office@twogates.staffs.sch.uk

Keep safe and kind regards,

Nêst Llewelyn-Cook
Headteacher



Follow us on
Twitter

We are going to
be sharing many
more pictures
and videos of the
work we are
completing online
and in school.

CLICK HERE

@2gatesprimary



COVID RATES REMAIN HIGH IN TAMWORTH

Let's tackle this - book a test today

staffordshire.gov.uk/testing



How you can help tackle COVID in Tamworth
Everyone can do something to control coronavirus.

There are really simple steps that you can take:
stay at home - in line with government guidance
stick to hands/face/space guidelines.

Get a regular rapid COVID test at one of our
community testing centres

Have the vaccine when you're offered it. There is now
a seven-day-a-week
community testing site at the:

**Ankerside Shopping Centre,
Unit 30, George Street,
Tamworth,
B79 7LG**

Staffordshire residents can walk-in as they do their
essential shopping or you can book in advance if
preferred at:

<https://staffordshire.zipporah.co.uk/TrackAndTrace/>

Diary Dates

Thursday 1st April

PTA fundraising

Bad Hair Day

£1 donation

DON'T FORGET

The last day of school
before the Easter holiday
is Thursday 1st April. We
return to school on
Monday 19th April.



SafeToNet
FOUNDATION

**KEEPING
CHILDREN SAFE
ONLINE**

SafeToNet is an app
for parents to help
them safeguard their
children from online
risks like cyberbullying
and sexting, whilst
always respecting their
child's rights to privacy.
The SafeToNet
Foundation is providing
UK families with
free-for-life

access to the SafeToNet safeguarding solution
during coronavirus. Using the code: **SAFE**, parents
can get free access to the app which has wellbeing
activities and adds a safeguarding keyboard to the
child's phone.



Louisa has been
litter picking and
has done an
amazing job.

Always remember
to put your rubbish
in a bin and look
after our
environment.



This will hopefully be the last chance to show off our
'BAD HAIR'

before we can get to the hairdressers!

Easter
theme
styles
welcome



1st April 2021

BAD HAIR DAY

HAVE FUN AND RAISE FUNDS FOR SCHOOL
P.T.A. £1.00 DONATION GREATLY APPRECIATED

Get Creative
Messy Hair
Spikey



Donations
collected
at school
gates



Prize for
Best Bad
Hair in each
class





Year 3 have been learning about volcanoes and have made their own models. Next week they are going to paint and explode them.



What parents & carers need to know about...

CALL OF DUTY
BLACK OPS
COLD WAR



CALL OF DUTY BLACK OPS COLD WAR

PEGI
18

Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War (CoD) is an online first-person shooter. It's available on PC, PlayStation and Xbox. CoD allows players to select from different game modes including campaign, multiplayer and 'Zombies'. Players can customise their character and weapons in the game.

Graphic Violence & Language

A story of covert warfare and ruthless operatives, Black Ops Cold War features extreme violence: players harm and kill enemies in brutal and graphic ways. Several scenes depict intense interrogation and torture. Unsurprisingly, there's a strong horror element in 'Zombies' mode. The language used is unsuitable for under 18s.



In-game Payments

Players can gain an advantage over other users by spending money on new characters and attributes. The currency in the game is known as CoD points. They can't be earned by playing the game – only purchased in the online store. CoD point packs range from £1.79 to £84.99.



Online Multiplayer

Most modes of Black Ops Cold War require an internet connection so that the player can battle against other users online: the game has integration into the existing 'Warzone' battle royale mode. A multiplayer round usually lasts between 10 and 30 minutes. Because of the game's immersive nature, it can be difficult for children to recognise their limits and know when to stop playing.



Chatting to Strangers

During a multiplayer game, if your child's PC or console has a microphone, it's possible for them to talk to any other player around the world. As it's an adult game, the language used in these chats may often be inappropriate for young children. Due to the competitive nature of gaming and the fact that conversations are not moderated, your child could be at risk of cyberbullying.



National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Safety Tips for Parents & Carers

Discuss Time Limits

It's not possible to pause a multiplayer game of CoD, so it's a good idea to agree with your child a limit of matches they can play in one session. In 2018, the World Health Organisation recognised 'gaming disorder' as a health condition, so it's important to monitor how long your child spends on the game.



Remove Violence & Profanity

At the beginning of the game, players are given the chance to disable the graphic content. You also have the option to do this in the game's settings. You can change the profanity setting in the content filters tab, so that the bad language doesn't appear in the game. In addition, there's an option to change the zombies mode to a more cartoonish rendering, making this mode slightly less frightening.



Disable Communication Features

It's important to talk to your child regularly about who they're interacting with online. If you have serious concerns, you can disable the voice chat function in the game's audio settings and disable the text chat function in the content filters section too.



Monitor & Limit Spending

To avoid your child incurring hefty CoD point costs, it's best not to link their device to your bank account. Alternatively, you could allow limited access by setting up parental controls on their console. To keep a rein on spending, it's a good idea to use a gift voucher or a Paysafe card (if they're using an Xbox or PlayStation).



Block Unsuitable Content and Users

You can prevent your child from viewing any user-generated content by changing the settings via the in-game options menu, so unsuitable content won't show on screen when your child is playing. If your child feels that they've experienced cyberbullying in the game, there is a facility within the game to report offensive behaviour.



Encourage Alternate Activities

Players are given incentives during the game to reward more time spent playing. They can also earn rewards by watching influencers playing the game via Twitch. This presents a risk that your child could want to spend even more time in front of a screen. Make sure you talk to your child regularly about the importance of alternative activities away from their device – such as physical exercise or pursuing a creative interest.



Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for five years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBIBLE. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



SOURCES: <https://www.who.int/features/qa/gaming-disorder/> <https://www.unilad.com/en-gb/section/gaming/> <https://www.gamingbible.com/> <https://www.callofduty.com/blog/2020/11/Black-Ops-Cold-War-Controls-and-Settings-PlayStation> <https://support.activision.com/uk/en/black-ops-cold-war/controls-and-settings> <https://support.activision.com/uk/en/black-ops-cold-war/articles/black-ops-cold-war-twitch-rewards> <https://www.taminggaming.com/game/Call-of-Duty-Black-ops-cold-war/>