Newsletter

6th February 2026

A Small School on a Big Adventure

Upcoming events next week:

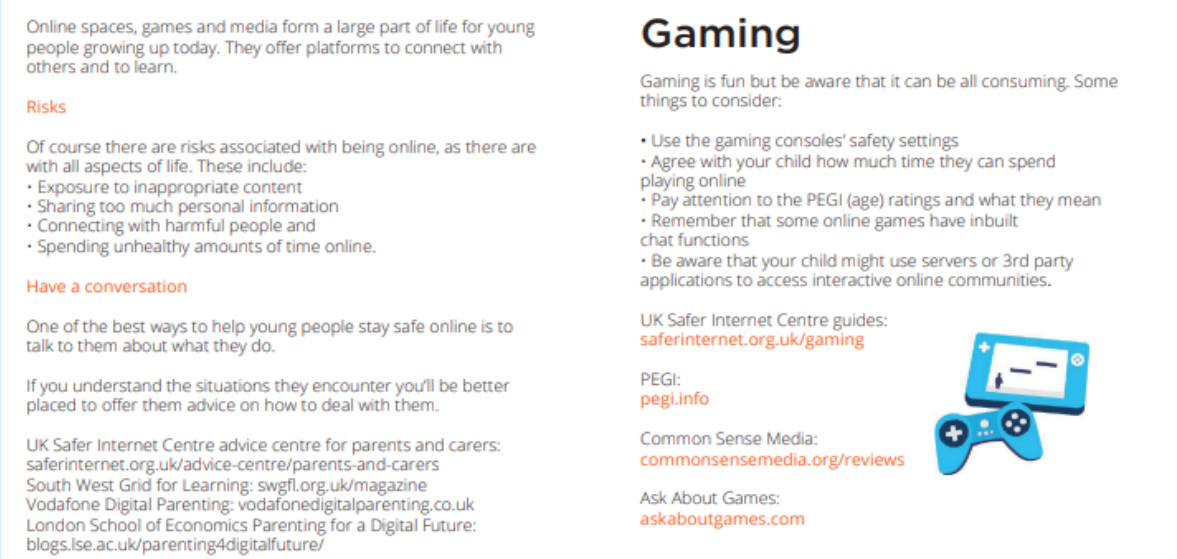
- Parents' Evenings -please make sure you have booked an appointment
- Share the Learning Events (see below)
- Safer Internet Day – Tuesday
- **End of Term 3 - Friday**

CURRICULUM: Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday it is Safer Internet Day and classes will be learning about this important subject. The theme this year is: 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'

There are many resources out there aimed at parents and carers to access, should you wish to support this area of learning at home, such as:
Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre
Keeping children safe online | NSPCC
Online Safety for 7 to 11 Year Olds - Kent County Council – courses for parents

Here is a handy guide:



Online spaces, games and media form a large part of life for young people growing up today. They offer platforms to connect with others and to learn.

Risks

Of course there are risks associated with being online, as there are with all aspects of life. These include:
- Exposure to inappropriate content
- Sharing too much personal information
- Connecting with harmful people and
- Spending unhealthy amounts of time online.

Have a conversation

One of the best ways to help young people stay safe online is to talk to them about what they do.

If you understand the situations they encounter you'll be better placed to offer them advice on how to deal with them.

UK Safer Internet Centre advice centre for parents and carers: saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers
South West Grid for Learning: swgfl.org.uk/magazine
Vodafone Digital Parenting: vodafonedigitalparenting.co.uk
London School of Economics Parenting for a Digital Future: blogs.lse.ac.uk/parenting4digitalfuture/

Gaming

Gaming is fun but be aware that it can be all consuming. Some things to consider:

- Use the gaming consoles' safety settings
- Agree with your child how much time they can spend playing online
- Pay attention to the PEGI (age) ratings and what they mean
- Remember that some online games have inbuilt chat functions
- Be aware that your child might use servers or 3rd party applications to access interactive online communities.

UK Safer Internet Centre guides: saferinternet.org.uk/gaming

PEGI: pegi.info

Common Sense Media: commonsensemedia.org/reviews

Ask About Games: askaboutgames.com

Bullying

Remember, it's not the technology that's the problem, it's the bullies' behaviour. Support young people by:

- Talking about bullying issues
- Making sure young people know that they can turn to you for support
- Reporting any incidents - it will help your child and others too.

UK Safer Internet Centre tips:
saferinternet.org.uk/cyberbullying-tips

Anti Bullying Alliance:
anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

ENABLE Anti-bullying Programme:
http://bit.ly/23SHU3Q

Cybersmile:
cybersmile.org/advice-help/category/advice-parents

Live Streaming

Broadcasting online brings an instant thrill that can be addictive. Encourage young people to think about:

- Body image - talk to them about how they want to be perceived online and who their audience might be
- Privacy - how do they protect it? You can't edit something that is going out 'live'
- Age appropriate - is the site they're using appropriate for them? Most social media sites are aimed at 13 year olds and upwards. If not, is there a way to make it safer for them (e.g. YouTube Kids).

SWGfL body image blog:
swgfl.org.uk/magazine/bodyimage

Internet Matters:
internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment/

YouTube Kids Parental Guide:
support.google.com/youtubekids/

Apps

Apps can be a positive place for young people to socialise with peers. Many enable instant messaging, social networking and image sharing.

Some, like YouTube, can also be a great creative outlet. But consider:

- Privacy settings and age relevance
- Talking to them about the content they share
- Discussing the consequences of sharing messages and images.

UKSIC:
saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/social-media-guides

SWGfL:
swgfl.org.uk/online-safety-resources

Internet Matters:
internetmatters.org/advice/apps-guide

Instant Messaging

Instant Messaging is a great way to socialise and keep up to date with what's going on right now. However there is a risk of unsolicited contact. If your child is using messenger services you should:

- Look at the privacy settings
- Ensure they understand that they may be talking to people they don't know and the risks this brings
- Talk to them about what is and isn't appropriate to send.

CEOP
ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
Connect Safely:
connectsafely.org/guides-3/

DIARY DATES: Sharing the Learning

Next week we have our sharing the learning events taking place. These start at 2.45pm and once they are finished, you can take your child/children home. We hope you enjoy seeing some of the learning your child has been doing this term.

Monday – Little Acorns
Tuesday – Saplings
Wednesday – Young Oaks
Thursday – Mighty Oaks

COMMUNICATION CHANGES: Use of Dojo/Less newsletters

As we use class dojo and emails for many of our messages and reminders, soon we will only publish a newsletter at the start of each new term. If you do not use dojo, please ensure you can access this, so you not miss reminders.

To sign up to each class, please follow these links or ask in school for a code:

Mighty Oaks:
https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=class&class=697b722968e7f300529a627d

Young Oaks:
https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=class&class=697b726e14664cd4ff22ce7e

Saplings:
https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=class&class=697b728c2fcb617ae80e6bb9

Little Acorns:
https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=class&class=697b72fac1008dbb7c4d98fe

Calendar

Every effort will be made to keep these dates in place but please be aware, changes may occur.
Updates/changes are highlighted.

TERM 3 – 2025/26			
Week	**Day/Date**	**Event**	**Further information**
6	Mon 9th Feb	Last swimming session	Year 5
	Mon 9th Feb	Parents' Evening Meetings	All classes, 3.30-6.00pm
	Tues 10th Feb	Parents' Evening Meetings	MO and Saplings 3.30-5.00pm
	Wed 11th Feb	Parents' Evening Meetings	MO, YO, LA 3.30-5.00pm
	Tues 10th Feb	Safer Internet Day	
	Mon 9th Feb	Sharing the Learning – Little Acorns	2.45pm
	Tues 10th Feb	Sharing the Learning – Saplings	2.45pm
	Wed 11th Feb	Sharing the Learning – Young Oaks	2.45pm
	Thurs 12th Feb	Sharing the Learning - Mighty Oaks	2.45pm
	Thurs 12th Feb	Environment-led learning – Saplings	On-site
	Fri 13th Feb	BRILLIANT BROOK DAY - Enrichment	
	Fri 13th Feb	***End of Term 3***	

Key dates for the year ahead:
2nd April, 9.30am - Easter Service at Church
26th June – Sports Day and Summer Fair