

Weekly Update



Friday 10th December 2021

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

Dear Families and Friends,

We have had a very Christmassy week in school. The children are beginning to write and exchange cards to their friends in the post boxes and we have a very adorned school already. As we said last week, post boxes are in year groups to avoid wandering to different areas of the building, and will be emptied on Monday morning, so that we minimise the risk of infections with the weekend between. On the last week, we will take the boxes out of action on the Wednesday to allow a day before the final delivery on Friday.



We were delighted to come 2nd in the Christmas tree festival by the judge's vote, and 3rd by the public vote. Thank you to everyone who voted for the hard work the children and staff put in.

This week, we had a wonderful array of singing and showcasing for Christmas. The children performed under our stage lighting and to a very sizeable audience of their peers. For many children this was their very first ever performance, and to have an audience was quite nerve wracking for them. They did exceptionally well. Many classes chose to include sign language in their shows, and there was a real focus on the true meaning behind Christmas the values we espouse to bring about Christmas cheer. Thank you for your support. Whilst we know it is hard to miss out seeing these shows, we felt it was crucial that the children experience performing to live audiences. It brought out the best in them, and paved the way hopefully for future performances in 2022.

The singing the children have been doing has been wonderful. We cannot wait to share this with you next Friday. The covid guidance allows us to come together as we are outside. However, we are very mindful that there will be people close together. We therefore insist that if you wish to enter the site, you do wear your face covering or show your exemption. We aim to protect families, but also staff from needing to isolate at Christmas. Please support us by complying with our request.

Ahead of writing next week's newsletter, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Wright. She has worked with us for 5 years as a teaching assistant, and moves onto her new challenge in nursing. We wish her luck.

In school we have been looking at our end of term assessments and our curriculum maps. The school curriculum units for each year group are on our website if you want to peek ahead to support your child, or buy gifts for Christmas related to their learning. We have been thrilled with the outcomes in school for targeted groups, and our focus going forwards is definitely raising outcomes for children whose attendance is low. The outcomes do match the evidence of research, in that those with the highest attendance have the better outcomes across the curriculum. Please help us to help your child by ensuring they are in school every day on time to make the most of what we can offer.

If you have been in our foyer recently, you will have seen our new trophy cabinet. The house group shield is the culmination of all those housepoints earned. The easiest way for your child to accrue housepoints is for their reading diary to be signed every day. Reading is fundamental to the entire curriculum, as narrative is how we think as well. Studies repeatedly show how important early reading is to overall success in exams when children are teenagers. Do ask us if you would like help with any aspect of your child's reading. This week and next week I am visiting every class in school to read Christmas stories to them. I'm always heartened by how much our children love having a story read to them, especially if the book has flaps! Or.....if it is furry!



So, with the last week of term ahead of us, and all the fun and parties that this brings, we will undoubtedly be adding to children's Christmas excitement. If Christmas is a time of high family stress, please remember that Mrs Parry, our family support worker, has lots of strategies that may help you. Don't hesitate to call. No call is too small.

Seasons greetings

Mrs Finch



Values

The values of December will be Peace & Understanding

"All we are saying, is give peace a chance." John Lennon.

Understanding what peace is, and how can we bring peace about—conciliation, finding resolutions and solving problems together. Understanding the other perspective and point of view. Learning to understand the needs of others

House Points and Attendance W/E

26.11.21

House Points

Water—884
Air—842
Earth—713
Fire—664

House Attendance & Punctuality Winner

Air



Arriving to school on time

When pupils arrive late, they miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of the lesson.

This can significantly reduce achievement, regardless of academic ability. Your child may also feel awkward arriving to the classroom when everyone else is settled. Furthermore, when one pupil arrives late, it disrupts the entire class and the teacher—everyone's education is compromised.

5 minutes late a day = 3 DAYS OF SCHOOL LOST A YEAR

10 minutes late a day = 6.5 DAYS OF SCHOOL LOST A YEAR

15 minutes late a day = 10 DAYS OF SCHOOL LOST A YEAR

20 minutes late a day = 13 DAYS OF SCHOOL LOST A YEAR

30 minutes late a day = 19 DAYS OF SCHOOL LOST A YEAR



Thank you for your kind donations so far. We have added some more items to our Amazon wish list that will greatly benefit your children with their learning this year. If you would like to purchase a book for our school please click [here](#)



Please let the office know if you need assistance or adjustments for any disability.

Blue badge holders can access the staff car park.

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

Myth – Bedtimes are upto me

Buster - Ensuring children have good sleep hygiene in order to thrive is part of safeguarding. 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.

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

Lunchbox tips



Cut down on crisps

If your child really likes their crisps try reducing the number of times you include them in their lunchbox and swap for homemade plain popcorn or plain rice cakes instead.



Spicy chicken and salad wrap

[For this recipe please follow this link](#)

Mrs Ross will be posting weekly challenges for children to complete.

Answers will be welcome by Mrs Ross throughout the week.

Good luck.

Last weeks answer was

Volcano

What am I?

- Famous prehistoric monument
- Over 5,000 years old
- Consists of a ring of standing stones, which are sarsens and bluestones
- UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Mystery how the stones got there

Donations

Please could you help with building up our playtime resources for our play leaders to use during lunchtimes in Key Stage 1 & 2. We would love

Skipping ropes

Donation of old hats, capes, dress up

Old tyres—any size will do

Crates

Toy Cars

Thank you



PSA Raffle Draw

Please find the winning ticket numbers. Prizes will be available to collect from the school office from Monday

The raffle raised an incredible £602.53, thank you to everyone that purchased tickets and the local businesses who donated the prizes

Local Business	Prize details	Ticket number
Shefford Building Supplies	£20 Gift Voucher	2216
The Hair corner	Cut & Blow dry	1331
Shefford Kebab House & Pizza	£25 Gift Voucher	5844
PSA	3x Bottles of Fizz	1554
John R Ford	£50 Air Conditioning Service	4911
Mids Beds Futsal	Free 3 day football camp	1531
Wellness Hub	£30 Voucher	1970
Vallos	Haircut	152
AS Pro Sports	Selection of outside games	36
Blossom Balloons	£25 balloon of your choice	2377
TJ Plumbing	Boiler Service (£87)	4922
PSA	Games Hamper	4585
Crafty Café	Mulled wine & Craft set	4165
Campton School of Dance	6 weeks of dance lessons	3297

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



CAN YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

If so we need your help!

Please contact Miss Mansell if you can join us for the Carols on the Playground at 2.30pm on the 17th December



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—Cristina, Plum—Belle,
<u>Year 1</u>	Holly—Annalise, Sycamore—Furqan, Chestnut—Mia
<u>Year 2</u>	Willow—Jemima, Oak—Eva, Maple— Zoe
<u>Year 3</u>	Cedar—Lara, Elm—Blake, Hawthorn—Lucas
<u>Year 4</u>	Ash—Myla, Hazel—Deniz, Beech—



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.

Air	Joe—Gymnastics, Alexandra—Swimming, Fabrizio—Football
Water	Lauren—Gymnastics, Ollie—Swimming, Annabelle—Gymnastics, Chloe—Swimming
Fire	Thea—Running



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

EXCUSE ME

THANK YOU

<u>Reception</u>	Macey, Max, Lily, Amelia, Elsie, Ivy, Joshua, Nancy, Cara, Allis & Belle
<u>Year 1</u>	Remi, Chloe, Annalise, Mia & Lily
<u>Year 2</u>	Cayden, Quinn, Olivia, Aaran, Esme
<u>Year 3</u>	Rosie, Scarlett, Oscar, Rachel, Amber, Charles & Izzy
<u>Year 4</u>	Sid, Harry, Emelia, Freddie, Devon & Deniz



PSA News

Thank you for all of your support throughout 2021.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.



Community News

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



great prospects

Was your child born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018?
They will start school in September 2022, so you need to apply for a school place by 15 January 2022.

Apply online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

You can also complete a paper application form which is available from your local school or by contacting School Admissions. admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk 0300 300 8037

A great place to live and work.

If your child is due to start lower school or transfer to middle school you need to apply for your school place by the 15th January

Please follow the link for application guidance

[Application Guidance](#)



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUB
CALL OR EMAIL FOR DETAILS

RUNNING FROM SHEFFORD METHODIST CHURCH
20TH DECEMBER - 23RD DECEMBER 8.00AM - 4.00PM

FREE SESSIONS AVAILABLE IN LINE WITH CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE R4F PROGRAMME (ELIGIBILITY CHECKS APPLY)
HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE OR CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.sheffordmethodistchurch.co.uk
01234930055

[Booking Link](#)



Christmas FOOTBALL CAMP

Join us for our fun Christmas Football Camp
December 21st - 23rd 2021
Pendleton Sports Centre
Stotford

10% discount for siblings, NHS Police and Military Personnel

Held at Pendleton Sports Centre, Stotford
Camp drop off 10am, pick up 3pm
Available to players between the ages of 4-15 years
Delivered by UEFA B and FA Licenced Coaches

Book Today!
Head over to www.midbedsfutsal.co.uk
Send us an email midbedsfutsal@gmail.com

[Booking Link for Mid Beds Futsal](#)



CHRISTMAS CAMP!

FOOTBALL FUN FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-13!

FUN, GAMES, COMPETITIONS AND CHRISTMAS PRIZES!
MONDAY 20TH / TUESDAY 21ST DECEMBER, 10.00-15.00
NEW! MEPPERSHALL VILLAGE HALL, SG17 5AB
JUST £20 PER DAY / ONLY 30 SPACES AVAILABLE

[Booking Link](#)

SHEFFORD METHODIST CHURCH Christmas Eve 2021 WALK THROUGH CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Hear and experience the wonder of the Christingle Story as you collect and light a Christingle

OPEN 4-6 pm

The walk through can take less than 10 minutes

ALL WELCOME

To help keep us COVID-secure we strongly encourage
Hands – Face – Space
Sanitiser will be provided, please consider wearing a face covering (unless exempt), please give others space

For safety all children must be accompanied by an adult. You don't need to book, but please consider your choice of time carefully. Why not plan to pop in as part of a walk so you can be flexible if we are busy and help us prevent queues forming. Please note, our walk through Christingle Service is subject to change if guidance changes.



Children's Community Health HUB
Your one stop contact point

0300 555 0606 Open 9am-5pm every weekday (excluding BH)
ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net

New contact number and email address for the Beds and Luton 0-19 services, including:

- Health Visiting
- School Nursing

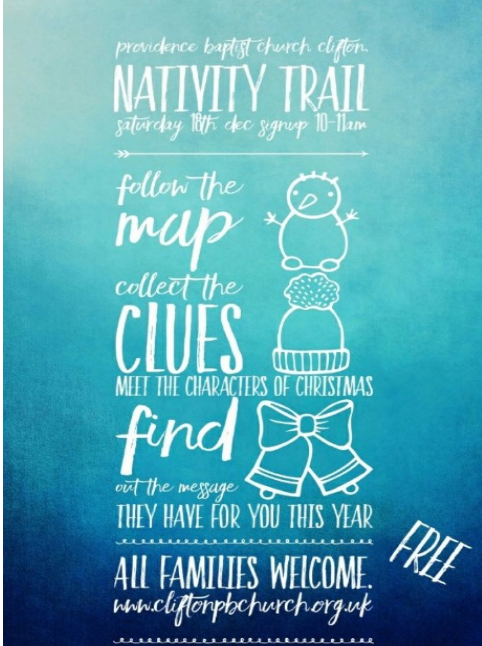
New contact number for:

- Luton Community Paediatric services (Edwin Lobo Centre)
- Beds and Luton Looked after Children's services

Health HUB - a single contact point, making it easier for you to get in touch with us.



Luton Children & Adults Community Health Services
Bedfordshire Community Health Services



providence baptist church clifton
NATIVITY TRAIL
saturday 18th dec sign up 10-11am

follow the map
collect the CLUES
MEET THE CHARACTERS OF CHRISTMAS
find out the message
THEY HAVE FOR YOU THIS YEAR

ALL FAMILIES WELCOME. **FREE**
www.cliftonpbchurch.org.uk

Shefford Lower School

Diary Dates

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

Autumn Term 2021

14th December	Christmas Dinner Day
15th December	EYFS Christmas Party and Santa
16th December	KS1 (AM) and KS2 (PM) Christmas Party and Santa
17th December	Carols on the playground 2.30pm and End of Term

Spring Term 2022

<i>5th January 2022</i>	<i>SPRING TERM Begins—Children Return</i>
13th January	Year 2 St Albans Material Trail
1st February	Chinese New Year
2nd February	Year 3 Egyptian Day
8th and 10 February	Parents Consultation Evening
11th February	Year 4 Bikeability
14th—18th February	Half Term
W/C 21st February	Year 3 Swimming lessons begin for 6 weeks
16th March	Year 1 Woburn Trip
30th March—1st April	Year 4 Residential Trip
6th June 2022	Extra Bank Holiday to mark The Queen's Platinum

Please refer to our school website for the Academic Calendar for 2021/2022

[Term Dates Links](#)