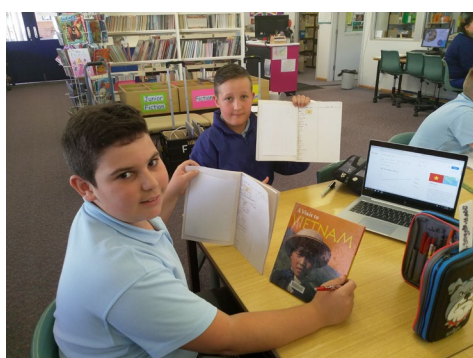




NEWSLETTER

Macquarie Road, Wilberforce NSW 2756 Phone: 4575 1424 Fax: 4575 1096
Email: wilberforc-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au Webpage: www.wilberforc-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

READING FOCUS



IF, STARTING IN KINDERGARTEN ...

Student A reads at home	Student B reads at home	Student C reads at home
20 min/day	5 min/day	1 min/day

they will hear

1,800,000	282,000	8,000
-----------	---------	-------

words per year.

They will have read for

851	212	42
-----	-----	----

hours by 6th grade.

And on standardized tests, they will likely score better than

90%	50%	10%
-----	-----	-----

of their peers.

SO, to raise better readers, **SIMPLY READ.**



The Dubuque Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is a network of individuals and organizations working together to ensure that all children read at grade level by the end of third grade.

To learn more, visit www.readDBQ.org

"Reading is a fundamental skill your child will use for the rest of their life – so why stop when they're just getting started?"

An interesting motto is

"Read only on the days you eat"

Sharing stories and reading aloud with your child strengthens their skills in reading, writing and comprehension.

Research by literacy expert, Dr Margaret Merga, found that over half of parents stop reading aloud with their children once they begin to start reading for themselves. This happens even though children enjoy it well beyond their early years of schooling.

Reading aloud with your child throughout their primary school years has significant, positive effects on their learning and reading skills. Listening to your child as you read together also builds their social skills and confidence as they engage with you, and the quality time that you spend with them raises their mood and sense of wellbeing.

We intend to continue improving how we teach reading and comprehension and appreciate your support at home. Hopefully next year, we will be able to conduct some parent workshops on reading and comprehension.



IMPORTANT DATES

- 27 October – Kindy Jungle Safari
- 28 October – Kindy 2021 Transition 10am - 12:15pm
- 29 October – Interrelate (Stage 3)
- 4 November - Kindy 2021 Transition 10am - 12:15pm
- 5 November - Interrelate (Stage 3)

Welcome Back! Term 4 is off and running and it has been great to get out in the playground and amongst the classes over the last 2 weeks to see how settled our students have been after returning from holidays. We are still operating under Covid restrictions, and as always, we thank you for your support in following the guidelines to ensure the health and wellbeing of our community. The good news is some of the restrictions have been eased and our Kindergarten 2021 Orientation program and our Year 6 Farewell can proceed. These events will look slightly different to how they have run previously.

2021 Kindergarten Orientation

We are excited to announce that our Kindergarten Orientation program will be going ahead this term! We have received new guidelines allowing the event to take place, although it will look a little different to the original plan, and there are a few procedures that we have to adhere to in order to ensure

the health and safety of all. Parent information will remain online only but we are more than happy to answer your questions via phone, so please contact the office if you have anything specific. There are four orientation sessions for students as follows:

Week 3	Wednesday 28th October	10am – 12:15pm
Week 4	Wednesday 4th November	10am – 12:15pm
Week 5	Wednesday 11th November	2.30pm – 3:30pm
Week 6	Wednesday 18th November	2.30pm – 3:30pm

2021 Staff Development Days – Changes That Will Affect All Parents

Commencing at the start of 2021, the Staff Development Day changes include:

- an increase from one to two Staff Development Days at the commencement of Term 1
- a decrease from two to one Staff Development Day at the end of Term 4.

The Term 1, 2021 School Development Days are scheduled for the following dates:

- 27th and 28th January with students returning Friday 29th January 2021.
- Kindergarten will start on Tuesday 2nd February 2021.

Kindergarten 2021 Best Start assessments and starting dates will now change to accommodate this. Students who were previously booked in for Best Start on Thursday 28th January, will now complete the assessment on Monday the 1st February. All Kindergarten parents will be resent a confirmation of their Best Start time and first day letter.

Class Placements

Each year we give parents the opportunity for input regarding the placement of students for the following year. This exercise is about considering your child's educational needs. It is not an exercise in selecting your child's teacher. Class teachers are the person in the best position to make judgments about the educational needs of your child as they see all aspects of a student's schooling. The school is consultative in this matter; however, the final decision rests with the class teachers. It is my responsibility as Principal to support the judgment of teachers that I entrust with this decision.

Not all requests are workable and we are always focused on ensuring students develop resilience and perseverance. Teachers will begin the process of class placements in the weeks ahead with the hope of having them finalised in Term 4. This process takes many hours of work to ensure classes have a balance of gender, and learning and social needs. If you think there is some aspect of your child's learning that requires further consideration, please address your requests in writing to the school's email address by **Friday 20th November**. Email: wilberforc-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

School Travel – 2021 Applications

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened on Monday 12 October 2020. Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now apply online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody). Please go to the school travel passes at Transport NSW for more information.

Selective High School

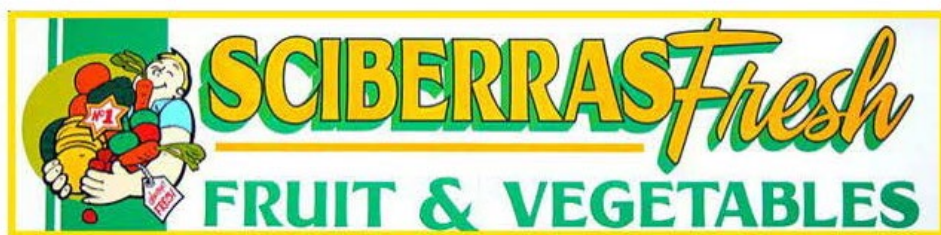
Applications for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2022 will be accepted from Tuesday 13 October 2020 to Monday 16 November 2020. Parents must apply online at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selectivehigh-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>. All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on Thursday 11 March 2021.

Thank you to:

- Ms Tierney and Mrs Chia for organising Interrelate.
- Ms Maunder for coordinating debating.
- Mrs Ruzgas for coordinating photo day.
- All the staff who have put in an enormous amount of work preparing for Term 4.

Graham Wilkins

Principal



Not Returning to Wilberforce PS?

We are currently in the process of looking at our class structures for 2021. If you anticipate that you and your family will not be with us next year, please fill in the slip and return it to Mrs Turner in the office as soon as possible or ring us on 4575 1424 or email wilberforc-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

This information is vital to us, so we can ensure we form the correct classes and support structures for our students.

Organisation 2021


Family Name: _____

My child/children will not be returning to Wilberforce Public School in 2021.



Parent Name: _____ Signed: _____ Parent/ Caregiver

NEWS, NOTES AND HAPPENINGS

NOTES Home	NOTES Due
Walkabout Reptiles (Kindergarten)	TOMORROW Friday 23 October

Weekly Focuses:	
	Considerate: I think about the needs and feelings of others.
	Curious: I take risks with my learning.

Sound Waves

Week 3 Term 4 	Graphemes: Graphemes: oy oi; eer ear Patterns: oin, oil	Graphemes: Extra weary, sphere, fierce, cereal, here, pierce	Focus Concepts: Rhyming, Comparison Word building/Word families, Homophones: peer/pier, shear/sheer, tear/tier, serial/cereal Antonyms: repairs/destroys, employee/employer, lower/hoists, Synonyms: dampness/moisture, pleasant/enjoyable, position/appointment
Week 4 Term 4 	Graphemes: th; th Blend: thr	Graphemes: Extra breathe	Focus Concepts: Word origins, Word building/Word families, Correct word usage/Vocabulary, Compound words: thunderstorm, earthquake, thornbill, thickset, thumbnail, throughout, throwaway

Thank you!

Thank you, Hulme family!

A big thank you to the Hulme family for their generous donation of 150 bags of soil for our veggie gardens. Your generosity is very much appreciated by all the students and staff here at Wilberforce Public School. We are so excited we wet our plants!



Kindergarten 2021 Orientation

We are now offering four visits for Kindergarten Orientation and encourage all incoming students to participate. Our Remote Orientation Program (in your Orientation Pack) will continue in addition to these school visits. The details of our school visits are as follows:

Wednesday 28 th October	Wednesday 4 th November	Wednesday 11 th November	Wednesday 18 th November
10.00am – 12.15pm K Green Classroom	10.00am – 12.15pm K Green Classroom	2.30 – 3.30pm K Green Classroom	2.30 – 3.30pm K Green Classroom
Please bring a small bag with hat, drink bottle, crunch and sip, and recess.	Please bring a small bag with hat, drink bottle, crunch and sip, and recess.	Afternoon session, no need to bring anything.	Afternoon session, no need to bring anything.

Please note the above visits are for students only. Students can attend one or all visits. Parents may bring students to the classroom and collect them from the classroom at the end of each session. Please be brief and keep socially distant in line with department policy. Remember to connect to our Kindergarten 2021 Class Dojo for regular updates. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 28th October.

Young Writers' Competition

The Young Writers' Competition runs across eight schools in the Hawkesbury. Every student at Wilberforce Public School enters each year.

This year our finalists are Sam B, Brooklyn Mc, Caitlyn M and Jason C. Each student will represent their stage this year with their story about 'Opposite Day'.

SRC Report

Last term the SRC met and decided to get new backboards and rings for the basketball court. Over the school holidays these were installed and all the students are really enjoying the new equipment. We have also suggested to get the toilets painted.

Lachlan S and Preston C



STAGE NEWS

Early Stage 1

Welcome back to the last term of Kindergarten and what a fantastic term we have in store for you! In English we will learn how to be a 'Predicting Porcupine' and to edit our writing. In Mathematics we will explore the concepts of multiplication and division. Our Geography unit will discover ways we can look after our environment while in Science we will investigate the properties of materials. We will use a variety of mixed media in Art, act as animals in Drama, and compose funky tunes in Music. On top of this, we will have a Jungle Safari Fun Day and many more exciting class activities. We are looking forward to a wonderful term.

Stage 1

Stage One have a productive and engaging final term planned for this year. In literacy sessions, we will be learning about opinion and how to speak and write persuasively in literacy. Working with numbers is the main focus in Mathematics and the topics of fractions, chance, data, 2D space and position will also be studied. In Science, our first unit for Term 4 is 'Dinosaurs and more' in which we will investigate the external features of prehistoric animals and we will have a chance to be creative on this theme whilst using technology in art lessons. In sport sessions we will complete activities in leap, two-handed strike, kick and dodge and then move on to social dance, which is always popular with the students. Here's to a rewarding end to a commendable year of learning.

Stage 2

Term 4 in Stage 2 will be very busy! Students are delivering their speeches and we will have our stage winners to announce shortly.

Our writing unit this term is based on poetry. Stage 2 students have been reading, appreciating and writing poetry from a range of poets, both Australian and International. This writing unit explicitly teaches different comprehension strategies. We will continue with our Soundwaves program, keep an eye out in the newsletters for the different phonoemes we will be focusing on weekly.

During Maths lessons, students have been problem solving written problems. They will be given an operation with which they have to create their own set of problems, then present to the class. Class tackles the problem and students explain how to complete efficiently. Students will be also working on multiplication and division with percentages and decimals.

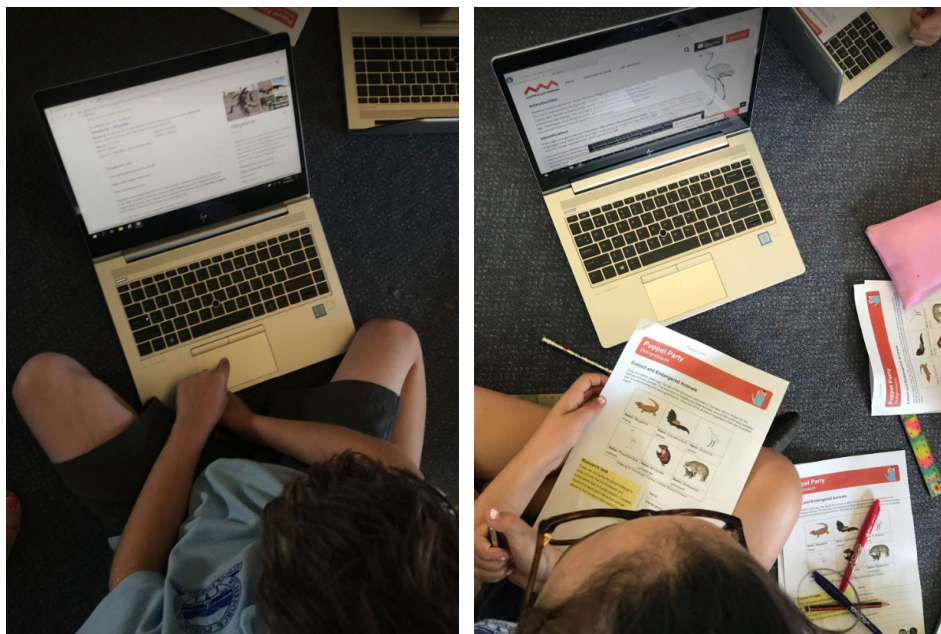
Smooth Moves is our science unit. Students will be learning about movement and friction as well as contact and non-contact forces.

In the PDHPE unit 'Changes, Movement and Me', we will be exploring how we manage change in life. Students will identify changes that happen as people get older and how this can impact on how they think and feel about themselves and different situations. Students will also investigate and demonstrate understanding of movement skills to solve challenges.

In Geography lessons, students will be taking a tour of Australia. Continuing with the poetry theme, the unit of work is called 'I love a Sunburnt Country'. In part, this unit has been designed by the students. Each week students will visit a different state and learn about the natural features located there. We have also managed to source some Virtual Reality headsets for the students to create a 3D tour.

Our CAPA unit is called Designosaurs! During lessons, students research endangered and extinct Australian Animals to base their art on. Later in the term, students will be making puppets.

The students in these photos are starting their research.



Stage 3

Stage 3 would like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs Farrell, who is now teaching 5/6R, since we farewelled Mr Ranger. Thank you, Mrs Farrell, for stepping into this position, as well as continuing to run Kid's Shed. We know you will enjoy working with the Stage 3 students and being a part of all the great things that happen in Term 4.

It is hard to believe that Term 4 has commenced and Year 6 are in their last term of primary school! This term, Stage 3 will complete our Science Unit on 'Earthquakes' and the Geography Unit on 'Asia'. In fact, Stage 3 will be working on research tasks for Geography, in library lessons as well, this term. In English, the students will be working on a poetry unit.

Interrelate lessons began this week. We cannot emphasise enough, the importance and value of this program for Stage 3. As students enter into their adolescent years, so much misinformation is presented to them and this is the perfect opportunity for them to learn about the changes they will experience as they progress into their teen years.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our end of term 'Fancy Masks' theme day. An awesome effort and a special thanks to Masterchef Mrs Quealey for cooking a delicious BBQ! Everyone had a fun day at the BBQ, and Stage 3 threw Mr Ranger a farewell party/disco in the hall. Stage 3 raised \$1010 to go towards the Year 6 gift to the school. At this stage, we are still deciding how this year's Year 6 Farewell will be organised but we will keep you informed.

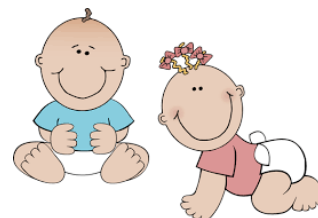
With some restrictions lifting we are now able to participate in camp. This is the first activity we have been able to organise outside of school and I'm sure everyone is relieved and excited to know that this annual excursion can go ahead (fingers crossed). This year's camp is at the Nepean Active Adventure Centre, at Douglas Park.

Term 4 is always a busy time with lots of exciting milestones to celebrate. Thank you for all your support throughout this very unique and challenging year.

Stage 3 Teachers

WANTED!

Year 6 students – Mrs Chia needs your baby/toddler photos. It's that time of year when we start to organise the 2020 Year 6 Book. We ask that if they are original photos that the photo be placed in an envelope with the child's name clearly marked. You are also welcome to email them to wilberforc-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and the subject of the email to be the child's name.



WEEKLY AWARDS

Bronze

Madison M 5/6R, Brooklyn M 1/2W, Jamie M 3/4M, Liam H 3/4M, Riley H 2G, Caitlin L 5/6D x 2, Chelsea K 5/6D
Jasmine H 3/4M x 2, Kai K KG, Joel K 3/4M, Tyler R KP, Charlotte B 2C, Jaxson C 3/4R

Silver

Jamie M 3/4M, Aaron A 3/4R, Joel K 3/4M, Ruby B 5/6D, Hailey M 1D

Gold

Joel K 3/4M

SPORT

Athletics Carnival trophies and medals will be handed out at next week's ZOOM assembly at 12pm. ZOOM details will be posted on Facebook and Skoolbag next Thursday.

Ribbons will be handed out during the mid-morning assembly throughout the week.

CANTEEN

Monday	Wednesday	Friday
26 October	28 October	30 October
Emily Read Rebecca Stephen	Lorelle Turner Lisa Turner	Jo Cox Melanie Reberger
Monday	Wednesday	Friday
2 November	4 November	6 November
Kerri Allen Sandra Binks	VOLUNTEER NEEDED VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Sandi Mahoni Shane Mahoni



How to Install and Use Zoom for Assembly



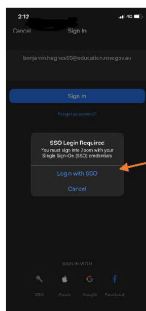
Logging into ZOOM can be a repetitive process when using the Department of Education connection. This is done to enhance the security of the meetings and to ensure that everyone is safe.

1. First you will need to install Zoom on your mobile device

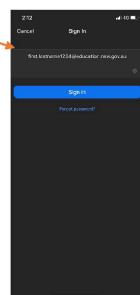
2. Open the Application and click 'Sign in'

3. You **MUST** sign in using your child's DET login. Without using this, it will not work.

- Use your child's first name, full stop, last name and any numbers they have in the username.
- For example: John.doe123@education.nsw.gov.au



4. It will then ask you to log in with SSO. Click 'Login with SSO.'



5. Write the same: `firstname.lastname123@` at the beginning of the address that is there. Then click 'Go'

6. Type in the student login. You won't need to type in the full email address here.

7. It will ask if you want to open the page in ZOOM. Simply click open.

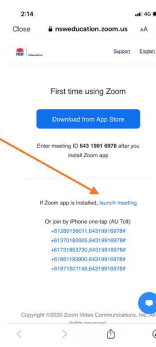
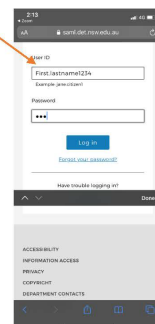
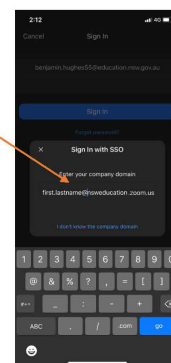
8. You are now logged into zoom.

9. If you would like to change the name shown on your account, you can go to settings, and change your name there. Your name must be either your child's name or your name.

10. When you would like to attend the meeting, simply click the link you have been given from the school and it will open a page. Click 'LAUNCH MEETING' and it will take you to the application and into the meeting.

11. Please always try to check that you are signed in correctly before assembly. You can also try to join the meeting a little early to see if it works. You will be placed into a waiting room until the assembly is ready.

Please **DO NOT** record meetings.





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

CHAPTER

2

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 cartoon 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 GAMINGible. 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>, <http://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> #701E76, <https://www.esrb.org/ratings/34948/Fortnite/>

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