



# Shilbottle Primary Newsletter

Week 17 – 17 January 2020



Please pay online whenever possible ☺ it saves everyone time and it helps you to keep track of your payments – we're happy for you to be in credit!

## ARE YOU ENTITLED?

**Free School Meals**

Are you entitled?

HAVE YOU APPLIED?



## After School



from 6 Jan

Monday	Ceilidh Band	Y2 – Y6
Tuesday	Football Foundation [U11 squad & friends]	Y5 – Y6
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday	Gymnastics / Apparatus	Y4 – Y6



## SWIMMING STARTS



**Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January**

Year 2 / Year 3 / Year 4

Don't forget your costumes / trunks, towels & goggles.

A swimming hat is also a good idea.

## STAR OF THE WEEK

RECEPTION: Rebecca H

YEAR 1: Luisa J

YEAR 2: Phoenix P

YEAR 3: Dylan S

YEAR 4: Amelia S

YEAR 5: Isabella M

YEAR 6: Gina S



We would like to remind parents that your child should not be left unsupervised before the school gates open at 8:30 as they remain parent's responsibility until this time. School registers are not finalised until 8:45 therefore we would not contact parents until after this time should your child not enter the school. Rather than your child waiting alone outside the school gates we recommend using the school's Morning Club (£1.50) where they will be supervised.

## BEST PRESENTATION & HANDWRITING

RECEPTION: Amelia M

YEAR 1: James R

YEAR 2: Jasmine H

YEAR 3: Jacob O

YEAR 4: Jacob J

YEAR 5: Violet G

YEAR 6: Rebecca H



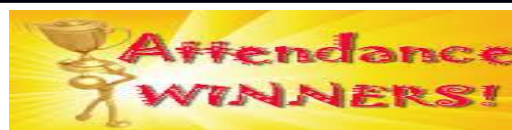
## HEAD TEACHER AWARD



Alfie B



Scarlett J & Indie D



## ATTENDANCE WINNERS THIS WEEK

Year 6

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# Fun, Respect & Friendship – Every child matters to us

# Shilbottle Primary Newsletter



There's a very good chance you've heard of Minecraft. The block building phenomenon is, arguably, the most beloved video game of all time which has managed to maintain its popularity since its first release back in 2011. Nine years later, it still has a huge userbase of 112 million people playing the game every month. Accessible to those 7+, Minecraft can be a gateway into a world of learning and exploration which encourages players to use their imagination to build three-dimensional worlds with virtual building blocks. While Minecraft is considered relatively safe generally speaking, there are some safety precautions parents may want to consider before allowing their children loose on the game.



## What parents need to know about **MINECRAFT**



### OPEN TO HACKING

Hackers can be a real problem in any online game, including Minecraft. Some individuals can access other people's games to disrupt their play time, or even worse, access private details about players such as their names, email addresses, dates of birth and so on. It would be incredibly rare and unfortunate to encounter a player like this, but it does happen and must be taken as a serious risk.



### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Most players aged 7 and over will be able to play the game comfortably and, whilst creating an account does ask you to input your date of birth for confirmation, there's no way to check if the information is correct nor to check someone's real identity. This could mean that children younger than 7 could access the game. However, what is more concerning is that adults pretending to be children could theoretically be using false information to access the game and be interacting with your child.



### RISK OF GRIEFING

Griefing is when someone purposely upsets another player during the game. This can be done by ruining somebody's creation or generally doing something to spoil someone's gameplay and can essentially amount to a form of cyberbullying. In open servers, or even private ones among friends, it can be difficult to keep track of who's saying what, and an innocent comment in one person's eyes could be seen as bullying by somebody else. Stealing supplies, destroying things that take hours to build and harassing innocent players can all be commonplace if care isn't taken.



### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Minecraft can be an incredibly exciting game but it can also be very addictive. Too much time on the game could impact on your child's behaviour, causing them to become irritable or angry when being asked to stop playing. This might suggest it might be time to enforce some time away from the game. Addictive behaviour can be compounded at a young age and encouraging gaming in moderation is always recommended.

### 'SCARY' CHARACTERS FOR YOUNGER GAMERS

For the most part, Minecraft is not a scary game. Despite this, there are certain characters in the game that younger children in particular may find frightening. Creepers, zombies and various other 'baddies' can be commonplace in some parts of the game and young minds may find it difficult to disassociate them from real life once they switch off the game.



## Safety Tips For Parents



### BLOCK STRANGERS AND UNWANTED CONTACT

Despite the fact that private messages can no longer be sent in the game, strangers may still attempt to interact with your child. From the pause menu, players can block chat and friend requests from others in the game. This causes any profanities, email addresses and phone numbers to become automatically blocked, meaning it's harder for people you don't know to potentially contact your child.



### LEARN FROM YOUTUBERS / TWITCH STREAMERS

There are a lot of Minecraft focused YouTubers and Twitch Streamers that offer a huge variety of fun, engaging content. Many of them focus on making videos specifically for younger audiences, which don't include bad language or anything scary. If you're unsure about the game, check out some of the biggest streamers and more importantly, ask who your children like. This will help you to understand what the game is about and also make sure that your children are watching age-appropriate content online.



### PLAY IN CREATIVE OR PEACEFUL MODES

Playing the game on Creative or Peaceful mode ensures that the experience is strictly safe. Peaceful mode allows children to explore with friends without having the survival element of normal Minecraft, while Creative mode allows imaginations to run wild with unlimited resources, encouraging creation of vast, personalised worlds. There really are no limits as to what can be accomplished and getting involved yourself can make it a great way to bond with your child and give you a long-term project to complete with them.



### MONITOR GAME TIME

Being able to play on a wide variety of platforms can be beneficial however it can also make it more difficult to put the game down. Play time should be monitored and it's always a good idea to talk to your child if you feel they are spending too much time on the game or showing signs of addictive behaviour.



### CREATE A PRIVATE SERVER

The best way to avoid unwanted strangers or grievers in a server is to simply create your own. Private servers do exactly what they say on the tin by offering a safe, secure place for children to play and create with their friends, free from outside interference. They (and you) control who is allowed in the server and what kind of things they can do in it, making it the closest thing Minecraft offers to parental controls.



### LEARN TO PLAY YOURSELF

Minecraft is an incredibly easy game to pick up and play. Furthermore, it doesn't require an expensive console or computer, with versions available for smartphones and tablets. Learning to play yourself and playing alongside your child is the best way to understand the game and will help to put your mind at ease in respect of what your child is viewing and who they may be interacting with.



### CREATE SERVER WHITELISTS

Usernames you know to be safe, like your child's friends or relatives, can have their accounts whitelisted as safe. Essentially, this means that server moderators can create a community made up of people they know to be friendly and children will only be playing alongside people both they and you know, reducing any risk of contact with strangers or experiencing griefing.



## Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBIBLE. Starting gaming from 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.



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**Fun, Respect & Friendship – Every child matters to us**

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## Dates at a glance [so far...]

Mon 20 Jan	Dog Trust Day	Whole School	All day
Tues 21 Jan	Swimming starts	Y2 – Y4	10:30
Thurs 6 Feb	Warburtons Healthy Sandwiches	Y1 – Y4	9:00 – 12:00
Thurs 6 Feb	Decimals and Percentages Workshop	Y5 – Y6	17:30 – 18:15
Fri 7 Feb	U11 Girls Football @ Newcastle	U11 squad of 8	12:00 – 4:00
Fri 14 Feb	<b>STAFF TRAINING – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>		
<b>15 Feb – 23 Feb</b>	<b>FEBRUARY ½ TERM</b>		
Thurs 27 Feb	Fractions Workshop	Y5 – Y6	17:30 – 18:15
Thurs 5 Mar	World Book Day	Whole School	All day
Thurs 12 Mar	Life Centre	Year 2	8:45 – 3:30
Thurs 12 Mar	Life Centre	Year 5	8:45 – 3:30
Fri 13 Mar	Sports Relief	Whole School	All day
Wed 25 Mar	League Football v St Paul's [away]	U11 team	3:30 – 4:30
Wed 1 Apr	League Football v Longhoughton [away]	U11 team	3:30 – 4:30
1 Apr – 3 Apr	Residential	Year 3 / Year 4	All day
Wed 1 Apr	DCHS treasure hunt		4:00 – 5:30
Thurs 2 Apr	Quicksticks Festival @ DCHS	Year 3 – Year 6	3:30 – 5:00
<b>4 Apr – 19 Apr</b>	<b>EASTER HOLIDAY ☺</b>		
Wed 29 Apr	School Games Quadkids qualifier	U9 [Y4 – Y3 team]	9:30 – 12:00
Wed 29 Apr	School Games Quadkids qualifier	U11 [Y5 – Y6 team]	12:45 – 3:00
Fri 8 May	BANK HOLIDAY for VE day	Whole School	All day
11 – 14 May	KS2 SATS	Year 6	9:00 – 12:00
<b>23 - 31 May</b>	<b>MAY ½ TERM</b>		
Mon 1 June	<b>STAFF TRAINING – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>		
3 – 5 June	London residential	Year 6	All day
Thurs 18 June	Kirkley Hall Zoo	Year 1	All day
Fri 19 June	Maths Challenge @ DCHS	Year 6	All day
Thurs 25 June	Musical Roots @ Alnwick Garden	Year 3 / Year 4 / Ceilidh	All day
Thurs 25 June	Northumberland School Games Day		All day
Fri 26 June	Sports Day & School Fair	Whole School	1:00 – 3:00
Wed 1 July	Northumberland County Zoo	Reception	All day
Fri 3 July	Maths Day @ DCHS	Year 5	TBC
Fri 17 July	End of Term	Whole School	2:00
<b>18 July</b>	<b>SUMMER HOLIDAY ☺</b>		

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## Shilbottle Primary Newsletter

### What's on in the wider community...

<b>Alnmouth Golf Club</b>	<a href="#">Alnmouth Golf Club - juniors</a>
<b>Alnmouth Juniors FC</b>	<a href="#">Thursday night training</a>
<b>Alnwick Academy of Dance</b>	<a href="#">Alnwick Academy of Dance</a>
<b>Alnwick Bears RLFC</b>	<a href="http://www.alnwickbears.co.uk">www.alnwickbears.co.uk</a>
<b>Alnwick Highland Dancers</b>	Wednesday 7:00 – 8:00, Lindisfarne Middle School Hall Reception upwards
<b>Alnwick Junior Harriers</b>	Tuesday & Thursday 6 – 7 pm @ Lindisfarne Sports Centre contact Alison Hutchings on: <a href="mailto:ah.juniorharriers@gmail.com">ah.juniorharriers@gmail.com</a>
<b>Alnwick Town Juniors FC</b>	<a href="http://www.alnwicktownjuniors.co.uk/">http://www.alnwicktownjuniors.co.uk/</a>
<b>Amble Junior Netball</b>	Thursday evenings [6:30 – 7:30pm] for Y3 upwards at James Calvert Spence College [JCSC] Amble. Y2 are welcome but parents need to stay. £1.50 per week.
<b>Alnwick Mini &amp; Juniors Rugby [Year 1 upwards]</b>	Every Sunday 10:30 – 12 noon ☺ Year 1 – Year 3 = tag rugby; Year 4 upwards = contact rugby.
<b>Beavers, Cubs &amp; Scouts</b>	Wednesday evenings, Felton or Alnwick <a href="mailto:info@northumberlandscouts.org.uk">info@northumberlandscouts.org.uk</a>
<b>Coquet Shorebase</b>	<a href="https://www.coquetshorebase.org.uk/">https://www.coquetshorebase.org.uk/</a> windsurfing, kayaking, sailing and more
<b>Cricket</b>	Juniors [Y3 – Y8] Alnmouth, Alnwick, Warkworth Cricket Clubs
<b>Dansformation</b>	<a href="#">Dansformation</a> Thursday 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. @ Alnwick Playhouse
<b>FC Amble Juniors</b>	<a href="#">FC Amble Juniors</a>
<b>Felton Juniors FC</b>	<a href="#">Felton juniors</a>
<b>Judo Alnwick</b>	<a href="#">Alnwick Judo</a> <a href="https://www.getintomartialarts.com">https://www.getintomartialarts.com</a> Monday, 4:00 – 4:45 pm
<b>Karate</b>	Monday and Friday evenings @ Willowburn
<b>Longhoughton Rangers FC</b>	<a href="#">Longhoughton Rangers Football Club</a>
<b>Morpeth Junior Hockey</b>	<a href="#">Morpeth Juniors Hockey Club</a> Sunday 9:30 – 11:00
<b>Rainbows, Brownies and Guides</b>	Register your interest at <a href="https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk/">https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk/</a> Monday evenings during term time at Warkworth Primary School.

**CAN YOU THINK OF ANY OTHER CLUBS WE COULD ADD?**