



Weekly Update

Friday 14th January 2022



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

Dear Families and Friends,

What a lovely start to January we have had. Not only have the children come back refreshed and ready to learn, we have also had a lot to be proud of.

Like all schools we carry out a data analysis of pupil attainment and progress at the end of the term. We know our children currently have had two very disrupted years, with three lockdowns, two remote learner lockdowns and lots of community need and anxiety within families. It has been our priority to deliver as much intervention by way of catch up and support (not just for the academics) as possible. We know from our observations and lesson checks that there is a very positive picture in Sheffield Lower, and our data analysis is reflecting this too. Children are making targeted progress, and in many areas they are making more than targeted progress. Where attendance is low, this is not as much, so we are focussing on this as always.

In addition, any statutory testing the school carries out is analysed at the end of the year by the DfE. Ahead of that, the Local Authority analyse our results. We have had exceptionally high results for our year two phonics and we know this is because of your hard work at home, as well as our hard work in school. Thank you so much for the support we receive. Reading happening every night is not always easy to achieve, but makes such a significant difference to your child's learning. That lift in learning then impacts ALL other areas of the curriculum, because vocabulary and understanding increases alongside reading.. Little and often is the approach we ask for.

This week, to top this, Y2 had a trip to St Albans. We have been working hard to reward excellent conduct in school. Children treating each other fairly, showing good conduct as they walk through the corridors and involving adults if they need help on the playground. Whilst accompanying the trip, Mrs Ross was stopped by several members of the public to tell her how excellently behaved our children were. This of course is music to our ears, and a wonderful reflection on the Sheffield community. The link with our values focus—Excellence & Quality—is evident.

The children have been thinking about our twinning school in Sri Lanka this week, and we will be sending letters to them soon. We are always conscious of our children understanding the global environment they are part of. In a world connected by computing and internet, it is crucial to have an understanding of global community, but also to be E-Safe. We teach E-Safety as the first unit for each year group and present to parents in our curriculum events also. Many of our children had new devices given to them for Christmas, and we would urge you to ensure the parental controls are on, to prevent online harms. If you would like help with E-Safety, please do get in touch. Mrs Kumar is able to sign post resources and sites to assist you at home—There are some links further in this newsletter too. Safer Internet Day is just around the corner on February 8th 2022.

January is a long month for some families, and If you are struggling please let us know. There are many people, working and not working, who find it hard to put food on the table. Never choose between heating and food, there is no shame and we can help. If you are not in this position, and can donate food into the basket in our reception, we make sure this reaches the 'Need Project' and supports local families. Mrs Parry is our family support worker in school, and we have a range of ways we can support families.

Covid safety. We are still operating in year group and class bubbles as much as possible, and assemblies remain virtual. Numbers of cases in school has risen since Christmas, so we would urge mask wearing as you enter the site where you come into closer contact with others. We are not yet returning to staggered intakes, and one way systems. Please help us to maintain our safety measures. Thank you.

Over the next few weeks, we will be sending home a mid-year report for your child. This details information we have from the Autumn term. We hope you find it useful information ahead of your parents consultation which happen in February.

As always, please let us know if you have suggestions or support. We value our partnership with you and it is always possible for us to improve. Remember too, that no question is too small, so do feel free to contact us.

Have a great weekend,

Pamela 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

17.12.21

House Points

Earth—2037
Fire—1562
Water—1360
Air—955

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

Safer Internet day is on the 8th February 2022. Please find some useful links for guidance on how to protect your child's devices

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/home-activity-worksheets/early-years/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Concerned-about-your-child/Online-contact-and-staying-safe/>

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

Reading at Home Support

Please find a list of questions you could use to support your child when sharing a book at home. These questions will prompt conversation around the text that has been read.



Author Technique Questions

Can your child tell you the overall effect the author has created for the reader from their writing?

Questions you could ask your child:

I wonder why the author has decided to describe the character like that. What do you think?

Why do you think the author chose this setting and described it in this way?

What makes this a good story? Why do you think that?

How does this story make you feel? / What is the author trying to tell you about ...?

Why do you think the author has written that sentence in that way? What effect do you think he is trying to have on the reader?

What does the description of this character tell us about how the character is feeling?

I wonder why the author described the character like that, what do you think?

Layout and Organization Questions

Can your child explain why the text has been set out in a certain way? E.g. why has the author used numbers in a set of instructions?

Questions you could ask your child:

What kind of text is this (fiction, non-fiction, information, narrative)? How do you know?

What is the main event in this story?

What would you expect to find in a text like this? / Why has this picture been used here?

Why have these words been made to stand out? / Why are these words in italics?

Why are some parts of the text in boxes? What are the sub headings for?

What do the arrows tell you?

Retrieval Questions:

The answers are right there in what has been read, they just have to be found.

Questions you could ask your child:

Where did the story / event take place?

When did the story take place?

What did he/she / it look like? / Who are the key characters in the story?

What happened first in the story, how did it end?

Read the part of the story that tells me about...?

Can you find the part when...?

How old is it?

Where did he go to school?

Inference and Deduction Questions

The answer is not given, it has to be worked out based on what your child HAS read.

For example: If your child reads "the boy dragged his feet and slumped his shoulders on the way home" can your child deduce that the character is feeling sad?

Questions you could ask your child:

What words tell you that he is...?

How do you feel about what happens? Why?

What sort of person do you think that character is after reading his description?

Predict what you think is going to happen. Why do you think that?

Did one of the characters change the story line? How? Why do you think that?



YEAR 2 TRIP TO ST ALBANS



Year 2 enjoyed their Science school trip to St Albans Cathedral. They learned about the different materials the amazing building is made from (including 2 million Roman bricks taken from the town of Verulamium), where glass comes from and why there is 900-year-old horsehair in the walls. The children did brass and tile rubbing, and made their own stained-glass windows. The years 2's were awed by the building and had a lovely calm school trip. We were even mentioned over the cathedral's announcements at 11am!



Lunchbox tips



Cheesy does it...

Cheese can be high in fat and salt, so choose stronger-tasting ones – and use less of it – or try reduced-fat varieties.



[Cheesy coleslaw with wholemeal pitta](#)

For this recipe please follow this link

[Lunchbox](#)

[Recipe](#)

Donation Request

Mrs Carter is wanting to start a chess club in the summer term and is looking for donations of chess sets.

If you have a set that you are happy to donate please could you bring this into the school office.

Thank you

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—Elsie & Amber, Plum—Essie, Reagan & Jacob
<u>Year 1</u>	Holly—Sid, Sycamore—Joe, Chestnut—Joshua & Louie
<u>Year 2</u>	Willow—Esmee & Eden, Maple—Lacey-Mae & Indiana Oak—Ollie
<u>Year 3</u>	Cedar—George, Elm—Ella, Hawthorn—Remy & Isabella
<u>Year 4</u>	Beech—Evie, Ash—Kenzie Hazel—Felix & Connie



Shefford Sporting Successes

<u>Water House</u>	Ayaz—Football, Archie—Football, Basketball & Rugby, Eden—Running, Livvie—Horse-riding, Edward—Swimming, Charlotte—Swimming
<u>Fire House</u>	Dougie—Football, Lacey—Swimming, Thea—Swimming, Scott—Golf, Raith—Swimming
<u>Earth House</u>	Zoe—Swimming, Sidney—Football, Emmie & Elsie—Dance, Freddy—Swimming
<u>Air House</u>	Lilly—Gymnastics, Harrison—Swimming, Max—Swimming



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

THANK YOU

EXCUSE ME

<u>Reception</u>	Albie, Lee, Aiden, Ben, Allis, Albie, Bonnie, Ollie, Ruby, Nancy, Belle, Kovah & Georgia
<u>Year 1</u>	Thomas, Albie, Martha, Vinnie, Sam, Alex, Ezmee, Zoe, Louie, Heidi, Vinnie, Nancy & Furqan
<u>Year 2</u>	Kiera, Bethany, Elise, Millie, Evie, Jennifer & William
<u>Year 3</u>	Denis, Molly, Freya, Mylah, Emily, Dougie & Emmie
<u>Year 4</u>	Demmy, Tyler, Faith, Harry, Heidi, Zion, Frankie & Maisy



Community News

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



JACK COLLISON SOCCER SCHOOL
FORMER WEST HAM AND WALES INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER

FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP!
FOOTBALL, COMPETITIONS, FUN AND PRIZES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-13!
MONDAY 14TH - THURSDAY 17TH FEBRUARY, 10.00-15.00
ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY, SG175BU
1,2,3 AND 4 DAY TICKETS AVAILABLE
*** ONLY 60 SPACES AVAILABLE ***
BOOK ONLINE NOW!

NEW! 10% off for ALL SLS students—use code JCS-SSCHOOL10 at the checkout

[Jack Collison Soccer School » SHEFFORD](#)



DEVELOPMENT THROUGH DRAMA
One of the greatest life skills we can give our children is the ability to communicate confidently.

ROLEPLAY is vital to a child's development and increases social interaction, problem solving and communication skills. Through imaginative plays, we explore emotions and feelings which helps to boost WELL-BEING and SELF-AWARENESS.

WE GUARANTEE YOUR CHILD WILL DEVELOP EXCELLENT SOCIAL SKILLS THEY WILL NEED IN EVERYDAY LIFE.

- SPEAK & MOVE CONFIDENTLY
- ANSWER IN FULL SENTENCES
- FEEL GOOD IN THEMSELVES
- IMPROVE CONFIDENCE & ENTHUSIASM
- INCREASE SELF-ESTEEM
- ACT IN PLAYS
- WORK IN GROUP SITUATIONS
- MEET NEW FRIENDS
- DISCUSS SOCIAL ISSUES
- IMPROVE LISTENING SKILLS
- ENCOURAGE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Our internationally acclaimed Drama Academy benefits tens of thousands of children around the world each week. Each class follows a curriculum designed by worldwide experts.

CONTACT US TO SECURE YOUR FREE TRIAL CLASS:
Amy Hill - Principal, Helen O'Grady Drama Academy Cambs Herts
Tel: 07834 127816 Email: Cambs-herts@helenogrady.co.uk
Classes at The Weatherly Centre (other local areas available)
For children aged 4-18
www.helenogrady.co.uk

40 YEARS
1979-2019

[Click for more information](#)



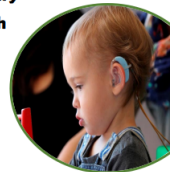
Coffee afternoon with SEND support

Do you have a child aged 0-25 years with a disability, additional need or not yet diagnosed?

Join us at our coffee afternoon to meet other local families, share ideas and support each other in a friendly environment, come along with or without your child



Monday 10th January
Monday 14th February
Monday 14th March
1.30-2.30



Shefford and Stotfold Children's centre 0300 300 8112
Email: shefford.childrenscentre@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Central Bedfordshire



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It's all about the journey, not the outcome...



WWW.MIDBEDSFUTSAL.CO.UK

ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY

FRIDAYS

4-6 Years: 6-7pm (MUGA)

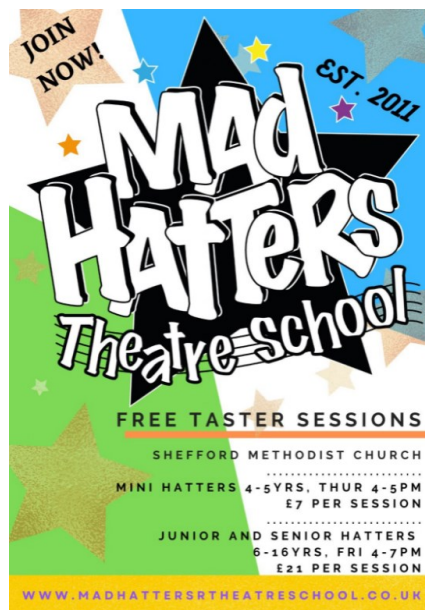
Limited places available - contact us on
midbedsfutsal@gmail.com
to book a place

Why Mid Beds Futsal and Football?

- Fun and creative environment.
- FA Affiliated, Licensed Coaches, CRB Checked.
- Player coach ratio to maximise player development
- 30% Sessions 70% Matches
- Popular

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[Click for more information](#)



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£7 PER SESSION

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News Central

Ivel Valley Parents weekly Bulletin

Shefford Lower School

Diary Dates

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

Spring Term 2022

18th January	Catch up Flu Immunisation Session
1st February	Chinese New Year
2nd February	Year 3 Egyptian Day
8th February	Safer Internet Day
8th and 10 February	Parents Consultation Evenings
11th February	Year 4 Bikeability
14th—18th February	Half Term
W/C 21st February	Year 3 Swimming lessons begin for 6 weeks
14th—18th March	Science Week
16th March	Year 1 Woburn Trip
<i>18th March</i>	<i>Red Nose Day</i>
30th March—1st April	Year 4 Residential Trip
1st April	Last day of Spring Term
19th April	SUMMER TERM Begins—Children Return
27th April	Whole Class Photos
6th June 2022	Extra Bank Holiday to mark The Queen's Platinum

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

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

[Term Dates Links](#)