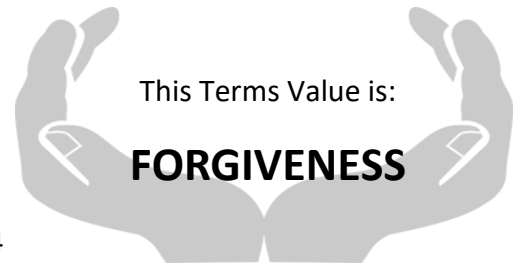




# Wenlock's Weekly Round Up

'With God's love, we are lights for the world'

Friday 8th March 2024



## Key dates

Tuesday 12th March	National Measurement Programme, year 6 CYE Year 6 Residential trip information evening 3.30—4.15 pm
Thursday 14th March	Year 4 Alina Class Swimming Lesson
Friday 15th March	Science Fair – see below Red Nose Day—wear something red—see below
Monday 18th March	Year 6 visit to Chiltern Academy to see 'The Little Mermaid' 11.15—13.45
Thursday 21st March	Year 4 Alina Class Swimming Lesson
Monday 25th March	Lower school Believe and Achieve awards—9.15am—Invited parents only
Tuesday 26th March	Easter Service 10am at St Mary's Church—Year 4 parents welcome
Wednesday 27th March	Upper school Believe and Achieve awards—9.15am—Invited parents only
Thursday 28th March	Year 4 Alina Class Swimming Lesson
Thursday 28th March	Last day of Spring Term
Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 15th April	Inset Day—School Closed
Tuesday 16th April	First Day of Summer Term—Children return to school
Thursday 18th April	Vesper Class first Swimming Lesson—more details to follow
Monday 29th April to Wednesday 1st May	Year 6 CYE Residential trip
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 15th May	National Numeracy Day
Wednesday 22nd May	School Photographer—Class photo's

### Attendance

Well done to Aurora who achieved the highest attendance last week at 97.9%

The attendance for the whole school was 93.7%

Our School target is 97%



# PARENT INFORMATION

## Science Fair

On Friday 15th March we are holding a school Science Fair to celebrate our learning over Science week. We invite parents to join us to allow the children to share their investigations. Please see the timings below.

Years 3 & 5—2.00—2.30 pm

Years 4 & 6—2.30—3.00 pm

## PE Days

3 - Alpha	Tuesday	Friday
3 - Omega	Tuesday	Thursday
3 - Genesis	Tuesday	Thursday
4 - Aurora	Tuesday	Thursday
4 - Alina	Tuesday	Thursday
4 - Vesper	Tuesday	Thursday
5 - Lunar	Monday	Wednesday
5 - Solar	Wednesday	Friday
5 - Stellar	Wednesday	Thursday
6 - Aviary	Monday	Wednesday
6 - Arboreal	Wednesday	Friday
6 - Aquarium	Wednesday	Thursday

## Dinner money

Please top up dinner money payments in advance of your child having school dinner. The cost for school dinner is as follows: £2.40 per day or £12.00 per week.

If you have a query relating to dinner money payment, you can contact the finance team on [schooldinner@wenlockacademy.co.uk](mailto:schooldinner@wenlockacademy.co.uk)

## Emailing the School Office

Please can we remind families that when emailing the school or leaving a message on the answer phone that you give your child's full name and their class and/or their teacher.

If you do not provide these details, it will lead to delays in answering or forwarding your queries.

You can report your child's absence by calling 01582 730624 and pressing option 1 or via email on [attendance@wenlockacademy.co.uk](mailto:attendance@wenlockacademy.co.uk)

## Red Nose Day — Friday 15th March

This will be non uniform day and children are invited to wear something red on this day.

Donations for Children in need should be made using the following link

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/wenlock-1709910087886?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fwenlock-1709910087886&utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/page/wenlock-1709910087886?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fwenlock-1709910087886&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)

**No cash to be brought in.**



## Smartphones

I would just like to share an interesting link relating to smartphones and whether or not it is a good time to provide them with one. It has tips which we believe as a school could be useful for you!

<https://www.childrenandscreens.org/learn-explore/research/introducing-a-smartphone-assessing-readiness/>

Mr Di Marco

Yr 6 families - please look at our SATS page on the website for links and supporting materials (past papers) that can support your child.

[Year 6 SATs Revision | Wenlock CE Academy](https://www.wenlockacademy.co.uk/year-6-sats-revision)  
[wenlockacademy.co.uk](https://www.wenlockacademy.co.uk)

**Wenlock's Got Talent...**  
**coming soon...**

# RED NOSE DAY

**Friday 15th March**

Golden Fish Fingers  
or  
Homemade Cheesy Leek Sausages

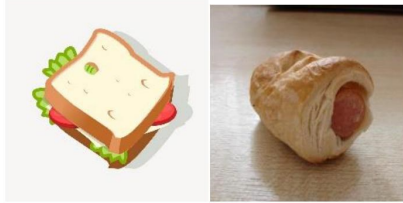
with  
Chips & Beans  
&  
Red Nose Dessert Surprise

Our Jacket Potato & Hot Tomato Pasta are  
also available

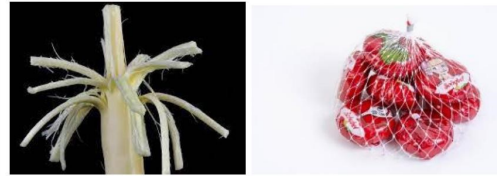
All available at £2.40. Please remember to top up  
your Arbor money account.

# Packed Lunch ideas

Sandwich/pitta bread/crackers/Bread Roll/Rice/Pasta/Sausage Roll/Flan



Cheese pieces



Fruit chopped up if they prefer to eat it this way.



Biscuit/Malt loaf/fruited teacakes,



Yoghurt



Cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, celery and peppers all count towards their 5 A Day. Adding a small pot of reduced-fat hummus or other dips may help with getting kids to eat vegetables.



Crisps/Popcorn



Drinks no fizzy drinks



Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that we are a NUT-FREE school.



# Online Safety Update

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# TEKKEN 8



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.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### 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 GCRecon, 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.





# FORGIVENESS

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value FORGIVENESS. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

## TALK TOGETHER about Forgiveness

Everyone makes mistakes, it's part of being human. Sometimes our mistakes hurt others and then we need to say sorry. Sometimes mistakes made by other people hurt us. When this happens we need to be able to **forgive**. **Forgiveness** can be difficult and costly but without it a new start is impossible.

Talk together about:

- A time when you needed to say sorry
- A time you didn't say sorry but wish you had
- A time when you had to **forgive** someone who had hurt or upset you
- How it feels when you are given a new start because someone has **forgiven** you

## THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"Without **forgiveness** there is no future.... If you can **forgive**, then you can move on and even help the person you are forgiving to become a better person"

*Desmond Tutu*



## HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

### Maze

Design your own version of the maze tree in the story of Zacchaeus.

You can either draw it on paper or use other materials to create it.

It's up to you! Take it to school to display in the Challenge Gallery.



## READ TOGETHER...

### Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

Zacchaeus was a little man. He was a tax collector and had become rich by making others pay lots of money in taxes to the Romans and to him. He didn't have many friends.

When Zacchaeus heard Jesus was in town, he wanted to see him. But Zacchaeus was short and Jesus was always surrounded by a crowd. So Zacchaeus decided to run ahead of the crowd and climb a sycamore tree. From there he could watch for Jesus. As Jesus drew closer, he held his breath excitedly until Jesus stopped right beneath his tree. Jesus looked straight up at him! "Zacchaeus," said Jesus with a smile, "come on down. I want to stay at your house today!"

Zacchaeus hopped down. "You are welcome at my house, Jesus," he said with a huge grin.

But others grumbled, muttering to each other. "Why does Jesus want to go home with the rich, cheating tax collector? He isn't good enough for Jesus to come and stay at his house."

Zacchaeus heard what the people were saying about him and he wanted to put things right. He turned to Jesus and said, "Master, here and now, I promise to give half of my money to the poor. If I have cheated anyone in taxes, I will pay them back four times that amount."

Zacchaeus wanted to turn over a new leaf because Jesus believed that everyone deserved a new start and now Zacchaeus believed it too!

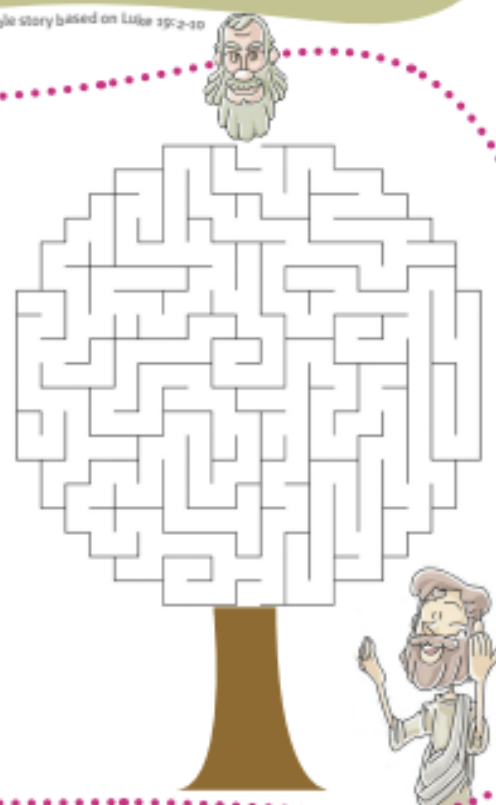
Bible story based on Luke 19:2-10



## QUIZ

### Tree Maze

Help Zacchaeus find his way down from the top of the tree, to meet Jesus.



# ★ HALL OF FAME

## Desmond Tutu

Desmond Tutu was Archbishop of Capetown from 1986 to 1996. Throughout his life Desmond Tutu worked tirelessly against apartheid in South Africa. Apartheid was a system that treated people differently because of the colour of their skin. People who were non-white were not given the same rights in the country as white citizens. For example they had to live where the government told them to, they were not allowed to vote, had to use separate transport, go to different beaches and use separate sports facilities.

There was much violence and oppression in South Africa during the years of apartheid, and when it finally ended in 1992 some people were left feeling bitter and angry and wanting revenge. In order to give everyone a chance to talk about the things that had happened to them Desmond Tutu set up the 'Truth and Reconciliation Commission'. Many people who had behaved badly could hear from those they had hurt. There was the chance to say sorry and sometimes receive **forgiveness**. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission helped to provide an opportunity for a new beginning for South Africa, a chance to build what Desmond Tutu called a 'Rainbow Nation' in which everyone had the same chance in life no matter what the colour of their skin.



## FASCINATING FACTS

### Crosses across the world

The cross is a very special symbol for Christians it reminds them of Jesus' death on the cross which brought **forgiveness** for the world.

Different shapes and designs of crosses reflect different traditions and communities across the world.

Maria Gomez was a Christian Primary School teacher in El Salvador. She angered the authorities in her country because she campaigned for the rights of poor people. Eventually she was murdered. Later a local artist was commissioned to paint a wooden cross with scenes showing her life and her work among the poor women in the rural villages of El Salvador.



The Celtic cross originates from Ireland. St Patrick described the circle on the cross as symbolising the endless love shown by Jesus. The cross is decorated with natural shapes and animals to remind us of God's creation.

The Black and White cross comes from South Africa and was designed during the time of apartheid. The Bible teaches that people are equal in God's eyes, no matter what their background or the colour of their skin.



### The Jewish New Year Tradition

New Year for Jews normally falls during September. On the first afternoon of the new year, the festival of Rosh Hashanah is celebrated. Families visit a nearby stream, river or even the sea for the ritual of Tashlich (in Hebrew, the language in which the Jews' holy book the Torah was written, Tashlich means throw away).

After a celebration meal Jewish families gather left over breadcrumbs. These crumbs represent the words or deeds that each family member feels sorry about. When the crumbs have been thrown into the water, fish eat them or they are washed away. This symbolises the way that God **forgives** the bad things that people have done and washes them away so that there can be a fresh start for the New Year. During the ceremony the following words from the Torah are read aloud, "You (God) will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our transgressions into the depths of the sea." Micah 7: 19