



Frodsham Primary Academy

Newsletter 8

1st December 2023

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Tickets for the Christmas performance will be available from the school office next week. We have needed to amend one of our show times unfortunately due to the fact our Y5/6 children have been invited to attend an event at Helsby which we do not want to miss out on.

This year, we are asking for a donation of £1 per ticket to go towards school funds. Please pay for this on Parent Pay and select the tickets you would like. There will be initially 3 x tickets per child available and you can decide which shows you would like to attend.

By Friday at next week any tickets that are remaining will be offered as additional on a first come first served basis. Please keep tickets safe as you must bring these along to each performance.

Tickets will then be available for collection on Wednesday 6th December from the office. There will be a maximum of 75 tickets per performance.

We have tickets for the following shows:

Monday 11th December 2.00pm- **Resource Provision Parents ONLY**

Wednesday 13th December- 9.15am

Thursday 14th December - 9.15am

Thursday 14th December- 2pm

Our children have been working really hard on their songs and their performance scripts and we hope you can come to enjoy. There will be tickets for a raffle available during each performance.

Nursery will be holding a Christmas stay and play on Monday 18th December from 10.45-11.45 where you are invited to join the children in provision and join in with a Christmas sing –a –long.

There will be no assembly in school for the next two weeks due to performance practice. Stars of the week certificates will still be given out in class.

Have a great weekend,

Mrs Callaghan



Attendance News

Rec: 92.71%
Year 1: 91.35%
Year 2: 96.72%
Year 3: 98.5%
Year 4: 94.9%
Year 5: 95.65%
Year 6: 100%

Overall school attendance this week is **97.3%**. This is the highest we have had this year. Let's keep it up.

Please remember, holidays in term time **are not permitted** and will have a negative impact on your child's attainment in school.

**EVERY DAY
COUNTS**

Stars of the week

N: Jaxon
R: Harley
1: Arlo
2: Evie-May
3: Aria
4: Mason
5: Emelia-Rose
6: Poppy

Dojo Champions

Reception: Heidi
Year 1: Blake
Year 2: Nancy
Year 3: Izzy
Year 4: Jeff-James
Year 5: Charlotte
Year 6: Alex
RP: Praveesh



Charlie(8) Heidi (5) Maddox (3) Rowan (8) Zac (8)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Learning this week...

This week Snowy Owls have been having fun spotting signs of winter in our school grounds. They have been so excited to share what is happening around them. We have been talking about freezing and melting and we even had an experiment to see how long it would take for the ice to melt in our classroom. In English we have been retelling our class story and writing it in our own simple sentences. I have been really impressed with how much we have remembered and the detail given for their sentences too. In Maths this week Year 1 have been looking at balancing calculations and thinking about commutativity too! They have been thinking about all the different addition calculations they could make from different bar models showing number bonds within 10. Reception have also been thinking about numbers that add together to make 5. They have also been using part whole models to help them with this too! We have also had fun practising our Christmas performance songs this week!

Miss Sands

This week in Hawk owls we have completed our 'Approaching Threat Narrative' writing. We have really tried hard to think about creating a tense atmosphere, thinking about the vocabulary that helps to do this and adding in rhetorical questions. In Maths we have continued to focus on addition and subtraction, looking at compensating if adding 11 or 19 and using partitioning to help us. The Year 2 children went on 'The Christmas Journey' at Frodsham Main street community church. They loved dressing up and hearing the story of Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus. In Geography, we have started to look in greater detail at some of our continents, finding out about the population, the tallest mountain and the longest river. In Art we have created our backgrounds in water colour paints after experimenting with strokes and mixing of colours. We will then build on these to create a scenery showing perspective.

Miss Curtis

This week we have very busy in Desert Owls as we have been writing our endurance narrative. The children have worked hard to include all the writers' knowledge we have discussed and have been making sure that they include a lot of description. The children have started to write up their narrative ready to display in the school entrance way. In maths, we have continued with multiplication and division. The children have been working hard to recognise how known facts can support them when working with an increasing number range. This has meant that a lot of our Year 6 pupils are now doubling their arithmetic scores from only a few weeks ago as they are using all the strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division! Next week we will be learning different methods for long division and multiplication (wish us luck!) Nativity practice is well under way and we have been working hard to learn the songs and lines we have been given. We had Young Carers in this week to talk about the role of a young carer and the challenges that they may face. The children were amazing and showed respect for our visit and were really engaged in the session.

Mrs Price

Tawny owls have had a very busy week linking to writing and English skills. All children have stripped back to their basic skills practising letter formation, letter sizing and different grammar skills. The younger children have been focusing on their re-write of the story 'little star' and have all made it to their problem penguin paragraph. We cannot wait to see our book complete! Tawny owls have also begun some RE lessons this week, understanding Christian beliefs learning how they believe god created the world.

Miss Pemberton





“Following the success of Ready, Set, Read Summer Reading Challenge, the theme has been extended into the Winter Mini Challenge. With the holidays approaching, now is the time to encourage your children to tackle the holiday reading ‘dip’. Join in at wintermini.org.uk from 1 December 2023. More information on the Challenge can be found on the website.”

Facebook

“The #WinterMiniChallenge is here! @readingagency have teamed up with @YouthSportTrust this year, to encourage children to unleash the power of play, sport and physical activity through reading. Children can sign up online at wintermini.org.uk. #ReadySetRead!”



Frodsham Library events

Christmas colouring sheets will be available throughout December, for all ages.

Saturday 2, 9, 16 and 23 December, 10am - 12pm: Children's Christmas crafts

Join us every Saturday throughout December, for a different Christmas craft. Drop in.

Wednesday 6 December, 10am - 12pm: Crafting Memories for National Grief Awareness Week.

Join us to decorate a star or heart in memory of your loved one, to go on your Christmas tree. You don't need to be good at crafts to take part. It's more about the chance to chat and share memories. Free, drop in.

Monday 18 December, 10am - 12pm: Christmas colouring

Colour in some lovely Christmas themed pictures or cards. For all ages. Drop in.

Monday 18 December, 2.30pm: Board games & Christmas bingo

Fun for all the family, playing board games and even a spot of Christmas bingo. Drop in.

Tuesday 19 December, 2pm: Christmas Rhyme time (U5s)

Seasonal rhymes with some festive treats. Drop in.

Wednesday 20 December, 10.30am - 12pm: Festive coffee morning and book folding

Join us for a brew and a mince pie and have a go at book folding. Make a festive tree or even a Christmas angel. For all ages. Drop in.

Thursday 21 December, 2pm: Christmas Rhyme time (U5s)

Seasonal rhymes with some festive treats. Drop in.

Friday 22 December, 4pm: Christmas story time and craft

Come and listen to a special Christmas story, followed by a simple craft. Drop in.

Wednesday 27 - Friday 29 December, 10am - 4pm: Games, colouring and Lego

Come and play some board games, create a Lego masterpiece or do s





★ RP CHRISTMAS ★ STAY AND PLAY

On Friday 8th December, we are inviting parents from our resource provision to join us at school for a 'stay and play session' in our classroom. This will give you the opportunity to spend time with your children in their learning environment. After the stay and play session, we would like to invite parents to spend some time together enjoying some tea/ coffee and cake. This will give you chance to meet other parents.

WHEN: FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER
STAY AND PLAY: 2.00- 2.30
TEA / COFFEE AND CAKE: 2.30- 3.00

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE MESSAGE MISS PEMBERTON ON SEESAW.



We have started a new reading initiative in school. Each class has a reading tree on their window close to their class reading areas. Parents of younger children are encouraged to write in children's planners each time they read at home and older children are encouraged to record when they have read. For each read, children will receive a leaf on the reading tree. We will then have a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each class for the most reads at the end of the term. These children will be taken out of school to purchase their reading reward. Please support your child to read at home.



"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." -Dr Seuss



Read Write Inc sound video links. Please watch at home linked to your child's phonic sounds.

Set 1 single letter sound videos	
M	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BqrUviHL/237my0P0
A	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/oc5wRvcB/rllWbrZj
S	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7kqcTaata/BKuWg8XJ
D	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4fkgkKkg/opLw3zp
T	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KbEt3NI1/PUhiKjFu
I	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PkDtMTyu/OhHna3Kj
n	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4pfgFmjP/EL2w5Obt
P	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/uSDn5fgs/9JftJ9lt
G	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/SRuKn0kk/9AZDZ9YO
O	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1YGM9sil/Pvx29Yxd
C	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/rZCodDd/dnoAxaES
K	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HTDeBBjZ/AmJcmaez
U	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hI77pU79/zlBOEBEz
B	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/RpTk70Sy/mjy0jGEz
F	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/oYVrNZCf/MZgZSfi1
E	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Zwp7gfDH/NuDB1qnm
L	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/RO47Btpz/xmKvJq7z
H	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LtuQaNyj/KXlzLSdl
R	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/oHzORMMV/3NPOQYN1
j	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/OcVqjoli/dRu07NX4
V	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Xq7oHiFG/HKzOY6LZ
Y	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LMg5Nf3d/LOP8xChh
W	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xxIE9vzs/1Ctd4vrM
z	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3DZhzZoz/ZTYmxwMf
X	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UJiGAwt9/hJksBegi
Set 1 special friends videos	
sh	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/m9WtJDyJ/pDAVFidO
th	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IUPD763Z/ucxN85ro
ch	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cnMrS7QK/Majclezm
qu	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XNPMLBte/R5nBBALx
ng	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4EqTEdKd/kBYWhrN3
nk	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yja5pxma/aYUimYac



Set 2 sound videos

ay	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JpDzYscu/3JeimH4v
ee	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZfEm0I4g/jDToHKeh
igh	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UZ7bDyc1/PyycM1V
ow	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xm85p9cq/rQg8ASRn
oo	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1o1j2wg8/jgdVAsRD
oo (u)	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/MBWTrbaZ/7flGvtRm
ar	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yarOUFRZ/QssiFc6K
or	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wXevtwiO/108QBYcM
air	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5aXHYh9D/q5zpHA5r
ir	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/s6QHm2AQ/WT0H9pDL
ou	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pVOt2EnH/vC9HJTof
oy	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/01T2dfXd/ZWPZ32EF

Set 3 sound videos

ea	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sZF0QTDi/oCZOJujX
oi	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XX7rFxyU/1uZK6r2i
a-e	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sG2lhio9/Fqrk7LLa
i-e	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/MC03TVi6/UDLF0Kg8
o-e	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NVXjRgXg/Q8AUFTX6
u-e	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LWFi9uHo/xf2IPnmE
aw	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LkbKuDpk/NLFEhwI0
are	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sXsDpdw8/9S3zHS6P
ur	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iVUTa0j7/eZIL4E1f
er	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/46Zp6ULr/P8spS5ve
ow	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zKTxyPMZ/nWM2KxI7
ai	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EMu0BksY/rod0mUli
oa	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PG9hwXDN/lgwSodDS
ew	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/K1a6N0GB/z5LbOPVG
ire	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ERmeI3hn/BwklWRLW
ear	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZPReK9o1/VUmMcof5
ure	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UJVULaxD/hLyzdTur
tion	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XDtxADVx/87j1XMrV
tious/cious	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/b42WGhNa/P3KdRJa8



Set 3 additional sound videos	
ue	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5FNisyOq/3y0p86h9
ie	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bfAvyQil/c0eHEvqv
au	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ln1HRA8R/OT5jRILg
e-e	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NZyYVaY8/dR2imyO6

Online home learning support

As a school, we have invested in online subscriptions to engage and support the children's learning both in school and at home.

Children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 will have log in details for the following:

Reading Plus- To support reading fluency and comprehension

Rollama- A themed universe of mini-games and teaching tools for spelling, punctuation, and grammar, with medals, leader boards, avatars, competitions, and more.

Timetable Rockstars (TTRS)- a maths programme that takes all the worry out of learning times tables and has a proven track record of boosting children's fluency and recall in multiplication and division.

Reception and Year 1

Read Write Inc- Phonics programme that supports blending and segmenting of words to support reading, writing and spelling. Links are attached above.



Applying for a Primary School place in **September 2024**



The closing date for applying for a primary school place is **Monday, 15 January 2024**



Cheshire West
and Chester

Important
information for
parents or carers



Applying for a Primary School place **September 2024**



The closing date for
applying for a primary
school place is
Monday, 15 January 2024

Applications received after this deadline will be
processed after all on time applications



Cheshire West
and Chester

Nursery parents, please call the school office if
you would like help to apply for a reception place
for September 2024



Diary of events for Autumn Term

Wednesday 6 th December	Collect Christmas performance tickets
Wednesday 6 th December 5.30	Christmas BINGO night
Thursday 7 th December	School Christmas Panto Trip
Friday 8 th December 2-3pm	Resource Provision Stay and Play
Monday 11 th December 2.00	Christmas performance- RESOURCE PROVISION
Tuesday 12 th December PM	Y5 and ^ trip to Helsby ROCK Festival performance
Wednesday 13 th December	9.15- Christmas performance
Wednesday 13 th December	Inclusive festival
Thursday 14 th December	9.15- Christmas performance
Thursday 14 th December	2.00- Christmas performance
Thursday 14 th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 14 th December 3.30-4.00	Class open book look. Come and see your child's learning so far this year.
Monday 18 th December	Nursery Christmas Stay and Play
Monday 18 th December 3.30-4.30	Christmas fair in school- Children's class stalls only. Classes will each set up their own stall. Please come along! Teddy Tombola Children's lucky dip Reindeer food Make a Christmas biscuit Christmas decorations Hot chocolate cones and much more!
Tuesday 19 th December	Own clothes day- Party wear or Christmas Jumpers Christmas Party day in school
Wednesday 20 th December	School closes for Christmas at 1.20pm
Wednesday 3 rd January	Children return to school





Urgent Winter Water Safety Message

RLSS UK offer safety advice for winter water safety, with simple steps to keep safe during the winter:

1. Never go onto the ice to play, to retrieve an object, or a pet
2. Never enter the ice to rescue somebody, call 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service

What to do if you fall through the ice:

- Keep calm and shout for 'help'
- Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you
- If the ice is strong enough, kick your legs to slide onto the ice
- Lie flat and pull yourself towards the bank
- If the ice breaks, work your way to the bank-breaking the ice in front of you anyway
- If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Press your arms by your side and keep your legs together. Keep your head clear of the water
- Once you are safe, go to hospital immediately for a check up

What to do if you see someone fall through the ice:

- Shout for assistance and phone the emergency services – call 999 or 112
- Do not walk or climb onto the ice to attempt a rescue
- Shout to the casualty to 'keep still' and offer reassurance to keep them calm
- Try and reach them from the bank using a rope, pole, tree branch, clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach
- When reaching from the bank, lie down to avoid being pulled onto the ice
- If you cannot reach them, slide something which floats, such as a plastic bottle or football, across the ice for them to hold onto to stay afloat whilst help is on the way
- If the casualty is too far away, do not attempt to rescue them. Wait for the emergency services while calming and reassuring the casualty

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/winter-water-safety>

[Winter water safety](#) | [Staying safe on our canals](#) | [Canal & River Trust \(canalrivertrust.org.uk\)](#)





There's a very good chance you've heard of Fortnite, but what exactly is it? And why is it so popular amongst young people? Fortnite is an online multiplayer "battle royale" game developed by Epic Games, and is playable on Playstation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch, PC and mobiles. It gained popularity in late 2017 and has since become the biggest game in the world, thanks to its rapid and engaging gameplay. As with most games, Fortnite itself is a highly enjoyable and safe experience, but it pays to be vigilant, as the safety is not water tight.



What parents need to know about FORTNITE BATTLE ROYALE



BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.



IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.



FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.



SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.



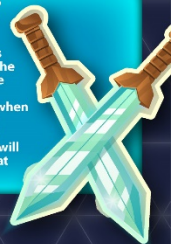
CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, Playstation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.



IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



Top Tips For Parents



BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game.



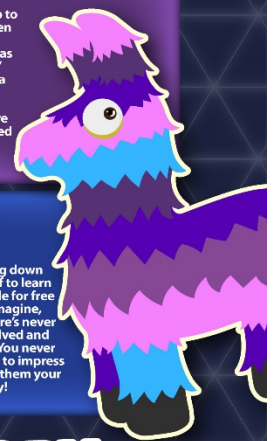
GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.



LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns; that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.



TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.



CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.



PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!

Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2018/mar/07/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide-video-game-multiplayer-shooter>, <https://www.psychguides.com/behavioral-disorders/video-game-addiction/>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/3/23/17146648/cross-platform-crossplay-ps4-xbox-pc-switch-ios-mobile-enable-friends-compatible-matchmaking-701E/d>, <https://www.esrb.org/ratings/34948/Fortnite/>

