

# Stormont House School Matters



**STORMONT HOUSE SCHOOL**  
achievement for all

## Our vision

Achievement for all in a unique world-class school

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## Supporting Lily to compete in the Special Olympics 2019 - Abu Dhabi

Lily from our current Year 12 has been selected by 'Special Olympics GB' to compete in the World Summer Games 2019 in Abu Dhabi. Lily will be joining 129 athletes from Great Britain who will be competing in 17 different sports. The games will include 7,000 athletes with learning disabilities from around the world. The Special Olympics is for athletes with intellectual (learning) disabilities - which includes autism, Down's Syndrome and other learning disabilities. The 2019 games will be the 15th Special Olympics World Summer Games and is due to take place from 14 to 21 March 2019.



Stormont House is supporting Lily by promoting the 'Go Fund Me' site set up by Ms Bayley (Lily's mother), in order for Lily to pursue her dream of going to the Special Olympic World Games in Abu Dhabi next year she needs to raise £6,000 which will help towards the 1-1 coaching, training, equipment and travel costs. Please take a look at the following link:

[www.gofundme.com/getlilytothespecialolympics2019](http://www.gofundme.com/getlilytothespecialolympics2019)

The link can also be found on the Stormont House School web site and on our twitter account @stormonthouse

## Year 12 Prepare for the Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

On Tuesday 24 April Year 12 with the help of H5 (the SHS Licensed assessors for the Duke of Edinburgh Award), undertook a training day so that they would be prepared for their first overnight practice expedition. The students learnt about map reading (how to plan a route), how to put up a tent and how to use a Trangia to boil water; what to include in their kit list and how to pack it into their rucksacks. The students also learnt about the Countryside Code and general first aid. As you can see from the picture the students proved to be very capable at making sure their tents were put up correctly.



## Jack Petchey Award Winner March 2018

The Jack Petchey Award winner for March 2018 is Gabrielle from 7M, she was selected for the award by Ms Swaffield. Gaby is a cheerful, caring and unfailingly polite member of the school who shows enthusiasm for everything she does. As a member of the tutor group she is supportive of her classmates, showing a great willingness to help others when they are struggling, she can be relied upon to see the best in everyone and everything. Gaby loves to talk, to dance, to play, to share ideas and she has a very generous spirit; in February Gaby took the brave step of cutting off her long hair to raise money for The Little Princess Trust, something that impressed everyone at Stormont House. More recently, Gaby showed bravery and great team work skills during the Year 7 trip to Woodrow High House. In the Year 7 Easter play she worked hard to learn her lines and songs and she helped those around her during rehearsals and in the final performance. Ms Swaffield felt that Gaby really deserved the Jack Petchey Award for being such a great role model to her peers.



## National Online Safety

Mr Mole would like to share with parents and carers a FREE guide created by 'National Online Safety' about 'Fortnite: Battle Royale', an online game which has become widely regarded as the biggest online game of 2018.

The guide informs parents about the dangers associated with a viral game and how they can reduce the associated risks e.g. restriction of payment methods, preventing children talking to strangers, making a report, avoiding scams and using strong passwords.

Parents and carers can link onto the free guide from the following twitter address:

<https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/986255143489425409>

**What parents need to know about FORTNITE: BATTLE ROYALE**

- MICROTRANSACTIONS**  
New featured items are released daily and are only available to purchase within 24 hours of their release. These are cosmetic items, called 'skins', 'skins' and 'emotes', which change the look of the character but do not improve the game play. Once purchased, the player has forever of them in the future. The designs are made available for players to purchase and even celebrities are endorsing them. Also available to purchase in the game is a 'Battle Pass'. When a new 'Battle Pass' is released, users can play a series of challenges to receive more rewards (cosmetics) by progressing through different tiers. Whatever rewards they achieve can then be used in the game.
- HACKER ATTACKS**  
News sites feature and it has even 'leaked' reports online by people who said their accounts had been compromised by hackers. Hackers gained access to users' accounts in the game and spent hundreds of pounds in fraudulent charges.
- NO PROOF OF AGE REQUIRED**  
Signing up to the game is relatively simple. Users have the option to log in with their Facebook or Google accounts or their email address. When signing up with an email address, there is no proof of age required. If your child is under the age of 12, it is important to check if your child has the game downloaded.
- TALKING TO STRANGERS DURING SQUAD MODE**  
Interacting with other players in the game is part of the fun as players can communicate with their friends and other players in the game. Players will benefit from wearing headphones in the game but have feedback from other players trying to compromise their game. Wearing headphones makes it difficult for parents to hear what exactly is being said and children may be exposed to inappropriate language. Fortnite includes really good reporting features for players either cheating or misbehaving, and work towards having one of the best online gaming communities.
- SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS**  
There are many accounts on Facebook and Twitter which claim to give away free money (known as 'V Bucks') for games which will be transferred to their Xbox Live or PSN cards. Any giveaway promotion from Fortnite will be in game. It is important to check the authenticity of these accounts before giving away personal information in order to claim 'V Bucks'. The websites or accounts may ask you to share your account name and password in order to claim the money. If these offers seem too good to be true, they usually are.
- IT CAN BE ADDICTIVE**  
Games can last around 20 minutes but this varies with each game. Children may feel angry if they lose the game and continue to play until they achieve the result they want. The competitive nature of the game may make it difficult for children to stop playing before they are tired or it could affect their position in the game.
- WEAPONS AND VIOLENCE**  
PEGI has given the game a rating of PEGI 12. Even though the game includes violence and weapons such as crossbows, grenade launchers, rifles, pistols, shotguns and more, PEGI say 'more graphic and realistic looking violence towards fantasy characters is allowed. Any violence towards human characters must look unrealistic unless it consists of only minor or trivial injury such as a snip' making the game 'suitable' for children aged 12 and over.
- IT CAN BE PLAYED ON THE GO**  
The game was released on mobile in April 2018 meaning it can be played without a game console at home. Some schools have reported that the game is distracting their students whilst in the classroom. As the game is available outside of the home, parents may not be aware of how long their child is on the game.
- 'FREE' TO PLAY**  
The game is free to play. However, if playing on Xbox, you will need an Xbox gold subscription to play the game which is chargeable.

**NOS National Online Safety** **Top Tips for Parents**

**NOS National Online Safety** **NOS National Online Safety**

## Term Dates for your Diary

Year 9 Edale Residential	30/04/18 to 04/05/18
Year 12 D of E Practice Expedition	Wednesday 02 and Thursday 03 /05/18
May Bank Holiday (School Closed)	Monday 07/05/18
Half Term	28/05/18 to 01/06/18
Year 12 D of E Qualifying Expedition	Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 /06/18
Year 11 Record of Achievement	Thursday 21/06/18
Year 12 Leavers Event	Friday 22/06/18
Year 10 France Residential	02/07/18 to 06/07/18
Year 6 Transition Day	Thursday 05/07/18
Lanya Junior High Visiting Stormont	09/07/18 to 13/07/18
Reward Outing Day for Year 7-10	Thursday 19/07/18
Last Day of Summer Term - School closes @ 1.20pm	Friday 20/07/18