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16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, following serious concerns raised by an incident at another school last summer, and after taking advice, we took immediate action and removed photographs of pupils from our website and social media. Thank you for your understanding and for recognising that the safety and wellbeing of our pupils are paramount. You can read more about the incident here: https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/schools-given-advice-on-image-safety-to-keep-ahead-of-threat-from-ai-blackmailers

We recognise that this has meant fewer opportunities to celebrate pupils' successes and share special moments with relatives, including family members who live further away. We also understand that families may hold different views about sharing photographs. We want everyone's views to be heard and respected as we review how photographs and videos are taken and shared at Shoreham Village School. Our aim is to protect every pupil's privacy and dignity while celebrating their achievements appropriately.

With this in mind, **we are asking all parents/carers to please complete the following poll**.
https://forms.gle/8FAppDuybFqa9thd6

Your responses will help inform our review and give us a clearer picture of the views of our school community. We will take account of the majority view when considering our overall approach, while continuing to respect each family's individual wishes, and will send a new photography consent form for everyone to complete next term.

As always, before using or sharing images for school purposes, we will check our consent records. We will only share identifiable images of pupils where the appropriate consent has been given. If a pupil does not have consent, we will ensure not to include them in identifiable images, or will obscure their identity sensitively where appropriate.

Thank you for helping us keep our pupils safe while enabling us to celebrate their successes with care.

Yours sincerely,
Nikki Sheraton
Head of School