

## Weekly Update



## Friday 16th September 2022

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

Dear Families and Friends,

It's been a rather strange week. With a national period of mourning on what is only our 2nd week back, and for some children their first time in a school, we have been very conscious of the mood in the community. If your experience is difficult, or has perhaps shone a light on other things you have going on, we may be able to help and I urge you to please make contact.

Our children took some memories to the book of condolences this week. The children made us extremely proud with their superb walking through the town, their excellent behaviour in the town hall and their listening as the mayor read the proclamation to them. We were informed that there is a service on Friday at 6:30pm at the neighbouring church, so I look forward to seeing our families if you too attend.

It is our hustings week here in school, and our year 4 children have been reading their final manifestos to their house groups from year 1-4. The ballot is open and each child is casting their vote for their house leadership team. We have learned about 'fundamental British values' which is part of the national curriculum, and democracy is a crucial component. Our children learn through doing, and by

having their say, we also motivate our children. Voting takes place in our school for reading books, for assembly music and for art too! Our captains will be officially inaugurated on Tuesday, after the bank holiday closures. Until then, the poll is secret....Good luck year 4.

Each class has been revisiting the school motto and ethos. Our lion learning motto '*BELIEVE*~ACHIEVE~SUCCEED' helps our children to develop the '*growth mindset'*\* to know that their learning isn't fixed. The brain, like a muscle, responds to repeated efforts, and we need to believe we can do it! Our ethos is bound up in our values education, and ethical leadership frameworks. These can be found on our website. It is why we have <u>FLOURISH</u>\* as our ethos, and our children have been learning what this means. We try not to throw lots of rules at the children, and they only have three to remember—BE SAFE, BE KIND, BE HELPFUL. Our children know these rules, and we use them alongside our values to help guide our children and enable them to flourish.

F-riendly L-earning O-pen U-nderstanding R-elational I-ndependent Safe Happy

Tidy Ted has been very impressed. He has been visiting quite a few classes. The children love to see him. He looks for tidy cloakrooms, trolleys, reading areas, and he asks the cleaners which room is tidied at the ends of the day. Classes that have a visit from Tidy Ted all get an extra house point each. House points are awarded for anything the children do well that we hope they would repeat. This is reading at home, good conduct in our corridors, hard efforts, friendly play. All of our children can achieve house points. When children do very well, they often receive a merit, which is two points and a values stamp is added to their leaf. Teachers also send children for a head teacher award, and when children are sent for those, their teacher awards five house points. All children are good at something, and their efforts are rewarded. For children who are shining examples in our school, and exemplary role models, the status of Lion Learner is possible.

I politely remind everyone that the school site is a <u>nut free</u>\*, smoking free, and dog free zone - <u>Rosco</u>\* has a evaluative risk assessment. We also do not ride bikes nor scooters on the school paths, so please dismount as you approach the site. Finally, we are not insured for use of the playground equipment that isn't supervised by staff or used by differently aged children, so please refrain from permitting children to use it when you arrive or collect from the site. Thank you.

We are riding high on the excellent results the school has seen, despite the challenges of the pandemic and several closures. We know that this is because you share our dedication to the learning your child experiences. Please do reach out to us with your ideas, suggestions and solutions. By working in partnership, we can always improve on previous best. Our focus on reading is at the heart of our curriculum and will continue to be so. We do relish it when volunteers join us, and help us to hear children read in school. We will soon be delivering the safeguarding training for volunteers, so please do let the office know if this could be you. We welcome help that can be given regularly, however small.

On that note, if you have bought books or resources for a topic that your child has grown out of, please do consider us before you throw them out or give them away if they are in good condition. The same is true for previously used uniform, as our PSA collect this for a 'pre-used' rail. Cherry class are always junk modelling, so we ask for this too. Sometimes we are approached about our Amazon book list, and this link is always available if you wish to use it.

Have a great weekend, and enjoy the scarecrow festival

From Mrs Finch

### <u>Values</u>

### The values of September will be Unity & Belonging

*"I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things." Mother Teresa* Starting our new classes with a sense of togetherness and belonging. Belonging and working together in our school, as a new class, in our house groups. Developing our community by including everyone so everyone feels a sense of belonging.









### **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





Playground Toys

We would love to fill our playground trolleys with toy cars, large clean paintbrushes, figures, pans and wooden utensils.

Many thanks

K'Nex plea!

If anyone has any K'Nex toys collecting dust at home that are no longer being used... Please consider donating them to our DT resources!



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.			
<u>Reception</u>	Peach— Ollie, Pear—Albie & Ollie		
<u>Year 1</u>	Chestnut—Alfie & Georgia, Holly—George & Imogen, Sycamore—Emelia & Tyler		
Year 2	Maple—Harry & Remi, Oak—Alice, Elinor & Amelie, Willow—Lumen & Robyn		
<u>Year 3</u>	Hawthorn—Adam & Georgia, Cedar—Ben & Esme,	NEWS	
<u>Year 4</u>	Beech—Ted & George, Ash—Noah, Hazel—Ronnie	City .	
		- <b>-</b>	
Finer	Congratulations to the children below who have been recognised as a Finer Diner this week for displaying good manners and values at lunchtime	THIS SCHOOL IS A NUT FREE ZONE!	
Reception	Evie, Alfie, Sierra, Logan, Buddy & Freddie		
<u>Year 1</u>	Max, Masie, Samantha, Reagan, Belle, Finn, Millie, Bonnie & Toby		
<u>Year 2</u>	Eleanor, Harry, Remy, Logan, Blake, Layla, Lumen & Charlie		
<u>Year 3</u>	Ammelia, Bradley, Ava, Chloe, Oscar, Jamina & Isla		
<u>Year 4</u>	Leeia, Mylah, Shiron, Lewie & Kayleigh		
EXCUSE ME		THANK YOU	

### **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 celebrated in assembly.

Well done to all the children who have already brought in their sporting achievements this term. Last year we had over 100 achievements each term so please keep this up!

Here is a section from our uniform policy, please find the full policy by following this link **UNIFORM POLICY**.

Tidy Ted has been very impressed with the tidiness of the clock rooms, which has been helped with the draw-string bags you have provided for the children's P.E kit. Thank you

If you need to order uniform, please follow this link to Price & Buckland

### Uniform

Parents are asked to send their children to school clean, tidy and appropriately dressed. The school uniform comprises of:

**Boys:** Grey trousers or shorts, white polo-shirt and red jumper or sweatshirt. Black school shoes (not trainers); plain black, white or grey socks.

**Girls:** Grey skirt/pinafore dress or trousers, white polo-shirt, red jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan. Girls may wear plain black shorts under a skirt or dress. Black school shoes (not trainers); plain black, white or grey socks or tights.

Red and white checked dresses may be worn in the summer months.

#### PE: Boys and girls wear black shorts and house t-shirts for PE with black plimsolls. Jogging bottoms, sweatshirts and trainers will be needed for outdoor activities.

Year 4 girls and boys need black football socks and shin pads for PE.

#### House colours:

Your child will be allocated a house group by the school office upon admission. Each house is designated a colour, which your child will wear for PE and sporting events.

#### Earth House - Green Air House - White Fire House - Red Water House - Blue

Black, white or coloured trainers are only allowed for outdoor PE and are not acceptable for daily school wear.

PE kit must be kept in a <u>named draw-string bag and in school at all times</u>. Other bags are not allowed due to limited cloakroom space.

Ruck sacks in particular do not allow coats to be pegged over the top, and these then fall off and become a safety hazard.

Sweatshirts, cardigans, book bags, PE bags and summer hats displaying the school logo are available to purchase online. Some stock, including recycled uniform is available from the school office.



## **Community News**

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







South early Help\_Southearlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Early Help Group Information Sessions

These sessions are for professionals working with families in Central Bedfordshire. Want to know more about group support available to families? Unsure which parenting programme to refer to? Want to find out more about support for youne carers?

Our information sessions will give you the chance to find out more about specific groups available to families, understand referral criteria and ask us

specific groups available to families, understand referral criteria and ask us any questions. Each information session will run for 1 hour, over Microsoft Teams and wil

Each information session will run for 1 hour, over Microsoft Teams and will include an overview of the groups as well as a question-and-answer session. Please book yourself a place on the session using the Eventbrite links below.



https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/380340126557

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 1.30pm-2.30pm

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/379044340827





<u>Ivel Valley Parent Bulletin</u> Ivel Valley Local Bulletin

## **Shefford Lower School**

## **Diary Dates**

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

# **2022 Upcoming Dates**

21st September	Year 4—St Albans Trip—please see parentmail for more information		
23rd September	Jeans for Genes day		
30th September	PSA Sponsored Bounce		
3rd October	Healthy Me Day		
3rd October	Year 1 Hearing Screening		
5th October	Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip—please see parentmail for more information		
7th October	Coffee Morning		
12th October	Year 2 Cake Sale—donations are welcome on the day—charity TBC		
18th October	Parent consultation evening—3.30pm—6.00pm		
19th October	Individual Pupil Photos		
20th October	Parent consultation evening—4.00pm—7.00pm		
21st October	Flu Immunisations		
21st October	PSA Nearly new uniform sale		
24th—28th October	Half Term		
31st October	Inset Day		
1st November	Children back in school		
4th November	Diwali Day		
9th November	Year 1—Chestnut & Holly—Shuttleworth Trip—please see parentmail for more information		
10th November	Year 1—Sycamore—Shutteworth Trip—please see parentmail for more information		

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

https://www.schoolsforthefuture.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 term dates

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.