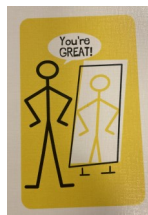


# ad sciurus

## THE SQUIRREL

Issue 15 Thursday 15th December 2022

**10 days until  
Christmas**



It was so lovely to see so many families join us for our rather magical but cold 'Christmas Story in Song'. The children were amazing and a particular recognition of resilience, stamina and strength to our Year 6 children who were the last chapter of the story and remained to the end! I was very proud of you all. My thanks also to the team who set up outside but also cooked more sausages than I have ever seen and organised the food and drink. It really was a lovely idea and this was made even more Christmassy by the snow. There is still a chance of snow over the weekend and I would love the children to be able to play in the snow and be able to build a snowman and to make a snow angel too. One year a white Christmas would be just amazing!

**Continuing on the theme of Christmas, this afternoon at 4pm our very youngest team members take to the stage for their retelling of the Nativity.** The children have been rehearsing and learning their lines and singing songs and I know that being able to perform tonight will begin the Christmas love for many. We will open the doors at 3.50pm this evening and all families are welcome to come and watch their children perform. We look forward to seeing you a little bit later.

**Tomorrow is Christmas Lunch Day and, as previously mentioned, children are able to wear their Christmas jumpers for the day.** Lunch will be in two sittings starting with KS2 and followed by KS1 and Reception afterwards. The chefs in the kitchen have been busy preparing all of the food and the children will look forward to pulling a cracker or two!

**We have just completed the Lanesend Christmas Raffle and the winners have been announced live on Facebook.** A text message will also go out to families who have won a prize to collect. My thanks again to all the people who donated prizes and to all the family, friends and team members who brought a ticket to raise funds for the school. We are still raising funds to revamp our Library over the coming year. **We do have a little Christmas extra as we have some food hampers to be raffled off for just £1 in a 24 hour 'Christmas Cracker' to be collected on Tuesday. Information for this will come out to you shortly.**

To end the Lanesend Christmas season this year, we have our Christmas Adventure on Monday followed by a Christmas morning of activity on Tuesday. Just a reminder school closes at 1pm on Tuesday. The Den will also be closed on this date and will reopen on our return on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

This afternoon, the children will watch seven speeches, one from each year group. The seven speeches have been chosen by each year group as the one that they feel was the best one to go through to become Lanesend Speech Champion. I have loved seeing the children rehearse their Christmas addresses and the children have been really inspired about what the King's first Christmas Speech on Christmas Day might entail. It is lovely how their skills and confidence grow each year and I am so amazed by their thoughts and reflection from across the year. We will announce the Lanesend Speech Champions later today.

I am also really proud of the children who have made Christmas cards, calendars and sang carols to the community. This really has spread the love of Christmas and shown kindness to others. This is just what Christmas is all about; as well as having time to spend with our friends and family enjoying many moments of joy and happiness. Our children, your children, do this in abundance.

**The team have also completed formative and summative assessments and will be sending home Pupil Progress Reports by the end of the term.** We have seen some really nice moments of progress this term and we can see that the impact of the interventions and support that we are giving to the children is making a difference. That is what we want everyday in partnership with families at home; to make a difference to our children. As I have said, we want to grow the very best adults. As always any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher and they will be happy to support or answer any concerns you may have.

**It was lovely to welcome Reverend Amanda back into school today and she did a really lovely Christmas assembly with children in Years 1 and 2.** I am so pleased that Amanda will be retuning after Christmas more regularly.

**Talking about after Christmas, we return on Tuesday 3rd January 2023 for our next curriculum focus around the anniversary of Hovis and 'As Good Today as it has Always Been'.** The curriculum focus will be Science and Design and Technology based on a focus on where food comes from the geography and history of food, breads from around the world and different religions and we hope to have a 'Lanesend Great Bake' off towards the end of the term. As well as many other lovely learning opportunities from Dance Live to our annual 'Vocabulary Dress Up Day', which this year is a word in many languages.

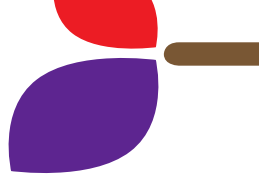
I am really looking forward to another year at Lanesend Primary and creating learning that will absorb and engage all the children and cement a love of learning for a life time. I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a hopeful new year. My thanks to you all and to all the team in school and to the children for making every day at Lanesend a moment full of love and joy.



*Caroline Sice, Headteacher*



# FOR YOU



Issue 15 Thursday 15th December 2022



**Tuesday 20th December—  
School Lunch will be Sausage  
and Chips Boxed Lunch!**



## Dates for your Diary



**Friday 16th December—Christmas Lunch and  
Jumper Day**

**Monday 19th December—Christmas Adventure**

**Tuesday 20th December—Last Day of Term and Early Finish  
Time of 1pm**

**Tuesday 3rd January 2023—First Day of Spring Term**



**What would it be like to  
live on the Moon?**

# This week's debate...



# Lanesend Conversation Starters...

Use these prompts with your children at home to start a conversation about their week in school...

**Reception**— Talk to me about... Speech Week and our Nativity performance

Words to use....I am excited to share my ... This year I started school and now I can... I hope...

Tips for the week... practise all phase 2 sounds over the holiday.

We have been reading... The Christmas Story.

**Year 1**— Talk to me about...Christmas music. What have we enjoyed? How does it make us feel?

Words to use....Christmas, music, adjectives, description

Tips for the week...we've been exploring patterns in maths. Help me spot patterns when we are out and about, or at home.

We have been reading....We're Going on an Elf Hunt.

**Year 2**—

**Year 3** – TALK TO ME ABOUT... angels in Christianity

WORDS TO USE... guardian, messenger, warrior, worship

TIPS FOR THE WEEK... Christmas crafts are great for our fine motor skills

WE ARE READING... Varjak Paw by SF Said

**Year 4**—Talk to me about: The 12 Days of Christmas orienteering, our speeches and our naughty elves that made US do their homework!

Tip of the week: When doing map work, as your travel, you have to keep moving it to ensure it is facing north.

We have been reading: A variety of shorter stories, mostly themed around Christmas. Next terms books have been chosen and we are excited to share these with

**Year 5**— Talk to me about... how speech week was for me. What strategies have we used to build confidence?

Words to use... numerator, denominator, multiple, common denominator, descending, ascending order (fractions this week in maths).

Tips for the week... use the 'mirror mirror' trick box card to help manage emotions and create confident, mindful decision making.

We have been reading... 'War of the Worlds' by H. G. Wells (abridged version).

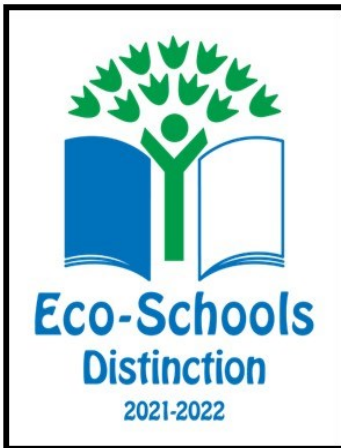
**Year 6**— Talk to me about how I would be a great monarch for the country and what my hopes are for next year.

In Science we have continued to learn about inherited characteristics, which characteristics could I have inherited from family members?

We have continued to develop our understanding of fractions in maths and solved Christmas challenges.







On the first day of Christmas  
my true love said to me  
“ Reduce food waste, plan  
ahead”. 😊

Happy Christmas all.





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 of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

## TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at [videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games](http://videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games).

18

## 'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

## DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

## CHECK THE SPECS

To avoid let-downs, check a game's specs before buying – especially for PC or Mac, where games often need a particular graphics chip or processor to work. Sites like [systemrequirementslab.com](http://systemrequirementslab.com) can scan your computer to see if it will run certain games properly. On consoles, make sure you're buying the right version: some newer Xbox or PlayStation games won't play on older consoles.

## MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming – but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

## BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be earned through progress in the game – but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers: they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

## APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

## CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

## WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnite rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

## LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

## IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

## STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.



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# SKILL OF THE MONTH



## Creativity

*The use of imagination and the generation of new ideas*

Imagine you are a designer for a greetings card company. You have been asked to come up with ideas for a brand new range of cards.

Design 3 different types of cards for different occasions that are important to you and your family.

You might want to draw or make the card to show your favourite ideas.

Ask a family member which card they like best and why.

You could challenge them to come up with ideas for your new range of cards too.

### Reflection Questions

**Getting Started:** How can you share what you imagine?

**Intermediate:** How can you come up with lots of different ideas?

**Advanced:** What is a mind map? How might it help you with this challenge?

**Mastery:** How can you support someone else to be creative?

💡 Creativity

# Multilingual Advent Calendar

Why not give this Multilingual Advent Calendar a try at home! Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGRh0Y4hUGk>





# **Lanesend Primary School**

## ***Love Learning, Every Day***

**We are open every day to show you around our stand out school. However, due to popular demand, we are also holding extra dedicated Open Days with personal tours especially for new families joining Reception in 2023.**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 9am - 5pm**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 9am - 6pm**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 9am - 6pm**

**We look forward to welcoming you to our Lanesend family!**

**Please call us on 01983 293233 or email [admin@lanesendpri.low.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lanesendpri.low.sch.uk) to book your personal tour.**



**Lanesend Primary School  
Love Lane, Cowes  
Isle of Wight, PO31 7ES  
Tel: 01983 293233**

**Headteacher: *Caroline Sice***

**<http://www.lanesendprimary.co.uk>**



**New Carnival Presents**

# **RYDE** *Merry and Bright*

**Friday 16th December**  
*Join us... 5-8pm*  
**Celebrations in the Town**

- \* **Lantern Parade** (5.30pm)  
Start from top of Dover Street, to Star St, High St, Cross St, and ending in Vernon Square)
- \* **Illuminations** (The Neon Garden in St Thomas Rest, the Land and the Sea in Vernon Square)
- \* **Music & Entertainment**
- \* **Food Stalls**

**Join in-  
Lantern Making Workshops:**

**Family Workshop-** Sat 26th Nov  
11-2pm Ryde Methodist Church

**Lantern Leaders Course-**  
Weds 23rd Nov 5-7.30pm The Coaching House, Union Rd, Ryde

To book contact:  
Gemma@thenewcarnivalcompany.com  
01983 716095






**RYDE TOWN COUNCIL** **RBA** **WIGHTLINK** **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND** **new carnival**

**TAPNELL FARM PARK**

# **Season Passes**

**JUST £28 PER PERSON!**  
Under 2's FREE

**Valid from 3rd November 2022 - 24th March 2023**  
Unlimited FREE ENTRY - See winter opening times on website

**Transferable adult season pass when accompanying a child season pass holder**  
(see website for full T&C's)

**ALL WEATHER FUN!**  
Indoor and Outdoor Play

**Discounted tickets for Season Pass Holders!**

**BUY ONLINE** **FOR FULL DETAILS** [www.tapnellfarm.com/play](http://www.tapnellfarm.com/play)





# **CHRISTMAS**

**Drive-in Cinema**

**WESSEX CANCER TRUST**





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**WRS SYSTEMS**





**DON'T MISS THIS FUN FAMILY FESTIVAL  
DURING FEBRUARY HALF TERM!**  
Friday 17th & Saturday 18th February

Plus, new for this year, Thursday 16th for the over-12s

DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



Have you got  
your tickets  
yet?

#### FAQs

**Q: Do I need to get my tickets in advance?**

**A:** It's a good idea. Tickets are selling fast! Get them from [www.quayarts.org](http://www.quayarts.org)

**Q: How much are tickets?**

**A:** Some sessions are free, others cost between £3 and £6

**Q: Is it just for people who like reading?**

**NO!** The IW Story Festival isn't just about books! We've got lots of hands-on activities for you to get involved with – from making puppets to making rockets, illustrating comics to sewing a story. There will be storytellers and theatre performances too!

Tickets are now on sale for the IW Story Festival at Quay Arts in Newport during February half term from [www.quayarts.org](http://www.quayarts.org)

It's a chance to meet well-known performers and writers like **Simon Farnaby** (from Paddington 2, Horrible Histories and Ghosts) who will be talking about his **Wizard in My Shed** series of books.

Former CBeebies star, **Carrie Burnell**, will also be there with her exciting adventure story about being different, **Wilder than Midnight**.



CARRIE BURNELL

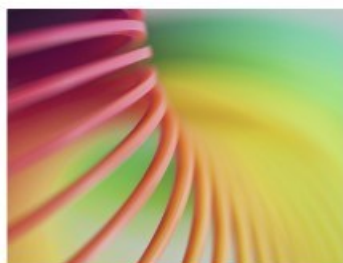
For younger children we have a world-exclusive. Author and illustrator Nicholas Allan will be revealing for the first time **The King's Pants** (some of you may already know and love one of his most famous books, **The Queen's Knickers**.)

There will be lots of other authors and illustrators for you to meet, some of them you may have heard of, some of them you may not. But all of them are worth seeing. Why not check some of them out before you come along: **Laura Ellen Anderson, Neal Layton, Jamie Littler, Gareth Peter, Kieran Larwood, Jules Harriner, Felicity Fair Thompson and Peta Rainford**

**More information from: [www.iwstoryfestival.com](http://www.iwstoryfestival.com)**

Registered charity number: 1198024

## FREE STAY AND PLAY



### SEN PEER SUPPORT

If you are a parent carer of a child with an SEN or disability you are welcome to come along to our **FREE** stay and play session. There will be **FREE** refreshments and a chance to chat with other families.

**28th December 2022 – 10am to 2pm**

**Victoria Pavillion, Recreation Ground Road, Newport, PO30 5DS**

Email: [parentsvoice@peoplematteriw.org](mailto:parentsvoice@peoplematteriw.org)

Text: 07746 302898



You must accompany your children at all times. We have some toys that we will bring along. If you would like to bring your own you are more than welcome to, but these will be your responsibility. This is a **DROP-IN** session. Please feel free to attend for the time that suits you.



## Jingle all the Way with Mountbatten

A registered charity

**Sunday 18 December**  
Ventnor Botanic Garden  
From 3pm  
[mountbatten.org.uk/jingle](http://mountbatten.org.uk/jingle)



## CHRISTMAS BARN

**Sunday 4th,  
11th & 18th  
December**

**Family  
Entry**  
optional  
donation

### KIDZONE

**Track down the 10 snowmen to  
claim your chocolate**

**Make tree decoration £4.25**

Please book this activity on our website  
before 8.30am of the day

Gift Shop  
Mulled Apple Juice  
Beans  
Wildflower seeds  
Christmas Decorations  
Cards, coasters &  
scented candles



**MORE INFO'**  
[www.naturezones.org.uk](http://www.naturezones.org.uk)  
**BLACKWATER**

