



Welcome back to Term 3!

I hope that everyone is feeling rested and ready to really focus on learning; in what is always a particularly important time in the school year. A welcome back letter accompanies this newsletter. Copies of all newsletters can be found on the school website.

Welcome to all the new families and staff that have joined us, we hope that you all enjoyed your first few days.

Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended our first ever Christmas Fair.

I am delighted to announce that it was a huge success and it was clear to see all the hard work that had gone into making this event such an enjoyable experience. A special thank you to our 'Friends of Sherford Vale', we could not have done this without you, your dedication and hard work was clear for all to see. Thank you also to the children for making such an array of wonderful items to sell and for providing so many fun games to keep us entertained.

A huge thank you to our fabulous Sherford Vale School Choir- you were all truly amazing and we all are so proud of you all. It was hard to believe that you had only been a choir for 2 weeks-WOW! Thank you Mrs Barrett for getting the Choir underway, we look forward to hearing from you again soon.

I am delighted to announce that after all the expenses have been taken into account we raised just over £750 profit-amazing considering we only 65 children on roll!



School Census and additional funding

The Government census for schools takes place on **17th January 2019**.

This is a very important date as the majority of our funding for the next year is based upon this. As part of this the Government request that we provide them with information on the number of Service Family Children and Free School Meal eligibility. Since the introduction of universal free school meals for children in foundation and KS1 we have seen a decrease in the number of children applying for free school meals as a hot meal is provided regardless. However, registration for free school meals attracts additional funding to support children's learning and help to make sure they achieve good standards. If you think you are eligible please get in touch, the process is easy and could help your child in a number of ways for the next 6 years. (Funding continues even if you are only eligible for a very short period).

Children from service families attract a small amount of additional funding which can support them in a number of ways. This information should have been on your initial application but please check if you are unsure.



Online Safety

Talking to your child openly and regularly is the best way to keep them safe online. Of course we reinforce this in school too and will raise the profile for Internet Safety Day in February,

Here are some helpful tips to help you keep your child safe online when they are playing online games:

- Talk to your child regularly about what they are doing online and how to stay safe.
- Let them know they can come to you or another trusted adult if they're feeling worried or upset by anything they have seen.
- Explore your child's online activities with your child.
- Understand why they like using them and make sure they know what they can do to keep themselves safe.
- Agree your own rules as a family when using sites, apps and games.
- Manage your technology and use the settings available to keep your child safe.

If you'd like advice and support about how to keep your children safe online, please call the on 0808 800 5002.

Alternatively, you can make an appointment with an O2 Guru in store - you don't even have to be an O2 customer. O2 Gurus can help you set up parental controls, such as privacy settings, on any device.

Dates for this term

January

- 15th Governing Board meeting
- 17th Indoor Athletics Year 5/6 team at ICC
- 24th Future Makers - Whole School project
- 25th Official Grand Opening of Sherford Vale School – 3pm parents invited

February

- 7th Indoor Athletics Years 3/4 team at ICC
Internet Safety Day
- 15th Break up for half term
- 25th Return to school
- 25th Mid Year Assessment week

March

- 4th Bikeability training Years 5/6
- 5th Governing Board meeting
- 6th Parents Evening
- 7th Parents Evening
- 8th World Book Day celebrations
- 19th Primary Gym and Dance performance with partner schools 1 – 7pm(team to be notified)
- 2nd Tag rugby festival
- 5th Break up for the Easter holiday period

