

# Barrs Court Primary Newsletter

[www.barrscourtprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.barrscourtprimaryschool.co.uk)

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## Autumn has arrived

As the weather takes a cooler turn and the September heatwave becomes a distant memory, we kindly request that all children come to school prepared with a coat. We believe in the importance of outdoor activities, even in the rain at times, and having the right gear ensures that our children can still enjoy their time outside.

## Home learning

We've been thoroughly impressed by some exceptional home learning projects brought into school over the past few weeks. We eagerly anticipate seeing more of these creative throughout this week. You can find information about this term's home learning assignments on your child's [class pages](#), so be sure to check them out for details.

## Disco Fever

Last Friday's disco was a fantastic event, it was lovely to see so many of the children having a blast. We owe the success of the disco to our amazing PTFA. Their hard work and commitment continue to support our school community to thrive. Thanks to everyone who generously volunteered their time to ensure the disco ran seamlessly without you we would not be able to run these events.

We'd like to extend an invitation to those of you who may be interested in becoming part of this incredible team. The PTFA is always on the lookout for new members, and if you'd like to get involved, we invite you to join us at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, October 3rd, at 5:30 pm. It's a great opportunity to learn more about what we do and how you can contribute to our school's success.



South Glos Parent Carers (SGPC) is delighted to invite you to our upcoming coffee morning on October 9th, hosted in the school hall. This event offers a valuable occasion for parents of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities to come together, share experiences, and build connections with fellow parents and caregivers.

Moreover, it serves as an excellent opportunity for parents and caregivers who may have concerns about their child but they not currently on the schools SEND register to engage in open discussions regarding the available support services within South Gloucestershire.

For additional information about SGPC and our mission, please visit their [website](#).

# WATCH RUGBY FOR £1



Bristol Bears Rugby, who play their home games at Ashton Gate (home of Bristol City FC) are offering U12 children's tickets for a forthcoming match. Their 'Quid a Kid' initiative is in place for the Bears against Harlequins on Saturday 28 October 2023. Link [here](#).

# Dates for the diary

Friday 22nd September - PTFA Disco

Tuesday 25th September - Red Area local walk

Tuesday 3rd October - PTFA AGM @ 5:30pm

Friday 6th October - Reception end of enquiry event @ 2:30pm

Friday 20th October - End of term 1

Monday 30th October - INSET Day - School Closed

Tuesday 31st October - Term 2 starts

Monday 13th November - Parent/Carer Evening

Wednesday 15th November - Parent/Carer Evening



Pre-season friendly 3  
Barrs Court 1-5 Longwell Green  
Scorer: Chael

Barrs Court welcomed their friends from round the corner for this very damp friendly! There was some great determination on show as the players started getting used to their new teammates. Well done to everyone for their efforts and we look forward to some more football soon.





Pre-season friendly 2  
Parkwall 5-1 Barrs Court  
Scorer: Dante

Barrs Court took the short trip down the road for a friendly match against Parkwall. The team spirit and teamwork developed as the match went on and the players can be proud of remaining determined and supporting each other. We look forward to our next match soon. Well done everyone for your efforts.

Players of the match: Dante and Remy

**Are you looking for a place for September 2024?**

**Do you know anyone who is looking for a school place? If you do know anyone looking for a place, please ask them to call the school.**

## BARRS COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Is your child starting school in September 2024?

Our school is amazing and encouraging and there's something for everyone.





Our school is good for learning and good for having fun.



**Is your child due to start school in September 2024?**

**We can offer:**

- a creative learning environment
- enthusiastic caring staff
- outdoor learning & forest school
- an enriching Early Years curriculum
- memorable learning experiences
- Breakfast & After-School Club



**Opportunities to learn how your child will 'Be the Best they can Be' at Barrs Court Primary School**

**School Tours:**

- ⇒ Tuesday 26th September @ 9.30am
- ⇒ Monday 9th October @ 9.30am
- ⇒ Thursday 12th October @ 5.00pm—FULL
- ⇒ Friday 17th November @ 2.00pm
- ⇒ Monday 27th November @ 9.30am
- ⇒ Wednesday 6th December @ 4.00pm
- ⇒ Thursday 4th January @ 2.00pm
- ⇒ Tuesday 9th January @ 5.00pm

If you require an alternative date/time, please contact the school and we will be happy to arrange a more convenient visit.

(CLOSING DATE for applications—15th January 2024)

‘Children thoroughly enjoy coming to school. Pupils grow in character and are kind and respectful. The curriculum is ambitious for all pupils.’

Ofsted 2023



For more information or to book on one of our school tours, please contact Mrs Llewellyn on 01454 867799 or email: [enquiries@barrscourtps.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@barrscourtps.org.uk)  
Please also visit our school website: [www.barrscourtprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.barrscourtprimaryschool.co.uk)

Come & join us at our **Christmas Fair on Saturday 25th November**. Details will be posted on our school website and on our facebook page - @barrscourtps

### Breakfast Club and After School Club

We are delighted that WASP Club continues to be very popular with parents and children and is an integral part of our school provision. The provision supports those families with work commitments and those children who just enjoy attending and taking part in the many activities provided by the team.

#### Afterschool Club:

- Standard Session 1 - 3.15pm – 3.45pm - £2.00
- Standard Session 2 - 3.15pm – 4.15pm - £5.50
- Standard Session 3 - 3.15pm – 4.50pm - £6.50
- Standard Session 4 - 3.15pm – 5.45pm - £9.00

#### Bespoke Sessions (for children attending clubs after school)

- Bespoke Session 1 - 4.15pm – 4.50pm - £2.00
- Bespoke Session 2 - 4.15pm – 5.45pm - £6.50

#### Breakfast Club:

- Session - 7.45am – 8.45am - £3.00 Breakfast optional extra

Bookings and payment continue to be made via the Eduspot App/Website. We are also able to accept childcare vouchers if your employer subscribes to this scheme.





# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

## Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upcombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Call of Duty: Warzone and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipolapp/about/privacy.html>

**NOS** National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday



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