



Weekly Update

Friday 10th March 2023

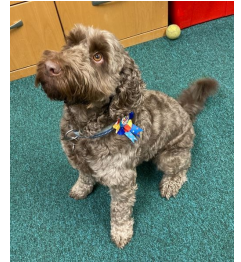


Please email schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk if you require support in accessing this newsletter in an alternative format.

Dear Families and Friends,

We end the week with the predicted bad weather, so I hope you all have warm activities planned over the weekend! The town council offices are host to the 'warm spaces' movie night after school. They are showing Paddington and giving free sweets with hot chocolate. Enjoy.

This weekend it is Roscos birthday, and he is 3 years old. He is a much loved member of our school community, as well as Mrs Hall's home, and shares his birthday with Mrs Parry, who he spends a lot of time with. Mrs Parry is our 'Children & Family Support Worker'. She works as part of our wider Vulnerable Pupils' team, alongside Mrs Freeman, Miss Robinson, Mrs Moore and Mrs Cooper. If families need any assistance, whether this is uniform related, anxiety, behaviour, bereavement, home matters, school support or communication assistance, we always point people towards Mrs Parry. She can be contacted directly via her email, or through the school office. You can also simply call or catch her out and about too. Mrs Parry, Mrs Freeman and Miss Robinson host regular coffee mornings also. These sometimes have a focus on topics, such as special educational needs, medical support, positive parenting or frankly.....anything that might be of help. More often than not, this can be as simple as a chat about your child in school. Please do look out for these events on our diary dates.



I'd like to remind people about responsible parking near the school. It is not legal for pick ups and drop offs at school times to park down School Lane, and certainly never in front of our emergency access gates which have yellow cross hatching. The residents of School Lane do show immense patience with the volumes of traffic and parking, but also need to get their own cars in and out. Traffic wardens do patrol and last week, a number of families were issued with tickets. Equally, the school operates 'Flash Park' to ensure that only blue badge holders use our disability spaces, and that the staff working with children can use the spaces provided for employees. Key leadership staff do need to come in and out of the premises during the school day, sometimes for emergencies, and sometimes outside of school hours. Please be considerate to the safe needs of our working school. Thank you.

We have had an audit of behaviour and also inclusion in school recently. You may recall that we have been working as part of a DfE 'behaviour hub' to improve *hotspots* in our school. We have talked regularly with groups of children to obtain what we call 'pupil voice' as well as adults and families. The changes in the responses from the beginning of the year, to now, have been impactful. Mostly this has been around the use of playtimes. The changes we made included new equipment and zoning, as well as providing visibility jackets to the adults on safeguarding duty. The children do appreciate the increased visibility of the adults and the support of the older playleaders. Thank you to everyone who has supported us in developing these improvement over the past 12 months. Mrs Ross has plans to further continue this work, even though we graduate from the 'behaviour hub' very successfully. The pupil voice outcomes has given us ideas for more purposeful zoning, and the funding the school will receive as part of *graduation* will be solely used to continue the focus on happy playtimes.

Our Eco-Councillors have been thinking about the best way to raise the profile of sustainability. They have been focussing on this topic in their 'eco meetings' and have decided on a weekly cup winner class. They will be looking to ensure children are making good use of the recycling, picking up their litter, using the composting, turning off their lights and closing their doors. They even made the trophy cup out of recycled materials.



Our school improvement advisor visited on Thursday. The purpose of this visit was to complete a school review called an APD. Our school is firmly GREEN in all areas. This is thanks to the wonderful dedication of the staff team and the support of our families who help us so much. Thank you everyone.

I'd also like to thank you for the positive feedback you have given staff about the strike days. This is always a difficult decision for the staff. Being divided between ensuring a future better state funded system for all, and of course the needs of the families currently in our care. Your words do mean a lot to staff when they are juggling childcare for their own children attending different schools. Thank you for your support.

Our next big focus is to consider the new funding injection for PE and the impetus for ensuring equal access. Our current sports offer is very good, but as we move towards primary, we will be expanding our staffing and activities.

Have a great weekend.

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 March will be Courage & Determination

“What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?” Vincent Van Gogh.

Courage when you least feel like trying. Not giving up. Knowing it is worth it, if not immediately, then in the long run. Courage when you are a lone voice in a crowd, when peer pressure is high.

House Points

Fire 1403

Air 1333

Water 1237

Earth 1137

House Points and Attendance

W/C 24/02/23

Well done to last week's house winners.



House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

Earth!

TRAVELLING BOOKS

COME TO THE **BOOK FAIR**

AND EARN FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL

@ Shefford Lower School 23rd—24th March

TRAVELLING BOOKS



Scan the QR code to pay for your books online
or visit travellingbooks.co.uk/pay

SHEFFORD LOWER SCHOOL

BOOK FAIR WILL BE ON THE 23-24 MARCH 2023

THIS YEAR WE ARE GOING CASHLESS – PARENTS CAN ORDER VIA QR CODE

Music News!

This week's music vote focused on rock bands. We had Foreigner and Meatloaf, the winning vote was Foreigner 'I want to know what love is'. We discussed what a composer is again and practised our vocal warm ups to properly warm our voices up. Easter is getting closer and we have the year 3s p - bone performance to school looming, as well as a collective Easter assembly where each year group perform a song. A big shout out to KS1 choir who have been doing amazingly learning their songs, the Stormzy song is sounding beautiful!



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 Peach— George Plum— Sienna Pear— Sienna

Year 1 Holly – Eleanor & Ronnie Sycamore— Jake R Chestnut— Christina

Year 2 Willow— Minh Oak— Dylan G Maple— Eleanor W

Year 3 Elm— Beau & Gabriel Cedar— Esmae Hawthorn—Poppy D

Year 4 Beech— Scarlet C Hazel—Lara R Ash—Lola



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



- ◇ **Reception** Peach— Emilia M and Isla B Pear— Freddie and Darcy Plum—Isla and Nova
- ◇ **Year 1** Chestnut— Macie & Muhammad Holly— Ronnie & Bella Sycamore Harriet & Barnaby
- ◇ **Year 2** Maple—Leon, Sienna & Chloe Oak—Lizzy D Willow Sophie & Robyn
- ◇ **Year 3** Cedar—Zoe & Louie Elm—Raith & Daisy Hawthorn—Jack S & Serafina
- ◇ **Year 4** Ash—Emily Beech—Ella R & Corben Hazel—Poppy R & Joshua

EXCUSE ME



THANK YOU

Shefford Sporting Successes

Oliver – Swimming

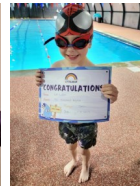
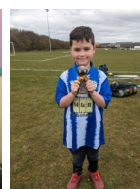
Dougie – Go-Karting

Poppy – Swimming/Hockey

Lana – Climbing

Althea – Swimming

Jude – Swimming



Thomas – Football

Howie – Football

Leo – Swimming

Cara – Gymnastics

Joe – Football

Immy – Swimming

PSA News



Sheffield Lower School PSA (Parent & Staff Association) is made up of volunteers who help raise funds to support Sheffield Lower School.



We are looking for prize donations, can you help?

Are you able or do you have connections to a local business that can donate any prizes for our **Family Games Night** on the 24 March? We are looking for child and adult donations. If you can, please drop this off to the school office.

If you would like to come along and support us, it's going to be a fun evening! More information can be found on our Facebook page.

Tickets are available via ParentMail.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 24 March - Family Games night. Tickets available via ParentMail.

April

Tea towels are back! The children will be designing class tea towels for purchase.

Sponsored run/ walk/ scoot/ ride. More info available soon!

Easter Egg colouring competition.

Do you work for a company that offers matched funding for charities?

Last year we received matched funding from Natwest Bank which was great.

If your company offer matched funding for charities, Please, get in touch and let us know how we can make extra funds for the school!

Join the PSA.....

We are always looking for new committee members and helpers to support the events.

The activities we run to raise funds for the school vary from Christmas Fayres to Sponsored Bounces to Muffin Days but we are always looking for new ideas too. If you would like to help or just find out how you can support, please get in touch!

parentkind.org.uk

is brimming with articles for parents, to help you support your child's school life and learning, and it's open to everyone!

Parentkind
Member Association

Community News

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

DYNAMOS CRICKET



For all 8-11 year-olds

Southhill Park Cricket Club

- 8 weeks of cricket sessions for 8-11 year olds
- Southhill Park Cricket Club, Southill, Bedfordshire, SG18 9UJ
- 1815 hours - 1915 hours, from Friday 12th May 2023 to Friday 30th June 2023
- £40.00 for all 8 weeks—booking fee includes personalised Dynamos Shirt



SCAN ME

It all starts with...



at Southhill Park Cricket Club

- 8 weeks of introductory cricket sessions for 5-8 year olds, all ability levels welcome
- Southhill Park Cricket Club, Southill, Bedfordshire, SG18 9UJ
- 1815 hours - 1900 hours, from Friday 12th May 2023 to Friday 30th June 2023
- £40.00 for all 8 weeks—booking fee includes Allstars kit and personalised T-Shirt

https://southhillpark.play-cricket.com/web_pages/2023_allstars_dynamos



SCAN ME

BARRACUDAS Activity Day Camps



Early and Late clubs

Giving every child such an AMAZING experience they can't wait to come back!

Visit barracudas.co.uk or call 01480 467 567

#QUOTE CODE: SCHOOL10
FOR AN EXTRA £10 OFF YOUR BOOKING*
*MINIMUM OF 2 DAYS

Make New Friends!

Boost confidence

80+ ACTIVITIES

CHOICE FOR EVERY ACTIVITY

The UK's Favourite Holiday Activity Camp!

Recommend a Friend
Low £50 for you, £10 for your friend!

Ofsted Good Provider

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Come and join Rainbows

Girls age 4-7

You can be active!

You can be creative!

Your nearest Rainbow unit is **Shefford**

Register your interest by visiting www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus or you can ring Girlguiding on 0800 149 5901

Do you want to have lots of fun?

You can make friends and have adventures!

Competitive prices available on our website

Scan me to find out more

Free income for children to be placed by Central Bedfordshire Council

25% discount on first term membership for anyone aged between 5 and 18.

Full time membership includes four sessions each Saturday. When reading part-time, sessions booked must be back-to-back.

For dates and to find out more, please look online

www.inspiringmusic.co.uk
@inspiringmusic1
@inspiringmusic1

Contact us on 0300 300 6604 or inspiringmusic@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

learn to play!

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 March – Angry Birds (1hr 37)
- 10th March – Paddington (1hr 35)
- 17th March – The BFG (1hr 57)

****Free to all, limited spaces available****

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Country Days Easter Courses 2023

We are back for our Easter Courses 2023!

When is it?

You can sign up for either:
Course 1: Wednesday 5th April
Course 2: Thursday 6th April
Activities begin at 9.30am and finish at 3.15pm

Where is it?

The Leys Nature Reserve,
Pavenham road, Felmersham,
Bedfordshire MK43 7EX

Who can attend?

Primary school children in years 3-6 who live in Bedfordshire.

How much does it cost?

Places are £10 or "free" for those who are on Free School Meals or Pupil Premium.

How can you book?

Download the booking form on our website:
www.countrydays.net
Or contact the office
info@countrydays.net for more information

Country Days is an educational charity providing outdoor learning in a beautiful 6-acre nature reserve for young people aged 7-11 in Bedfordshire.

Registered Charity Number: 1181833

Pond dipping

Science

Bushcraft

Problem solving

Bug hunting

Sport

Geography

Field studies

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 none of the school’s business if I let my child play games with a 12 certificate.”

Buster - The school has an obligation to ensure children are not exposed to material rated beyond their age, and log all concerns on *CPOMS. Rated material may be targeted at stress and tension levels that are developmentally inappropriate, may expose children to images or themes that are harmful and disturbing, or can be accompanied by targeted advertising for older age groups. Older users may contact your child with the intention of harming them.

*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

Central
Bedfordshire

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/500041336097>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/518753484637>

**Please click on
the links to open!**

Central
Bedfordshire

Parent Insight

Opportunity to ask questions, gain information, advice, and guidance on PDA



Guest Speaker
Volunteers from PDA society

Professional session Monday 24th April 2023
16.30-17.30pm

Free to attend via Microsoft Teams
Register for your place via the Eventbrite link below

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/500041336097>

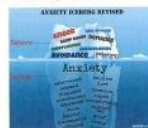
Resources will be sent out after each session

Organised by the CBC Early Help Teams:
For more information, please contact:
North Early Help - northeearlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
South Early Help - southearlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Central
Bedfordshire

Parenting Insight

Managing anxiety and strong emotions



Guidance on how to support young people with anxiety and strong emotions

Opportunity to ask questions, gain information, advice, and guidance from Early Help Emotional Health and Wellbeing Practitioners

Tuesday 21st March 2023
4.30-5.30pm

Free to attend via Microsoft Teams
Register for your place via the Eventbrite link below

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/518753484637>

Resources will be sent out after each session

Organised by the CBC Early Help Teams:
For more information, please contact:
North Early Help - northeearlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
South Early Help - southearlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

SUMMER ACTIVITY SCHEMES 2023

AGES 3 - 17 YEARS

£25 PER DAY

09:30AM TILL 3PM

26TH JULY TO 28TH JULY

31ST JULY TO 4TH AUG

7TH JULY TO 11TH AUG

Summer Activity Schemes are respite services that are based in Bedford and Luton. They provide a wide range of onsite activities and community-based experiences for autistic young people who live in Bedfordshire.

See our website with details on how to apply!
autismbedfordshire.net

Autism Bedfordshire



Bedfordshire
Community
Health Services

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](https://www.bedsdv.org.uk)
[bedsdv.org.uk](https://www.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

9th March	Vision Screening—Reception
15th—17 March	Year 4—Kingswood Residential Trip
22nd March	Year 1 Woburn Trip—Parentmail to follow
23rd March—24th March	Book Fair at Shefford Lower School
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