



Dear Parents and Carers

I know this newsletter covers an extra three days than normal, but even so I can't quite believe how much we have managed to cram into the very end of the school year.

Wheels Days and Bikeability

To round off our Sport for Life fortnight the children in each class have been able to bring in or borrow scooters, bikes, skateboards, etc. and practise their skills in the playground. We want each child to leave Shire Oak with at least one physical activity that they love and will continue and we certainly saw a lot of children who could find that happiness with their wheels. Well done to the children who learned to ride a bike in their session too.

18 of the Year 6 children took part in Bikeability on Thursday and Friday. After practising and demonstrating their control and safety on a bike in the playground, they transferred to the local roads to check their proficiency as road users. Well done to all who took part!

Sports Days

The weather held! Having eyed the forecast with trepidation, we ended up with mostly sunny Sports Days on all three occasions. Thank you to the parents, friends and grandparents who came to cheer on all the children as they competed in their house teams. I am pleased to say that all children took part and all the children finished their races. The scores have been added up and for the three sports days combined the scores were Leopards 84, Elephants 96, Rhinos 102, Lions 106 and Giraffes 110.



We might not have won the match against Meanwood, but we played well and enjoyed ourselves at the **football match** after school on Thursday. Thank you to Mr Marshall for coaching the children all year and making sure they got to plenty of matches! →

Thank you to **FOSOPS** for all their hard work this year. Liz Craven is taking a break from all her hard work in FOSOPS, so we are very keen to recruit new members for next year! Attached to the newsletter is a way of helping us raise money that works by tracking your online spending. If that is something you feel comfortable with, please do consider clicking us!



Music Concert

Very well done to the great number of children who shared what they have been learning in their music lessons at the end of term music concert. 1/7th of the school performed and we had pianists, violinists, flautists, recorder players, guitarists, drummers and even a trombonist! The children had practised hard, performed their pieces very well and delighted the audience. Thank you to all their teachers, especially those who could join us on Thursday, and to Mrs

Susan Koyuncu in the office for organising the music lessons so well. If your child has been inspired to learn an instrument she is the person to talk to about going on the waiting list for lessons.



Quite a few regular audience members commented that this year's **Year 5/6 production** was possibly the best to date. The singing was powerful and tuneful, the actors worked hard and delivered the script with humour and understanding of the content. The play was *Go for Gold* and was about the origins of the Olympic games. We are so impressed with how the children worked together to rehearse and perform a show of this quality. Thanks are also due to their staff who have rehearsed, cajoled, nagged, costumed, encouraged and organised them to the final product. (Sara Mitchell, Heather Flanagan, Alun Davies, Sue Marlow, Kate Earl, Sue Nicol and Judith Swiers.)

On Monday our **Safer Schools Police Officer** came to speak to us in assembly about staying **safe in the holidays**. **PC Jamie** reminded the children to make sure an adult always knows where they are, to be careful of traffic and to know what to do if approached by a stranger. He also spoke about **Pokemon Go**. Like us he thinks that geocaching and activities like *Pokemon Go* can be a great way to get out and about, but reminded the children that the usual safety rules apply however exciting the game is. We have attached some information about this to support parents.

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us yesterday at St Michael's Church for our end of year **Leavers' Service**. We listened to the memories of our Year 6 children, said thank you and goodbye to our head cook Mrs Margaret Ellis, who is retiring. We also recorded the school singing Kate Rusby's *Walk the Road* so that we can send it to her. We are also saying goodbye to Teju Sonuga (Y2 teacher) and Becky Bugler (Reception maternity cover teacher). We have loved working with them and wish them all the very best in their next roles.

This morning's assembly was a chance to round off the year, to celebrate achievements at sports days, in the rugby team, in classrooms, in Mrs Woodley's maths sessions, Maths Passport, music exams and in attendance. I am pleased to say that our attendance has been good this year, which is reflected in the number of children with 100% attendance for the school year. We have appreciated good communication with you about unavoidable absences and have been pleased to see families working hard to improve persistent absence (attendance below the 90% threshold). Thank you! We also celebrated the final position for the House Teams: 5) Elephants, 4) Leopards 3) Rhinos 2) Lions 1) Giraffes.

Finally I would like to say thank you to all the parents and carers for your support this year. I hope you have a good summer break and I look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday 6th September**.

Jane Astrid Devane

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DIARY DATES

Monday 5 th September	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 23 rd September	Shire Oak's 10 th anniversary community picnic in the afternoon
Monday 31 st October	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Wednesday 5 th October *	School photo day (individual and siblings)
Friday 7 th October *	Visit from Panamanian teachers
Tuesday 15 th November 2016	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15- 11:15am. (Open Evening for prospective parents who cannot attend during the day, 6pm.)
Thursday 24 th November 2016	TRAINING DAY school closed to children (TBC)
Tuesday 3 rd January 2017	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Thursday 12 th January 2017	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15- 11:15am.
Wed 1 st – Fri 3 rd March 2017	Y4 Residential to Lineham Farm TBC
Saturday 10 th June 2017	Headingley Youth Music Festival and Summer Fair 12-4pm. All children performing at around 2pm.
Wednesday 21 st June 2017	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change	

We take the safeguarding of children very seriously at our school and we appreciate your help with this. If you have any concerns or observations regarding **health and safety**, please contact Jane Astrid Devane, Marcelle Maver or Liz Craven.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding **child protection** issues, please speak to Jane Astrid Devane, Marcelle Maver or Hilary Whitehead.

If you have questions about your **child's progress** or **how to help them** with the learning they find difficult please speak to your child's teacher or make an appointment to see them via the school office.

The governors are always interested in hearing the **views of parents**. If you would like to speak to a governor, then please email the chair, Julia Kelly shireoakgovernors@gmail.com Julia is often on the playground, particularly at the start and end of the week, if you would like to talk to her.)

Pokémon Go: a parent's guide

Tips and advice for keeping children safe on Pokémon Go

Pokémon Go is a game where you collect and trade cute creatures called Pokémon (Pocket Monsters).

It's one of the first popular games to use "augmented reality" - a kind of cross between real life and an online world. The game makes it look like Pokémon appear in real life places by using the GPS and camera on your phone.

It's already become a craze in Australia and America, and has made it's way into the news across the world.

Here, we'll take you through what you need to know about the game and how you can help keep children using the app safe.



Pokémon Go explained

Pokémon

Pokémon (Pocket Monsters) are little creatures that can be captured by Pokémon Trainers using a small spherical device called a Poké Ball. There are different types of Pokémon, with different moves, abilities and stats. The aim of the game is to capture as many Pokémon and to win as many 'gyms' as you can to become the Pokémon Master.

Pokémon Gyms

Pokémon Gyms are buildings located throughout the world where Pokémon Trainers can train and compete. Pokémon Gyms are usually located in public meeting spots, like parks or churches and memorials. This is done using a Google-style in-game map that shows you where the Pokémon and locations are in your real life location.

Poké Ball

The Poké Ball is a spherical device used to capture Pokémon. The Poké Ball is thrown at Pokémon and when it hits them, the Pokémon are sucked inside.

Pokédex

Pokédex is an electronic device which stores the data of Pokémon once they're captured. The Pokémon Trainer must attempt to fill the Pokédex by capturing the different types of Pokémon.

The risks

There are loads of good things about the game, and there's a reason it's become so popular. But it's important to learn the risks involved:

- **Meeting people they don't know face-to-face**
The game is designed to bring people together. Usually strangers. So you never know who they might meet.
- **There's a physical risk**
It's easy to forget to look where you're going with this game, but they need to be careful of where they end up. There are already stories of people being lured to places that aren't safe for children.
- **It can cost a lot of money**
There are in-app purchases and other incentives which can cost up to £79.99 (14,500 Pokécoins). Make sure the app's set up without payment options.
- **Access to personal data**
Pokémon Go asks for personal information like your child's birth date and email address, which they're asked to enter or receive through social media accounts. Parents have the right to contact the creators to stop them from using their personal information.



Love it or hate it, chances are your child will be online gaming this summer.

You may like the fact that your child is into online gaming because it keeps them occupied and in touch with their friends online. Or maybe you're not keen because you'd rather they were in the park with their mates or reading a book.

Whichever the case, there are a number of risks associated with online gaming, which you can work with your child to try to minimise.

Recent research* indicates reveals that many parents have concerns about online gaming and many also know that their child has disclosed personal information, spoken to strangers or been bullied or verbally abused.

Of course, there's also the danger of playing age-restricted games, running up huge bills and getting 'hooked' to the exclusion of everything else.

When it comes to gaming, you can be a Switched-On Parent

We're working with Get Safe Online to try to make the internet a safer place for you and your family. We recommend you take a few minutes to visit www.getsafeonline.org/safeguarding-children/gaming and read their advice for safe online gaming for your kids.

While you're there, have a look around the site and pick up some free, expert, impartial advice on anything to do with keeping you, your family, your finances and your business safe on the internet.



www.getsafeonline.org

*OnePoll survey conducted for Get Safe Online over seven days in June 2015, interviewing 2,000 parents of 5-16 year-olds



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<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/shireoakcofeprim/>

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