

Weekly Update



Friday 13th March 2020



Dear Families and Friends,

We are very aware of the current situation schools find themselves in with the outbreak of Covid-19. At Sheffield Lower School we have a prevention plan in action, and we are following all advice daily. We remain open, as it is the current scientific guidance for schools. However, we have a number of measures in school. You may already have noticed the increased installations of hand gel dispensers and our requests to ensure children have their very own named bottles. We have increased hygiene generally, and have made alterations to things like assemblies, carpet time and shared resources in classes.

We request families keep us informed if they have travelled, or have been in contact with someone who has the virus. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring we can maintain a strong learning environment. In the event of a school closure, our children have logins to Purple Mash, TT Rockstars, My Maths and Discovery Education. They also have topic learning they can add to in their Learning Logs, as well as daily reading. We have redistributed their logins again, and wish to reassure families that we are endeavouring to provide the best service we can in the current climate.

In other news, you may already have been made aware that the Local Authority are proposing radical changes to their schools for the future plan in Sheffield. We were invited to a meeting just over a week ago where this proposal was shared with us. At this stage, it is only a proposal, and there was no consultation with Sheffield governors and senior leaders. We have a meeting scheduled later in the month to express our views and understanding before this is secured into a plan that goes out to consultation. We urge parents to view the plan on the local authority site and share their views too.

I am absolutely delighted that the cross hatched yellow lines have been repainted outside our school entrance. There are also double yellow lines there, as this is the emergency exit for staff, and access for emergency vehicles to the back of the field. Additionally, you will have noticed the repainting of the School Lane restriction. There is no stopping in School Lane between 8.00am and 9:30am. Therefore, unless you have access to our staff car park, or live in one of the houses, there is no need to drive into School Lane. This is regularly patrolled.

Our teams in school have decided they would like to support Autism Bedfordshire with their 'Silly Sock Day'. We have a number of children in mainstream schools with this condition or related conditions and raising awareness, understanding and knowledge is a key aspect of our Values and Life Learning curriculum too. This will take place on 2nd April at Sheffield Lower and we hope it will be both fun, informative and help to raise funds through donations for this worthwhile charity.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Finch

Values

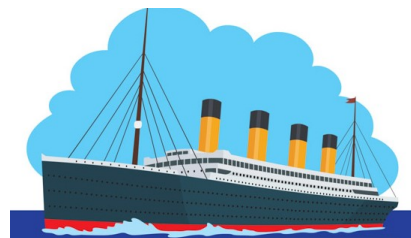
The values from February 24th—March 13th are **Courage** and **Determination**.

Book Week falls in this section. This is also time of 'Lent'.

Courage when you least feel like trying. Not giving up. Knowing it is worth it, if not immediately , then in the long run. Courage when you are a lone voice in the crowd, when peer pressure is high etc.

Year 2 Titanic Day

Year 2 will be having Titanic Day this coming Monday 16th. Children will be able to dress up in party wear or as a Titanic passenger if they would like to however if not, they can come in their school uniform as normal.



Year 4 Faith Tour

Year 4 will be going to Bedford on Tuesday 17th for the Faith Tour Trip. Children will need to wear school uniform as normal and will need to bring something to cover their head. Please ensure your child has a strictly vegetarian packed lunch (please see letter that was sent out for more information).



Music News

Hawthorn class assembly started with musical recitals from Reuben L (trumpet) and Andrea (violin). They were also joined by Grace and several children from Cedar class to perform pieces on their recorders.

Our music assemblies were really enjoyable this week with performances from Lilly S, Charmaine, William R and Lucas on the piano. Also, Matthew F played his trumpet and the morning recorder group performed. The whole school are learning songs ready for Easter.

Recorder players are beginning to prepare for their music medal assessments. Music Medals are teacher-led assessments for younger learners. They build on what's already taught in group lessons and enable students to gain recognition for their hard work. Assessments take place in school. There are five progressive levels. Copper and Bronze are stepping stones to Grade 1. Silver, Gold and Platinum reward further progress. Over the next few weeks children will be bringing home a letter with all the relevant details. It would help all children if they are encouraged to do a few minutes practice at home, several times a week.



SILLY SOCK DAY
THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2020



WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK 2020





All clubs for this half term have now started; please see the timetable below. If your child no longer requires a place, please let the school office know so this can be given to someone else.

Monday

Year 1 PE Club - 3.20pm—4.30pm

w/c 13/01/20—23/03/20

Tuesday

Year 3 & 4 Technology Club—Lunchtime

w/c 24/02/20—23/03/20

Year 2 PE Club—3.20pm—4.30pm

w/c 13/01/20—23/03/20

Mid Beds Soccer (External Club)

w/c 06/01/20—10/02/20

(Booking form attached)

Wednesday

Year 1-4 Multi Skills Club—8.00am—8.50am

w/c 13/01/20—23/03/20

Year 3 & 4 Mindfulness Club—Lunchtime

w/c 24/02/20—23/03/20

Year 3 PE Club—3.20pm—4.30pm

w/c 13/01/20—23/03/20

Thursday

Year 3 & 4 Press Club—Lunchtime

w/c 13/01/20—23/03/20

Year 3 & 4 Science Club (Invite Only) - 3.20pm—4.00pm

w/c 13/01/20—23/03/20

Year 1 & 2 Dance Club—3.20pm—4.00pm

w/c 24/02/20—23/03/20

Year 4 PE Club—3.20pm—4.30pm

w/c 13/01/20—23/03/20

Happy Little Yogi (External Club) - 3.30pm—4.30pm

w/c 24/02/20—30/03/20

(Booking form attached)

Friday

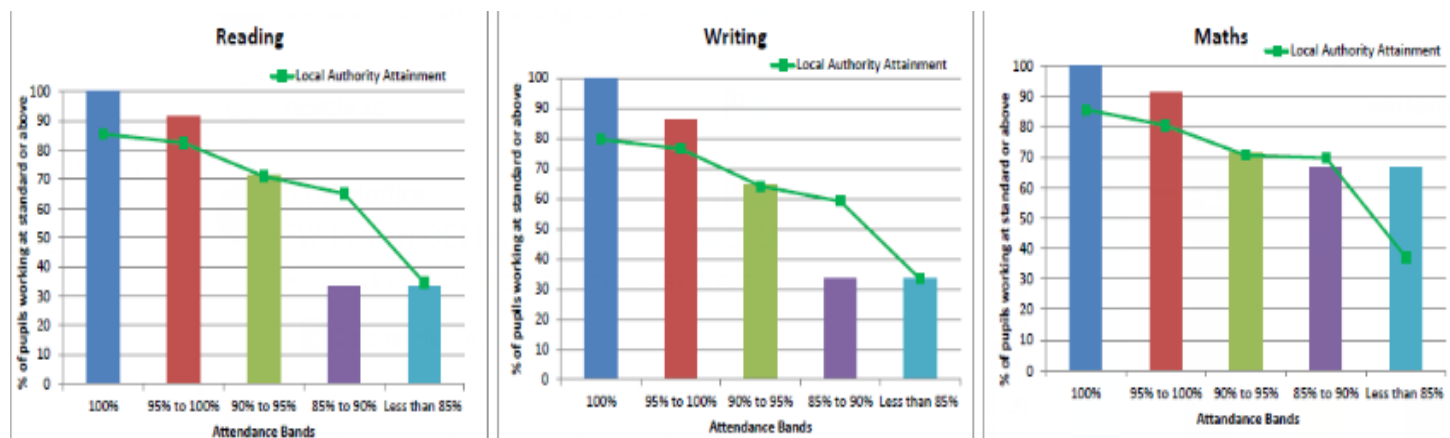
Little Ninja's (External Club) - 3.20pm—4.00pm

w/c 13/01/20—30/03/20

Absence

Please see the graph below on this years SATS results in relation to attendance.

Please see the list below of exceptional circumstances in which a holiday may be authorised. Just a reminder the school office will need proof of all medical appointments for absences to be marked as 'Medical' otherwise these will be marked as 'Unauthorised'.



Exceptional circumstances that may be agreed to are:

A dying close relative in a different country.

A family funeral of a close relative in another country/ part of the country.

Holidays for fostering or adoption purposes.

Religious observance.

Holidays for armed services personnel when meeting the criteria set out by the ministry of defence.

When a family needs to spend time together to support each other during or after a crisis

Where disability means it is difficult for the family to organise care at another time.

Exceptional circumstances do not include:

Being unable to take a family holiday during the 6 week summer break

The availability of cheap holidays

Poor weather experienced during school holiday periods

Overlap with the beginning or end of a term.

Different holiday dates for siblings in different schools.

A surprise booked by another person/ treat for the child

A mistake in term dates when booking

Finer Diners

Congratulations to the children below who have sat at the 'Finer Diner' table this week for displaying good manners and values at lunchtime:

Reception

Forrest H
Annie S
Oliver N
Eva L
Amelia T
Mathew C

Year 1

Poppy R
Mia W
Dorothy B
Max H
Lexie F
Rory M

EXCUSE ME



THANK YOU

Year 2

Charlie A
Frankie P
Emmanuel L

Year 3

Poppy H
Jorja S

Year 4

Miles M
Annabelle G
Sienna H
Hayley M

PSA News



A New PSA

Following last night's AGM we are pleased to announce our newly appointed members in the key roles as follows:

Chair – Hannah Hubbard

Vice Chair – Kim Massey

Secretary – Nicola Burr

Treasurer – Claire Newton

The new team are keen to involve as many other new parents/legal guardians of children within the school to join our fabulous group of fundraisers. Next meeting is on Thursday 30th April. Please feel free to come along.

Coming up

- **Sponsored Bounce – Mon 30th Mar**—Consent and sponsor forms have been sent out. Please remember to return by Friday 27th March so these can be checked and counted ready for Monday.

Your school Lottery – EVERY Saturday

Sheffield Lower school has a guaranteed winner *EVERY WEEK*.

Tickets can be purchased at any time. Signing up this term will automatically enrol you into a further prize draw to win organic fruit and veg for one year **PLUS** the chance to win the national **£25,000.00** weekly jackpot. It's easy to set up. <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play> Good luck! This is an ongoing offer and you can set up anytime you like. Remember the more tickets purchased the higher the prize fund

Table top sale – Sunday 26th April (11.30am-1.30pm)

Are you in need of a de-clutter? We are holding our first table top sale in a while and have limited spaces available.

To secure your 'pitch' please return the slip on the (letter attached to this ParentMail) to the office with payment by Thursday 2nd April 2020. Pitches will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Community News

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



THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2020 **EMOTIONAL WELLBEING**

Is your child feeling anxious?
Does your child have low self-esteem?
Do you know what services are available?
Do you know how to speak to your child about
how they're feeling?
Does your child have low school attendance?

Information, support and guidance from a variety of
services during the evening.

There will be short talks throughout the evening:
5:30pm – Anger
6pm – Self-esteem

If you wish to book an appointment to speak to
someone about other topics use the contact details
below.



For more information please contact Lisa Steeples
lisa.steeple@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

**Promoting
Positive
Emotional
Wellbeing Drop-in**

**Find ways to support
the children and
young people in your
life**

Free to attend

Professionals

4 – 5 pm

**Including a talk
around key topics**

**Parents & Young
People**

5.15 – 6.30pm

**Roecroft Lower School
Buttercup Rd,
Stotfold,
SG5 4PF**

Mother's Day Craft

Make a flower craft for
Mother's Day

Shefford Library



Sat 21st March

11.30-1pm

Just drop in – it's free!

Parents and **carers** are strongly advised not to leave children unsupervised in the Library
Children under 8 should never be left alone in the library

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

CBCLibraries

@cbc_libraries

JACK COLLISON SOCCER SCHOOL



Former West Ham and Wales
International Footballer

FOOTBALL EASTER CAMP

7th-9th APRIL
14th-16th APRIL

Jack collison soccer school

@JCsoccerschool

@jcsoccerschool

Robert Bloomfield Academy, Shefford, SG17 5BU
10am - 3pm

Open to all boys and girls ages 5-14.
1, 2 or 3 day, and early/late options available

Book online at www.jackcollisonsoccerschool.com

Diary Dates

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

Spring Term 2020	
16th March	Year 2 Titanic Day
17th March	Year 4 Faith Tour
20th March	Plum Class Assembly 2.45pm
<i>27th March</i>	<i>Year 3 Egyptian Day</i>
27th March	Beech Class Assembly 2.45pm
30th March	PSA Sponsored Bounce
31st March	Swimming Finishes for Cedar & Hawthorn
2nd April	Swimming Finishes for Elm
6th April—19th April	Easter
20th April	Inset Day

Summer Term 2020	
21st April	Children Return to School
26th April	PSA Table Top Sale
29th April	Class Photos
1st May	Holly Assembly 2.45pm
6th May	Bag 2 School
6th May	Year 4 Bikeability
8th May	Bank Holiday
22nd May	Willow Assembly 2.45pm
25th May	Bank Holiday
26th—31st May	Half Term
1st June	Children Return to School
8th June	Road Safety Week
11th June	Year 3 Sing Out Play Out Concert at The Corn Exchange
12th June	Chestnut Class Assembly 2.45pm
15th June	Reception Open Evening
22nd June	Cherry Open Evening
24th June	EYFS Sports Day
25th June	KS2 Sports Day AM, KS1 Sports Day PM
3rd July	Move Up Day
15th July	Year 4 Leavers' Performance and Afternoon Tea
17th July	End of Term