



Weekly Update

Friday 6th January 2023



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

Dear Families and Friends—HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023

We have had a wonderful start to the year in school. We begin with the values Excellence and Quality. This is deliberately placed for the Spring term, as this traditionally is the term when children make their biggest leaps of progress in all areas of the curriculum.

Attendance is always a huge signifier of school success and we have started Spring term strongly. There are still some Winter bugs flowing, but nothing like the scale we had through December. Please do continue to sanitise, wash hands and ventilate to see those bugs diminish! Attendance and punctuality are shown to have an impact on later GCSE success if not at an optimum level when a child is in their primary years. We can help with support for home, and if you would like us to contact you, please do ask for Julia Parry, our family support worker. Reading is the other crucial area of focus for any early years setting. If children can read fluently, then their inner narrative will be more adept and this impacts them throughout the curriculum. The tier 3 language that children are exposed to through reading is never met through oracy activities or games. It has been shown through repeated research that this is one of the only ways children access this level of language development. We recommend keeping those reading neurons active by a short daily read, rather than a weekly long read, which is why our home learning policy reflects this. We love it when volunteers come in to support readers too, so do let us know if you would like to do this.

Robert Bloomfield Middle school is our feeder school and we are working with the staff there to increase partnerships, beginning with reader leaders. We are also looking at sports and digital leadership opportunities, raising aspirations as well as building stronger links in our post-pandemic curriculums.

During this first and shorter week back, we have hosted two Governor visits—our Chair of Governors, Mrs Jo Elliott, and our Governor for Safeguarding, Sarah Grosvenor-Brown. It was a delight to tour with them through our school. The children are happy, and the school is calm, and the auditing we have carried out was of an exceptionally high grade throughout. Safeguarding is a high priority in school, and we keep aspects of this as a standing item in our newsletter for you. Do pop and see us if you have any queries.

As you are aware, we rate highly the partnerships we have with parents, and your support and suggestions are the reason we fare so well in such audits. It really does help us to get things right. Most recently, your suggestions for reducing learning logs, and increasing access for times tables practice has enabled us to alter what we do. Thank you for your continued partnerships with staff and senior leaders. Please do come and chat to me when I am outside too.

Next week our clubs begin again. We have quite a range on offer and I am pleased to see the range of music and sports we continue to offer, as well as the activities offered within the school day. A big thank you to our staff for their commitment as well as our lovely volunteers.

We host a deep dive into our writing curriculum with the School Improvement Advisor from the Local Authority, next week.

In a couple of weeks we have Chinese New Year celebrations too.

Have a great weekend

From 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—1232

Air—1112

Water—1015

Earth—963

House Points and Attendance

W/E 16/12/22

Well done to last week's house winners.



House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

Air

Music News

Happy new year!

It's great to have so much interest in the music clubs that we have at Shefford Lower. We have had a huge number of children register interest, and we're very sorry to have to turn away so many children but we have tried to ensure progression whilst allowing other children to have the opportunity.

At the end of Autumn term, the choir went to perform carols at Oak Manor care home, they were incredibly thankful and loved having us there. Well done to all choir members, you did us proud and brightened up their Christmas.

This term we have the KS1 choir starting and we are excited to have some younger members, they will perform individually and sometimes with the KS2 choir as one collective.

Kind regards

Miss Mansell

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

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

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 27th, Sat 28th Jan, Fri 3rd, Sat 4th Feb at 7.30pm
and Sat 28th, Sun 29th, Sat 4th 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
or phone 0333 666 3366

@ HATSDramaMeppershall [booking fees apply]

Happy Little Yogi Breakfast Club
@ Shefford Lower
Wednesday Jan 11th - March 29th (11 wks)
8am - 8.45am

Yoga
Meditation
Mindfulness
Breathing
Memory
Dance
Movement
Sound



Book via the QR Code or the link following link:
<https://www.happylittleyogi.com/classes/online-enrolment?type=a>
Any enquiries please email: jane@happylittleyogi.com



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

CHILDREN'S SERVICES
MULTI-SPORTS COURSE
5 WEEKS

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

Date: Thursdays
12th, 19th, 26th January 2023
2nd, 9th, February 2023

Time: 4.45pm - 5.45pm

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

For ages 10-17 years



Working in partnership with
Blues Foundation

Enjoy a range of sports activities across 5 sessions in.
Be active and have fun doing it!

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 doesn't matter that I haven't got time to help my child with homework."

Buster: OFSTED expect schools to set and monitor homework that is age appropriate. All schools keep a record of frequent instances that impact on a child's development alongside their peers. .

*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 ST 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

 @bedsdy  @bedsdy  bedsdy.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

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

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