



# Weekly Update

## Friday 18th March 2022



Please email [schooloffice@sheffield.cbeds.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@sheffield.cbeds.co.uk) if you require support in accessing this newsletter in an alternative format.

Dear Families and Friends,

Our school, as I write, is full of red noses and head band boppers! It's red nose day as well as Science week fun. Each day working in a school brings something new, and it is such a privilege to work in such a vibrant environment. It was a soggy environment on Wednesday after the Woburn trip for year 1, but the children had an amazing time and learned so much too.

More recently, our school has been revitalised by the wonderful exhibits that are appearing in cabinets and on walls. Mr Bowen has been leading a team in school to develop an art gallery and museum. This isn't just any gallery and museum, because we have been working with the FitzWilliam in Cambridge and a museum school in Reading to ensure that the standard of display and choices meet the very strict standards that can become a community resource in the future. The work that has happened behind the scenes is beginning to take more shape in school. This week, after much work on cabinets, painting, lighting, locks and purchasing, the natural history cabinet is turning heads! The inspiration to uplift the experiences children have, and to enable access for all regardless of family circumstance has impacted our curriculum and will continue to drive improvement of opportunity for pupils as we develop them as curators. A big thank you to our team.



The children have been working hard on their writing and art following hands on visits from animal and bird specialists. Our younger age groups met with Safari Stu, whilst our older children experienced the birds of prey demonstrations. Part of our Science, the experience of living animals also supports the PSHE curriculum. More notably for us, we invest funding and time in forest school. We hope to earn the tree award for our school because of the progression in this area of learning. So, these experiences support that learning to remain memorable throughout their lives. We have the PSA to thank for this, and know that their fundraising is always to support the enjoyment and excellence in the school. Please do join the PSA if you have any time to spare. Every little helps.....

A polite reminder from me about uniform. It is never easy to explain to children why they can't have the latest ruck sack, trainers or logo shirt in school. This is not made any easier when their friends arrive with these items, and parents have understandably asked us directly to address this. Our uniform is such that it is suitable for play, learning and safety, including sun safety when this comes about. The uniform also fosters a sense of belonging and reduces the 'haves' from the 'have nots'. If you have difficulty financially providing correct uniform, do please let us know. We treat this information confidentially and sensitively, and can assist you.

Thank you for continuing to ensure children dismount scooters and bikes as they arrive in school. It is also great to see so many using helmets on their scooters. The safety of children is paramount and there are so many encouraging helmet designs these days that children love.



Reading Sprites has restarted! We began this prior to lockdown, so that the children would be excited by books in a different way. The children may find a book that we have planted around the community, and their job is to enjoy the book and re-hide it afterwards. We do have a Facebook page for this, so that participants can post their hiding places on the page. [FACEBOOK LINK](#). Please do not post pictures of the children that identify the school they attend to the public on this page. This is a safeguarding request. We very much hope you enjoy finding, reading and hiding the books. If you have donations of a good quality that we can continue to use to share, please do bring them in.

Over the next two weeks, we will be teaching the children about Easter and Holy Week. They will learn how the story of Jesus is the reason we have the Easter weekend and why the egg was then used to symbolise the empty tomb and the rock that was rolled away.

Have a great weekend, from Mrs Finch



## Values

The values of March will be Courage & Determination

*"What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?" Vincent Van Gogh.*

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 a crowd, when peer pressure is high.

### House Points and Attendance

W/E 04/03/22

#### House Points

Air—880  
Fire—706  
Water—673  
Earth—636

#### House Attendance

#### & Punctuality

#### Winner

**Water**



### 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

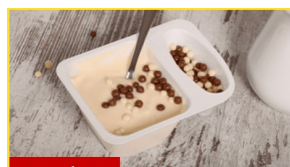
**Myth** – It's up to me what I let my child eat

**Buster** - Access to a healthy diet in order to thrive is part of safeguarding. Children without access to nutrition is an area of neglect. 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



#### Swap from

- ✗ Split pot yoghurts and pudding pots
- ✗ Cake bars and cereal bars
- ✗ Muffins and chocolate



#### Swap to

- ✓ Lower-sugar fromage frais or plain natural yoghurt
- ✓ Sugar-free jelly
- ✓ A slice of malt loaf or a fruited teacake



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](#)



This years theme for British Science Week was growth. We have been having lots of fun across the school taking part in projects and doing science experiments comparing our predictions with the final results and making predictions of what may happen by adapting the method.



### RED NOSE DAY

**Thank you to everyone that managed to buy a red nose. We sold a total of 240 noses which raised £360.**

On Wednesday, 24 children from Year 4 went to Robert Bloomfield for a Sports festival. The children took part in a variety of different circuit activities including long jump, target throw and speed bounce, finishing the session with some relay races.

My favourite part was the relay races.



I enjoyed the speed bounce and my score got better every time.



I liked seeing the giraffes - Jessica

I liked when we saw the lions because I did some homework all

I'd never seen a wolf before so it was my favourite part - Esmee

I've never seen a deer before and I saw two! - Ben



The year 1's took a trip to Woburn Safari Park this week to find out more about animals and their habitat. Although it was a very wet day the children came back in high spirits with lots of news of their school trip.



We had such a fun day at the zoo! I enjoyed the giraffe talk and I learnt that a giraffe's

I loved it when the monkey was climbing on the obstacle course - Mr Tilbury said he was monkeying around on the monkey bars!

We had such a cold and rainy day at the zoo but we loved it so much and had a lot of fun



SHEFFORD  
Museum and Gallery



Shefford Museum and Gallery is growing fast at Shefford Lower School. It features copies of some the most famous paintings in the world and authentic historical and natural history artefacts. We would like to share a different exhibit each week in the news letter. This week's featured exhibit is

More amazing items from our Shefford Museum antiquity department; these 5 ancient Egyptian Shabti amulets. A shabti (also known as shawabti or ushabti) is a generally mummiiform figurine found in ancient Egyptian tombs, placed among a mummy's bandages to ensure the deceased a safe, healthy and productive afterlife. During the Predynastic (pre 3100BC) and Early Dynastic Period (3150-2686BC) there is some evidence of the sacrificial burial of servants with the deceased! However, this practice was quickly seen as unnecessary and wasteful, and instead symbolic images of servants were painted inside tombs to aid the deceased in the afterworld. This was then developed into the use of small statuettes known as Shabti.

Early versions (Shabti or Shabtiu) were modelled to represent the task that they would perform and given tiny tools with which to complete their tasks. Later on, Shawabti (and Ushabti) were inscribed with a magical formula which would activate them

They are commonly made of blue or green glazed Egyptian faience, but can also consist of stone, wood, clay, metal, and glass. These particular ones are made of faience and terracotta. In ancient Egypt, objects created with faience were considered magical.

The meaning of the Egyptian term is still debated, however one possible translation is 'answerer', as they were believed to answer their master's call to work in the afterlife.



### 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>	Pear—Lowri, Plum—Renaë, Peach—Robin
<u>Year 1</u>	Sycamore—Elizabeth, Chestnut—Sienna, Holly—Elinor
<u>Year 2</u>	Willow—Jemima, Oak—Bethany & Holly, Maple—Bradley
<u>Year 3</u>	Cedar—Lilly, Elm—Albie, Hawthorn—Izzy
<u>Year 4</u>	Hazel—Poppy, Ash—Myla, Beech—Irina



### 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.

<b>Fire House</b>	Grace—Swimming, Lacey—Maple, Amelia—Gymnastics
<b>Water House</b>	Indianna—Karate, Ollie—Rugby, Archie—Rugby & Basketball, Sam—Football
<b>Earth House</b>	Oliver—Football
<b>Reception</b>	Charlotte—Rugby

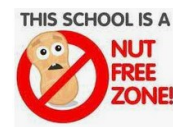


Congratulations to the children below who have been recognised as a Finer Diner this week for displaying good manners and values at lunchtime

EXCUSE ME

THANK YOU

<u>Reception</u>	Noah & Charlotte
<u>Year 1</u>	Jada & Zoe
<u>Year 2</u>	Indianna, Fabrizio, Adam, Maria & Aaron
<u>Year 3</u>	Ethan, Poppy, Edie, Mason, Louie, Alexandra
<u>Year 4</u>	Faith, Olivia, Theo, Kelsey, Freya & Tyler





## WANTED - NEW GOVERNORS

### What are we looking for?

Our school Governing Body is made up of Governors from all walks of life and many come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, skills, and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the school and are the link between the school and the community it serves.

### We want you –

We are currently looking for new Governors and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

1. An interest in the performance of the school.
2. A desire to contribute to and represent the community.
3. An open and enquiring mind
4. The ability to look at issues objectively
5. The confidence to ask questions and join in debate.
6. A willingness to listen and make informed judgements
7. The ability to work well with others

Time to spare



Everyone has something to offer, and we want people from as many backgrounds and with as wide a range of interests as possible.

### What can we offer?

- A chance to develop skills in strategic management
- The opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our School
- A sense of achievement in making a difference to our School
- The pleasure of helping students reach their potential

### What is the Governing Body's Role?

The Governing Body of our school plays a key role in: • setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement.

1. Monitoring progress towards meeting these targets.
2. Supporting and challenging the performance of the headteacher
3. Deciding policy and future development plans

As well as attending meetings governors are also asked to look at specific areas of the school's work in more detail. To help support governors, everyone has access to further training to help build on existing skills or to develop new ones.

Please look out on the school Parent Mail for further information or hand you details to the school office. The chair of Governors, Jo Elliott will then be in contact.

[schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk)

# PSA News

Our next meeting is our AGM on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March @ 7.30pm** and we need YOU!

This is a great opportunity to join the PSA as a new committee take the lead on discussing, planning and running lots of exciting events for all of the students at Shefford Lower School.

If you are keen to get involved then please contact the office.

All roles within the elected committee need filling as the current team step down after 2 years. No previous experience is necessary – the current Chair, Secretary and Treasurer all took on the roles in their first meeting at the AGM in 2020 and are willing to guide and assist anyone wishing to put themselves forward for these roles.

Please take a look at the descriptions below of what is entailed in each position and get in touch with the office to find out more about them.

## PSA Chairperson (The Chair)

The Chair is the public face of the elected committee, representing the PSA where necessary at public events and meetings within the school. They are usually the 'nominated person' for the committee at the AGM and also the main liaison with the Head Teacher and staff at the school

- Responsible for making interim decisions if necessary, that do not need the full committee. (All major decisions need to go to the full committee)
- To understand the roles and legal obligations of the committee ensuring confidentiality requirements of the school and discussions within the PSA meetings are met
- Responsible for ensuring all PSA members adhere to the school safe guarding policies
- Takes charge of open meetings (AGM etc) and committee meetings. Ensuring meetings are effective, kept to time and the agenda fully covered. The chair has the casting vote of any decisions that need to be made at meetings
- Must support and authorise the work of the secretary and treasurer
- Receive a copy of all bank statements
- Authorised to create sub committees for events and smaller expenditure when/if necessary.

## PSA Vice-Chair

- The Vice Chair provides support to the chair and shares the workload if necessary
- The Vice Chair should conduct meetings in the absence of The Chair
- The Vice Chair may be called upon to assist The Chair with immediate decision making where a full PSA meeting may be inappropriate or too far away

## PSA Treasurer

- Maintain an overview of the PSA bank accounts
- Report status of accounts at the meetings
- Keep notes of incoming and outgoing expenditure
- Arrange floats for events - drop off at school if necessary
- The ability to bank large amounts of money regularly
- The ability to respond to emails regularly
- To work with The Chair and school to make sure invoices are paid
- Oversee administration of the Your School Lottery account

## PSA Secretary

- Discuss items for the next meeting with 'The Chair', ideally a week or two before the meeting.
- Write the agenda and email the committee and school representatives separately (via Paula Hudson).
- Attend every meeting and take the minutes
- Write up the minutes and circulate round the committee and school representatives separately within a suitable time frame (1 week of meeting)
- Keep a list of all member's details for correspondence
- Contact any parents who have shown an interest in joining the committee i.e. after a coffee morning or new parent evenings.
- Save the agendas and minutes onto the PSA page of the school intranet (See Paula H in the office)
- Keep PSA Noticeboard up to date
- Keep school community updated through newsletter and social media.



# **Sheffield Lower School**

## **Easter Holiday Club**

*For children who attend Sheffield Lower in Years 1- 4*



**Monday 4th April 9.00am - 3.30pm**

**Tuesday 5th April 9.00am - 3.30pm**

**Wednesday 6th April 9.00am - 3.30pm**

*Numbers are limited to 30 children per day on a first come first served basis.*

**£18.00 per day**

**£12.00 per sibling**

# **BOOK NOW !**

**Booking forms are available on Parent Mail or paper copies can be collected from the School Office.**



## Community News

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



**at Stondon Village Hall**  
Offer a free trial (Excluding Clubbercise)  
IDTA ACCREDITED

Join us for our  
Fun Football Camp  
April 30th - 7th & 12th-14th 2020  
Pendleton Sports Centre-Stockford

Held at Pendleton Sports Centre, Stockford  
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.midsfutsal.co.uk](http://www.midsfutsal.co.uk)  
Send us an email: [midsfutsal@gmail.com](mailto:midsfutsal@gmail.com)

Adult Clubhouse classes running at Stondon Village Hall  
FUN DAYS during half terms and school holidays

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Adult Clubhouse 9:30 - 10:30am	Adult Clubhouse 9:30 - 10:30am	Adult Clubhouse 9:30 - 10:30am	Adult Clubhouse 9:30 - 10:30am

For more information visit [www.midsfutsal.co.uk](http://www.midsfutsal.co.uk)

[Click for more information](#)



**EASTER FOOTBALL CAMP**

Join us for our  
Fun Football Camp  
April 30th - 7th & 12th-14th 2020  
Pendleton Sports Centre-Stockford

Held at Pendleton Sports Centre, Stockford  
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.midsfutsal.co.uk](http://www.midsfutsal.co.uk)  
Send us an email: [midsfutsal@gmail.com](mailto:midsfutsal@gmail.com)

10% discount for siblings, NHS, Police and Military Personnel

In Partnership With

Wellness, MBS, BMF, The Great Support Network

[Click for more information](#)



**Easter Camp**  
Ages 3-14

JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR

Tennis, Cricket, Go Karts, Nerf, Football

Week One: 4th-8th April Week Two: 11th-14th Week Three: 19th-22nd  
Banbury / Bedford / Brackley / Filton / Milton Keynes

9-3:30pm / 10-5:30pm / 8-4pm / 8-5:30pm / 10-2pm from £18 per day  
Activities: Specialising in Tennis, Cricket, and Football plus an introduction to a variety of other sports and activities like...  
Throughout the day children can choose their preferred activities depending on what is feeling adventurous, or maybe on the creative side

BOOK NOW: [www.sportscholars.com](http://www.sportscholars.com) Tel 07811184310

[Click for more information](#)



**ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY EASTER FAYRE**

Our annual Fayre is bouncing back on  
**Saturday 26th March**  
10am - 1pm

Raffle Sponsored by COUNTRY PROPERTIES  
1st Prize - £100 • 2nd Prize - £50  
3rd Prize - Luxury Hamper

Plus lots more amazing prizes!  
BBQ & Refreshments • Games  
Full Entertainment Schedule

50p ENTRANCE

Stalls include - Miss Ellie Casual Dancewear, Temple Spa, Flamingo Paperie, Face Painting & Glitter Tattoo, Second Hand Uniform, Mother's Day and Easter Gifts, Badges, Bathbombs, Home Fragrances & Candles and much more



**Children's Community Health HUB**  
Your one stop contact point

0300 555 0606  
Open 8am-5pm every weekday (excluding BH)

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

- Health Visiting
- School Nursing

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

Children & Adults Community Health Services



**We're searching for new Cycle Instructors**

Could you inspire the next generation of cyclists?  
Outspoken Training are looking for confident communicators to enthuse school children to make more journeys by bicycle.

If you have loads of enthusiasm to share and are looking for rewarding work to deliver during school term time, we would love to hear from you.

Role: Employee - Variable Hours  
Hourly Rate: £12

Cycle Training Programme: Bikeability  
Training and Support: We provide full, free training and ongoing support including nationally recognised qualifications.

For more information, please contact Graham:  
[jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk](mailto:jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk)  
01223 473620

[careers.outspokentraining.co.uk](http://careers.outspokentraining.co.uk)

[For more information on this role please click this link](#)



**Premier Education 5-star Holiday Camps**

To put a spring in their step this Easter.

With action-packed sessions available throughout the school holidays, our camps are a fantastic place for children to meet new friends, have lots of fun, and create wonderful memories!

BOOK NOW AT:  
[premier-education.com/holiday-camps](http://premier-education.com/holiday-camps)

Follow us on social:  
[@PremierEducationUK](https://www.instagram.com/premiereducationuk)

Get 20% off when you Refer a Friend!

[Click for more information](#)



A safe space for anyone raising children on their own to connect with others who understand what it is like to be a Single Parent of a child with Developmental Trauma.

## Virtual Listening Circle for Single Parents

Monday 21st March  
10:00 - 11:00

[RSVP HERE](#)

- Feel empowered
- Overcome Compassion Fatigue
- Dispel isolation



[Ivel Valley Parent Bulletin](#)  
[Ivel Valley Early Help Bulletin](#)





# RELATIONSHIPS SHOULDN'T HURT

Domestic abuse comes in many forms and can be committed by a partner, ex-partner or family member.

## IS THIS FAMILIAR?

I'M BEING TOLD WHAT TO WEAR

I'M BEING STOPPED FROM SEEING MY FRIENDS

I'M ISOLATED

I DON'T HAVE CONTROL OF MY OWN MONEY

WHEN I'M PHYSICALLY HURT, I'M TOLD I'M TO BLAME

I'M BEING STALKED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

I'M UNDER THEIR CONTROL

THEY THREATEN TO 'OUT' ME TO MY FAMILY

I'M OLDER AND FEEL I'M BEING EXPLOITED BY MY FAMILY

I'M SUBJECT TO EMOTIONAL BLACKMAIL

MY CHILDREN ARE THREATENED

INTIMATE CONTACT IS NEVER MY CHOICE

I FEEL SCARED WHEN I'M AT HOME.

## YOU ARE NOT ON YOUR OWN

### Help is at hand...

If you identify with what you've read, or know somebody who you think needs help, you can contact the on National Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000 247, it's open 24/7

More information about local support services can be found on the Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership website [bedsdv.org.uk](http://bedsdv.org.uk)

If you feel immediate danger, call the police on 999



SCAN ME

Central  
Bedfordshire

BEDFORDSHIRE  
DOMESTIC  
ABUSE  
PARTNERSHIP

IT DOESN'T HURT  
TO ASK FOR HELP!

# Shefford Lower School

## Diary Dates

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

### 2022 Upcoming Dates

W/C 21st February	Year 3 Swimming lessons begin for 6 weeks
21st March—1st April	Big Walk and Wheel to school days—We want to encourage more families to travel to school actively, to help create healthier and happier communities
28th March	Year 4's 1940s Activity Workshop
30th March—1st April	Year 4 Residential Trip
1st April	Last day of Spring Term
19th April	SUMMER TERM Begins—Children Return
20th & 21st April	National Child Measurement Programme—Reception children.—The School nurse team will be in school for the NCMP—information sent out via Parentmail
27th April	Whole Class Photos
<u>30th May—3rd June</u>	<u>Half Term</u>
6th June 2022	Extra Bank Holiday to mark The Queen's Platinum
14th June	Year 4 Faith Tour
<u>30th June</u>	<u>Year 3 Sing Up Concert</u>
22nd July	Last Day of Term
5th September	2022/2023 School Year Begins

**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](mailto:schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk).

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

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

To find Shefford Lower's Academic Calendar for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 please refer to our website

**[Term Dates Link](#)**

Please note this will be different to the Central Bedfordshire term dates