



# The Shaftesbury Park Herald

A local school with a global perspective ◊ Une école de quartier ouverte sur le monde

<https://www.shaftesburypark.wandsworth.sch.uk>



Shaftesbury Park  
Primary-School  
@shaftesburypk

## Autumn 2 Issue, 2023

This month, we have been very excited to hold our annual **Festive Festival**, comprising of a visit from Santa, the fantastic 'Tombola Tuesday', delicious cakes, our hugely popular raffle and the very festive 'Carols at Shaftesbury Park' event.

Not only has the Festive Festival proved to be fantastic fun for children and staff alike but it has also helped to raise an incredible **£1,610.74**.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Mrs Imms and her team for organising the 2023 Festive Festival, as well as to everyone who helped out by wrapping presents, running stalls, donating items/ sourcing raffle prizes and coming along. We really couldn't have done it without you!



**easyfundraising**

On the topic of fundraising for the school, we are delighted to announce that our easyfundraising total has grown to a massive:

# £1,538.54

**THAT'S £409.23 OF FREE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL,  
RAISED BY PARENTS LIKE YOU!**

Remember over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to Shaftesbury Park Primary School for FREE every time you use **easyfundraising** to shop with them. This means you can support the school when you get your Christmas presents, stock up on groceries, buy clothes, order a takeaway, renew your insurance policies or buy anything online at no extra cost to yourself!



# Help us raise FREE donations

when you do your Christmas online shopping

ebay JOHN LEWIS Argos Boots M&S 7,000+ online brands

**easyfundraising** You shop, brands donate to us

**Last minute Christmas gifts?**

**Don't forget to use easyfundraising!**

Sign up through the link below and not only will you be raising money but once you've signed up and raised £5 in donations, **easyfundraising** will give us an extra £5!

**It's So Easy and Completely FREE. Join today ↓**

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/shaftesburyparkprimary/?invite=AVHZ8B&referral-campaign=c2s>

## What we've been up to this half-term...

25<sup>th</sup> **South Ken Kids Festival**  
★ 16-19 Nov 2023 ★  
At the Institut français

Another November rolls around and that can mean only one thing for our bilingual stream: the South Ken Kids Festival! This fantastic festival organised by our friends at the French Institute brings together artists and authors in a range of events, workshops and plays put on for the public and in schools.

Here at Shaftesbury Park, our Leopards and Badgers had a special arts workshop based on the work of Matisse with two illustrators, Joséphine Seblon and Robert Sae-Heng. Then for our Foxes and Penguins it was a trip to the Ciné Lumière cinema to see the first showing in the UK of the French animation 'Nina and the Hedgehog's Secret'. Our Sharks and Whales also got to

sample some French cinema with the exciting adventures of 'Belle & Sebastian, Next Generation'. Finally, for our Dolphins it was our second time entering the SKKF Poetry Slam and, yet again, they did not let us down. After workshoping their poems with a professional poet, they bravely stood on stage and performed to a judging panel and Secondary school children and even took home one of the prizes (Best Use of Language)!



## Shaftesbury Park's Parent and Volunteer Enterprise Fair 2023

On Wednesday the 8th November, Shaftesbury Park hosted their first ever Parent and Volunteer Enterprise Fair. We hosted a total of 12 volunteers with different professions, who each shared the ways in which they use the Enterprise Skills in their daily professional roles. The architect, police officers, accountant, architect, lawyer, Entrepreneur, fashion designer, tree surgeon, Translator, scientist, actress and photographer welcomed questions from the students, who were eager to ask about the skills and how they are used. The fair was a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn more about the importance of their Enterprise lessons and how the benefits of hard work can pay off. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and took part. We look forward to the fair next year.



Using Imagination



Sharing Ideas



Listening Carefully



Problem Solving



Leading



Staying Positive



Working in a Team



Aiming High

**The 8  
Enterprise  
Skills**



You may have heard them performing at Carols at Shaftesbury Park, but that is not all that our school's many other budding musicians, have been up to this half-term...



This festive season, the Key Stage 2 Choir (a.k.a. The Sparks) have been taking Wandsworth by (snow)storm, with performances both in school and out! Our Winter Tour has taken us as far afield as Emmanuel School and the Mayor's Christmas Gala, as well as the local airwaves on Riverside Radio! Our repertoire has included some old Christmas favourites, as well as some French classics, and even a cult Christmas hit penned by Mr Seakens himself. Congratulations to all of the performers, and especially the parents who have been extremely supportive. See you all next year!

As well as this, Year 3's Wandsworth Schools' Music performance, Winter Sounds, took place at Fairfield Halls in Croydon. Our enthusiastic singers teamed up with a number of other primary choirs, and was accompanied by a professional band. It was a really magical evening, and the children did us all proud. Well done, everyone!



### Anti-Bullying Week 2023 - Make a Noise About Bullying

This year's Anti-Bullying Week began with a visit from the fantastic Loud Mouth Theatre who came into school to help us learn how to recognise different types of bullying and know what to do about it. These important lessons were then reinforced with class activities exploring this year's theme of making a noise about bullying. All children were also reminded of what to do if they feel they are being bullied, which is to tell a member of staff.

Many thanks for everyone who paid £1 to come to school wearing spotty clothes or pyjamas. Thanks to your generosity, we raised a grand total of £243.92!





The UNCRC Articles and Sustainable Development Goals for November and December are all concerned with health and education:

<b>Article 24</b>	guarantees the right to the best possible health and those aspects critical for remaining well e.g. nutritious food, clean water, healthcare etc.
<b>Article 28</b>	guarantees the right to a free, good quality education
<b>Article 29</b>	guarantees the quality of education, ensuring it helps children to use and develop their talents and abilities, as well as helping children learn how to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.



At Shaftesbury Park Primary School, we understand **the critical importance of positive mental health in helping children to thrive** at this stage of their lives and to continue to do well into adulthood.

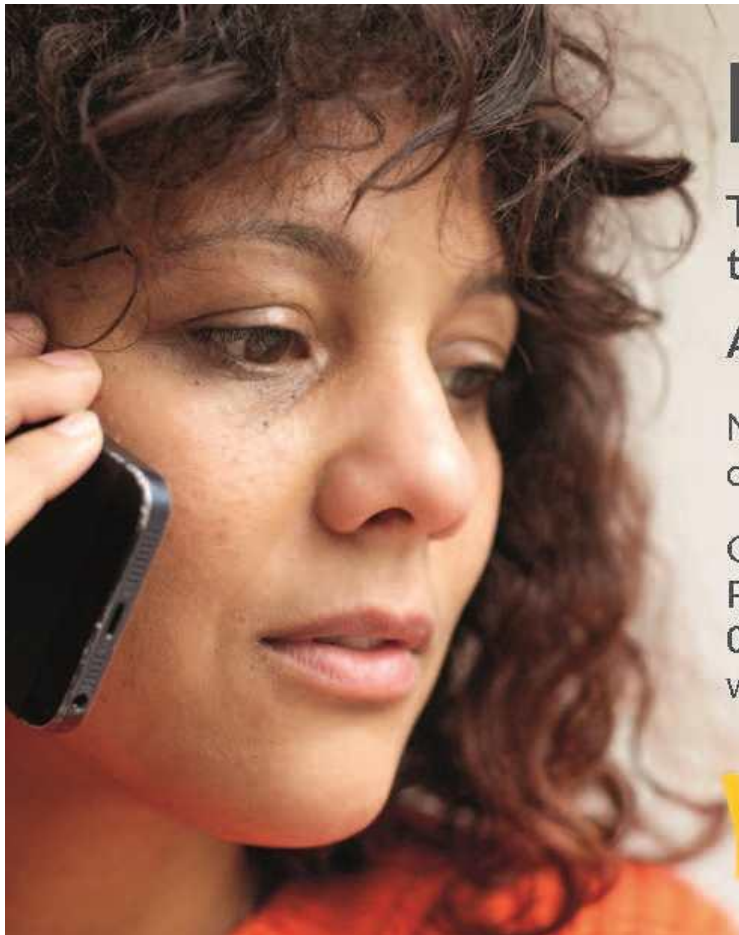
Talking and listening play an important role in this, helping children to make sense of feelings and manage difficult experiences, and therefore play an important role in the life of Shaftesbury Park.

As a rights respecting school, children at Shaftesbury Park understand that they have the right to be heard and have their opinions valued in line with Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Staff at all levels of the school welcome discussion with pupils about the things that matter to them and we encourage the children to write letters to us too.

Other measures to support positive mental wellbeing, both in and outside the classroom, include circle time sessions, worry boxes, mindfulness sessions, peer mentors and friendship buddies.

In addition to this, Shaftesbury Park is proud to partner with Unlocking Potential in order to offer an in-school therapeutic service, supporting children with social, emotional and mental health needs inside and outside of the classroom to unlock their full potential. Children from years 1 to 6 are able to sign up for Talk Time sessions to discuss any concerns they have. All sessions are facilitated by a trained member of the Unlocking Potential team who will liaise with school staff where necessary to resolve any issues.

If you are at all concerned about your child’s mental health, please don’t hesitate to speak with a member of staff.



# Parenthood..

The most rewarding job in the world

And also the toughest

Need some advice about your child's behaviour?

Contact YoungMinds

Parents Helpline

0808 802 5544

[www.youngminds.org.uk/parents](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parents)

## YOUNG MINDS



## Now over to Ms Savizon for some tips on looking after yourself this festive season

While the holiday season is super exciting, for many of us it can also be a rather hectic and stressful time of year with long lists of things to organise in the run up to the big day leaving us exhausted by the time it finally arrives!

Here are 3 top tips to help parents de-stress and enjoy this festive season:

**Get Some Fresh Air** - Whether it's a walk in the park or just around the block, getting out in the fresh air can really help with holiday stress, providing you with some much-needed peace and quiet as well as a bit of exercise.

**Let Go of Expectations** - At this time of year, many of us overload our schedules. The reality is that you can't do it all. Pick the things that are most important to you and stick to them. Remember it's okay to say no. Looking to arrange dinner with a friend? Why not choose a date in the New Year when things are less busy?

**Take Time for Yourself** - Try to get into the habit of taking 10 minutes for yourself every day, for example by reading a book, having a bath or doing a few stretches. You can't look after other people if you don't look after yourself first.

## Online Safety Reminders

With many of us likely to enjoy more time online during the holidays (and possibly on new devices), please find below some top tips from the UK Safer Internet Centre on staying safe online this Christmas and throughout the rest of the year too.

(Taken from: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/top-tips-for-staying-safe-online-at-christmas> )

### Top tips for staying safe online at Christmas

Christmas is such a wonderful time of year, excitable children and time to relax with family and friends. And of course, there are new toys to play with.

With a huge increase in sales of devices (around 13 million people receive smartphones for Christmas each year) it is important to ensure that you and your children are safe when playing with new kit. To help, we've set out a few top tips to help keep your household safe online over the holidays.

## THE TECH

### Learn your way around

Most devices have controls to ensure that kids can't access content you don't want them to. [Make sure your "in-app" purchases are disabled](#) to avoid a nightmare surprise in the new year.

### Tablets

Tablets are really popular with younger children, and the market has several which are geared towards child friendly content. When it comes to using them, start slowly; only download games and apps you have checked out carefully (sites such as [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk), or [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org) provide useful advice!) and steer them towards age targeted content such as [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids) or YouTube Kids.

### Mobile devices

If you have older children, and are thinking about getting them a new phone for Christmas, this can pose its own challenges:

The old online safety message about having your home computer in a communal place becomes defunct, because phones are literally mobile computers and have the power of most traditional desktop PCs.

# SET BOUNDARIES

Our advice is to set some ground rules, and ensure they understand them. For example:

## Screen Time

Agree a time limit or number of games beforehand, to avoid repeated disagreements around how long they can spend online.

## Sleep comes first

It is advisable that the phone stays out of the bedroom to avoid those night time interruptions.

## Ask for access

If you're genuinely concerned about them, ask them to allow you access to the phone.

## Monitoring vs having a conversation

It is possible to install software onto devices that monitors online activity, alerts you to inappropriate behaviour, and can block access to certain content. This type of software is becoming increasingly popular, but while this might sound tempting, it does pose a number of issues around your child's right to privacy & could have an impact upon your relationship with them. [SWGfL published this blog](#) earlier this year, which covers the subject in some detail and raises some interesting points.

The best advice we can give is to talk to your child regularly and openly about behaviour and risk, so that they know they can come to you if something goes wrong.

SWGfL also covered this in its Parenting in a Digital Age series earlier this year, in this [blog](#).

## Consider setting parental controls on your Wi-Fi

You can block access to inappropriate or adult content, and set time limits which may help rein in those excessive Minecraft sessions. The UK Safer Internet Centre has advice on this here.



## GAMING

Finally a word about games. This year there are so many exciting games and consoles around, there is a good chance you might have one in your house. Whether a DS, Nintendo Switch or PS4, there is something for everyone, and every age.

**Consider whether your child is mature enough to join an online community, and whether the games they are playing are appropriate**

For more advice on this visit [www.pegi.info](http://www.pegi.info) or [www.askaboutgames.com](http://www.askaboutgames.com). Our blog from earlier this year, '[The real cost of online gaming](#)' also gives an insight into the type of things to be aware of when it comes to gaming.

**Finally, make sure you enjoy your tech together,  
it's the perfect time of year!**

This festive season, set your child up for online safety that lasts the whole year. Whether you're gifting a new device or one that's just new-to-them, <https://www.internetmatters.org> has over 70 step-by-step how-to guides to help parents set up appropriate controls and privacy settings on a range of devices and platforms.



If you have experienced a change in your income or are worried about your finances / your ability to afford the cost of attending school, we would really encourage you to get in touch with the School Office or Mrs Di Doi, our Learning Mentor. There may be some additional support that you may be entitled to or we may be able to assist with some school costs.

**Some assistance that might be available to you includes:**

- > free school meals
- > welfare and debt advice
- > support for families with no recourse to public funds
- > grants or in-kind support.

## Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Epiphany - sharing of French tradition of <i>Galette des Rois</i> in class
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Marking World Religion Day (21/01/2024)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Creative Week Performances for Parents EYFS/KS1 on 31/01/2024 at 9.45am KS2 on 01/02/2023 at 9.45am
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	UKS2 Disco - 6.30 - 8.00pm
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Marking Rosa Park's Birthday (04/02/1913)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Children's Mental Health Week</b> <b>(Theme: My Voice Matters)</b> Workshops to be delivered to classes by UP
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Marking Chinese New Year (10/02/2024)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of Spring 1 half-term (Children return 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024)



**Wishing you all a very  
happy Christmas from  
everyone at  
Shaftesbury Park!**