

The weekly newsletter for



19th April 2024

Issue 26

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Head Teacher Update

Dear Families.

Welcome back to school for the summer term; I do hope that you were able to dodge the April showers over the Easter break and enjoy some time spent with your children. This week families of children starting reception in September were offered school places and we were pleased to be able to offer 27 places. This does leave us with 3 places, so if you know of any families who weren't happy with their allocation, please do let them know and ask them to get in touch!

One of our governors has spotted that the apple tree planted by the school Eco Council last vear – a Queen Cox – is in bloom for the first time. It can be seen at the Shalford Community Orchard just in front of the Snooty Fox shop. The tree is the second to last on the right-hand side as you walk from the shop towards the



pedestrian crossing on the A281. Fingers crossed for an apple or two later in the year - the first of many years to come.

Thank you to those of you who came to our Zones of Regulation workshop this week. Mrs Radley was pleased with the positive feedback and we very much hope that the tools will help families at home. The slides from the session, along with three handouts have been sent to everyone with this newsletter. If you have any questions, please do let us know.

Next week is Family Learning for all classes. Each teacher in the main school teacher will be teaching a different subject. Please sign up to attend a session, sign-up sheets can be found on classroom doors at drop off and pick up.

Have a lovely weekend. Best wishes,

Michelle Dutton

Shalford Celebrates....

Congratulations to...



	Headteacher Award	Values Ambassador
Acorn	Betty	Fin
Oak	Riley	Isla
Ash	William	Emily
Pine	Isla	Zoe

Keeping Safe in the Sun

As we begin the summer term, we thought it would be a good time to remind everyone about how we try to keep your children safe outside in the sunshine.

Please ensure that your child has a sunhat in school every day now, until the end of the school year. Please make sure your child's hat is named, as one does look very much like another!

We also recommend that you apply sunscreen to your child's skin before they come to school as the children do spend time outside every day. You are welcome to send in sunscreen in your child's book bag (named) for them to apply before going out at break times and PE.

Unfortunately, we are not able to apply sunscreen to each child before each activity so please teach your child how to apply the sunscreen themselves.

Our aim is to help children enjoy the sun safely and we thank you for your support



Important Dates

24th & 25th April 9am: Family Learning

11th May: PTA Sponsored Walk

22nd May: 2.45 - 3pm: Welcome Wednesday 24th May: Sports Day; EYFS AM & KS1 PM

27th - 31st May - Half term week

3rd June: INSET DAY

w/c 3rd June: Maths & Science Week

5th June: Class Photo Day

18th & 21st June 9am: Family Learning w/c 24th June: School Diversity Week

6th July: PTA Summer Fair

10th July 3-5pm: Open Afternoon

19th July 1pm: End of Term

Kidical Mass Guildford are holding their next event on Saturday 27th April, following on from the ride in September where over 300 children and adults attended and highlighted the need for safer streets and more options to cycle or wheel for children of all ages. They will have local councillors, representatives from Surrey Police and the Guildford MP will be attending to engage with the children and parents.

The ride starts and ends at the London Road entrance of Stoke Park, Guildford. Ride start is 2pm, with a suggested picnic meetup from 12:45pm.

There will be a feeder ride in from Shalford, meeting at the Swift Tower (opposite Snooty Fox Cafe) at 12:30pm.

If you are interested in joining them on the day and have any questions, please contact: kidicalmassguildford@gmail.com



Online Gaming

Like films, all video games carry age ratings, and it's worth paying attention to these. If you wouldn't let your child watch an 18-rated film, they shouldn't be playing an 18-rated game. Fortunately, it's a myth that all games are about shooting stuff. There are 18,000 titles on Amazon with an age rating of 3+. Some of them are even good.

What would we recommend? Well, you might want to look out for games that encourage children to create, such as Minecraft, LittleBigPlanet, Lego Worlds or Super Mario Maker. If you have a tablet, Toca Boca makes beautiful, interesting games for young children.

As with most aspects of parenting, managing your children's gaming comes down to a combination of making informed, considered decisions, and making it up as you go along. Arm yourself with facts - get to know the Pegi ratings system, and learn how to use your console's parental controls (the Xbox One, PS4 and Nintendo Switch all have them, as do tablets and phones – the InternetMatters site has a handy guide). You know your child better than anyone else, so trust your instincts when it comes to what's right for them.

Encourage children to play in communal spaces to share the experience in a family friendly way. This helps you catch any problems like worrying content or too much screen time. Keeping video games in family rooms turns gaming into a normal part of family life rather than something separate or hidden away.

Most importantly, remember that video games are brilliant, and can be great for children. They can teach us how to create, how to play, and how to lose. They are thrilling, inspiring, scary, beautiful and hilarious, sometimes all at the same time. Most of all, they are fun

