



Weekly Update

Friday 17th December 2021



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

Dear Families and Friends,

I wish you all a very merry Christmas. This term has been eventful in many respects, and has ended with the anxieties of Omicron hanging over us all. I hope that the break will offer respite for families and enable us all to begin the new year healthy and well.

We have decided to go ahead with our Christmas carols on the playground, but in light of new information, we will be 'on the field'. This is to ensure our class bubbles can distance and so that parents will have a bit more space. To enter the building for this event, you will need a mask. This is an event in school hours, so this can be decided by us. Therefore in the interests of both vulnerable families and staff ahead of the break, wearing a mask is required. Although we will be spaced out on the field, we will do our best to ensure the sound is managed with the equipment we have. We know this will be a lovely event, and if managed safely, we can all enjoy it.

At the time of writing this, school have received communication from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding the Schools for the Future project. Originally, this saw Sheffield Lower becoming Sheffield Primary in 2023. The most recent communication follows an email sent to head teachers in the school holidays back in August. This stated that there would be a recalibration. The Sheffield and Stotfold cluster of schools have worked hard together to obtain some clarity around what this means for your children. The latest letter is provided to you. You will see that this does not enable us to decipher the timings, or project roadmap at this stage. We continue to seek that clarity for you, whilst at the same time, address the best outcomes for our wonderful school.

We strive hard for a values led education, which puts the community values at the heart. The broad educational offer we have is met through the dedication of our wonderful staff team, who I am proud to say, always put the children first. The work we do to support families in need, and to provide a range of extra curricular activities is extensive for a lower school, and we wish this to continue. Pupils leave our school with higher outcomes than when they begin, and above the national averages in all areas before they start middle school. We are grateful to learn through our questionnaire that you rate our school too. You would recommend us. Therefore, we will continue to seek the information required so that we can plan properly for the changes, allocating budget and resources where needed in the lead up to change. We thank you for your continued support and patience. We will continue to seek the views and understanding of the changes from parents through our focus group, but you may also choose to email us, write or speak to us.

It is a time for thanks too as we break up for the Christmas holidays. Our wonderful PSA wrapped nearly a thousand gifts for Present Day. They also helped Santa wrap all of his books, because his elves were catching up for Christmas. Our PSA really do make the children's experiences at school much better and their efforts are to be applauded.

We say goodbye too to Mrs Wright, who moves on to nursing has her career choice next. Good luck!

Mr Nittolo also leaves us for retirement. He promises us he will be back. He and Mr Thorogood have been incredible in ensuring our school is safe and well cared for. Many big projects have taken place this year, and been completed. See you soon Mr Nittolo.

If you are using the holidays to buy new school equipment, we politely remind you of the following :

- ◆ Please buy drawstring bags so that they stay on pegs, and things do not get lost (and corridors stay hazard free)
- ◆ Please ensure clothing is free from endorsing gaming that is not age appropriate—plain clothes for PE and Forest School.
- ◆ Do name all (each and every item) equipment brought into school.

Spring term is well known in school as a time when children make superb progress. Our units for each curriculum area are displayed on our website. You can support your child by looking ahead, and sharing the vocabulary or some related experiences through reading/visits or games if you wish.

Most of all, have a wonderful family Christmas and we will see you all refreshed in the new year.



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

Fire—1078
Water—1044
Air—1033
Earth—792

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

Mythbusters

Myth: "It's up to me if I smack my child to punish them."

Buster: This will always be investigated and recorded on *CPOMS by schools, because the law forbids smacking except in exceptional circumstances. EG: If the violence you use is severe enough to leave a mark, a scratch or a bruise, you can be prosecuted for assault.

*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

Merry Christmas from all the
Shefford Lower Kitchen Staff at AIP.

They served a record 460 Christmas Dinners on Tuesday



Even Rosco got in the
Christmas Spirit with his
Jumper on Tuesday

Thank you to everyone that has donated money for the Christingle at Shefford Lower School. The money donated will go to the Children's Society. We had a lovely presentation from the school choir with their L.E.D. lit Christingles singing Silent Night and then a Christmas message from Reverend Lorna. The children then got the opportunity to sing a few Christmas songs in our virtual assembly. We are very grateful for the donations of oranges from **Morrisons**, **Tesco Express**, The **Co-op** and **Asda** in Biggleswade. The children in Key stage 2 enjoyed making their Christingles and discussing the symbolic meaning of each part of the Christingle.



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
Stonehenge**

Lunchbox tips



Plan to Eatwell

The guide shows how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy, balanced diet. It can be really useful when thinking about what goes into kids' lunchboxes.

[The Eatwell Guide](#)



Where am I?

- 600 species of plant – 1/3 of all the species in Britain
- Britain's only desert as classified by the Met Office due to lack of freshwater and surface vegetation
- Said to be the largest area of shingle in Europe
- Marconi conducted his early trials of radio in this place
- It has a RSPB nature reserve
- It has the largest number of medicinal leeches in the country!

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>	Plum—Bella, Pear—Louie, Peach—Bonnie
<u>Year 1</u>	Holly—Esmae, Sycamore—Arla, Chestnut—Louis
<u>Year 2</u>	Oak—Georgia, Willow—Joshua, Maple— Kelly
<u>Year 3</u>	Cedar—Isla, Hawthorn—Giovanni, Elm—Denis
<u>Year 4</u>	Ash—Victoria, Hazel—Matthew, Beech— Ella



Shefford Sporting Successes

Since September, we have had over 100 sports awards celebrated in our Friday PE assembly! We have had a wide range of sports including football, swimming, gymnastics, rugby, Taekwon-do, basketball, running, dance, twirling and motorcross. We have still had achievements coming in this week, but these will be celebrated in the first week back after the Christmas holidays. Thank you to everyone for their hard work and dedication to their sports and for being so active. Miss Leary and Mr Tilbury



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>	Elsie, Harriet, Albie, Amelia, Nancy, Louie, Joshua, Teddy, George, Franchesca, Noah, Max & Renae
<u>Year 1</u>	Eva, Freddie, Sienna, Katie, Vinnie, Connie, Furqan & Robin
<u>Year 2</u>	Reagen, Kelly, Eva, Ollie, Jesse & Daisy
<u>Year 3</u>	Poppy, Joshua, James, Denis, Laila & Ruben
<u>Year 4</u>	Lexi, Shae, Poppy, Leo , Joel & Livvie



Community News

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



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 HAF PROGRAMME. ELIGIBILITY CHECKS APPLY. HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE OR CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.KIDSUNTILDUNK.CO.UK
01234 930005

[Booking Link](#)



Christmas FOOTBALL CAMP

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

10% discount for siblings, NHS Police and Military Personnel

Held at Pendleton Sports Centre, Stotfold
Camp drop off 10am, pick up 3pm
Available to players between the ages of 4-15 years
Delivered by UEFA B and FA Licensed 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](#)



Our Sporty Scholars Camp is the place to be!

Enjoying Sports Coaching, Christmas Crafts, Curling, Go Karts & Christmas Disco!

LOCATIONS
Milton Keynes: Willen Primary School
Fitzwilliam: Templefield Lower School
Dec 20th - 23rd & 27th - 30th
Ages 5-12 Price from only £17.50
We Accept Childcare Vouchers

BOOK NOW: www.sportyscholars.com Tel: 07877 86 11 12

[Booking link](#)



Children's Community Health HUB
Your one stop contact point

0300 555 0606
cca.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net

Open 9am-5pm every weekday (excluding BH)

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

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.



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.
www.cliftonpbchurch.org.uk

FREE

Shefford Lower School

Diary Dates

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

Spring Term 2022

<u>5th January 2022</u>	<u>SPRING TERM Begins—Children Return</u>
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 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
<u>18th March</u>	<u>Red Nose Day</u>
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](#)