

## Y7 Being Bold Week

Our Year 7 students have been engaged with an amazing variety of extended learning opportunities for their Y7 Being Bold week. These have included trips to St John's Church, The Hanuman Temple, Design and Technology workshops at Chiswick School and Leadership programmes with Sky at Osterley Sports Centre and our Anti-bullying Ambassador Leadership Programme. We have also had a number of inspirational speakers who have come to Bolder to share their knowledge and experiences.

Y8 Being Bold Week will be from the 18th November 2019. Details will be published shortly.

## Spanish language visit



Two lucky language students: Nikky and Nathan were selected for their excellent efforts in Year 7, to take part in a British Council Exchange Seminar in Madrid. The trip lasted for five days. Students took part in a variety of activities such as: visiting a Spanish school; shopping at a Spanish Shopping Centre; running an orienteering activity and taking part in seminars about exchanges with Spanish and English students.

On the last day students and staff visited Bolder's Partner School: I.E.S Pedro Duque. They were welcomed by students in the bilingual section, who had made a banner for them. Staff from both schools then discussed their plans for joint projects between the schools such as becoming pen pals and exchanges.

Here's a short report from Nicky .



*"I really enjoyed the orienteering part of the trip as it was exciting and we got to see the woods and wildlife in this part of Spain. I especially liked the Spanish and English games that we played with our new Spanish friends. Miss Ventura tried to catch us out and we had a lot of fun. I'm really proud of myself for making friends from both England and Spain and I look forward to seeing my new friends again."*



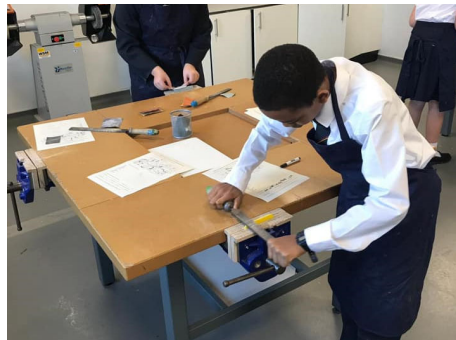
Getting our hands dirty



Creating whilst baking



Completed designs



Shaping Perspex



Perspex design



Brainstorming ideas

## Remembrance Sunday 10th November 2019



REMEMBRANCE DAY  
*Let's We Forget*

Three hundred and ninety soldiers from Isleworth died in World War 1 and along with other schools in the area, students from Bolder Academy are proud to be able to represent to school.

If you would like to join the parade it will take place along Twickenham Road at the War Memorial, 10.00am on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

## New homes for old laptops

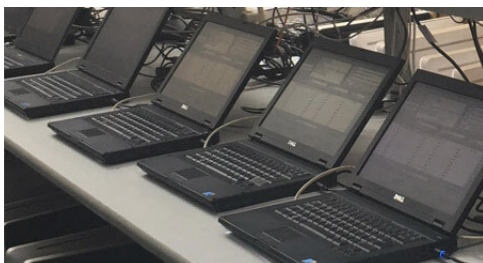


Last Summer Sky rolled out new Microsoft Surface laptops to their employees and we

are very pleased to tell you that we are the beneficiaries of this upgrade. Sky have donated 150 laptops for use by our students!

The laptops have been re-imaged and are now ready for use. They will be used for many of our subjects including our Accelerated Reading programme.

We would like to thank Sky sincerely for their huge donation which will now give even greater access to software support by a much wider group of students.



## All Together United Against Bullying



At Bolder Academy, we want to deal as effectively as we can with any accusations of bullying. This is part of our ethos of being Kind, Strong and Brave. To help us to help the students we have set up a unique reporting email address which can both be used to pass on your concerns. We would encourage both parent/carers and students to use these options so that we can deal effectively with each situation. If the Academy is not aware of any incident, it cannot make moves to resolve the situation.

Please click here to use the address:

[reportbullying@  
bolderacademy.co.uk](mailto:reportbullying@bolderacademy.co.uk)

## Information Sharing Evening



We had an amazingly successful afternoon of information sharing between parent/carers, teachers and external speakers.

We are committed to strengthening the communication between ourselves and parent/carers and we hope that the session was of use to all those parents that attended.

Thank you to all that participated and also for the delicious snacks provided by our catering company ABM.

Curriculum presentations made by subject leads will be added to the website in due course.

## Inspirational Speaker Joe Fraser

Bolder has been very blessed to have Joe Fraser the Gold Medal winning Gymnast of the World Athletics Championship 2019, come to the Academy and speak to our Year 7 students.



Joe moved into world class athletics from the humble beginnings of summersaulting in his living room. With his mother's support and despite a broken arm, Joe became the youngest gymnast to win a gold medal in parallel bars at the World Athletics Championship. Joe Fraser is a wonderful motivational example to our students of how to overcome adversity and succeed!



## Dates for your diary

### 18th November 2019

Being Bolder Week for Y8 will commence at the start of 18th November. Details for any external visits will be sent out shortly.

### 28th November 2019

Parent Teacher Consultations Y8. Please keep a lookout for details of this session which will be sent out over the next couple of weeks.

If you are unable to book using the booking system please get in touch with the office as soon as possible.

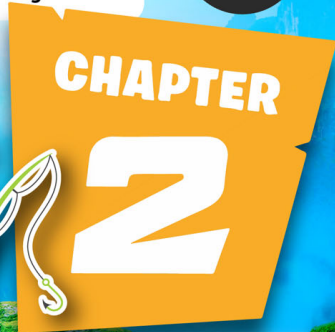




**Fortnite: Chapter 2 has finally landed!** With a whole host of new in-game features including a brand-new map, more water-based activities, upgraded character skins and a more streamlined arsenal of weapons, this Fortnite is promising to be the best yet. Almost all of the changes are cosmetic which means the concept of the game remains the same, with players still aiming to be the last man standing. Players will no doubt find the game much more enjoyable with so much more to explore. For parents and carers however, it pays to remain vigilant.



# What parents need to know about FORTNITE



## BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.



## IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.



## FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.



## SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.



## CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.



## IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



# Top Tips for Parents

### BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game.



### GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

### LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns; that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.



### TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.



### CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.



### PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!



## Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2018/mar/07/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide-video-game-multiplayer-shooter>, <https://www.psychguides.com/behavioral-disorders/video-game-addiction/>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/3/23/17146848/cross-platform-crossplay-ps4-xbox-pc-switch-ios-mobile-enable-friends-compatible-matchmaking#70E7d>, <https://www.esrb.org/ratings/34948/Fortnite/>



## Bike Safety



Why is it important to wear a bicycle helmet?

All our bike riders should wear bicycle helmets as wearing a helmet can reduce the risk of head injury to cyclists by as much as 85 percent.

Lights, front and back, are also a legal requirement from dawn to dusk, despite the light level.

We want to ensure that all our students are as safe as possible, therefore only those students wearing a helmet and with front and back working lights will be permitted to cycle to school.

## Communication

Where students have an extended detention of one hour on Friday, the Academy will make every effort to contact parents beforehand,. However there is no requirement to notify parents of short detentions of 15 minute which generally take place on the same day as the incident it relates to.

We would like to draw your attention to the wording in our Behaviour Policy 2019, which can be found on the Bolder Web Site:

*Parents/Carers should be advised that in line with changes resulting from the Education Act 2011, the Academy is not required to give 24 hours' notice when students are required for a restorative conversation after hours.*

We hope you will continue to support our ethos and work with your child so that detentions are not given.

## Last Chance to give us your views

### Parent Feedback Survey

Your help in completing this short survey will help us greatly in improving the learning environment for the Academy and our students.

### Software Consents

If you have not already done so, please click on the home page of the Bolder Academy website for direct links to the Software Consent form for you child. Students without permission may not be able to use educational software at school and homework support apps at home.

Links to both of these surveys can be found here

<http://bolderacademy.co.uk>

Thank you for your time.

## Forms 7A, 7B and 7C Celebration

Congratulations to all those students who were presented awards at this month's celebrations.

Awards were presented to students on their exemplary attendance, Being Bold, and also a number of special certificates were given to individual students on representing the Academy's core values.

Well done!



## Lunch Helper

*mint*

There is a part time work opportunity with our caterers who are looking for assistance during our lunchtime sittings.

If you are interested in this post please contact Chiara directly on 07834176761 or email [bolderacademy@abmcatering.co.uk](mailto:bolderacademy@abmcatering.co.uk)

## Sports Leadership with Sky

As part of Being Bold week, the Year 7 Sports Leaders attended a Sports Inspired Day with Sky at Osterley Sports Centre. The students worked with primary students encouraging and motivating their participation in sport. The student leaders worked incredibly well with younger students on the day, showcasing their leadership skills.



## Sports Facilities



Now that we are entering the winter months, an alternative arrangement has been made for PE lessons.

From Mid-November to February, students will have their PE lessons at Osterley Sports Centre.