



A note from Mrs Beardsley



We are immensely proud of our nurturing and family ethos at William Lilley. Our morning universal breakfast club which is available for free for all children from 8.15 each day supports this ethos brilliantly. Children are encouraged to come along to school at 8.15 to join their friends in fun activities as well as being offered a healthy breakfast. Our children and their families find this invaluable in helping them prepare for the school day, providing opportunities for children to settle in through an enjoyable social time with their friends. We would like to encourage **ALL CHILDREN IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2** to come along. **BOOKING IS NOW NOT REQUIRED.** Simply come along from the playground to the hall at 8.15am and join in the fun!



Are you looking for a **School place** or **Nursery place** for September 2026 or do you know another family who are?

Wednesday 26th November

Please call the office to book a space

If you are unable to make the open day, personal tours are available.

Kitchen 5* rating

A huge congratulations to our kitchen team who gained a **5*** hygiene rating in their recent inspection. Well done to the team!

If your child would like to try one of our delicious school dinners, please contact the office for more details.



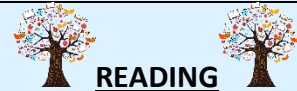
Applying for a school place?

Applications for RECEPTION and transfers from infant to junior (YEAR 3) for a September 2026 start NOW OPEN until Thursday 15th January

Do you have a child or do you know someone who has a child who is 5 years old between 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027?

Come and have a look around to see what we can offer in Reception by contacting the school office for a tour.

We are a small but mighty school who always offer fabulous opportunities and learning experiences in a caring and family orientated environment. Help us to spread the word to others who may not have heard of all that we have to offer!



READING



We have ordered some brand-new books for our school library and they have begun to be delivered. We are very excited! We have shared them in assembly and they are now on the shelves ready to be taken home as reading for pleasure books (with a black sticker on the spine).

If your child has an idea of what books they would like to see in the library ask them to let our school librarians know and they might see them on the shelves soon! Happy Reading 😊

Stapleford Methodist Church Christmas tree festival

We are all looking forward to seeing our decorated Christmas tree at the Christmas tree festival at Stapleford Methodist Church on Friday 28th November. We would love for you to join us. Please ask your child's class teacher/key worker about more details.



- Children who arrive late at school can feel embarrassed, uncomfortable and confused walking into a classroom late.
- They can miss out on introductions, important learning and social time.
- Lateness disrupts the learning and routines for everyone.
- Punctuality is an important life skill.
- Being on time is important for children to start the day off calmly; being late can lead children to being unsettled and can affect their behaviour and concentration.
- Being on time maximises the amount of learning time.



The children have had great fun making and decorating biscuits but enjoyed eating them more. Next week we will making our own spinning wheels. Don't forget every Friday its make your own pizza!



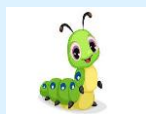


Calendar 2025-2026

Date	Event	Time	Who?
Wednesday 26th November	Nursery & Reception Open Day	Sessions throughout the day	Presepective Parents September 2026
Friday 28th November	Christmas Tree Festival	Throughout the morning	Whole school
Wednesday 3rd December	Individual School Photos	Throughout the day	Whole school
Wednesday 10th December	Miracle in town Nativity	10.00 & 14.00	Nursery and Reception
Thursday 11th December	KS1 Carols	17.00	Kingfishers Flamingos Puffins
Friday 12th December	Rock Steady Concert	14.30	
Wednesday 17th December	School Christmas Dinner		Whole School
Wednesday 17th December	Stay & Play Christmas Crafts		Nursery & Reception
Inset day Friday 5th December			
Last day of term Friday 19th December			

Year Group News

Early Years Foundation Stage (2 Year olds, F1 and F2)



RECEPTION

The Reception children have had another fabulous week where they have continued learning through our topic 'Cultural Explorers' through the story of Rama and Sita as well as learning about India. They have learnt about Indian food and clothes and also learnt some Indian words in the languages they speak in India. In Talk for Writing we have learnt the story of Rama and Sita by using our class story map along with



actions and specific story vocabulary. We have also started learning the songs for our Nativity play and our rehearsals will continue over the next couple of weeks. This year our nativity is called 'Miracle in town'.



Next week our focus is all about the country 'Poland' and the children will be learning facts about 'Poland' as part of celebrating the different cultures in our classes. We will have visits from two different parents to share facts and information about their cultures in Poland and Libya. In maths we will be focusing on patterns and repeating patterns and in PE we will learn about 'balancing' skills.

Busy bees

We have continued to learn the story of Rama and Sita this week- the children have been brilliant at using a story map to begin to retell a simple version of the story. We have also explored India through our continuous provision. In maths this week the children have been looking at numbers 1 and 2. They have done really well at recognising the numerals and playing the ispy game. In phonics they have been working hard at listening to different environmental sounds and we have started to look at rhyming words.

Creative Caterpillars

We have been exploring the transforming schema this week. The children have explored what happens to different materials as they are dropped into water, made their own fairy cakes to see what happens to the ingredients when they are cooked and many more exciting activities. Our rhyme of the week has been 'Pat a cake'. Next week we will be exploring our learning through the positioning schema. We will continue to work on our three key vocabulary words and are looking forward to start some Christmas crafts.

Christmas Stay and Play

On Wednesday 17th December we will be holding a stay and play Christmas craft session for all classes in EYFS. There will be more information about this closer to the time, but please add the date to your diary!

Cold weather reminder

Just a reminder that as the weather is getting wetter and colder it is important your children come to school with appropriate clothing. We try to use our outdoor environment no matter what the weather, so hats, scarves gloves and wellies are key! Thanks for your support with this.



Key Stage One (Year 1 and 2)



The children have continued to learn about toys this week and have loved the History focus. They have enjoyed finding out how toys have changed over time and what their parents and Grandparents might have played with when they were little. They also loved thinking back to when they were a baby and a toddler and the things they enjoyed playing with at home or at Nursery. Lots of happy memories!

Next week in the topic lessons the children will be working on Design and Technology. They will be investigating different toys: the materials they are made from and how they work or move. They will then be planning and designing their own toy.

Within English lessons, the children will be continuing to write their innovated stories. They are taking their time to make sure they include capital letters, finger spaces, full stops, adjectives, sentence openers and much more! The children are using the planning sheet that they created last week so that they know what to write next. The stories have a Toy Story theme but with a new toy character introduced within them.

In Maths lessons, Year 2 will be moving on to addition with larger numbers. They will be learning how to solve these calculations first with apparatus and then by using written methods. In Year 1, the children will be continuing to work on 2D shapes and using these for mathematical patterns.

On Friday morning, the children will be visiting the Christmas Tree Festival. Year 1 and 2 children have made the decoration for the William Lilley Christmas tree this year so they will be able to view the finished results of their own handiwork! If you would be available to accompany us to the Church, please let your class teacher know. Thanks in advance 😊

GIRLS & LADIES INTRODUCTION TO FOOTBALL

 **AGES 4+ WELCOME**

 **FREE OF CHARGE**

 **FREE REFRESHMENTS**



6:30PM | FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER
STAPLEFORD TOWN FC
HICKINGS LANE, NG9 8PB



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

FORTNITE



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 850 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite. It can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic skins, music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while battle pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and armies. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular rewards help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossover with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying things – often items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if a child is tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authentication. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that we generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published in sites including iDN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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