



## Weekly Update

Friday 20th January 2023



Please email [schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk) if you require support in accessing this newsletter in an alternative format.

Dear Families & Friends,

It's already moving fast through January and we are well into our Spring units of work. We have been sharing different subject areas over our social media, but these are always available for you to view on our website

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

This term we have further invested in 'Numbots' for our younger children. We know how much many of our children love accessing the TT Rockstars, so this is to support the earlier skills through gamification. A letter is being sent home for you to support with accessing this.

Our main focus for home learning is always the reading. Reading aloud daily has such a positive effect on neural development and helps children in every other curriculum area, as they increase their vocabulary and narrative skills, in a way spoken language simply doesn't reach. We reward children each and every day for their daily read and this goes towards the weekly house point total in our celebration assembly. We do like to work in partnership with families and are only too happy to share ways to make reading fun and enjoyable.

Teacher strikes have been in the news this week. The NEU ballot has come out in favour of striking, and for our area these are planning for 1st February and 2nd March. Shefford Lower School will endeavour to remain open and able to offer educational provision for our children. We are asking teachers to be open with us about their intention to strike, although this is not something they have to disclose. We have therefore considered that we may need additional planning in place should other adults need to lead a classroom on those days. School leadership meetings with external providers, and families will be cleared, so that all available staff are ready to ensure we can make the best possible provision for our children.

Our curriculum has been scrutinised in recent weeks by our SIA (School Improvement Advisor). This week he spent a day in school looking specifically at writing. A strength of the school is the excellent vocabulary and narrative skills our children present with. If you have been with us a while, you will know that the connectivity and richness of our wider curriculum has always been our aim, and it is wonderful to see how much this is coming through in the work demonstrated by the children.

We use every opportunity to enrich our curriculum, and this week our PSA met and have agreed to look at funding another WOW day in school. Our children really enjoyed last year's events with the Bird of Prey centre and Safari St. This led to lots of concepts and knowledge being learned, lots of fun and the writing that followed was fantastic.

Year two have their trip to St Albans, with the materials trail, to enjoy next week. This unit of work, learning about the *properties* of materials is linked to so many aspects of later learning, for example, electricity in year 4.

Our library Llama has had babies. We learned that these are called CRIAS. Children using our library well can earn a cria to visit their classroom. Mrs Dale-Molloy has been fantastic about finding ways to make reading more fun and sharing books in the library is certainly a big factor.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Finch

## Values

The values of January will be Excellence & Quality

*"The sky has no limits." Usain Bolt*

Not accepting less than our best, but striving for excellence. Practising to develop quality. Rehearsing and trying so that we achieve what we believe is possible. Understanding what is excellent to one person might be different to another.

### House Points

**Fire—1203**

**Air—1060**

**Earth—924**

**Water—902**

### House Points and Attendance

W/E 13/01/23

Well done to last week's house winners.



### House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

**Fire**

## **Music News**

20/01/23

This week's music assembly focused on the value of excellence, which is one of our value focuses for January, and classes voted for the song 'Excellence' written by Martin Weston. The song includes lyrics about being the best you can be, keeping a positive mindset, and always being kind. There have been additional spaces for music clubs given out, please let the office know as soon as possible if your child can attend.

Kind regards Miss Mansell



## **Shefford Lower School Holiday Club**

*For children who attend Shefford Lower in Years 1–5*



### **February Half Term**

**Monday 13th February 9.00am—3.30pm**

**Tuesday 14th February 9.00am—3.30pm**

*Numbers are limited to 30 children per day on a first come first served basis.*

£18.00 per day

£12.00 per sibling

## **BOOK NOW !**

Booking forms are available on Parent Mail or paper copies can be collected from the School Office.

### Daily Absences

Please be reminded that all absences should be communicated with the school office before 9am. This can be reported by using the Absence tab on the Parentmail app.

If your child has an appointment or another reason for leave please let the school know in advance as soon as possible.

### 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.

<b>Reception</b>	<b>Plum—Isla</b>	<b>Peach—Molly</b>	<b>Pear—Quinn</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Holly—Libby</b>	<b>Sycamore—Yaniehve</b>	<b>Chestnut—Max</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Oak—Esmae</b>	<b>Maple—Louie</b>	<b>Willow—Robyn</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Hawthorn—Olivia</b>	<b>Cedar—Charlie</b>	<b>Elm—Bobby &amp; Emily</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Hazel—Poppy</b>	<b>Beech—Scarlet</b>	<b>Ash—Leeia-Mai</b>



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



<b><u>Reception</u></b>	<b>Albie, Kendall, Charlie, Sophia &amp; Noah</b>
<b><u>Year 1</u></b>	<b>Muhammed, Cristina, Arthur, Reagan, Harriet &amp; Edward</b>
<b><u>Year 2</u></b>	<b>Ezmee, Hattie, Connie, Jessica &amp; Arla</b>
<b><u>Year 3</u></b>	<b>Charlie, Indiana, Raith, Orla, Olivia &amp; Felicity</b>
<b><u>Year 4</u></b>	<b>Arthur, Cassian, Imogen &amp; Archie</b>



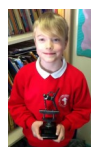
THANK YOU

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.

<b>Water House</b>	Oliver—Gymnastics, Chloe—Swimming, Eden—Football
<b>Earth House</b>	Bethan—Swimming, Arthur—Swimming, Edith—Swimming
<b>Air House</b>	Ethan—Football, Anuradha—Swimming, Libby—Swimming, Kayleigh—Swimming
<b>Fire House</b>	Thomas—Swimming





## Community News

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



present their traditional family pantomime

The New Adventures of  
**ROBINSON CRUSOE**  
By Norman Robbins

Fri 27<sup>th</sup>, Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan, Fri 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7.30pm  
and Sat 28<sup>th</sup>, Sun 29<sup>th</sup>, Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Feb at 2.30pm

**Meppershall Village Hall SG17 5AB**

Tickets £8 child, £13 adult, £36 family (2+2)

Book on-line at:  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/hats-drama](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hats-drama)  
or phone 0333 666 3366

@ HATSDramaMeppershall [booking fees apply]



**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 13<sup>TH</sup> - THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 10.00-15.00  
ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY, SG17 5BU  
1, 2, 3 AND 4 DAY TICKETS AVAILABLE

\*\*\* 30% OFF IF YOUR CHILD BRINGS A NEW FRIEND \*\*\*  
\*\*\* ONLY 75 SPACES AVAILABLE \*\*\*  
**BOOK ONLINE NOW!**



**FEBRUARY 2023 HALF TERM ACTIVITIES**

**Monday 13th - John Bunyan Soft Play**  
Venue: John Bunyan Sports & Fitness, Mile Road, Bedford, MK42 9TS  
Time: 13.30 - 15.00  
Cost: FREE for all Bedfordshire & MK families  
Children must be supervised by parent/carer at all times.



**Tuesday 14th - Exclusive Swim Session**  
Venue: Leo Manor, Northwell Drive, Luton, LU3 3TL  
Time: 12.45 - 13.45 or 14.00 - 15.00  
Cost: FREE for all Bedfordshire & MK families  
Please arrive 15 minutes before your session. Parents/Carers must be in the pool with their children.

**Wednesday 15th - Salto Gym Play Session**  
Venue: Salto Gymnastics Centre, 98 Camford Way, Luton, LU3 3AN  
Time: 12.30 - 14.00  
Cost: FREE for all Bedfordshire & MK families  
Children must be supervised 1-1 at all times, for families with 2+ children, additional adults must attend



**Friday 17th - MK Springers Gymnastics Centre**  
Venue: 16 Carters Lane, Kiln Farm, Milton Keynes, MK11 3ES  
Time: 12.15 - 13.45  
Cost: FREE for all Bedfordshire & MK families  
Children must be supervised by parent/carer at all times.



For all activities, parents will be fully responsible for their children at all times  
Limited spaces book now on 01234 214871  
email: [enquiries@autismbeds.org](mailto:enquiries@autismbeds.org)



**February Half-term Holiday Camps**

On our camps, our fully qualified coaches ensure every child is safe while they move, play and make new friends. Make their half-term fun, physical and one to remember!

**BOOK NOW AT:**  
[premier-education.com/holiday-camps](http://premier-education.com/holiday-camps)

Follow us on social:  
@PremEducationUK



Trustpilot 4.8/5  
Based on over 10,000 reviews

## 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 watch films with a 15 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.

\*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 infor-**



ARE YOU A PARENT/CARER/FAMILY MEMBER OF A CHILD WHO HAS ADDITIONAL NEEDS?

Do you ever feel:

- > Isolated
- > Exhausted
- > Overwhelmed
- > Frustrated
- > Judged
- > Angry
- > Depressed
- > Misunderstood?





You are not the only one. Come along to...

## CONNECT

- > A support group in Stotfold open to parents, carers and family members of children who have additional needs
- > The group has been set up by two mums to offer encouragement and support, and information about organisations to help you & your child
- > There is no agenda - just time and space to rest, recharge, chat, share stories and refreshments!

WHEN?	1 <sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (DURING TERM TIME)
WHAT TIME?	9.00 - 10.30 A.M.
WHERE?	KINGS BAPTIST CHURCH, STOTFOLD
HOW MUCH?	£1 (inc. tea/coffee/biscuits/cake)

Come along & 'Connect'! You will receive a warm welcome.

Find us on Facebook!  'Connect' Support Group Central Bedfordshire & UK 



**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

IT DOESN'T HURT TO ASK FOR HELP!

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

 @bedsv  bedsv.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](mailto:ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net)



# Shefford Lower School

## Diary Dates

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

### 2023 Upcoming Dates

25th January 2023	Year 2 Trip—Material Trail—St Albans—Parentmail to follow
1st February	Year 3—Egyptian Day—Visit from Howard Carter—Parentmail to follow
3rd February	EYFS Cake Sale—Charity TBC
3rd February	Coffee Morning—Invites to be sent
7th February	Teacher Consultation Evening—3.30pm—6.30pm
9th February	Teacher Consultation Evening—4.00pm—7.00pm
10th February	Bikeability—Year 4s
13th—17th February	Half Term
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

**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](mailto: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