



Weekly Update

Friday 4th November 2022



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

Dear Families and Friends,

A 4 day week for the children, but a very potent 4 was had in school! We began before, with training in all areas of additional need for our staff, sharing expertise and research, as well as some external training from the virtual school about emotion coaching. This is all part of our assurance that children are in safe hands at Sheffield Lower, with staff who know their needs physically, cognitively and of course mentally. This is especially important to keep this ongoing focus post-pandemic.

The first day back saw Miss Hass lead a trip to the Fitzwilliam in Cambridge. You may already know that we have forged a partnership with the museum group, in order to develop our own museum and art gallery in a purposeful way. The main purpose is that all children are exposed to the cultural capital they need in life, but also to link their knowledge to our wider curriculum and expand their knowledge of careers and skills they may not ordinarily have heard of or aspire to. The Fitzwilliam are working with us to create a 'Curator Award' so that when children leave us, they can have achieved this. Therefore, the children with expressed interests in History in year 4, with some from year 3, visited to meet an actual curator, and also a conservator. Their awe and wonder at the building itself was worth the visit, and we have learned so much to bring back to our own museum and involve the children, and we have a book based project about early reading to do with the museum now too. We took a walk in the afternoon to the Sedgewick and learned about Darwin. Whilst there, we were shown and handled fossils of an iguanodon found in Potton and surrounding areas near to where we live. The children were fascinated. They learned that the collections of rocks and shells hold information for the future of climate change too. We have so much to share with our eco councillors.



The school had a local authority monitoring visit this week. A deep dive into some of our curriculum areas helped us to sharpen our laser focus on developing the improvements we have identified. So many good things were said, and directly about the areas we have worked so hard on. I'm always proud to show off our wonderful school, and the children did us proud too. They have become so articulate about their learning. We know that you asking children to discuss and explain things at home helps them to secure their information and help them to be ready for their next step. Thank you for your continued efforts and interest. We are always on a journey to continuously improve. This is the way we ensure we get the provision right for your family. We invite you to talk to us and send in your suggestions always, and I am outside as frequently as possible, as are many of our staff. Please do stop and chat, if only to give Tidy Ted a high five.

I remind everyone politely of a few bits and bobs—please name your child's hats, gloves, scarves and coats. Name EVERYTHING please, and if you have already named it....it's worth a quick look to see if it's still visible after a few washes. Please do NOT send your child with a rucksack. Our uniform states a draw string bag for PE so that it stores safely on the peg, and a flat book bag so that it stores in the trays children have. Thank you.

Children must not bring in items containing nuts, and I have been asked to remind families that this includes Nutella type products.

I have also been made aware that adults riding scooters are posing safety issues on the way to and from the school site. We do report this in, so please do be mindful to ensure the safety of all of our school users. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

This weekend, we will be enjoying the delights of fireworks in many areas. We hope you have lots of safe and courteous fun, and look forward to hearing how the children describe them when we see them again on Monday.

Have a lovely weekend. 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 November will be Tolerance & Friendship

"A day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside it." Winnie the Pooh by A.A Milne.

Tolerance is understanding, rather than 'putting up with'. Exploring building supportive and trusting networks and knowing who to talk to. This will also be explored in Anti-bullying month.

House Points

Fire—1347

Water—1115

Air—1065

Earth—1030

House Points and Attendance

W/E 21/10/22

Well done to last week's house winners.



House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

AIR

We are thrilled about the rise in attendance this term.

Our school target is 98%.

We are currently at 97%.

1 more percentage point to go.

Thank you for your help with this.

365 days in each year

Days off school add up to lost learning						
365 days in each year	175 Non-school Days a year	➔		175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments.		
		10 days absence	19 days absence	29 days absence Half a term missed		
	190 school days in each year	180 days of education	171 days of education	161 days of education	28 days absence 152 days of education	47 days absence 143 days of education
	100%	96+%	90%	85%	80%	75%
	BEST chance of success.	Good opportunity for success	Weak Less chance of success	Concern Impacts educational progress		
	Gets your child off to a flying start		Makes it harder to make progress	Reported to and monitored by local authority		
	Research shows early good attendance makes a difference at GCSE		Your child will need some catch up.	May incur penalty notice May reach court proceedings		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve• Every school day counts					
If you are worried about your child's attendance, please talk to us at school out it.						

Diwali

The Children in Cherry, Peach, Pear and Plum had a super time learning all about how people celebrate Diwali around the world. As well as learning about the story of Rama and Sita, Rangoli Patterns and other Diwali festival traditions, the children also enjoyed learning some very special Indian dance moves during their Diwali dance workshop with Leigh from Dance Days!



Great Toy Giveaway Good Quality

Toys, Books and Games can be donated to the school office between:

Wednesday 9th November-
Wednesday 16th November.



These will then be available to all parents/carers on:

Friday 18th November in the Learning Hub between 9.00-10.00

Give Santa a helping hand and get those stockings filled early.

(cash donations can be made, but not necessary.)



Photo proofs should all now have been received, which will be put in their book bags.

Orders can **only** be made **online** at

www.dsp-academy.gotphoto.co.uk

using the Proof ID found on the card.

If you would like **free** delivery to the school please place your orders by **14th November 2021**. Orders after this day will be delivered directly incurring a postage charge.

SHOULD ANYONE LOSE THEIR PROOF CARD
PLEASE EMAIL DSP
ON dsp.enquiries@gmail.com



Children will be painting poppy pebbles throughout the week at lunchtimes with Mrs Dale-Molloy. If they would like to take part in this activity please bring a pebble into school (6cm minimum).

These will be taken home for children to take down to place at the War Memorial on Remembrance Day. The service will be on 13th November.

We would love to see you there.

Music News

04/11/22

As we move into November, this month's music assemblies will explore rhythm. This week pupils discussed what rhythm actually means and had a go at different call and response exercises. The winning music vote was Little Mix – Always be together, by a landslide. We are fast approaching Christmas with lots happening, the school choir will be performing Christmas carols in Shefford town on the 26th of November at 3.30pm, all are welcome! James (the piano teacher) has been in contact with children who were on the waiting list, and you should have received a start date for a few weeks' time 😊

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—Ava	Peach—Emilia	Plum—Blake
Year 1	Holly—Ronnie & Samantha	Chestnut—Lowri	Sycamore—Francesca
Year 2	Oak—Althea	Maple—Lori	Willow—Teddy
Year 3	Hawthorn—Eva	Elm—Eliza	Cedar—Thea
Year 4	Hazel—Sherri-Jo	Beech—Oscar	Ash—Evie



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>	Aurora, Logan, Dylan, Buddy, Sienna & Isla
<u>Year 1</u>	Georgia, Rory, Rose, Essie & Eddie
<u>Year 2</u>	Ezmee, Chloe, Ellie, Annalise & Ava
<u>Year 3</u>	Bradley, Ava, Sophie, William, Lyra & Edward
<u>Year 4</u>	Arthur, Charlie, Kaitlyn, Imogen, Sonny, Sen & Ronnie



EXCUSE ME

THANK YOU

Community News

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

Shefford and Stotfold Children's Centre

**What's On in the Week of
Monday 7th November 2022 - 11th November 2022**

Monday

Breakfast Club 8.15-9.15am All Ages Welcome @ Shefford Children's Centre School Lane, SG17 5XA

Tuesday

Build Explore & Play 10-11am All Ages Welcome @ Arlesey Youth Centre, High Street. SG15 6SN

Baby Group 1.30-3pm 0-12 Months @ Arlesey Youth Centre, High Street, Arlesey. SG15 6SN

Wednesday

Breakfast Club 8.15-9.15am All Ages Welcome @ Shefford Children's Centre

Thursday

Childminder's Session 9.30-10.30am @ Shefford Children's Centre

Baby Sign All Ages Welcome 10.30-11.00am @ Stotfold Library

Friday

Breakfast Club 8.15-9.15am All Ages Welcome @ Shefford Children's Centre

Drop-In 9-11am All Ages Welcome @ Shefford Children's Centre

Brasserie 11-12noon (Feeding Support and Social) All Ages Welcome @ Shefford Children's Centre

*All our sessions are Free of Charge, and
we welcome families and friends to come along and join us*



FOOTBALL FOR S.E.N.D.

SHEFFORD SAINTS FC

*the Club with charity status that provides
progression from kids to young adults*

We provide football participation for players who, due to physical and/or learning challenges, find it difficult to be part of a league-playing squad. The focus is on fun and participation for all; there is no gender restriction.

Our experience since 2014 shows that the players not only improve their football, but also their self-confidence, their physical condition, their social skills, and their communication.

Tiger Cubs involves children aged 6ish to 12ish years.

Tigers is tailored for youths from 12ish years up to 18 years.

Our new **Jumpers For Goalposts** group enables young adults to continue playing.

Tiger Cubs and **Tigers** are on Sunday mornings in Shefford, featuring game-based practices and a match. **Jumpers for Goalposts** is a match session on Monday evenings in Henlow.

To obtain further information, contact

ROBIN BEAUMONT

on 07772 048635 or robin.rlb@outlook.com

**LTA YOUTH START OFFER**

ACE is excited to offer a fantastic starter offer for children ages 4-8 years old.
In association with

uPlay Tennis


Saturday - 10:00 - 11:00am
Langford Tennis Club
Fully accredited LTA Coach - First Aid - DBS Checked
Sat, 05 Nov - Sat, 10 Dec 2022
6 weeks - £34.99

To book use the QR CODE below



When you book your course, we will send you an LTA Youth Starter kit.





**Sleeping Beauty**


6TH - 9TH DECEMBER 2022
SAMUEL WHITBREAD ACADEMY
MAIN HALL 7PM

£7 ADULTS • £5 CONCESSION

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
2 Adults and 2 Concessions for £20 until Friday 18th November



Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/swaconcert
or scan the QR code to the right.





Ivel Valley Parent Bulletin Early Help Bulletin



Please click on the
links for more information

Sign up now to our New Parents & Carers Workshop!

FREE

AUTISM & MENTAL HEALTH
WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2022
10AM - 1PM

A workshop designed to be particularly useful for those who are parents or carers of autistic individuals who have co-existing mental health conditions.

Explore and understand:

- an overview of co-existing mental health conditions commonly experienced by autistic people and how these affect their individual needs
- how to proactively adjust environments and practices to prevent needs escalating
- resources and strategies for supporting individuals

AUTISM & DEMAND AVOIDANCE
TUESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2023
10AM - 1PM

A workshop providing information about the demand avoidance presentation of autism and advice on how to support those with demand avoidance behaviour at all ages.

Explore and understand:

- what is meant by 'demand avoidance' in relation to autism and the contrasting view of the 'HPI' diagnosis
- the role of anxiety in creating demand avoidance behaviour
- how to prevent and manage demand avoidance behaviour

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES:
enquiries@autismbeds.org
01234 214871

BLMK **Autism** **BEDFORDSHIRE**

For families living in Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire and Luton.

AUTISM & SENSORY PROCESSING
TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2022
10AM - 1PM

A workshop exploring the relationship between autism, sensory processing and diet.

Explore and understand:

- the impact of sensory processing differences on the lives of autistic individuals
- resources and strategies to support health and wellbeing where there are sensory challenges
- when to seek professional input

AUTISM & BEHAVIOUR
24TH JANUARY 2023
10AM - 1PM

A workshop to explore the impact of autism on regulating behaviour, offering advice on how to support autistic individuals of all ages.

Explore and understand:

- the difficulties autism may cause in regulating behaviour
- how to adjust environments & practices to meet the needs of autistic individuals
- strategies for managing difficult situations

The training will be online using Zoom. Once booked on we will provide you with the details to join.

SUPPORTING YOUR AUTISTIC TEENAGER
A trilogy of parent workshops

Led by Sarah Polack
Parent, CBT Therapist & Coach
Working and living with autistic teenagers, Sarah brings real life experiences, positive approaches and valuable insight to these sessions.

Aims of The Session:

- Seeing an optimistic future
- Learn strategies to understand your teenager and help them thrive
- Recognising their strengths & potential
- Helping you cope with life with an autistic teenager

Cost: £15 FOR ALL 3 SESSIONS

Dates & Times:
6pm - 8pm
• Monday 7th November
• Monday 14th November
• Monday 21st November

Venue:
The Rufus Centre
Steppingley Road
Fittwick
MK45 1AH

Join other parents/carers for 3 sessions to discuss the positive and inspirational potential of your teenager, family life and future

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ASHLEY
ashley.gordon@autismbeds.org

"I hugely benefitted from the workshop. It has been inspiring and helpful to help with understanding my daughter. Before the course I was struggling with how to support my child, but even after the first session I was feeling better about being able to support them"

CHILDREN'S SERVICES
MULTI-SPORTS COURSE
6 WEEKS

Castle Newnham School (Sports Hall)
Polhill Avenue, Bedford MK41 9DT

Date: Thursdays
10th, 17th, 24th Nov, 1st, 8th, 15th Dec 2022

Time: 4.45-5.45pm

Cost: £15.00 per child (AB members)
£20.00 per child (non AB members)

Enjoy a range of sports activities across 6 sessions in. Be active and have fun doing it!

Autism **BEDFORDSHIRE**
Working in partnership with
Blues Foundation

Book Now
enquiries@autismbeds.org
01234 214871 (general enquiries)

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 fine for them to have the occasional day off for a treat."

Buster: Attendance is a legal requirement for parents. Schools must report on all unauthorised absences. Parents may be subjected to a fixed penalty notice. This is £60 per parent per child. A record is kept on *CPOMS.

*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



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

@bedsdiv
bedsdiv.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)

2022 Upcoming Dates

9th November	Year 1—Chestnut & Holly—Shuttleworth Trip—please see parentmail for more information
10th November	Year 1—Sycamore—Shuttleworth Trip—please see parentmail for more information
<u>11th November</u>	<u>Remembrance—Poppies will be available to buy from reception</u>
14th—18th November	Anti Bullying Week
18th November	Children in Need—Children can come to school with Pudsey accessories with their uniform
<u>25th November</u>	<u>PSA Winter Fayre—More details to follow</u>
30th November	Dick Whittington Pantomime performances
1st & 2nd December	Early Years Christmas performances
5th December	Year 4 Christmas concert—2pm
6th December	Year 2 Christmas concert—2pm
7th December	Year 1 Christmas concert—2pm
<u>7th December</u>	<u>Year 3 Cake Sale</u>
<u>8th December</u>	<u>Year 3 Christmas concert—2pm</u>
<u>9th December</u>	<u>Coffee Morning—Invitations to be sent.</u>
<u>12th December</u>	<u>Christingle Assembly</u>
<u>13th December</u>	<u>Christmas Dinner—Parentmail order form will be available</u>
<u>16th December</u>	<u>Carols on the playground</u> <u>End of Autumn Term</u>

2023 Upcoming Dates

<u>4th January 2023</u>	<u>Welcome Children back to the Spring Term</u>
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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

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.