



St Osmund's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

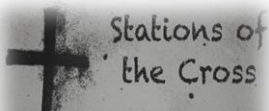


Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning

Annalise Stoney, Author Visit

We had the pleasure of hosting local author and illustrator, Annalise Stoney, this week in celebration of World Book Day. Annalise shared her illustrator's 'toolkit' which was bursting with tips and tricks for children to use in a class 'characters workshop' and from this the children experienced creating their own comic characters. She was particularly impressed with the creative character 'Billy EYE-LASH' created by a child in Year 6 😊

We celebrated and displayed around the school entrance the wonderful illustrations created by children who designed new book covers for their favourite books. Annalise chose a selection of these illustrations which were shared in a whole school assembly.



Our children are once again preparing their reflections on Jesus' journey to Calvary by creating their own Stations of the Cross representations in the school hall. Previous years have been a huge success and it is a very moving experience to travel Jesus' journey with the Cross as interpreted by our children. Once again, parishioners and family members are very welcome to attend on Thursday 21st March between 9-11am and 1.30-4pm.

This is a wonderful opportunity to join us in prayer and reflection as part of our joint parish/school preparation for Easter.

Reconciliation Service

We will be holding a service of reconciliation with the priest this week, in which the children will undertake an examination of conscience. The liturgy will be followed by an opportunity for children to receive the Sacrament of Confession. The liturgy will be just for the school children and staff, and will take place on Wednesday.

Running Late...

If you are running late and your child misses lining up at 8.40am **please can you escort them into the school office to sign them in as late.** Also, please ensure you have booked them a lunch on schoolgrid as it may not be possible to do this upon arrival. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Easter FUEL Programme

Easter FUEL Programme – registration now open and places can now be requested. The FUEL Programme is available to eligible children attending primary, secondary or special schools. It is not open to pre-school children. FUEL is a free holiday activity and food programme that offers children the opportunity to take part in a range of fun activities including performing arts, creative arts, science and sports, during school holiday periods. Participants will also be provided with a meal on each day that they attend. FUEL camps will run in locations across Wiltshire during the Easter holiday.

Booking will remain open until 27 March. For further information on camp locations and activities on offer please visit <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure/fuel-programme>. If you have any further queries, please email: fuelprogramme@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Easter Tennis Camp

Mahoney Tennis are running an Easter Tennis Camp from 02 April to 04th April, 10am to 3pm for children aged 5-8, 9-11 and 12-16 years old. The camp will be held at Downton Tennis Centre, Wick Lane, SP5 3NF. As well as Tennis there will be an Easter egg hunt with prizes. The cost of the camp is £40 per day or £99 for 3 days. To book a place or to find out more please go to www.mahonytennis.com

Star of the Week Awards

Rec: Otto and Aiden
Year 1: Oscar and Lilla
Year 2: Maya and Oskar
Year 3: Semira and Adrian
Year 4: Mia and Josh
Year 5: Sofia and William
Year 6: Thomas and Alina



Dates for your diary...

[www.twitter.com](https://www.twitter.com/@St_OsmundsCP)
@St_OsmundsCP

13.03.24 ~ Reconciliation Service ~ in school
20.03.24 ~ Modern Foreign Languages day
21.03.24 ~ Stations of the Cross – school hall
26.03.24 ~ Life Education Visits (PSHE)
28.03.24 ~ Break up end of Term 4 ~ 1:30pm
05.07.24 ~ International Day!
08-12.07.24 ~ Y6 Residential

Term dates for 2024-25 are out and on the [school website](#).

Mr R Sanderson
Headteacher

A prayer to share with your child as
we prepare for the service of
reconciliation this week.

O God, I love you and I wish to love you
more every day. Help me to see the times
when I have done wrong. Help me to be
sorry for those times.

Help me to make up my mind to be better
in the future.

Amen.

Safeguarding Team

If you have any concerns about a child's welfare or safety,
please speak to a member of the school safeguarding team:

Mr Sanderson – Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Chapman – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Sambrook – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Windsor – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility

Keep the lines of communication open with your child.
Conversations with your child that are appropriate to their
age are key to safeguarding them.

Be aware that the age of criminal responsibility in England
and Wales is 10 years old. If you are concerned that your
child may be involved in anti-social behaviour, please get in
touch with us at school so we can support you and your child.

Since they were first played in arcades on oversized
machines, fighting games have found their way not only
into our homes via consoles and PCs, but also – in the
case of franchises like Street Fighter and Mortal
Kombat – into the pop culture elite, with merchandise
and movie adaptations. The most recent entrant to the
arena is Tekken 8, which recently launched to critical
acclaim.

With a cast of colourful combatants, Tekken offers an
adrenalin hit of fast-paced fisticuffs and slick
presentation. As with any fighting game, however,
Tekken's competitive nature and focus on violence may
not be ideal for the younger element of its user-base,
and this one carries an age-restriction PEGI rating of 16.
The guide below has some top tips for allowing fans of
virtual martial arts to enjoy the action more safely.

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TEKKEN 8

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
16

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Thirty years after its debut on the original PlayStation, the Tekken franchise is back with its eighth mainstream instalment. A one-on-one fighting game series in the same vein as Street Fighter and Mortal Kombat, Tekken 8 can be commended for its relative lack of in-game purchases – but there's still plenty to consider in keeping young players safe from potential hazards.

FUTURE SPENDING?

Tekken 8 carries a PEGI 16 rating, with the assessors noting its violence, occasional profanity and in-game purchase options. The latter issue, however, is a little different to what you may expect from a modern game: unlike many high-profile releases, Tekken 8's content is all accessible without spending any extra money. The exceptions are new characters, which will become available to purchase separately in the future.

COPYCAT RISK

With characters flying across the screen using a mixture of authentic and fantastical fighting styles, younger children and impressionable teens may find themselves tempted to copy their favourite characters or act out their epic fights in real life. This could simply amount to harmless fun – but could also easily lead to accidents, injury and distress if young gamers start actually landing blows.

VIOLENT GAMEPLAY

As a fighting game, Tekken 8's gameplay is heavily based on punching, kicking and throwing opponents around – while some characters' attacks occasionally involve weapons. Most of the violence is comparatively cartoonish in its execution and lacking in gore, but the fact remains that the action still revolves entirely around intense combat and inflicting damage on an opponent.

FAMILY CONFLICT

Tekken 8's story mode, 'The Dark Awakens', focuses on two of the series' most important characters – Kazuya and Jin, a father and son who have been warring for years. The sight of two family members physically fighting each other may be hard to understand (and difficult to deal with) for some children – causing confusion and concern over why relatives would want to hurt one another.

RANKED ONLINE PLAY

Tekken 8 features an array of online modes – most notably its 'Ranked' section, where players battle to reach the top spot of a worldwide leaderboard. Many players will dedicate significant amounts of time to practising and – while the challenge can be fun – some of these matches can get extremely competitive. Children could become obsessed with climbing the rankings and dedicate an unhealthy amount of time to the game or grow angry if they wind up on a losing streak.

ONLINE CONTACT

Tekken 8 doesn't offer voice chat by default, but a player's platform ID is visible (such as their PlayStation Network ID, Steam account or Xbox gamertag). Rival players can, therefore, reach out via messages if they wish. Given the game's fiercely competitive nature, these communications can potentially put children at risk of online abuse if their opponent is a particularly sore loser.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TRY IT OUT YOURSELF

As with many popular games, we'd recommend checking it out for yourself in advance if you have any concerns. In the case of Tekken 8, there's a free demo version available (for all platforms) which lets you experience fights with a handful of the characters: a useful way of establishing first-hand whether some children might find the game's violence to be too intense.

EXERCISE YOUR JUDGEMENT

While Tekken 8 features a sort of 'spray' impact effect when attacks land, it's not the kind of game that most observers would describe as gory (unlike, for instance, the Mortal Kombat franchise). Of course, any fighting game worthy of the name will include a significant degree of violence – but the level at which the battles in Tekken are pitched may not be an issue for some children.

MARTIAL ARTS MOTIVATION?

With characters utilising real-world fighting styles such as jiu-jitsu, boxing and kickboxing, Tekken could represent an opportunity to channel a child's fondness for the game into a beneficial interest in real-world martial arts. Classes can help to build young people's confidence and physical fitness, as well as providing avenues for making new friends.

CONTROL COMMUNICATIONS

If a child plays Tekken online with anyone apart from their friends, then parents and carers could consider restricting communications – such as shutting off the facility to be messaged by other players (although the child's profile name will still be displayed) – to reduce the chance of contact from strangers. This can be done via the console's account settings or through the child's Steam account (if playing on PC).

Meet Our Expert

Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon, Lloyd Coombes has worked in the games media industry for five years. He's played every Tekken title since the series began and, as a parent, also values the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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