



Weekly Update

Friday 10th February 2023



Please email schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk if you require support in accessing this newsletter in an alternative format.

Dear Families and Friends,

Thank you for a wonderful consultation evening. We love to have parents and carers into school to view the books, talk with staff about the children and see the wonderful displays that the children work so hard on too. Your feedback during these events is also pivotal to us. We received some useful feedback about awards given across the curriculum and will be actioning this too.

If you came near the museum, you will undoubtedly have been procured to view the exhibits by our pupil curators and conservators. This was their first public venture. They have previously visited our partners at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, and you may have seen their short film about this. Going forwards, they will be able to curate our exhibits, develop new ones through the profits they make through their shop and they will be able to share this unique feature with our wonderful community. Please do support them by buying something (however small) from their shop. There will be a parentmail so that you can order items for your child.



We always like to enhance the curriculum as much as possible, and this week the fire department visited the school to show our children how they work nowadays. Children in year 2 have been learning about the Great Fire of London. They have been comparing the past with the future and visits like this help to bring learning to life, and make it fun too. A big thank you to the fire fighters who gave their time to help us.

When we come back after half term, we will be moving towards World Book Day. We do dress up for this, and ask that the children come as their favourite book character, bringing their book with them. It is an opportunity to celebrate reading and the joy we find in reading for pleasure. Half term is always a super opportunity to talk about books with the children, and the library in Shefford always have reading challenges. We of course award house points for reading in the holidays, and so your child can accrue 9 house points for their team, in addition to finding a character they want to share with the school on book day.

During half term, we know that children will spend more time on line. National surveys show that many families do not utilise the parental controls on their children's devices, and do not supervise their children using online gadgets. The risks to children are numerous, ranging from fake news, online purchases, addiction, poor sleep, agitation levels linked to frustrations from gaming levels, grooming, inappropriate content, malware and gang related activity. Please do follow this link <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> to find more ways to ensure your child is safe when exploring the wonders of technology.



<https://clevernevergoes.org/parents-2/> This is a really useful site for all things 'clever' about being safe when out of school. It addresses some of the harms your child is exposed to in public and also online. There are some nice add ons such as word searches, puzzles and comics to help reinforce the message that every parent wants their child to absorb.

We have a large amount of lost property in our school. You might like to take the opportunity of holiday time to ensure that any names that have washed out of clothes is written back in. When items are named, we do our best to return them to your child.

On a personal level, I would like to thank you all for your kind words of congratulations. I saw many of you during the consultation evening and your support and encouragement meant a great deal. I know our school, with its exemplary results, and superb team is in excellent hands and we are working on enhancements and consistency to ensure we retain the best outcomes for the children.

Have a wonderful half term break.

From Mrs Finch

Please know: We are an Operation Encompass School. This means that we work together with the police to respond quickly to instances of domestic abuse and/or violence. Staff in school are trained responders and we are a safe space.

Values

The values of February will be Love & Kindness

"Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward knowing someday someone will do the same for you." Princess Diana.

What is love? How it is shown through our acts of kindness, and being thoughtful to one another.

House Points

Fire—1181

Water—1114

Air—1022

Earth—924

House Points and Attendance

W/E 03/02/23

Well done to last week's house winners.



House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

Fire

The year 2's had exciting visit from the local fire service today. This taught them all about staying safe in the home and around fire and what to do in an emergency as well as showing them how fire equipment had changed since the great fire of London. They had fun seeing inside the fire engine as well as getting to have a go with the hose.

"They showed us their fire truck and we got to squirt their fire hose!"

"we learned about fire safety and not to play with lighters or matches. We learned a rhyme to help us remember, 'Matches and lighters never touch, they can hurt you very much.'"



Outspoken!
Training

The year 4's completed their Level 1 Bikeability course today. Learning how to teach the children how to control and master their bikes in a control environment on the Ballcourt.



Children's Mental Health Week 6th—12th February 2023

This week, it is Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week. Throughout the week, we have been thinking about this year's theme of 'Let's Connect' and the children have explored what it means to make healthy, rewarding and meaningful connections with others, as well as thinking about other aspects of wellbeing and mental health. To support this, pupils have shared stories and poems around the subject and have taken part in activities such as making paper chains to demonstrate who they are connected to, telling jokes to connect with one another, using role play to act out scenarios and taking part in mindfulness activities. In addition to this, the children in Reception were lucky enough to experience yoga sessions with the Happy Little Yogi company, which the children (and staff) found calming and relaxing!

If you would like to learn more about mental health and wellbeing, Place2Be offers some tips, activities and parental support for free on their website. You can access these resources here:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

"We made dolls to show that we are all connected together."

"It's important to belong because all people need someone."



Weekly Good News Calls

Here are the children whose parents and carers have received a phone call home this week to let them know how well their child has been working and showing their school values. Keep up the good work Shefford Lower.

Reception	Pear—Archie	Plum—Joshua	Peach—Logan
Year 1	Sycamore—Jake	Holly—Oscar & Ollie	Chestnut—Theo
Year 2	Maple—Thomas	Willow—Joseph	Oak—Heidi
Year 3	Cedar—Sienna	Elm—Annie	Hawthorn—Felicity
Year 4	Hazel—Charlie	Beech—Benedict	Ash—Max



Congratulations to the children below who have been recognised as a Finer Diner this week for displaying good manners and values at lunchtime



<u>Reception</u>	Lucy, James, Teddy, Mylee, Sienna & Joshua
<u>Year 1</u>	Clara, Joshua, Nancy, Calella, Edwards & Kova
<u>Year 2</u>	Sienna, Theo, Layla, Sid, Ava & Sophie
<u>Year 3</u>	Zoe, Louie, Bobby, Jennifer, Georgia & Ayaz
<u>Year 4</u>	Arthur, Cassian, Immy, Kayleigh & Eloise



THANK YOU

EXCUSE ME

Shefford Sporting Successes

We celebrate children's sporting successes from home as well as those in school. Please send us photos of your child's certificates and/or medals which will be displayed on our PE celebration board and celebrated in assembly. Well done to these children who have shared their sporting success this week.

Air House	Emily—Dance, Nancy—Dance, Lewie—Football, Rory—Swimming
Fire House	Thea—Swimming, Aidan—Swimming, Luca—Football
Earth House	Holly—Dance, Sebastian—Swimming
Mrs Baker	Hertfordshire County Finals—Swimming Relay



Community News

Please note, the following events/activities are run independently of Shefford Lower.



You can be active

You can be creative!

Come and join Rainbows

Girls age 4-7

Your nearest Rainbow unit is

Shefford

Register your interest by visiting www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus or you can ring Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901

Do you want to learn new skills?

Do you want to have lots of fun?

You can make friends and have adventures



JACK COLLISON
SOCCER SCHOOL

FORMER WEST HAM AND WALES INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER

FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP!

FOOTBALL, COMPETITIONS, FUN AND PRIZES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-15!
MONDAY 13TH - THURSDAY 16TH FEBRUARY, 10:00-15:00
ROBERT BLOODFIELD ACADEMY, SG175BU
1, 2, 3 AND 4 DAY TICKETS AVAILABLE

*** 30% OFF IF YOUR CHILD BRINGS A NEW FRIEND ***
*** ONLY 75 SPACES AVAILABLE ***

BOOK ONLINE NOW!

WARM SPACES

A Place to Stay Warm this Winter



Shefford House - Council Chamber
(15 High St, Shefford, SG17 5DD)



Every Friday 3:15 - 5:30



Free hot chocolate, sweets and popcorn



- 3rd Feb - Paddington (1hr 35)
- 10th Feb - Original Matilda (1hr 38)
- 17th Feb - The Smurfs (1hr 43)

Free to all, limited spaces available

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Happy Little Yogi Half Term Taster Sessions



The Active Lifestyles Team are working in partnership with Happy Little Yogi this Half Term, to bring you two, free, fun, yoga/mindfulness sessions, for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The sessions are aimed at 4-9 year olds, who live in Central Bedfordshire.

Monday 13th February 2023
14:00 - 15:00
Flitwick Leisure Centre, Studio 2

Thursday 16th February 2023
14:00 - 15:00
Sandy Sports Centre, Jenkins Pavilion



Places are limited to 12 per session.

Book now to secure your place, at www.happylittleyogi.com

Should you have any questions please email Jane (the instructor) on: jane@happylittleyogi.com.

Parents/guardians are required to stay for the whole session and are welcome to join in if they wish.



Active
Lifestyles



A great place to live and work.

Find us online www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk [getactivewith](https://www.facebook.com/getactivewith) [@letstalkcentral](https://twitter.com/letstalkcentral)

Safeguarding Information

At Shefford Lower School we take our responsibilities to promote safeguarding the welfare of all children seriously. The designated persons for safeguarding children is the Headteacher who can be contacted via the school office on 01462 629123

Please find useful information updated weekly

Mythbuster

Myth – It's up to me what I let my child eat

Buster - Access to a healthy diet in order to thrive is part of safeguarding. Children without access to nutrition is an area of neglect. Schools are obliged to monitor and record instances on CPOMs. We can support you if you need help with this aspect of care. Our family worker can work with you and help you to establish good routines.

*Child Protection Online Management System

If you are concerned about a child outside of school you can phone 999 in an emergency or 101 to make a report. The NSPCC operated an urgent helpline on 0808800500



[Ivel Valley Parent Bulletin](#)
[Early Help Bulletin](#)



Please click on the links for more information

WE'RE HIRING

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Where can you help?

LOAF
Family activity group for 5-12 year olds fortnightly Saturdays 4-5 hours

WANTED FUN
Youth clubs for 10-17 year olds fortnightly, weekday evenings 2-3 hours

LOCATIONS
Bedford, Biggleswade, Flitwick, Lighton Buzzard, Dunstable, Luton

ROLES
Team Leader, Support Worker and Assistant Support Worker (Volunteer) roles at each group.

Roles available vary for each group. To find out more and apply, please download an application pack from our website:

recruitment@autismbeds.org

www.autismbedfordshire.net

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Where can you volunteer?

LOAF
Family activity group for 5-12 year olds fortnightly Saturdays 4-5 hours Bedford, Biggleswade, Lighton Buzzard or Luton

WANTED FUN
Youth clubs for 10-17 year olds fortnightly, weekday evenings 2-3 hours Bedford, Biggleswade, Dunstable, Flitwick, Lighton Buzzard or Luton

SUMMER ACTIVITY SCHEMES
15 weeks in the Summer holidays Monday - Friday 4-6 hours Bedford or Luton

To apply please download an application pack from our website:

recruitment@autismbeds.org

www.autismbedfordshire.net

WE'RE HIRING

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SUPPORT WORKERS

WANTED FUN - YOUTH CLUB

Location: Bedford, Kempston, Flitwick

When: Fortnightly (day of the week varies depending on group location)

Hours: 2-3 hours per session

Hourly Rate: £9.18- £9.50 plus holiday pay

To apply please download an application pack from our website:

recruitment@autismbeds.org

www.autismbedfordshire.net



BEDFORDSHIRE
DOMESTIC ABUSE
PARTNERSHIP

IT DOESN'T HURT
TO ASK FOR HELP!

Safe Space

What is a Safe Space?

- a place for you to go if you need to access support
- a place where you can contact a domestic abuse support service who will be able to help you safely

For more information, speak to a member of staff or contact BDAP@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

@bedsdv | bedsdv.org.uk

The **Bedfordshire and Luton Children's Community Health HUB** is our one stop service for our Health Visiting, School Nursing 0-19 and our Looked after Children Teams for parents, carers and professionals. Our Luton Community Paediatric Service can also be contacted via this number, but for emails please continue to use their own dedicated email address.

To access the Health HUB call us on 0300 555 0606 or email: ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net

Shefford Lower School

Diary Dates

(further dates will be added and these will be in bold italics)

2023 Upcoming Dates

13th—17th February	Half Term
13th & 14th February	Mr Tilbury's Holiday club—booking form available on Parentmail
23rd February	Egyptian Day—rescheduled from 1st February
22nd February—29th March	Year 3—Swimming—Elm & Hawthorn
24th February—31st March	Year 3—Swimming—Cedar
2nd March	World Book Day—More information to follow
9th March	Vision Screening—Reception
15th—17 March	Year 4—Kingswood Residential Trip
22nd March	Year 1 Woburn Trip—Parentmail to follow
24th March	SEND Coffee Morning
29th March	Year 1 Cake Sale—Charity TBC
31st March	PSA Nearly New Uniform Sale
31st March	End of Term Easter Assembly
31st March	Last Day of Spring Term
3rd—5th April	Mr Tilbury's Holiday Club—Booking form to be released soon
18th April	Children Return
26th April	Class Photos
1st May	Bank Holiday
8th May	King Charles III Coronation
24th May	Year 4 Cake Sale—Charity TBC
29th May—2nd June	Half Term

Moving to become a primary as part of Central Bedfordshire's Schools For The Future project.

<https://www.schoolsforthefuture.co.uk/>

Drop off times—08.45—09.00am

Collection times—3.20pm

The school office will be open from 8.30am to 3.45pm for any queries, please call 01462 629123 or email

schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk.

To find Shefford Lower's Academic Calendar for 2022/2023 please refer to our website

[Term Dates Link](#)

Please note this will be different to the Central Bedfordshire