



# Weekly Update

## Friday 27th 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 and Friends,

School will remain open on February 1st. Whilst teachers do not have to tell me of their intent to strike, most have shared with me that they will not be striking. In the event of some staff doing so, we have sufficient staff in school to ensure classes remain open for learning.

We are soon to release parent consultation appointments. These, mid year, help us to support you with your child's progress and what their focus will be in the remainder of the school year. Please do make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher, see their books. We use this opportunity to show your child that all the adults are focussed on their learning journey and needs, giving a consistent message about the importance of their efforts.

We will also update you about your child's attendance. This is a focus area for school, as it is one of the biggest factors of school success. Good attendance in the early years has been shown to have a positive impact on outcomes at GCSE level, and also to develop good learning habits. It also enables children to foster friendships and navigate their social world. This is also a focus since missing much time during lockdowns.

We are very proud of our children, and of our school. Recently, when working with outside professionals, we have been looking at the wider offer of learning available at Shefford. With our unique museum and gallery linked to the curriculum, and our immersive room, the children enjoy and remember these experiences. They love our programme for forest school and outdoor learning, earning their badges for skills in each progressive unit. We are also a gold award school for sports, and know that our daily challenges and inter house activities support children to develop a healthy mindset. Our music curriculum is continuing to expand and we have created opportunities across the arts, looking forward again to the Take One Picture week that we love doing. For our academic subjects, we have demonstrated OUSTANDING results with our standardised results. This does not mean we rest on our laurels. We have invited other professionals in to work with us, and 'moderate' with us so that we can continue to drive improvements. Look forward to more new books and the lovely new resources we have bought from Monster Phonics to enhance our sessions.

Our twinning school in Sri Lanka has offered lots of opportunities for the children to compare their education, understand non-anglophile cultures more closely and share areas of interest as well as language. We are delighted by the range of learning we see. I get to see all of this first hand as I walk the school several times each day. I also have the pleasure when children are sent to me to receive a Head Teacher's award. They come for all sorts of things, such as improved effort, participation in PE, singing, sewing, writing.....These three came to see me today!



I always say this, and mean it. None of this would be possible with out the support of our community and especially our families. Reading daily 1-1 is crucial for children, as is revisiting learning with learning logs. The lovely activities our parent helpers provide through the PSA bring our learning and resources alive too.

On a different note, I would like to remind parents that dogs, including little ones, are not allowed on the school site. Scooters should be dismantled either in School Lane before entering or on Bloomfield Drive. Please do not leave scooters unlocked near school. All such items are left at your own risk.



We also have a reminder about parking, and ensuring you leave disabled bays free for blue badge users. Thank you in advance for your support.

Have a great weekend.

From Mrs Finch



**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.

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 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

**Air—1130**

**Fire—1067**

**Earth—1053**

**Water—1003**

### House Points and Attendance

W/E 20/01/23

Well done to last week's house winners.



### House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

**Earth**

### Year 2 Trip to St Albans

Year 2 had a great time on their trip to St Albans Cathedral on Wednesday where they investigated different materials and their properties. They toured the different areas of the Cathedral learning lots of new knowledge whilst applying ideas of their own. They even got to make their own stained-glass window too. A great day of Science, R.E, Art and History all rolled into one. The Year2's really showed their values and were true role models for our school.

"We loved making the stained-glass"



"The cathedral was made of so many different materials."



"Some of the bricks were over 900 years old and made of animal hair."

"I loved walking around and looking at all the different parts."

"We explored the cathedral finding out more about different materials and their properties."



## **Music News**

27/01/23

During music assembly this week we looked at world music from around the globe. This included the Bulgarian television female choir, singing an acapella rendition of folk songs and a Sahara region band called Tinariwen. The band Tinariwen took the majority vote with their song Sastanàqqàm, with a beautiful music video set in the Sahara Desert. We learnt a new song called 'Don't you think we're lucky' to add to our repertoire.

Kind regards Miss Mansell

## 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	Plum—Jacob	Pear—Buddy	Peach—Lucy
Year 1	Sycamore—Kovah	Chestnut—Charlotte	Holly—Olivia
Year 2	Willow—Zainab	Maple—Hattie	Oak—Arthur
Year 3	Cedar—Keira	Elm—Jennifer, Joshua & Daisy	Hawthorn—Lyra
Year 4	Beech—Lewie	Hazel—Sherri-Jo	Ash—Max & Ollie



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>	Oliver, Harry, Ollie, Buddy, Evie & Gillian
<u>Year 1</u>	Elsie, Ruby, Marley, Immy, Eddie & Allis
<u>Year 2</u>	Caitlyn, Howie, Jannet, Mai, Jake, Abigail & Furqan
<u>Year 3</u>	Charlie, Indi, Jesse, Amelia, Adam & Alyssa
<u>Year 4</u>	Amber, Izzy, Lillie, Denis & Charlie



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>	Miles—Football	Blake—Football
<b>Fire House</b>	Calella—Swimming	
<b>Air House</b>	Howie—Swimming	Joe—Football



# 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 CALLISON  
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, 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!



**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 up to me if I let my child wear a t-shirt with Fortnite on it for Forest School."

**Buster:** The school has an obligation to prevent influences that may be harmful to children. At Shefford Lower School, we would record this on \*CPOMS because the game 'Fortnite' is rated as a 12 certificate, and children should not have access to it.

\*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

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

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

# Sheffield Lower School

## Diary Dates

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

### 2023 Upcoming Dates

1st February	Year 3—Egyptian Day—Visit from Howard Carter—Parentmail to follow
3rd February	EYFS Cake Sale—Place2B, supporting children's mental health
3rd February	Coffee Morning—Invites to be sent
6th—11th February	Children's mental health week
7th February	Teacher Consultation Evening—3.30pm—6.30pm
9th February	Teacher Consultation Evening—4.00pm—7.00pm
10th February	Bikeability—Year 4s
10th February	Fire Engine visit—Y2
13th—17th February	Half Term
13th & 14th February	Mr Tilbury's Holiday club—booking form available on Parentmail
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@sheffield.cbeds.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@sheffield.cbeds.co.uk)**

To find Sheffield 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