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Headteacher: Mrs L Crossley

23rd October 2020

Dear Parent/s,

The children all looked fabulous today and have had a great 'Halloween' themed day! Have a safe half term break and we look forward to the children returning on Monday 2nd November. In the meantime, should you have any concerns regarding COVID-19 please inform the school office via the school email which will be sporadically monitored over half term.

Secondary School Starters 2021

For those children that are due to be starting secondary school in September 2021 you need to apply online via www.dorsetforyou.com/school-admissions. **The closing date for applications is 31st October 2020.**

School Starters 2021

For those children that are due to be starting school in September 2021 you can apply online at www.dorsetforyou.com/school-admissions. Applications are open now with a closing date of 15th January 2021.

Dark Nights

On Saturday night we will be setting the clocks back an hour and summer time ends. Road traffic collisions increase by 20% in the fortnight after the time change. Sadly, some of those collisions will involve child pedestrians and cyclists. Children under-16 are one of the most vulnerable groups of road users.

The latest available government statistics (2015) show that 58% of children who die or are seriously injured in a road collision are involved in incidents between 3 and 7pm. From next Sunday, much of those will happen in darkness.

Whilst younger children are at risk, the data shows that 11 - 15 year olds are actually more at risk from accidents that kill or result in serious injury.

The resources below will help remind children, especially teenagers, about road safety and safe cycling.

Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents <https://www.rosopa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

Safety First: Cycling at Night <https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cycle-safety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/>

Hot School Meals

Don't forget to order your hot school meals by midnight on Monday 26th for the first week back!

Fitbits and Watches

It is school policy that Fitbits and watches can only be worn in KS2, apologies for the confusion.

Remote Education Policy

The school's Remote Education Policy is now available on the school website. Please take time to read through it, it will inform you of what the school will do to support your child in their learning should your child be absent from school due to COVID -19.

Packed Lunch Boxes and Bags

A gentle reminder that lunches should be brought in to school in a plastic box not a fabric lunchbox; these have begun creeping into school and we must all do our bit to keep our school environment as safe as possible. This also applies to bags being brought into school. KS1 and Reception should bring a book bag and a water bottle only and KS2 should be minimising what they bring into school; no fabric keyrings etc should be on bags. Thank you for your understanding.

PE Kit Days

Sporty Tuesday continues. **Please note the changes below** and ensure your child is in the correct PE kit on the following day as well as Tuesday:

Monday- Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4 – Please wear normal school uniform with trainers

Tuesday- Sporty Tuesday – everyone to wear PE kit

Wednesday- Year R and Year 2 – attend wearing PE kit

Thursday- Year 5 and Year 6 – attend wearing PE kit

Internet Safety

First released in 2009, League of Legends is still a hugely popular game today, played by millions worldwide. Please see the attached guide which aims to give parents a starting point to help them understand exactly what they need to know about this game, including how players will have contact with strangers.

Dates for Diary

2 nd Nov -	School re-opens
	Year 1 vision screening
18 th Nov -	Bags2 school collection
8 th Dec -	Flu vaccinations

Bags 2 School

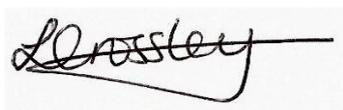
Please drop bags by 18th November to: 30 St Ives Park BH24 2JY – leave by the porch. Please do not bring to school.

Class News

Nursery	-	have been exploring sounds by making their own Autumnal shakers
Reception	-	have been busy writing a list of ingredients and then reading them to make potions!
Year 1	-	have enjoyed experimenting with materials as part of our science learning
Year 2	-	have learnt about the importance of teamwork – one of our values
Year 3	-	have enjoyed finding out what life was like for Ancient Egyptians
Year 4	-	have absolutely loved learning our new Samba dance routine!
Year 5	-	have been learning about how to stay safe when using the internet
Year 6	-	have been writing diary entries from the perspective of World War 1 soldiers

Have a lovely half term!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Crossley
Headteacher



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



What parents & carers need to know about...

LEAGUE OF LEGENDS

LEAGUE OF LEGENDS

PEGI 12

League of Legends, commonly referred to as "LoL", is one of the most popular video games in the world, with millions of monthly players. It is available on Android, macOS and Windows, and Apple recently announced during its iPhone 12 launch event that it will soon be coming to iOS too. LoL is an esports game in which two teams of five face-off in order to destroy the other's base. In the UK and Europe, PEGI rates League of Legends as PEGI 12. However, in order to play the game, the user has to accept the Terms of Use, which state that the proper age to play is 13+.

Suggestive innuendo

As a game itself, League of Legends is child-friendly and the character animations are not graphically violent. However, as it is a game designed for a male-centric userbase, some of the female costumes can be quite revealing and could be considered somewhat sexually suggestive. Sexual innuendo can also be observed in some character chat.



Contact with strangers

Unless your child is playing League of Legends with a large group of friends, they will end up playing and communicating with people they don't know due to the multiplayer nature of the game. This means it's almost impossible to predict who and what they could encounter, making them vulnerable to online bullying, harassment, hate speech or even online grooming tactics.



Inappropriate chat

During gameplay, your child will be able to type messages to each teammate via the built-in chat or the accompanying mobile app, and there is also a voice chat which activates when players are part of a pre-made team. Although there's a built-in chat filter that censors any bad language, this is easily switched-off so it's possible your child could be exposed to inappropriate content.



Addictive nature

League of Legends, like many modern online multiplayer games, is addictive by nature and can require a lot of time in order for players to be successful; a typical game can be as short as 20 minutes or as long as an hour and a half, and cannot be paused mid-way through. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time playing, and preoccupation with thoughts about the next gaming session.



In-game spending

Although League of Legends is entirely free to play, Riot Games lets players spend real currency in order to purchase Riot Points that allows players to purchase special costumes for their characters, or skins. These can be quite addictive. Indeed, in a US survey conducted in 2019, the average gamer on LoL spent \$119 on downloadable content and microtransactions.



Safety Tips

Monitor gameplay

While it would be impossible to constantly keep an eye on your child, it's important you check-in and monitor the time they spend playing League of Legends. It might be a good idea to keep gaming consoles in the living room, for example, so you can supervise how long they're playing and whether they're in contact with others via voice chat.



Mute chat and report players

If your child is receiving negative or offensive messages, League of Legends has the ability to mute the chat. If they have been the victim of harassment, insulting or offensive language, you can report the behaviour to LoL who will review the game and impose penalties on the other player accordingly.



Limit spending

As League of Legends lets gamers spend real money in order to purchase add-on items, it's important you keep an eye on their spending. Disable in-game spending on consoles or mobiles if you're worried or make sure they don't have access to a credit card in order to spend in the first place.



Spot the signs

If you're concerned that your child may be spending too much time on League of Legends, and are worried it could be having a poor effect on their mental health, keep an eye out for the warning signs. They may be prioritising gaming over more important everyday tasks, such as schoolwork or sleep, or could be showing signs of irritability and a lack of concentration if they've spent too long playing.



Talk about the risks

Before you allow your child to play League of Legends, it's important you have a conversation about it first to make them aware of the potential dangers. Make sure your child is aware of the fact that they could be playing with strangers, that the game has a poor reputation for its often toxic community of players, and that it allows for in-game payments that should be avoided.



Meet our expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist, editor and consultant. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The INQUIRER, Carly now works as the news editor for Computer Shopper and IT Pro and writes for a number of publications including Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The Metro, uSwitch and WIRED.

