De Bohun Primary School & Children's Centre



Date: Friday 4 May

Issue: 28

Inconsiderate Parking & Driving

We are still receiving complaints from residents regarding parents stopping inconsiderately outside school and we continue to remain concerned about dangerous/illegal parking around the school.

- Please can you ensure you arrive at school on time so that you can find a suitable and safe parking space.
- Please do not park on the yellow zigzag lines or yellow lines and please do not stop your car in the middle of the road to allow your child into or out of the car as it is not safe.
- Please also do not leave your parked vehicle unattended with the engine running or leave your vehicle engine running unnecessarily while your vehicle is stationary.
- Please remember that The Fairway is a public road. Residents experience a good deal of disruption from De Bohun's traffic. It would help relations with local residents if parents do not park over residents' driveways.

Enfield Catering Services	Boys and Accessible Toilet renovation
Please take a minute to read the attached news-	Our new washroom facilities are now open. They
letter from Enfield Catering Service, De Bohun Is	certainly make a wonderful addition to our
mentioned more than once. It is also available	school and we hope the boys and all visitors will
on www.myschoollunch.co.uk/enfield	be impressed with the standard of them.
Parentpay Balances Can all parents please check their children's ac- counts and clear any outstanding amounts. Please remember that school meals, breakfast club and after school club provisions should all be paid for <u>p</u> rior to your children attending.	Summer Fun Day – Saturday 30 June 2018 If any of our parents are self-employed or have a service that they would like to advertise and would like to place an advert in this year's Fun Day brochure, please would you contact Mrs MacMurdie who will be happy to give you further details. <u>a.macmurdie@debohun.enfield.sch.uk</u>



As we approach this year's exciting Summer Fun Day on Saturday 30th June 2018, we will be holding 'Freeze Pop Friday' every Friday, starting TODAY, Friday 4th May, in the playground. Please look out for Mrs Younger and Mrs Mac-Murdie who will be selling various ice lollies and ice creams.

E-Safety: Did you know?

Following the release of the fourth series of *Fortnite: Battle Royale,* and given the real concern parents and educators have about its influence, I thought it might be helpful to outline some key parts of the debate.

There have been a number of articles written about this game, but interestingly, one of our parents recently wrote very honestly in the Telegraph, about the (pardon the pun) battle she faces trying to limit her son's time on it. Her sense of powerlessness is tangible:

'My son, I learnt last week, is a "gamer". At weekends, with his sound-proof headphones on, he can stay in his bedroom all day, excitedly shouting instructions into the microphone. When he emerges – usually around midday, having played into the night – he's like a zombie. If he had his own way, he would be on the game for at least ten hours a day, stopping just for toilet breaks. Welcome to my new world.'

She is not alone:

"I know other parents are equally despairing. One friend posted on Facebook: "I wish I never let my son have Fortnite. If I can spare someone else, please don't do it!"

Although the game is intended for children aged 12+, we are aware that there are a number of younger children making up its 40million worldwide fan base. One of the reported parental observations is that it is highly addictive. As with all games, it triggers the release of dopamine and consequently activates the reward centres of the brain which are especially sensitive in the teenage years and thus make young people susceptible to playing often and for hours to get that 'hit' of dopamine.

That is not to say that all teens who play computer games, including this one, will become gaming addicts. However, it is useful for parents to be able to identify some of the symptoms that may indicate a less than healthy relationship with gaming, which include:

- Unusual preoccupation with the idea of getting back online to play;
- Self-imposed isolation in order to guarantee uninterrupted play;
- Feelings of irritability and restlessness when not playing games;
- Lying about the amount of time spent gaming;
- Persistent headaches caused by too much screen time;
- Carpal tunnel syndrome caused by excessive use of gaming devices;
- Diminished personal hygiene and poor diet;
- Persistent fatigue due to lack of sleep.

The game is free, although there are 'in-app' purchase opportunities which can present other concerns for parents. My advice would be to read the information on the following link and be firm with your boundaries in terms of play time from the beginning:

https://nationalonlinesafety.com/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide/

Finally, whilst I was writing this letter, several parents have written in to recommend this resource which I hope you will find helpful:

https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/digital-resilience-toolkit/? utm_source=bt_customer&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=digitalresilience

SPORTS DAY FAMILY PICNIC



Come and join us after the KS2 Sports Day, to continue the fun on the field!



Please bring a food donation to share with others. Tables for the food will be available.

Cold drinks and music will be provided



When: Tuesday 22nd May Where: De Bohun School field Time: 3.30-4.30



