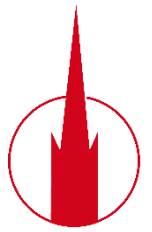


# Bloxham C of E Primary School



Newsletter 6 – November 12<sup>th</sup> 2021



## Value – Respect

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a busy week in school. The children have had a productive and positive week. We have all been very impressed with the children's behaviour this week. Across the school, children are showing respect for each other and adults, and showing determination and resilience with their learning and when participating in sporting events. The children were brilliant this week when they joined the Warriner Partnership cross country event at Sibford School.

The children who participated in the Bloxham Clubs this week had a wonderful time and were a credit to themselves and our school. Well done everyone!

### Book Fair

From 17<sup>th</sup> November, we will be having the popular book fair in school. This is a great opportunity for your child to choose a new book whilst earning free books for the school.

We will be running it differently this year and due to Covid parents will unfortunately not be able to visit the book fair with children.

All children will visit the book fair with their class and fill in a wish list from the books available. They will bring the wish list home and then if you would like to purchase any books, you log on and pay for them. You will be given a reference number. You then complete this form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/GKJjGsMF2s> and the books will be delivered to your child.

There is also the option to look at the catalogue and order through the website from this. Information will be sent separately. These books will then be delivered to the school at a later date.

### Polite Reminder

This is a polite reminder about children riding bikes and scooters on the school site. This is not permitted for health and safety reasons. Please can we ask you to remind all your children about this. Thank you for your cooperation. Also, no dogs are allowed on the school site.

### Car Park

Could we ask everyone to be more vigilant when walking across the school car park. The school bus moves in the car park at the start and end of the school day.

### Anti-Bullying Week–One Kind Word

Our plans are as follows:

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November - Odd Socks Day! Wear odd socks (alongside your usual uniform) to celebrate diversity and inclusion.

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November - activities in school linked to anti-bullying.

### Children in Need–Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November

Non-uniform day: bring a donation and wear SPOTS, STRIPES or STARS to school! (Please do not buy anything new for this). We will also be holding a cake sale on this day. Cakes will be on sale for 50p each and we would be very grateful for any donations for this so we have cakes to sell.

### Remembrance Service and Silence

We gathered as a whole school yesterday to mark Armistice Day. We were joined by one of our governors. The children behaved impeccably. We shared a poem, and the last post was played by Ms Coles. Some of the children will be laying a wreath at the service at 10:30 am on Sunday in Bloxham at the memorial.

### COVID Update

Thank you to you all for supporting us to keep our children and staff safe by following the COVID – 19 Guidance, completing regular LFTs and being cautious when your children have been unwell. The numbers of cases in school have thankfully remained low since returning from half -term. We are being cautious and are sending children home who are feeling unwell, especially if they are in a class where we have had cases. We would urge you to continue to do LFTs regularly as this has proven to be helpful in alerting parents to book a PCR. We understand that all of this causes additional pressure for parents and thank you for your support. We will continue to alert you of cases in year groups via text to keep you informed.

### Foundation Stage

If your child was born between 1 Sept 2017 and 31 Aug 2018, you need to apply for a primary school place now. Apply online at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

**Deadline for applications is 15 January 2022.**

# Bloxham C of E Primary School

Newsletter 6 – November 12<sup>th</sup> 2021



## Value – Respect



### Sports News

Warriner Partnership Cross Country at Sibford

We had no rain and mild weather, yes wet feet, but excited children ready to run! All children from Year 1 to 6 were absolutely amazing, whether they finished in the top 10 or simply completing the course in their own time. They should all be proud of their efforts, sheer perseverance and personal achievements.

We started off on Tuesday with Years 3-6 attending. Team results: Year 3/4 Girls team finished 3rd; Year 3/4 Boys 3rd; Year 5/6 Girls finished 3rd and Year 5/6 Boys finished 4th.

We had six individuals who finished in the top 10 and will race again in the next round against other top runners. Well done to: Dora (7th), Caleb (4th), Joshua W (5th), Sofia Q (9th), Grace N (4th) and Jake C (4th).

On Thursday, Year 2 and a small number from Year 1 competed in larger races of over 100 children. Team results: Year 1/2 Girls finished 1st and Year 1/2 Boys came 2nd. Again we had 6 runners who finished in the top 10 as individuals. There is no next round for this age category. Well done to Sophia H (2nd), Izea (3rd), Megan (4th), Georgia (6th), Henry P (6th) and Elliot W (7th).

Thank you to any reserves who had to take part on short notice and those who were on stand-by at school and to any parents who came to support us.

### Play Buddy

Our year 6 children are play buddies for the year 1 children. Please see below what they have written about being a play buddy.

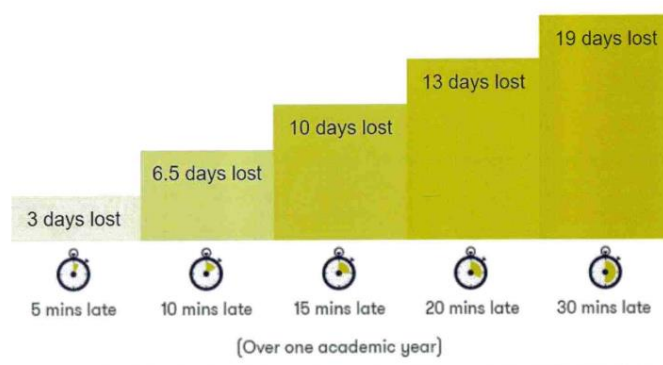
### Fireworks

The fireworks spectacular night returns this year on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Tickets will be available every morning and afternoon at the back of the playground near the multicoloured wall.

### Improving Punctuality

A reminder of the school start and finish times are below. Please ensure your child arrives in school on time and is collected promptly at the end of the school day.

Year Group	Start Time	School Finish Time
Foundation Stage	8:45	15:05
Year 1	8:45	15:15
Year 2	8:45	15:15
Year 3	8:45	15:15
Year 4	8:45	15:15
Year 5	8:45	15:15
Year 6	8:45	15:15



### Achievement Certificates

Year 1: Dougie, Elise, Jacob, Sophia

Year 3: Seren

Year 4: Honey, Edward, Ronnie, Madison

Year 5: Neve, Oliver, Poppy, Ronnie, Susanna, Alex, Issabella, Aaliyah, Lily, Adam, James, Ellis, George, Reese, Matteo, Oscar

Year 6: Beatrice, Emmie, Joel, Ivy

Bronze Badge: Freddie Mattia, Caitlin

Silver Badge: Tyrone,

Gold Badge: Hamish, Oliver, Malachi, Filip, Zyah

Book of Choice

Seb, Grace



### Value – Respect

#### Keeping Children Safe Online

We have noticed this week that some children across the whole school have been playing a game in school linked to the Netflix Squid Game. Please can I ask that you read the guidance below and ensure that your child is not watching this at home or on a mobile device on Tik Tok or another platform. We have reminded children in school about how they can keep themselves safe online.

The following information is from National Online Safety:

#### What is Squid Game?

Netflix's Squid Game is set to become the streaming service's most successful show of all time, with huge numbers of viewers taking to social media to discuss each new episode. The South Korean thriller features some scenes of brutal violence and is rated 15 by the BBFC. It follows a group of adults who compete to win innocent-looking playground games, but who are killed if they fail at the tasks.

An unexpected success in terms of viewing figures, Squid Game's popularity is beginning to spread across various online platforms. There has been a slew of content created – ranging from memes to apps – that convey the violence of the show, so it is important for parents, carers, and educators to understand the basis of Squid Game and the potential risks to young people who might be exposed to it.

#### What are the hazards for children?

Squid Game's 15 rating has not prevented clips and images from the show being uploaded onto social media sites such as [TikTok](#), with the #SquidGame hashtag being viewed more than 22.8 billion times. There have been reports of children who have accounts on these platforms inadvertently viewing gory, explicit scenes from the programme, and parents and carers should be mindful of the prevalence of these uploads.

The popularity of the programme has also led to [online challenges](#) based on various scenes, which see people taking part in seemingly innocent children's games. On the show, however, characters are executed if they fail in the game – and videos of people pretending to kill each other after competing in Squid Game-style contests are going viral on social media, where they are easily accessible to children.

#### What is the Squid Game Challenge app?

Squid Game Challenge (also known as K-Game Challenge) is an app for smartphones and tablets that has been released for Android and iOS, and the two systems differ significantly on their [age ratings](#) for the game. The iTunes Store rates the app as 12+ (advising of "mild/infrequent horror/fear themes"), while the PEGI rating for Android is just 3+, which means that very young children might be able to download and play the game even with parental controls activated on their device or through Google Play.

The gameplay is frequently interrupted by pop-ups and ads (sometimes appearing while the user is rapidly tapping their screen while attempting to complete the challenge). This could easily lead to unwanted purchases or accidental visits to inappropriate sites beyond the app.

#### What can adults do?

As a parent or carer, keep a watchful eye on the content that your children are viewing. [Speak to them openly](#) and chat about how they have been spending time on their devices; let them ask questions too. Ensure that the [parental controls](#) are activated [on your child's device](#) and that age-restricted child profiles are properly set up any on-demand services available through the family TV (such as [Netflix](#), in this case) to prevent inappropriate content being streamed.

If you see your child replicating the challenges from the show or hear them talking about scenes and characters from Squid Game, it would be a timely opportunity to discuss with them that the programme is not intended for children, that much of the content would be inappropriate for their age, and that the violence in the series is very realistic and often upsetting. We have been talking to some of the children about this in school this week and will continue to monitor this. Thank you for your support with this.



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, facts and tips for adults.

# What Parents Need to Know about SQUID GAME

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**15+**  
Suitable only for 15 years and over.

With themes of horror and violence, it's important for parents and carers to understand the potential risks posed to young audiences by the nine-episode Netflix-exclusive TV show, Squid Game. The series, rated 15+, is about a world where contestants who are deeply in debt play children's games in order to win cash prizes. The losers, however, are violently killed. The show's popularity has meant it has spread in various guises across online platforms, with a heightened risk of children and young people potentially viewing unsuitable content. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers understand exactly what Squid Game is all about.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some might argue that Squid Game contains content that might not even be suitable for older teens, let alone young children. Characters are brutally tortured and killed through stabbings or getting shot as a result of rules developed and enforced by a masked game master. The show also features sexual violence and threats of sexual violence, as well as a strong theme of gambling that runs throughout the whole show.

### APPEAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Whilst the content is very much adult-themed, some features of the show seem to appeal to young children at face-value. The name "Squid Game" may be interpreted as a programme aimed at children rather than adults. The content itself, such as the bright and childish aesthetics, may also appeal to young children, particularly as there's a focus on playground games to go with it.

### SIMILAR CONTENT SUGGESTIONS

When using social media and streaming sites, content is recommended based on what the user has consumed i.e. what they have watched or searched for. Therefore, there is a greater chance of your child being exposed to similar violent or horror-themed content on social media after watching a show like Squid Game.

### VIRAL SPIN-OFFS

As well as Netflix, Squid Game has grown in notoriety and prevalence on other platforms, like TikTok and YouTube, with clips of the show going viral. On YouTube Kids, a number of successful channels have taken advantage of the Squid Game trend, creating content such as "How to Draw Squid Game Characters" videos. Its popularity has also led to the creation of app games that put the player in the role of a contestant who is killed if they lose a game.

### SCENE RE-ENACTMENTS

Squid Game's pervasive presence on social media has encouraged many content creators to re-enact scenes from the show, which has led to reports of children wanting to also imitate those scenes displayed on social media at home and in school. Much of this content stems from the "Red Light, Green Light" game from the first episode, where contestants attempt to make it past a giant animatronic girl before she shoots them.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Netflix has easily accessible built-in parental controls that allow you to set up a profile for your child with a specific age rating, block them from watching certain shows and even lock their account so it can't be accessed by anyone else. Netflix also allows you to access your child's viewing history to make sure they're not watching anything inappropriate for their age.

### MONITOR ONLINE ACTIVITY

Squid Game has become a social media craze and it's possible your child will see some content related to the show on various platforms. Therefore, it's important to be aware of which websites your child has visited on their smartphone, tablet or laptop, and to also keep an eye out for which accounts they are following on social media platforms, such as Instagram and TikTok.

### MONITOR BEHAVIOUR

Due to the viral nature of the show, even if your child has not seen Squid Game, it's important to keep an eye on their behaviour. There have been reports from schools of children "playing Squid Game" in the playground and acting aggressively towards the losers as a way to replicate the consequences of losing in the TV show. Viewing content that makes your child feel uncomfortable could also cause them to feel distressed or distracted, so it's important you can easily spot the signs.

### CHECK AGE RATINGS

Age ratings on TV shows and films are a way to gauge what is suitable for audiences of different ages. If you are unsure about the content your child is watching, check the age rating to see if the TV show or film is deemed suitable for their age group. If not, try watching the show yourself or talking to other parents who have seen it before to get a better understanding of why it's been rated a certain way.

### HAVE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Making sure your child is comfortable telling you about what they see online can go a long way to ensuring you are kept in the loop about their online use. Showing an interest in what your child is doing online gives you the opportunity to discuss what is and is not appropriate for their age group, and how they might recognise their own feelings towards content they see.

### WATCH THE SHOW

If you're trying to figure out whether you should let your child watch Squid Game, it might be a good idea to watch the show yourself first. Doing so will allow you to get a better understanding of the show's content and themes, as well as help you decide if this is something you'd feel comfortable with your child being exposed to.

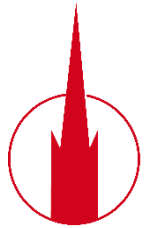
### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced and highly respected freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The INQUIRER, Carly now works as the news editor for Computer Shopper and IT Pro and writes for a number of publications including Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The Metro, uSwitch and WJ100.



**NOS** National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58062020> | <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58062020> | <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58062020>



### Value – Respect

## PLAY-BUDDYS

What it is like to be a play buddy:

You have to be responsible around other children.

You have to be creative and fun with your game ideas.

What you have to do to be a play-buddy:

You have to be fun and careful what you play.

Make sure everyone is happy.

Keep a eye on children

What qualities you need to be a good play buddy:

You need to be fair

Kind

Caring

Self-control

Focused

Calm

Beatrice, Jacob, Grace, Joel, Isabella

