

Abbey Primary Newsletter 10.09.21

Sutton SCITT - OFSTED

The Willow Learning Trust was accredited SCITT (School Centred Initial Teacher Training) in June 2014 and has since developed a highly successful Initial Teacher Training Programme which has trained over two hundred primary and secondary teachers. Sutton SCITT is part of the Sutton Secondary School Teaching Alliance which has the collective purpose to jointly develop best practice in all schools, so all students receive the highest quality teaching. Before joining us as our new headteacher, Mrs Stirling-Williams was (and still is) very involved with the SCITT. The SCITT had a recent OFSTED inspection and we're pleased to inform you that OFSTED have awarded an Outstanding grade. The link to the report is below.



[10189073 - Sutton SCITT - Final report.pdf](#)

Awesome Awards

The following children have been recognised by their teachers as being 'awesome' this week!

NS – Faith A
RC – Kamy S
RH – Aoife M
1E – Thusaan P
1R – Dylan J
2P – Joshua M
2S – Connor M
3L – Sheika MR
3W – Zara A
4B – Frankie R
4S – Kristian K
5B – Thushniha R
5M – Malak H
6RB – Rohail A
6S – Shajura P



Online safety –

All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



What Parents and Carers Need to Know About...

ROCKET LEAGUE

Age Restriction
PEGI 3

Rocket League is a free-to-play multiplayer vehicle football game. It was developed by Psyonix, now part of the Epic Games family (which also includes Fortnite and Gears of War). Rocket League is essentially a Football game where, instead of running, the players drive rocket-powered cars. The game was a surprise hit that took the world by storm when it first released in 2015. Rocket League is available for the Xbox One, Xbox Series X, PlayStation 4 & PlayStation 5, Nintendo Switch, Windows PC, MacOS and Linux.

Fiercely Competitive Community

Competitive gaming isn't necessarily bad. However, playing purely to win (or to avoid losing) can result in aggressive behaviour from some players if they're not successful in the game. Certain people can become hostile or "toxic" towards other players. Continually seeing this behaviour can cause children to think it is acceptable and lead to anger issues while playing.

Grinding and Increased Screen-time

Features like the Rocket Pass and the ranking system can make Rocket League a grinding-focused game. This means players need to spend a lot of time on the game to progress through levels and collect rewards. Grinding encourages regular long gaming sessions for players seeking to climb the rankings (meaning increased screen time) but it doesn't always result in making much headway.

In-App Purchasing

Free-to-play games (so called because they don't cost anything to download) like this depend on players making in-game purchases to turn a profit. Rocket League's in-game currency, called credits, are used to buy items in the game. Credits can be earned by playing the game or can be bought with real money - which could prove expensive if a child lets their love of the game (and desire to progress) get the better of them.

Unsuitable Online Interactions

A video game's age rating cannot take player-generated elements into account. Rocket League is rated PEGI 3, but its online features mean that appropriateness can't be guaranteed. Audio and text chat, player usernames, player-to-player trades and other user-created content may not be suitable for young players. The game is moderated, but catching everything can be difficult.

Scams and Bad Trades

Player-to-player trading is common in Rocket League. The game has lots of cosmetics (skins) to collect, and some can be very valuable. Players can trade items among themselves, but younger gamers are not always the best judges of what constitutes a fair deal. This can lead to them being scammed in trades - or to children signing up to legitimate trading websites, where they then get scammed.

Advice For Parents & Carers

Use Parental Controls

Psyonix has added some safety measures into the game. The text and voice chat can be disabled, for example, limiting contact from strangers. However, it's not currently possible to block contact from other players about trades. It is a good idea then to talk with your child about the possibility of scams and bad trades either before they download the game or early in their Rocket League career.

Monitor Gaming Time

It's impractical to sit and watch your child every time they play Rocket League. Keeping an eye on their gaming hours is crucial, however. It's easy to lose track of time while playing (even for adults), so "one more game" can soon turn into ten more games. Helping your child to balance their gaming time with their homework, chores and other activities is a life lesson in time management.

Stay Aware of Spending

Free-to-play games can become money sinks without children realising. For peace of mind, make sure you don't have any payment methods attached to your child's gaming account to avoid accidental purchases. Rocket League credits can be earned through gameplay or bought with real money - encourage your child to use their earned credits first before they ask you to top them up.

Encourage Regular Breaks

Sitting in the same position all day while gaming isn't healthy, but it is an easy habit to fall into. A short break every hour or half hour is important. It allows players to rest their eyes, stretch, hydrate and drink. Learning the value of an occasional break from any activity is good practice for the future. Encouraging your child to hydrate regularly can also help to lower any rising competitive temper.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Gordon is a journalist who worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2011, providing readers with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She's the owner of [gamingwithkids.com](http://www.gamingwithkids.com) and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books. With experience in esports and content creation, Clare has seen the benefits and drawbacks of all aspects of gaming.



NOS
National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

ROCKET LEAGUE: <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/sections/36009493014>, <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/articles/36009493014> Parental Controls: <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/articles/36009493014> How can I protect my child from online interactions: <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/articles/36009493014> How can I protect my child from online interactions: <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/articles/36009493014>



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Views of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.09.2022

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory (and a parental duty) – we expect all children to be at school, unless they are self-isolating (due to coronavirus symptoms, and/or have tested positive, and/or have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace). Attendance is vital for the children’s education, socialising and overall well-being, including their economic prosperity and long-term health – children benefit hugely from being at school.

Attendance for the whole school this week was 91.4%. Well done 2S – best attendance this week!

RC	71.2%	RH	55.0%
1E	92.0%	1R	94.6%
2P	93.8%	2S	98.7%
3L	90.9%	3W	90.3%
4B	97.5%	4S	97.8%
5B	94.9%	5M	94.6%
6RB	89.4%	6S	96.4%



Recommended Read

'Frostheart' by Jamie Littler.

Way out in the furthest part of the known world, a tiny stronghold exists all on its own, cut off from the rest of human-kin by monsters that lurk beneath the Snow Sea.

There, a boy called Ash waits for the return of his parents, singing a forbidden lullaby to remind him of them... and doing his best to avoid his very, VERY grumpy yeti guardian, Tobu.

But life is about to get a whole lot more crazy-adventurous for Ash.

When a brave rescue attempt reveals he has amazing magical powers, he's whisked aboard the *Frostheart*, a sleigh packed full of daring explorers who could use his help. But can they help him find his family . . .

This book is recommended for children between the ages of 7 and 10.



Scholastic Book Fair in School!



We are excited to be hosting a Scholastic book fair in school once again! The book fair will be in school during the week beginning Monday 8th November. More details will be sent nearer the time!

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

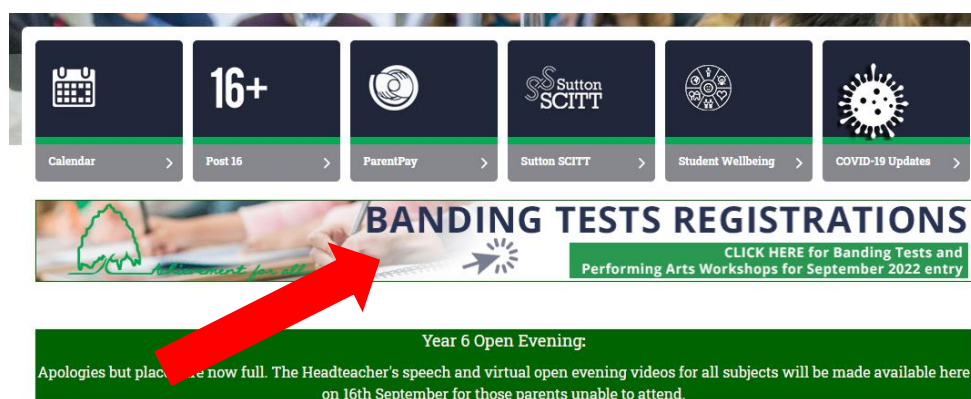
The application process for children born between 1 September 2010 and 31st August 2011 is now open. If your child was born between these dates please ensure you have submitted your application online by **31st October 2021**. Below are the links to both Sutton and Merton's websites which is where you will find information about open evenings (some schools are hosting open evenings on site and some are just virtual) and the application process.

https://www.sutton.gov.uk/info/200439/school_admissions/2332/transfer_to_secondary_school_september_2022

[Secondary school applications \(merton.gov.uk\)](https://www.merton.gov.uk/secondary-school-applications)

Please make sure that you register your child for the Glenthorne banding tests if you intend to list Glenthorne as one of your choices.

The picture below (minus the red arrow) is taken from the front page of Glenthorne's website



Thomas More Catholic School which is in the Purley area of the London Borough of Croydon, is holding Open Mornings each day from Monday 13 September – Friday 17 September inclusive. Sessions run from 9:15 until 10:30am; you will be taken on a tour to see the school 'in action' and then meet a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss any queries you

may have. These events are by appointment only and places are strictly limited. To book a slot, please contact Mrs West-Symes at admissions@tmore.org.uk or on 020-8668 6251 ext 205.

Alternatively, you can attend our Open Evening which takes place on Tuesday 5 October from 18:00 until 21:00pm. You will be given a tour of the school during which you will meet students and teachers and you will also be able to hear the Head Teacher's address in the Main School Hall. There is no need to book for this event – just turn up on the night.

Update of medical Needs

We kindly ask that you update the school office with any new medical information concerning your child. We also ask that any medical letters (from doctors or consultants) are shared with the school as these are no longer automatically sent to schools.

Safeguarding

Children have a right to be cared for and protected; protecting them is everyone's responsibility. Here at Abbey Primary, we have a duty of care to ensure that everyone is kept safe from harm. We are committed to provide a secure and supportive environment in which children can thrive. Safeguarding children is an essential part of our holistic approach to ensure that our children are protected from abuse and neglect and that every child reaches their full potential.

If you need to report a safeguarding concern or you have any queries, please contact Mrs Morris, our Safeguarding Lead (emorris@abbey.sutton.sch.uk) or Miss Collings, our Family Liaison Officer (scollings@abbey.sutton.sch.uk)

Year 5 & Year Walking Home

Please ensure that you have sent the office an email if your Year 5 or Year 6 child has permission to walk home on their own – office@abbey.sutton.sch.uk Without written permission, we will not allow them to leave the school premises.

Spotlight on.....Mrs Pettinger



Hello, I am Mrs Pettinger. I started at Abbey Primary School as a Newly Qualified Teacher and am still here 17 years later! I have taught across both Early Years and KS1 and am spending some time this year in KS2 as well. I am also a qualified dance teacher and enjoy choreographing routines with the children in our dance lessons. Outside of school I enjoy spending time with my 2 boys (and husband!) and will often be found chasing the two of them around a park or building Hot Wheels cities at home. If you do see me around school, please come and say hello.



Primary Family Support Group
Empowering parents to
build healthy relationships
with their children

Time: 12.45 – 2pm

Venue: Sutton Youth Centre, Robin Hood Lane, Sutton

Dates:

14.09: Introductions, family star, ground rules, parenting styles
21.09: Parent's mental health and wellbeing
28.09: Communicating with Children
05.10: Online Safety
12.10: Rules, boundaries sanctions rewards – bedtimes etc/conflict
19.10: County lines
02.11: Supporting Children's mental health, anxiety, self esteem
9.11: Impact of trauma on your child
16.11: Attention and concentration/ADHD
23.11: Sexual health
30.11: Review ending, what next evaluation

All welcome

Whilst we know that some parents may not be able to attend every session, we would love to see parents at as many sessions as they can

We ask that parents text us to let us know you are attending and so that we can be prepared for numbers and plan the environment and refreshments accordingly.



We would like to extend this invite to all parents of a primary aged child in the London Borough of Sutton. We hope to offer parents a safe space to meet other parents in a similar situation to learn more about different topics and explore new ideas that will support your child's social emotional growth and development.

Parents will:
Feel more empowered and confident to trust their own judgements when supporting their children

Build self-esteem and confidence

Share ideas and tips with each other

For more information and to discuss any queries please call or email either Nibby Withers or Fran Osborn

Nibby: 07984 757878

Nibby.withers@cofnus.org.uk

Fran: 07736 338603

Fosborn2@suttonmail.org

Dates for your Diary

Academic Year 2021-2022

Friday 17th September – 'Jeans for Genes' Day

Friday 17th to Monday 20th September – Year 6 PGL trip

Monday 27th September - Year 1 Curriculum meeting (2.30-3.00pm)

Tuesday 28th September – Year 2 Curriculum meeting (2.30-3.00pm)

Wednesday 29th September – Year 3 Curriculum meeting (2.30-3.00pm)

Thursday 30th September – Year 4 Curriculum meeting (2.30-3.00pm)

Friday 1st October – Year 5 Curriculum meeting (2.30-3.00pm)

Monday 4th October – Year 6 Curriculum meeting (2.30-3.00pm)

Thursday 7th October – Individual Photographs

Tuesday 12th October – Years 5 and 6 Wellbeing workshops

Wednesday 13th October – Year 3 and 4 Wellbeing workshops

Thursday 14th October – Years 1 and 2 Wellbeing workshops

Monday 25th to Friday 29th October – school closed for half-term

Monday 1st November – school closed for staff training (INSET Day)

Tuesday 2nd November – school closed for staff training (INSET Day)

Monday 8th – Friday 12th November – Scholastic book fair in school

Wednesday 10th November – Parents Evening (3.30-6.50pm)

Thursday 11th November – Parents Evening (3.30-4.50pm)

Friday 17th December – Last day of term – **early finish for all children (including Nursery)**

Spring Term

Tuesday 4th January - school closed for staff training (INSET Day)

Wednesday 5th January - school closed for staff training (INSET Day)

Thursday 6th January – Children return at 8.45am (Morning Nursery at 8.30am)

Monday 14th to Friday 18th February – school closed for half-term

And finally....

