

Red Oaks Primary School  
16<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
Newsletter



### Sports Day

Last week, the children all took part in sports day at school. We were so sad not to be able to invite parents in to school this year. Hopefully you have seen lots of photographs on Class Dojo. Of course, we were extremely proud of everyone for taking part but points were counted and I can announce that the winning house this year was Goddard!! Well done!

### Online Learning

All children have access to quite a number of online learning programmes that the school buys into. Please see the log in codes in your child's home/school contact book so that you can access these. Thank you.

### Water Bottles and Sun Cream

Now that we finally have some sunny weather, please ensure children have sun cream applied before they come to school. Children may bring a hat to wear at playtimes if they wish.



All children should bring a **named water bottle** that they are able to refill at any time during the day. Please ensure **only water** is used as it is the healthier option and squash etc attracts ants if spilt.

### Year 5 PGL

Our Year 5 children are very excited to be on their residential trip to PGL this week - we know they will have an amazing time and lots of exciting adventures. Year 5 parents, please keep your eyes on dojo for photos and videos.



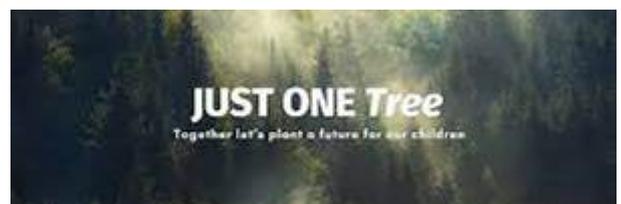
### Top Tips for Reading with Children

At Red Oaks, we promote reading as we know this is an essential skill for children to be able to 'unlock' the rest of the curriculum. We model a love of books and encourage children to read widely. A love of books starts in the home and time aside to read with children and share books (even when they can't yet read) is hugely important. Over the years we have done lots of work with author and ex-headteacher Neil Griffiths who always has some great tips for reading with children. Please take a look at this You tube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TC8c2se0xs>

### JUST ONE Tree non-uniform day on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July

As our summer charity event this year we are supporting **JUST ONE Tree**. They are a non-profit initiative removing CO2 from the atmosphere and reversing biodiversity loss through global reforestation. **JUST ONE Tree** supports established reforestation projects in areas severely affected by deforestation such as Kenya, Madagascar, Haiti & Indonesia. In doing so they have the greatest positive effect on reducing global warming whilst simultaneously helping to provide the local communities with training, agricultural education and sustainable incomes. **JUST ONE Tree** makes it simple for everyone to contribute to collective action on the climate crisis because **Just £1 plants 1 Tree**. We're sure you will agree that tree planting is absolutely essential at this critical time for the planet. We will therefore be joining children, parents and teachers across the country to demonstrate that an individual's actions can have a positive impact on the environment.



More information can be found at: <https://www.justonetree.life/> Please pay your suggested donation of £1 via Parent Pay by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July**. We look forward to counting the number of trees that the Red Oaks community can plant!



### Mobile Phones

A polite reminder to all parents and carers not to use mobile phones on school premises please - we ask this for safeguarding reasons and appreciate your support with this, thank you.

### Dates

Due to a recent change in terms dates and the previous letter sent to parents, some of the TD days had to change. We can confirm that the TD days for next year are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> September 2021  
2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021  
17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

4<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
17<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
25<sup>th</sup> July 2022



### Covid Isolation

If we have to send children home to isolate following a positive test within the bubble (this can be lateral flow or PCR), **it is vital that your child remains isolated**. This means that they cannot come to school to collect other siblings and they cannot be out in public at places such as the park as this is how cases can spread. We really appreciate everyone working together to keep everyone safe and well. Thank you.

### Pick Up and Collection

We politely request that only **one adult** per family collect children from school and that **everyone wears a mask or face covering please**.



### Before and After School

Please can we remind you that children are **not** to congregate in groups before and after school. We have had a few instances of this recently and they have been asked to disperse. Please can children maintain a social distance when on the school premises. This is to ensure the safety of those onsite at the start and end of the school day.

### Online Safety - FIFA 21

You don't need to be a football fan to have heard of the FIFA series of games (named after the Federation Internationale de Football Association: the worldwide governing body for the sport). Part of the franchise's massive appeal is that official licensing gives users the opportunity to play games as their favourite teams, controlling their favourite footballers. They either compete online against other players or work through a solo-player career mode. With updated editions launched annually, FIFA is playable on a range of consoles, with mobile versions available for smartphones and tablets.



In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as addiction, scams and in-game chat.



### Classroom Secrets Kids

We hope that you have been enjoying using Classroom Secrets Kids?

We have had some really positive responses so far from those who have used it. At school we are running intervention groups and will be offering

tutoring to help support those children close the gaps on any areas of learning that they need. However, as you can appreciate this is a big job and Classroom Secrets Kids is a brilliant way to help continue this learning at home and support your child to close any gaps that they may have.

The programme is developed to assess your child's knowledge using a weekly quiz, it then will adjust the learning offered to them based on the answers to the questions they have given. The learning assigned to them can take many forms, these can include tutorial videos, challenges and online games. The children should then be able to

progress through the work and show improvement through a short quiz at the end. This is something that the children have been introduced to at school and should be able to access independently at home. Your child's teacher will look at what assignments have been completed and adjust what is set accordingly. If you have any questions about Classroom Secrets Kids, please speak to your class teacher.

### **Contacting School**

School office hours are 8.30am-3.30pm please be aware that calls are not answered outside of these hours. Our phone number is **01793 493920**. If you have any questions or concerns, please use the following contacts:

Mrs Surch - [head@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:head@redoaks.org.uk)

Mr Lee - [deputyhead@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:deputyhead@redoaks.org.uk)

General queries - Admin team - [admin@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:admin@redoaks.org.uk)

Mr Lee - [fsmanager@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:fsmanager@redoaks.org.uk) - Foundation Stage - Nursery & Reception

Mrs Maxfield - [Yr123@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:Yr123@redoaks.org.uk) - Years 1, 2 & 3

Miss Gerrard - [Yr456@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:Yr456@redoaks.org.uk) - Years 4, 5 & 6



If your child is unwell and will not be attending school please send an email to Mrs Ponting on [pontingj@redoaks.org.uk](mailto:pontingj@redoaks.org.uk) as well as letting the teacher know on Class Dojo, many thanks.

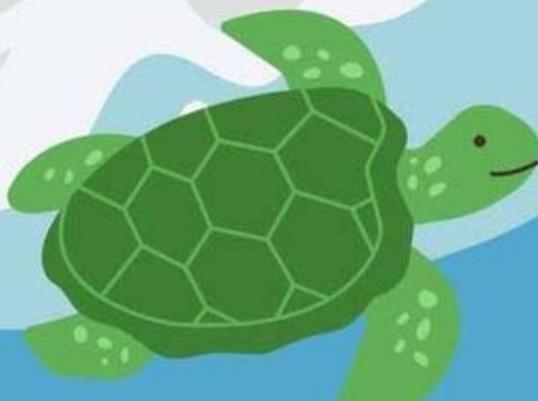
# DID YOU KNOW



WHEN PARENTS ARRIVE ON A **RNLI** LIFEGUARDED BEACH THEY SHOULD TAKE THEIR CHILD/CHILDREN TO THE **LIFEGUARD HUT** WHERE THEY WILL EACH BE GIVEN, FREE OF CHARGE, A WRISTBAND. THE PARENTS MOBILE NO. CAN BE WRITTEN ON WRISTBAND IN WATERPROOF INK BEFORE IT IS AFFIXED TO THE CHILD.

THE CHILD SHOULD BE TOLD TO GO TO THE LIFEGUARD HUT IF 'LOST' AND LIFEGUARD WILL PHONE MOBILE NUMBER.

ALL RNLI LIFEGUARDS ARE DRB CHECKED.



Our school will be taking part in the **JUST ONE Tree** Non-uniform Day

Each child will be encouraged to bring in £1 to plant a tree - uniting children, parents and schools across the world in taking positive action for our climate.

**JUST ONE Tree** is a non-profit Community Interest Company removing CO2 from the atmosphere through global reforestation.

**JUST £1 plants 1 Tree**

On average a tree absorbs 48lbs of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere every year.



**JUST ONE Tree** supports reforestation projects in Madagascar, Haiti, Indonesia, Mozambique, Nepal, Kenya and Zambia where the deforestation has been devastating.

And in the process helps to provide training, agricultural education and sustainable incomes....



...alleviating extreme poverty within local communities.

*Together let's plant a future for our children.*



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# FIFA 21



You don't need to be a football fan to have heard of the FIFA series of games (named after the Federation Internationale de Football Association: the worldwide governing body for the sport). Part of the franchise's massive appeal is that official licensing gives users the opportunity to play games as their favourite teams, controlling their favourite footballers. They either compete online against other players or work through a solo-player career mode. With updated editions launched annually, FIFA is playable on a range of consoles, with mobile versions available for smartphones and tablets.

### Recurring Costs

FIFA's trump card is that it includes real current players; a feature no other football arcade game can offer. However, this means that a new version of the game is released every year, with updated teams, players, kits and stadia, plus gameplay tweaks and extra features. Young FIFA fans usually want to be playing the latest version, so the pressure to buy each annual update is likely to be considerable.



### Online Chat

While the game of FIFA itself is suitable for children of all ages (as it does not include any inappropriate content), there is the issue of in-game chat. Your child can play against other people online and audio chat with them using headsets. As this communication is largely unregulated, it could mean that your child is exposed to language or conversations that are inappropriate.



### Possibility of Scams

Your child may receive an email or see a message on social media or in forums which appears to be a genuine FIFA promotion, but could be a scam. Following these links would take them to what may seem like a FIFA login page but is actually a phishing attempt to capture their login name and password. Scammers often use a legitimate-sounding name, such as 'EA Admin' or 'FIFA Developer'.



### In-Game Purchases

FIFA offers an array of in-game purchases. The FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode lets gamers build their own team, playing matches to win coins. These coins can be used to recruit better players or packs containing random players. Some purchases can be made with in-game currency; others require real money – which can become expensive. There have been reports of parents receiving large credit card bills after their children's in-game spending.



### Addictive Gameplay

Your child could end up playing FIFA for long periods of time. Matches last around 20 minutes, so playing through an entire tournament can quickly eat up a large chunk of the day. Children sometimes struggle to control their gaming behaviour, at the expense of their daily routine. This is called 'gaming disorder' and is classified as a genuine mental health problem by the World Health Organisation.



### Over-Competitiveness

FIFA has occasionally been criticised for its competitive gameplay leading to disproportionate aggression and negative emotion in some players. This can be amplified by the in-game audio chat with opponents in real time. The potential for an emotional outburst can sometimes reach unhealthy levels – especially if your child's team is losing heavily or is defeated by a very late goal.



## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Set out Your Strategy

As a parent, it's worth considering that – if they like gaming and football – your child's fascination with FIFA probably won't be short term. It's more likely to be the start of a relationship that could last for years, involving repeated outlay on each updated edition of the game. If you think this may pose a problem, it might be best to make your child aware of it beforehand to avoid disappointment later.



### Give Abuse the Red Card

The facility to chat to other players certainly adds to the overall enjoyment of FIFA, and it's unlikely that you'll be able to convince your child to play the game without using it. It would be wise, however, to make sure beforehand that your child is aware of how to mute the audio of any abusive players and knows how to report anyone who is being offensive or intimidating.



### Defend against Scammers

Teach your child to stay clear of scams. Explain why they should be suspicious of any link which asks them to verify their username and password or provide other sensitive information: game developers never send messages asking for players' login details. Console messages, emails and social media posts promising in-game content if a player inputs their login information are fake.



### Control In-Game Spending

To spend real money in FIFA, a player's account must have a payment method enabled. Check whose debit or credit card – or PayPal account – is linked to the device that your child plays FIFA on. Most devices' parental controls can be adjusted to limit spending. There is also the prepaid option of Paysafecard – you can top up the balance, making it easier to control your child's purchasing in the game.



### Avoid 'Extra Time'

Devices' parental controls can also be used to restrict the amount of time spent playing, if you feel it's necessary. Keep an eye on how long your child spends playing FIFA, just like you might monitor how long they watch TV for. Warning signs of over-playing include disinterest in other activities, tiredness or fatigue, neglect of personal hygiene or becoming angry when they have to stop playing.



### Encourage a 'Half-Time' Break

Monitoring in-game chat is difficult, as you can usually only hear one side of the conversation. But your child's reactions will be a good general indication. Dealing with the frustrations of a game and troublesome people can be useful life lessons – but if your parental instinct is that your child is getting too upset or angry, that's the time to intervene and encourage them to take a break from the game.



## Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world: UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Having started gaming at a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work – but, more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



#### SOURCES

<https://www.ea.com/en-gb/games/fifa/fifa-21> | <https://www.ea.com/en-gb/games/fifa/fifa-21/features> | <http://help.ea.com/en-gb/help/fifa/be-safe-with-fut-coins-and-fifa-points> | <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/men/relationships/fatherhood/10886939/My-son-spent-hundreds-of-pounds-on-in-app-purchases-without-me-knowing.html> | <https://help.ea.com/en-gb/help/faq/report-players-for-cheating-abuse-and-harassment/>