



Churnet View Newsletter



Year 7 Netball

Congratulations to the year 7 netball teams who played their first game last night. Due to unforeseen circumstances, only St. Edwards were able to compete against us. Missing out on games against James Bateman and Woodhouse Academy.

All students performed amazingly and we are so proud of the way they represented Churnet View. Their next tournament will be held at Fenton Manor on the 21st November 2023.



Important Dates

October half term:
Monday 30th October
– Friday 3rd November

Inset day: Monday 6th
November

Christmas holiday:
Monday 25th
December – Friday 5th
January 2024

Inset day: Monday 8th
January 2024

Social Media Updates

You can now find us on Facebook and Instagram. We'll be posting our latest updates and news on these platforms.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Churnet-View-Middle-School-Leek/100063578257320/>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/churnetviewmiddleschool/>



Firework Safety

Remember, remember to celebrate safely!

Bonfire night can be great fun for all the family but it is important that you celebrate safely.

Please see the below links that we have shared with pupils, during RSE time, with lots of firework safety tips.

<https://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk/your-safety/safety-at-home/bonfire-night-safety/>

<https://www.healthforteens.co.uk/coventry/firework-bonfire-safety-quiz/>



Middle School Admissions

Admissions to Middle School will open on 1st November 2023. As of the 1st of November 2023, you will be able to visit the weblink below to apply for your Middle School place. Parents will receive their offer on 16th of April 2024.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

If you missed our open evening, or have been unable to attend one of our tours, there is still time to visit us. Please call our school office on **01538 384939** to arrange a tour of the school.



Miss Johnson's Crafts Club

This week, in Crafts Club, Miss Johnson and pupils created some Halloween crafts and treats!



October SportFest

For more information, search your venue here:

www.asmsports.co.uk



OCTOBER SportFest

St Mary's Catholic Academy

Cruso Street, Leek, ST13 8DW

09:00-15:30

Half-Day & Wrap-Around options available

Come and join us for some sports, games and activities from October 30 - November 03.

Our action-packed program gives children the chance to remain active, develop skills and make new friends within a safe and secure program.



We are inclusive!

We value the importance of accommodating children who have come to us from different backgrounds. We aim to provide an environment where everyone is challenged and given an enjoyable experience.

Search for your venue: asmsports.co.uk



Call: 01782 366332

Visit: www.asmsports.co.uk

Email: info@asmsports.co.uk



Job Advertisement: Cleaner

We're looking for a morning cleaner. 15 hours per week to start as soon as possible.

For further details, please view our website or call 01538 384939 using the extension number 217.



School Admissions

Admissions to middle school will open on 1st November 2023. As of the 1st November 2023, you will be able to visit the weblink below to apply for your middle school place. Parents will receive their offer on 16th April 2024.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

If you missed our open evening or have been unable to attend one of our tours, there is still time to visit us.

Please call the school office on 01538384939 to arrange a tour of the school.

Leek Library Workshop

This is a reminder of Leek Library's workshop on Thursday 2nd November. It would be great if you were able to attend and create some poetry.

Details for this event are in the picture below however, booking is highly recommended to avoid disappointment.



Attendance Awards

This week's winner for the second week running is...

1st place: Noyes with 98.7% attendance

2nd place: Gibbons with 96.25%

3rd place: Morpurgo with 96.15%

Well done to these author groups!



Churnet View Netball

Huge congratulations to all of the girls who took part in the year 8 tournament at Fenton Manor on Tuesday. This tournament included all of the schools in the area, in a bigger arena, adding to the occasion.

The A Team showed great resilience despite playing some high standard opponents. Despite a tricky start, the team grew in confidence throughout the tournament and played some quality netball.

The B Team had an impressive tournament. Winning 3 out of their 4 games. This was an amazing way to finish off their Netball for this year. The teamwork and camaraderie they portrayed throughout the entirety of their games was amazing to see.

The A Team has another tournament on 28th November 2023. A date the girls are hugely looking forward to and will work hard in preparation for.



We're so proud!

Staff and pupils would like to express how proud they are of **Darcie Szpala**, **Liah Simms** and **Leah Williams** who competed in the Skegness Freestyle Dance Championships last weekend.

All 3 girls danced in freestyle fast, slow, fast and slow pairs and team dances over the course of 3 days.

They all competed against lots of other Dance schools from across the country. Darcie placed 5th in fast and slow dance. Liah placed 6th in freestyle fast, and Leah placed 6th in freestyle pairs.

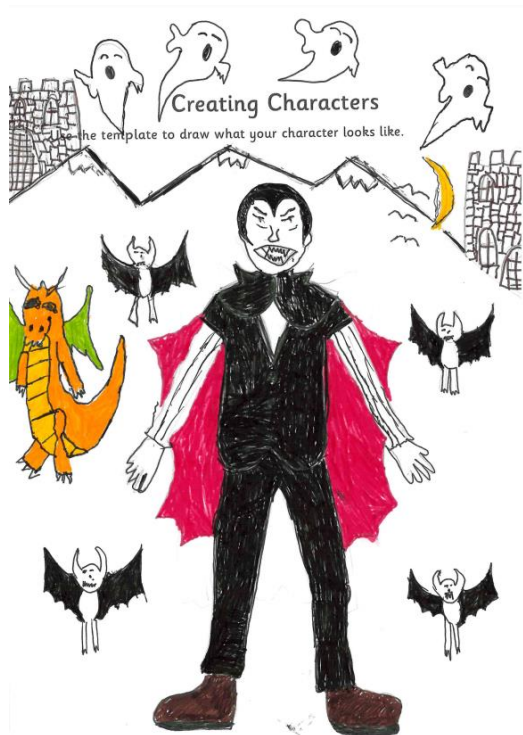
Well done girls!



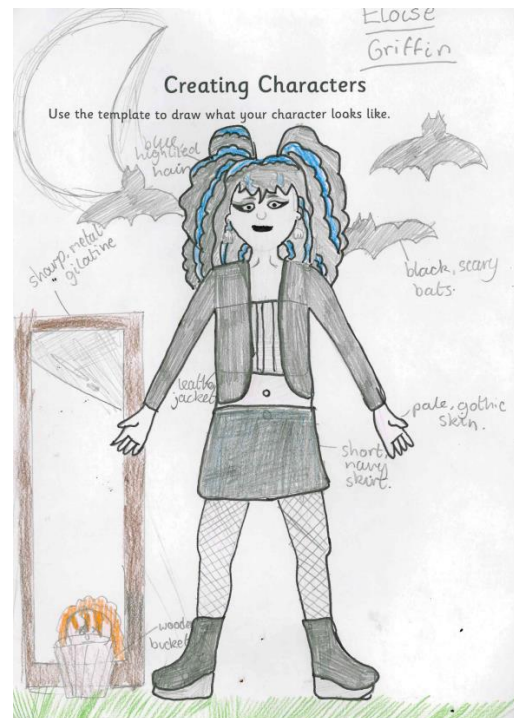
Headteacher's Work of the Week

Pupils mentioned below were given the Headteacher's Work of the Week award this week for their fantastic contributions and efforts towards their school work. We've been blown away by the submissions this week!

Well done to everybody who received the award and certificate.



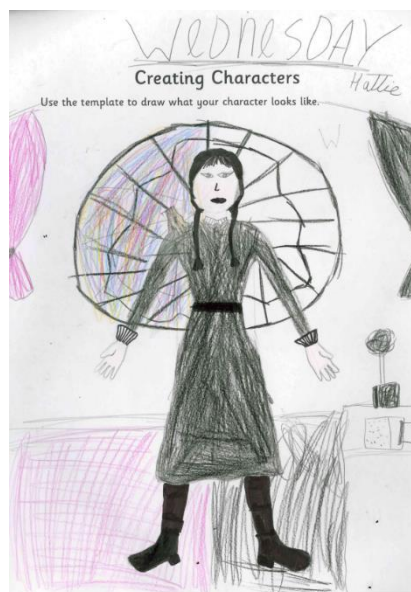
Leylan Young-Hart



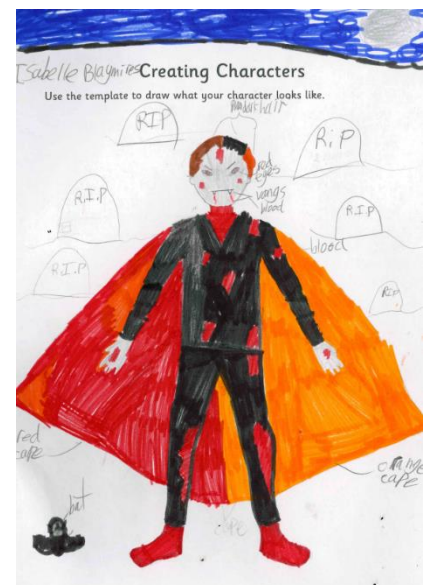
Eloise Griffin



Bella Murfin



Harriet Griffin



Isabelle Blaymires

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about THE DANGERS OF VAPING

Data collected for ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) shows an increase in 11 to 17-year-olds experimenting with vaping: from 7.7% in 2022 to 11.6% in 2023. It's concerning that these age-restricted products are getting into the hands of under 18s as most contain nicotine, which can be detrimental to brain development and cause long-term addiction. Some schools have reported students having their focus in lessons affected by nicotine cravings; vaping in school toilets; and even trying vapes found in their local park. Raising awareness of the risks among young people could help to prevent these problems from escalating and reduce the number of young vapers.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NICOTINE ADDICTION

Since they were initially developed to help people stop smoking, the vast majority of vape liquids contain nicotine. Not only is this a highly addictive stimulant, but it can also have detrimental effects on brain development in the under-25s. Nicotine can decrease the ability to pay attention, weaken impulse control, affect mood and increase the likelihood of substance addiction as an adult.

WHAT IS VAPING?

Vapes contain a liquid (vape juice/e-liquid) that is heated by a battery and evaporates, creating a chemical vapour which the user inhales. They can be **disposable** (once the liquid or battery runs out, the vape is thrown away) or **rechargeable** (the user replaces the liquid and recharges the battery on demand). Most vape liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals.

LACK OF AWARENESS

A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mainly because of the products' appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that "vaping is cool" and on trend. In many instances, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction: that is, they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.

POTENTIAL TOXICITY

Many vape liquids have been found to contain 'heavy' metals such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury – all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some media reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes which don't comply with UK regulations.

UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES

The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced into the UK in 2005 – and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harms that regular inhalation of these chemical fluids might have on the human body.

ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING

The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently echoing the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around vape marketing, and vaping is often depicted positively on social media – which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

In the UK alone, around 1.3 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components – a lithium battery and a chemical liquid – pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal; materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.

WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS

Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because vaping reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria – resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. There are also concerns that, in some users, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, a persistent cough and breathing difficulties.

UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS

The number of retailers willing to sell vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and higher levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the mechanisms inside unregulated products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checked – presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.

SCARCE INFORMATION

The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vape fluids (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't required on vape packaging – with only medical disclaimers being found on the websites of the various brands.

VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS

Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce some strawberry and banana flavour e-liquids can kill cells in the blood vessels and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead falling under the umbrella term 'natural and artificial flavourings'. Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.

Meet Our Expert

Run by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Healthy Schools Service (commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council), Catch Your Breath is a school-based project aimed at young people. Its goal is to embed a proactive, coordinated approach among both primary and secondary schools in discouraging smoking and vaping behaviours.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH

The National College

Source: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-65809924>



www.thenationalcollege.co.uk



@thenatcollege



/thenationalcollege

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Microsoft 365

At Churnet View Middle School we are continuously developing the learning of students, including keeping up to date with technological advances. We use cloud-based services to further all student's education regarding online content. The learning platform we use is called Microsoft 365 which enables students and teachers to learn and collaborate in up-to-date software. This includes being able to use remote learning tools that can be accessed at home.

We, as part of The Talentum Learning Trust, give students the ability to download the newest version of Microsoft apps onto their PCs, laptops, tablets and other devices, including iOS, for free.

We ensure that this platform is monitored and secure for pupils to use in and outside of school.

For our platform to be accessed, each student has been given unique log-on details that they are responsible for, including their own individual password. This then gives them access to:

- An email that is used for school and educational purposes only
- A cloud storage system called OneDrive where they can store and use school and educational documents
- A remote learning platform called Teams, where assignments, quizzes, video calls and resources can be accessed securely and only with people (mainly teachers) that have access to our secure network
- A shared area called SharePoint where whole class, year group or school education documents can be accessed, downloaded and edited
- Educational online programmes that require a secure login (usually an email address), which are monitored by teachers
- The Microsoft 365 suite including online Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Sway and many more
- Additional learning support tools, for example, Immersive Reader and Dictation

When Microsoft 365 is downloaded, it will require a change in security setting, so we can ensure that content and the students are protected. Microsoft 365 can be used on an internet browser and does not have to be downloaded.

Microsoft 365 app on smart devices will need to be downloaded via the App or Play Store.

Please see some 'How to' guides on the letter that was sent home.

Leek Library Visits

On Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th October, some of our pupils went to Leek Library. On our visit, we had a tour of the library; information on how the library works; had an opportunity browse some of their books; and some of our pupils were issued with a library card.

Leek Library is open from 8.30 – 17.00 in the week and 10.00 – 16.00 on a Saturday.



500 Word Competition

Just a reminder that the BBC 500 Word Competition is still ongoing. Pupils who want to submit their entry need to do so before the 10th November.

It needs to be submitted independently, and not via the school so that parents/carers can give their permission.

For more information:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Five Nights at Freddy's is a series of indie point-and-click horror games whose word-of-mouth success and widespread spin-off content on YouTube have helped each of the nine instalments so far to sell almost five million copies on Steam (the PC gaming platform) alone. Set in various deserted locations at night, with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life, the games are rated PEGI 12 for disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.

FRIGHTENING THEMES

Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF for short) doesn't feature bloodshed like many horror games – but it does build tension and use jump scares, which may be too intense for young players. The sinister animatronic characters and the sensation of being trapped and defenceless could be particularly unsettling, as could the inclusion of disturbing elements such as murder or possession by evil spirits.

STRESSFUL SITUATIONS

Due to FNaF's suspenseful atmosphere, it can be extremely stressful for players. Constantly checking that one's surroundings are safe is a crucial part of the gameplay and could create residual stress or even obsessive-compulsive behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

IN-GAME SPENDING

FNaF doesn't foreground in-game purchasing as strongly as many other well-known games, but some titles in the series do offer additional content that promises to enhance the experience. Five Nights at Freddy's: Help Wanted, for instance, is complemented by a Halloween-themed expansion pack called 'Curse of Dreadbear' (costing £8.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

18

As a result of FNaF's popularity, a sizeable YouTube community based on fan-made content has developed around the game. While the majority of this material is still child friendly, there are a number of channels which are geared more towards mature audiences: they contain adult and disturbing themes, for example, and (in some cases) age-inappropriate language.

PLAYING IN ISOLATION

Many parents will be relieved to learn that Five Nights at Freddy's is a single-player game which doesn't include any online chat functionality. Conversely, however, this could also make playing FNaF quite an isolating experience – especially if your child is spending a lot of time investigating the game's spooky, shadowy environments alone in their room, for example.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't have conventional parental controls. However, if you're concerned about the potential impacts of the game's themes and content, you can simply choose not to let your child play it. If they use an Android or iOS device for gaming, you can adjust Apple and Google's built-in parental controls to restrict your child's access to certain content.

TRY IT YOURSELF

Every child is different, of course, so it could be worth playing Five Nights at Freddy's yourself for a while to gauge how your young gamer might cope with the series' more frightening and disturbing aspects. If they're old enough, you could spend some time playing it together – after all, it usually only takes between two and ten minutes to complete a level.

LIMIT SPENDING

Unlike many popular titles, Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't bombard players with tempting in-game purchase offers. It's worth noting, however, that some instalments in the series do provide the option for players to spend real-world money. With that in mind, it's important to either keep a close eye on your child's expenditure or limit their access to digital payment options.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on Five Nights at Freddy's, or you're worried that the game's scary themes are taking a toll, watch out for warning signs. Young people may start to prioritise gaming over everyday essentials like schoolwork or sleep; irritability or a lack of concentration could also indicate that their gaming sessions are going on too long.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

Before you allow your child to play Five Nights at Freddy's, it's wise to have a conversation about the game so that they're aware of the potential risks. Ensure that your child understands that the series is purposely designed to be tense and unsettling, and that they should stop or take a break if the intensity of the gameplay is making them feel uncomfortable or putting them on edge.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech blog The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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National
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Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

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[@national_online_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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Core Value Winners

The following pupils have earned the most Core Values this week. Well done to everyone for their efforts, hard work and dedication.

Year 5

Dahl

Poppy Brindley
Ewan Campbell

Hughes

Maddison Drury
Ryleigh Wakefield

Mackenzie

Savanna Grindey-Conway
Travis Richardson

Morpurgo

Ava Thomas
Riley Chadwick

Palacio

Fraiya Compton
Jackson Emery

Year 7

Gibbons

Olivia Barratt
Alex Backhouse

Hargrave

Fleur Kirtley
Harry Pickford

Horowitz

Caitlin Webster
Ryan Miller

Riodan

Sophie Umney
Monty Gardner

Sachar

Kathryn Powley
Dennis Simpson

Year 6

Carroll

Hollie Fearn
Huw Davies

Fletcher

Annabelle Wright
Aiden Barks

Noyes

Olivia Crosthwaite
Bryn Breeze-Morgan

Pullman

Mollie Hulme
Archie Turner

Rowling

Alicia Meigh

Thompson

Enzo Kidd
Zachary Dixon

Year 8

Blackman

Hannah Pointon
Ashton Hambleton

Fountain

Saffron Goodenough
Sam Riley

Hill

Jasmine Taylor
Dominic Fernandes

Stevenson

Cora Etches
Jack Crombie

Stoker

Izzy Ellis
Oliver Stretton

Zephaniah

Leah Sims
Joshua Corden