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Dear Parents,

I am writing to you all to raise your awareness of a game that is becoming very popular amongst our pupils. The popularity has reached the stage where it is dominating the games and conversation of a large proportion of our children.

The game in question is Fortnite.

I have invested some time in finding out about this game and its suitability for Primary age pupils. I have looked at the website www.common sense media.org for unbiased advice. Their information is copied below.

What parents need to know

Parents need to know that while the original, strategy-focused, single-player version of *Fortnite* (also known as *Save the World*) is a survival action game for PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Windows, and Mac, it's the wildly popular last-player-standing mode known as *Fortnite: Battle Royale* that's taken off and become a huge hit. (There's also a [mobile version](#) of the popular battle royale mode that lets portable players engage with and play against console and PC gamers.) *Fortnite: Battle Royale* pits up to 100 players against each other in solo, duo, or up to four-player squads to see who can survive the longest against each other in an ever-shrinking map. **The game has a cartoonish style, and the violence, while persistent, isn't bloody or particularly gory, even though you're using melee weapons and firearms to eliminate opponents.** The game does push players to make additional in-game purchases to acquire many cosmetic items, objects, and celebratory animations, though they're not required to play. While there isn't any profanity in the game dialogue, its online nature could expose younger players to iffy language from random strangers in voice or on-screen text chat. In *Save the World*, gamers use strategic thinking, creativity, and forward planning to build fortifications while working with teammates to defend survivors and objectives from waves of creepy, zombie-like monsters. If you want to know more about this phenomenon, be sure to check out our [Parents' Ultimate Guide to Fortnite](#).

I appreciate that we live in technological times where children access a range of games and applications. However, I am unable to support any game that encourages children to take up weapons and to shoot or axe their enemies to death.

The language that some children are using in their play and the games they are choosing are becoming inappropriate and unsuited to young children. I am sure many of you would not want your child exposed to 'play' violence and I strongly share that view.

I am hugely concerned that this game is having a negative impact on many of our children. I also have concerns that, unprotected, the children could be exposed to online gamers about whom they have no information.

The recommended age for Fortnite is 12+. Clearly, none of our pupils have reached that age. Many children tell us they play this game on their parents' phones.

I can only put out this information to all of you, encourage you to either share in the game play or read the parents' reviews online and make your own decisions about the suitability of this game for your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs T Jones
Head Teacher

