

**Issue 20**  
**May 2018**



# **Our Lady Star of the Sea Newsletter**

# **Summer 2018**

Dear Parents/Carers,

New Data Protection Regulations will be coming into force from 25th May 2018. These regulations take into account the growing use and misuse of electronic data basis systems. The new regulations are aimed at controlling collected data and preventing misuse of personal information. It also aims to provide a consistent approach to data collection across Europe .

The school has been working on its own 'Data Protection Policy' and 'Privacy Notice' - copies of which will be sent out to you shortly.

It is important to note that most of the data that we collect in school is information that falls under 'Public Task' - this means it is data which we have to gather as part of our duty as a school and is collected on behalf of the Department of Education, Local Authority and Health Authority. This data is stored securely. (Details of data collection, storage and disposal is explained in the policies.)

Parents/ carers are encouraged to read the Privacy Notice carefully—anyone wishing to have the information within the document explained should contact the school.

Miss J. Jones  
Exec. Headteacher

## **Dates to remember!**

Friday 11 May	Class 3 to Beamish—educational visit
Monday 14 May	Y6 SATs begin (Monday thru Thursday)
Wednesday 16 May	Classes 1 and 2—Healthy Eating Workshop in school With staff from Warburtons
Thursday 17 May	Class 1—School Nurse talk on dental hygiene and handwashing
Friday 18 May	Royal Wedding Party Day— non uniform day— theme to be red, white and blue
Tuesday 22 May	Year 2 children to Shotton Hall Conference Centre Outdoor Adventure Activity Day
Wednesday 23 May	Parents Evening
Thursday 24 May	Class 2 to Hardwick Park—educational visit
Thursday 24 May	Year 5—School Nurse talk—Healthy Bodies

**School closes at 3.00pm on Friday 25 May 2018  
for the start of half-term holidays  
School re-opens for teaching purposes at  
8:50 a.m. on Monday 4 June 2018**

Wednesday 6 June	Induction meeting for parents with children starting school in September 2018
Friday 8 June	Y5—School Nurse talk—Puberty (boys and girls separately)
Monday 11 June	Northumbrian Water—Super Heroes Assembly
Wednesday 13 June	Provisional Sports Day (weather permitting)
Friday 22 June	Years 5 and 6—Ullswater 3 day residential trip
Friday 29 June	Mass in school—St Peter & Paul Day—2 p.m.

**More dates to follow when agreed**

## A parents guide to Fortnite: Battle Royale

### What is Fortnite?

Fortnite is an online game, Battle Royale is a part of Fortnite where players do not have to pay to play. In Battle Royal, the free segment of Fortnite, 100 players compete against each other to be the last person standing in player vs player (PVP) combat.

Users are playing against people of different ages from across the world, and Fortnite has in game audio chat so that players can talk and interact with each other as they play.

### What age rating is Fortnite?

Fortnite has a [PEGI rating of 12](#), PEGI have said this is due to the: *'frequent scenes of mild violence. It is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age'*.

This PEGI rating only takes into account the content in the game and not the contact element, where players may be exposed to swearing and offensive language from strangers in voice or on -screen text chat.

### What do I need to know?

- **You need to create an account** In order to play Fortnite you have to create an account. To create this account you need to provide an email address (which you will have to verify) and display/user name. However you are not asked your age in order to create an account.
- **You are playing against other players** As Fortnite is an online game you will play against players of different ages from across the world. You **cannot** turn this communication off or choose who you play against.
- **You can make in game purchases** Although Battle Royale is free to play, other aspects of the game are not. There are packs which give you different access to the full game and extensions, bonuses and weapons. These start at £34.99 and go up to £119.99. The game does ask players to make additional in-game purchases whilst playing, though these are not required to play the game.
- **The graphics** Fortnite does feature violence when players are in combat with each other, the animation of the game is very cartoonish, and the violence isn't bloody or gory. However, it is worth noting that the aim of Fortnite is to defeat other players by fighting against them.
- **Where you can play** Fortnite is currently available on PC, Mac, PlayStation and Xbox , and will soon be available on IOS (apple products). It is downloadable from the Fortnite website, this download gives access to both the free and paid for versions of the game.

## Childline - Our advice

**Have an open and honest conversation with your child** It's important to involve yourself in your child's online life and a simple and effective way to this is by talking to them about their life online. Try to maintain an open dialogue with your child and find opportunities to talk to them about what they love to do online. Parents can help children access the amazing resources the internet has to offer whilst keeping them safe online at the same time. Asking your child about how they play Fortnite and what they like about it is a great way to start a conversation. Our [conversation starters](#) can help you to have this conversation.

- **Play with them** It may seem daunting, but one of the best things that you can do is to engage with the gaming environment and begin to understand what makes Fortnite so attractive to young people, as well as giving yourself an idea of the reporting tools available within the game.

**Know how to make a report** On Fortnite you can report players who are behaving inappropriately by using the in-game feedback tool located in the game Main Menu, [you can also make a report by emailing the creators of Fortnite](#).

### See what other people think of Fortnite

Common Sense Media allow parents and young people to give their reviews of games that they have played. They have created a [very useful video guide to Fortnite with footage of the gameplay involved](#).

## After School Clubs next term

Day	Club	Year Group
Tuesday	Writing Booster 3—4p.m.	6
Tuesday	Singing Club 3—4 p.m.	3, 4, and 5
Tuesday	Writing Club 3—4 p.m.	2
Wednesday	Games and Puzzles 3—4 p.m.	Rec, 1 and 2
Wednesday	Football training 3—4 p.m.	4, 5 and 6
Wednesday	Art Club 3—4 p.m.	3, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday	ICT Club 3—4 p.m.	3, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday	Change 4 Life 3—4 p.m.	3, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday	Getting Along 3—4 p.m.	1 and 2
Thursday	Cricket 3—4 p.m.	3, 4, 5 and 6
Friday	SVP 3—4 p.m.	Nominated Juniors
Friday	Gardening Club 3.15 – 4.15 p.m.	Volunteers

We would like to ask for your support in working in partnership with the school to help your child become a successful learner and enthusiastic reader. A recent study found that children who were reading to their parents improved their reading skills a great deal and made them aware of the importance of reading and literacy.

Your child will have a reading book and reading diary to bring home each day and we ask that you spend 5 - 10 minutes each night to read with them. It is very helpful for us to read your comments in the reading diary, however, if you are not comfortable in adding comments, please sign the diary so we are aware that you have listened to your child read.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



## ***School holidays for the 2018/2019***

<i>Holiday</i>	Closing Date	Date re-open for teaching
Summer 2018	Friday 20 July 2018	Tuesday 4 September 2018
Autumn half term 2018	Friday 19 October 2018	Monday 29 October 2018
Christmas 2018	Thursday 20 December 2018	Monday 7 January 2019
Spring half-term 2019	Friday 15 February 2019	Monday 25 February 2019
Easter 2019	Friday 5 April 2019	Tuesday 23 April 2019
May Day 2019	Friday 3 May 2019	Tuesday 7 May 2019
Summer half term 2019	Friday 24 May 2019	Monday 3 June 2019
Summer 2019	Thursday 18 July 2019	Tuesday 3 September 2019

Please note: Five days within the above school terms are to be used for school training activities

### Training Days

Monday	3rd September 2018
Friday	21st December 2018
Monday	8th March 2019
Friday	19th July 2019
Monday	22nd July 2019



No dogs allowed  
Except guide dogs

Please be aware that **NO** dogs (other than guide dogs) are permitted on the premises.

Thank you.

## Durham County Council – Water Safety Information for Schools

The following information advice and guidance is intended to help keep children safe when playing near open water or visiting the beach. Please review and communicate this (as appropriate), with your pupils in the lead up to holiday periods.

This information is provided free of charge from Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA); The Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI) and The Royal Life Saving Society UK, to help reduce water accidents and deaths.

### Water Safety – Rivers

During the school holidays, and in particular in hot weather, increasing numbers of children put themselves at risk of drowning. On average 40-50 children drown per year in the UK. To keep yourself safe, when you are in, on or beside water, always follow the Water Safety Code.

#### The Water Safety Code (RoSPA)

##### Spot the dangers!

Water may look safe, but it can be dangerous. Learn to spot and keep away from dangers. You may swim well in a warm indoor pool, but that does not mean that you will be able to swim in cold water.

##### The dangers of water include:

- it is very cold
- there may be hidden currents
- it can be difficult to get out (steep slimy banks)
- it can be deep
- there may be hidden rubbish, e.g. shopping trolleys, broken glass
- there are no lifeguards
- it is difficult to estimate depth
- it may be polluted and may make you ill

### Water Safety - Beaches

#### Staying SAFE at the beach (RNLI)

This lesson plan is designed to give pupils information to help them make safer choices near water. The lifeguard flags outlined in the following link are based on the international standard beach safety code, so knowledge of these is important at any lifeguarded beach around the world.

#### SHORETHING – Staying Safe at the Beach

<http://rnli.org/safetyandeducation/teachersandyouthleaders/resources/downloadresources/Documents/Beachsafetyassembly.pdf>

#### Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS)

The RLSS website contains a range of suggested activities for schools. For example, PowerPoint presentations to use in assemblies, lessons plans and films. They also provide a range of free resources such as fliers, posters, balloons to give to all children. You can access the RLSS website at; <http://www.rlss.org.uk/>

#### Additional Sources of information for Schools

Drowning Prevention Week June 2015 [www.drowningpreventionweek.org.uk/schools](http://www.drowningpreventionweek.org.uk/schools)

#### For primary schools:

<http://drowningpreventionweek.org.uk/schools/primary-schools/>

# Easter Bonnet Parade and Decorated Egg Competition



Take a look at some of the work the children are doing in class



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# Class 2



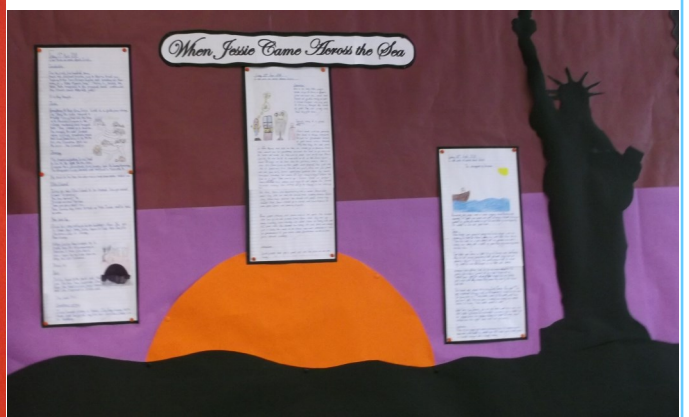
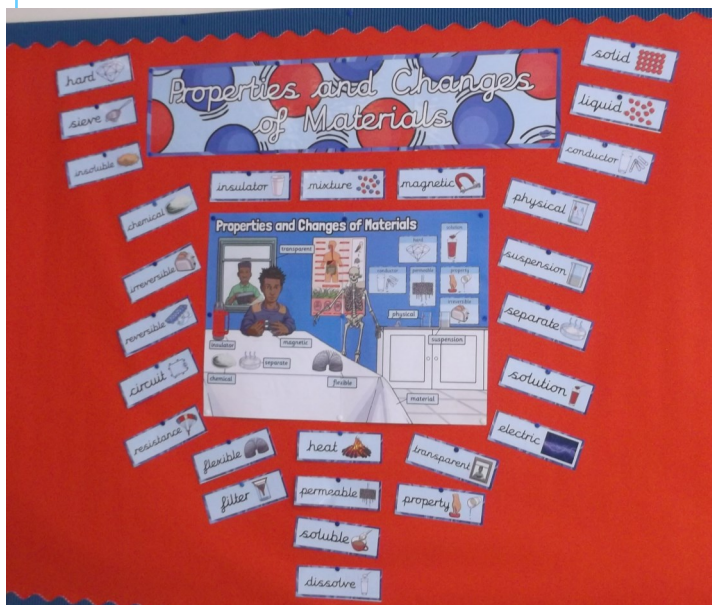




Class 3



# Class 4



# Activities from last term



Hula Hooping Day

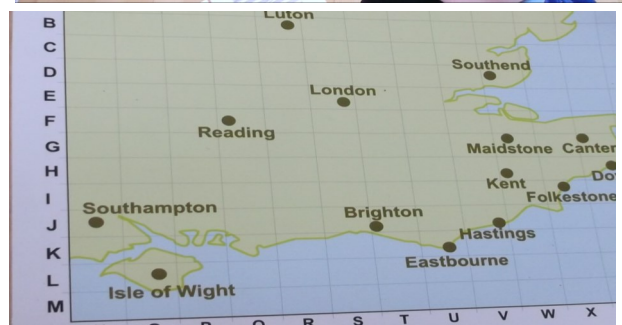
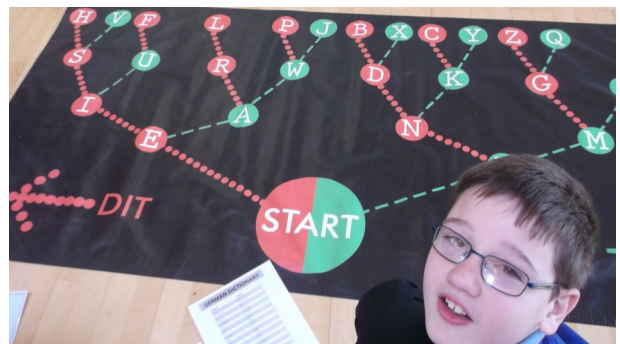


## Mother's Day Lunch



## British Science Week—Classes 3 and 4 attempt

CODEBREAKING



# World Book Day 2018

Willy Wonka



Harry Potter



Awful Auntie



The Demon Dentist



Where's Wally?



Alice in Wonderland



## *Fitness and Sport*



All children joined in a Zumba fitness class with staff from the Foundation of Light. What a great start to the day!!



The children in Years 3 and 4 competed in a 'Skipping Festival' with other local schools at St. Bedes, Peterlee. They did amazingly well picking up 3 gold, 4 silver and 3 bronze awards. Well done everyone!!



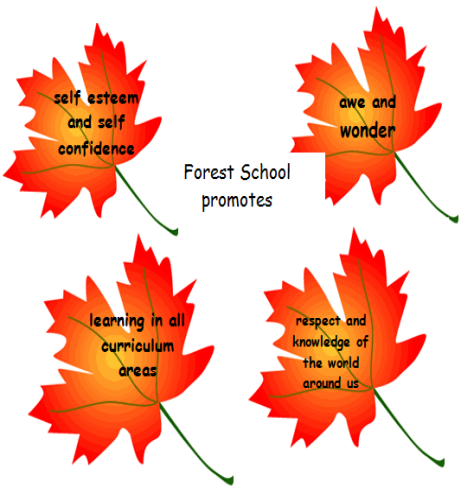
Our Junior children have been given 'Fitbits' supplied by Kelloggs to use in an exercise to see how many steps they take during the day. They are given a new challenge to increase their total steps each week. They are recording their efforts and using the data in maths lessons.

# Forest Schools – Looking after our environment

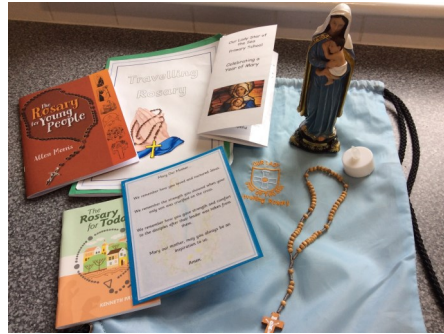


## Key Features of Forest Schools

- Allows every child to have a voice, especially those who find it difficult to communicate in a more conventional learning environment.
- A high adult to child ratio allows children to undertake new experiences and challenges whilst taking appropriate risks.
- Supports personalised learning.
- Trained adults and facilitators and observers rather than leaders and directors.
- The use of a natural outdoor environment.
- Child-led approach to children's learning which is fun and unhurried.
- Long term programme that allows repetition where children come into contact with nature using all their senses.
- Builds children's confidence and self esteem as they are responsible for making their own decisions and are carefully supported to achieve.



# May is the Month of Mary



This year we are celebrating the Year of Mary. We are working on understanding the life of Mary as the Mother of the Church. We are preparing a garden in honour of Mary our Mother where the children and staff can visit to reflect and pray. We have also put together a 'Travelling Rosary Bag' which will be sent home to each family over the coming weeks.



Our Mini SVP group are endeavouring to promote good work in and around school and also in the community. Their most recent project was to help the Mercy Ships where they raised £100.