



Centres of Education for Adolescents Requiring Support
Headteacher: **Mrs Pam Clulow, BA (hons), PGCE, NPQH**

CEDARS Newsletter – Autumn 2018

Welcome back to the Autumn term.

Congratulations to the Year 11 pupils who achieved good passes in their GCSEs, Functional Skills, Vocational qualifications and BTEC exams this summer. All but one of our 38 leavers secured post-16 placements to carry on their studies. Well done and good luck in the future!

Year 11 leavers celebrate in style

Cedars pupils enjoyed a lovely lunch at Bon Pan Asia in Hanley on Friday 22nd June 2018. Pupils travelled in the **'longest luxurious limo in the Potteries'**! Good luck to all our leavers!



NSSSSA Cricket Tournament 8th July 2018

Well done to the team who, despite the extremely hot weather, played their socks off!

Summer Activities

The team of experts at Moorland Adventures help Cedars pupils and staff to develop self-confidence, skills for working as a team, a healthy respect for being out on open water, resilience to keep going when things get tough and opportunities to experience activities such as raft building and canoeing. During the long hot summer months of May, June and July pupils were really put to the test at Rudyard Lake! Well done!



Thanks to Kerry, Tim and Tom for all their support.

Challenge Friday

Every Friday the pupils and staff are mentally, physically and creatively challenged to earn bonus House points! No one ever knows what the challenge may be – apart from Kelly of course!



Parent View
Your child's school

If you wish to leave comments about CEDARS go to -

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

Dates for your diary~

SEPTEMBER		
Tuesday	04.09.18	CEDARS Opens for students New Student Induction week.
Friday	21.09.18	Staff Inset
Tuesday	25.09.18	Year 11 Art trip to Liverpool
Wednesday	26.09.18	Macmillan Coffee Morning
OCTOBER		
Week beginning	15.10.18	Praise Assembly
Wednesday	17.10.18	Hockey Tournament
Friday	26.10.18	CEDARS closes today
HALF TERM 29.10.18 – 02.11.18		
NOVEMBER		
Monday	05.11.18	Staff Inset
Tuesday	06.11.18	CEDARS Opens for students
Week beginning	19.11.18	Colleges visit Cedars
DECEMBER		
Week beginning	03.12.18	Mock exams
Week beginning	10.12.18	Theatre Trip
Week beginning	10.12.18	Christmas Lunch
Friday	21.12.18	CEDARS closes today
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 24.12.18 - 04.01.19		
JANUARY		
Monday	07.01.19	CEDARS Opens for students

Abraham Lincoln: “The Best way to predict your Future is to create it.”



Happy #WakeUpWednesday! We're kicking off the term with our free parents' guide to FIFA With over 20 million players in FIFA's current season, we need you to #WakeUp to potential online issues for children when playing. Download here: [nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/fifa-guide-for-parents/ ...](https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/fifa-guide-for-parents/)
#OnlineSafety

FIFA 18

EA SPORTS

You don't need to be the biggest football fan in the world to have heard of FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) - the governing body for football. And, the video game series bearing the organisation's name is one of the most successful ever. The lure of this football series is that official licensing gives your child the opportunity to play games in the role of their favourite players. They can either work through a story mode version of the game or play online in competitions against other players. The game, released annually by Electronic Arts under the EA Sports label, is available for a range of consoles, and there are also mobile versions available for smartphones and tablets. The most recent version is FIFA 18, but FIFA 19 is due for release later in the year.

AGE RESTRICTION
FOR ALL AGES



What parents need to know about FIFA

CONSTANT SERIES REFRESHES

The big selling point for the FIFA range of games is that it includes current players; a feature which no other football video game offers. However, this means that a new version of the game is released every year, with updated teams, players and stadia, plus new gameplay features and tweaks. And, with every annual update of the game, there is an expectation that it will be far better than the previous one, so the pressure to upgrade and buy the new version is likely to be immense!

* # " @ \$

IN-GAME CHAT

While the FIFA video game is suitable for children of all ages as it does not include any inappropriate content, there is the issue of in-game chat. Your child can play with other people online and chat with them using headsets. As this is largely unregulated, it could mean that your child is exposed to language or conversations that you deem unsuitable.

* # " @ \$

FAKE EMAILS, SCAMS AND COPYCAT WEBSITES

Your child may receive an email or see a message on social media or in forums which appear to be a genuine FIFA promotion. While the link may seem like a FIFA login page, it's a phishing scam to capture a login name and password. Scammers may use names that sound legitimate, like 'EA Admin' or 'FIFA Developer'.

BUYING ADD-ONS

In-game purchases are to be expected in any modern game and FIFA is no different. FIFA Ultimate Team (commonly called FUT) is a mode in FIFA that lets gamers build teams of players from any league, playing both offline and online to win coins. These can be used to buy better players or packs containing random players. While some purchases can be made using in-game currency, other purchases involve spending with real world money, which could become expensive. There have been reports of parents receiving large credit card bills resulting from in-game purchase made by their children.

JUST ONE MORE GAME

Your child could be playing FIFA games on their computer or console for very long periods of time. That's not to say that computer-based matches are a full 90 minutes long, but a series of 20-minute matches can very quickly fill up a day! The World Health Organisation has classified 'gaming disorder' as a mental health problem - this is when children have trouble controlling their gaming behaviour and let it reign over their lives and daily routine.

FIFA GAMEPLAY

The FIFA series has been criticised for the competitive nature of gameplay leading to aggression in some players. Add to this the chance to converse with other players via in-game chat, and the potential for anger levels is likely to rise... especially if you're losing heavily!



National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents

CONSTANT SERIES REFRESHES / WHAT TO DO?

As a parent, the implications of this really depends on the age of your child and your relationship with them. It may be that playing and sharing games is part of your family life and so this isn't a problem, but just be mindful that being involved with the FIFA franchise is unlikely to be a one-off event - it's the start of a gaming journey that could last for many, many years and involve numerous (potentially expensive) upgrades.

IN GAME CHAT

It's unlikely that you'll be able to convince your child to play FIFA without making use of the chat facility - it's something that adds to the experience. However, you should ensure your child is aware of how to silence any abusive players and how to report anyone who becomes problematic.

! # { ? !



FAKE EMAILS, SCAMS AND COPYCAT WEBSITES

You should teach your children to stay clear of scams. Explain to them that they must be wary of any link which asks them to either verify their username and password or provide other sensitive information; game developers will never send a message asking for login information. Console messages, emails and websites, or social media posts promoting contests for in-game content, such as packs, players, or coins requiring login information are fake.

BUYING ADD-ONS

To spend real money in FIFA, a credit or debit card must be linked to a gaming account, so ensure that your card is not being used for this! There's also support for PayPal payment, so also check who has access to this type of account. Depending on the platform your child is using to play FIFA, there are different parental controls that can be put in place to restrict spending should you allow them to link a card to their account. There is also a payment option called Paysafecard, which allows you to make payments online without the use of a bank account or credit card. As you can top up balances, this makes it easy to control spending.

JUST ONE MORE GAME

The parental controls on consoles can be used to restrict the amount of time spent playing. Physically monitoring how much time your child is spending in FIFA is recommended - just as you might monitor how much time they spend watching TV. Keep an eye out for warning signs, such as a lack of interest in other activities, tiredness or fatigue, neglect of personal hygiene, changes in character or anger issues when your child is told to stop playing a game.

FIFA GAMEPLAY

Monitoring in-game chat may be difficult as you're likely to only be able to hear one side of a conversation. However, noticing how your child is reacting may be a reasonable indicator of the general mood. Dealing with both the frustrations of a game as well as troublesome people can serve as useful life lessons, but as a parent, you know your child better than anyone else. If you notice your child is getting too upset or angry, that's the time to intervene and try to encourage them to take a break from the game.

SOURCES

<http://press.ea.com/products/p1532/ea-sports-fifa-18>
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/men/relationships/fatherhood/10886939/My-son-spends-hundreds-of-pounds-on-in-app-purchases-without-me-knowing.html>
<https://help.ea.com/en-gb/help/fifa-be-safe-with-fut-coins-and-fifa-points/>