



## Weekly Update



**Friday 18th October 2019**

Dear Friends and Families,

Thank you for a wonderful last week before the half term break. Hearing your views about the learning in our classes, and having the opportunity to share your children's successes with you is always a privilege. We have had some great suggestions too.

When we return, please remember that Monday 28<sup>th</sup> is a training day. We will be hosting other schools for our training event too.

When I am outside in the mornings, I have the pleasure of meeting many of you, and really like that you can share your thoughts with me. I agree that whilst scooters are great for fitness and should be encouraged, stepping off them on the narrower paths is essential for safety. I was sorry to hear that someone was ploughed into in a road not too far from the school.

We have been issued with car park passes for our staff car park. It is not a public car park, and whilst we understand that rainy weather and busy lifestyles mean car driving may be necessary, the safety of our children, staff and visitors is paramount. Authorised vehicles and those with disabilities, or specifically endorsed permissions can still safely park.

We have been *spriting* a few more reading books over the last few days. We hope you will also hide a few of your own. Reading is so fundamental to long term success in all areas of learning, and we were very pleased to hear how positive you also feel about our drive to make reading fun. Don't forget to enjoy the FREE book share. It is stored under the canopy near the Year 1 classrooms. It is a great way to upcycle and reduce waste, and at the same time, encourage children to read new books.

Thank you for your harvest donations. Mrs Houghton lead a wonderful assembly, with songs from each key stage, our instrumentalists playing and the choir singing. The boxes go to those in need and will be gratefully received.

When we come back in November, there is a lot happening. Our children are asked to attend the Remembrance Sunday commemorations, and we will also be thinking about Diwali, Children in Need and then the Sheffield Lights.

An important week we always put together in schools is 'Anti-bullying week'. Mrs Polito and Mrs Pearson will be planning our 'anti-bullying' activities. We are focusing on 'kind hands' for our special week, and this is one of our 2 essential school rules – Kind & Helpful.

Have a safe half term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Finch

## Values

The values from September 30th—October 18th are **Respect** and **Responsibility**.

- *Respect for everyone and everything.*
- *Taking on responsibility, owning our mistakes or our errors of judgement and resolving to learn from these experiences.*

## Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts for our harvest festival. All food donations have gone to the Preen Reuse Centre and the NEED Project, who support local families, within Central Bedfordshire who are facing severe hardship.

## Menu

A paper copy of the new menu has been sent home with children and is attached to this ParentMail. This will commence when we return after half term, **Tuesday 29th October** until **Monday 30th March**. To offer children more variety, AIP are pleased to be able to offer jacket potatoes on alternate days, and pasta with tomato sauce and cheese available on the others

## Flu Vaccination Forms

Information leaflets and forms for the flu vaccinations have been sent home with children in Reception to Year 4. Forms need to be returned by **Tuesday 29th October**. Please be aware that if you do not return a completed form for your child they **will not** be vaccinated.

## Year 4 Information Session for the Frontier Residential Trip

There will be an information session on Tuesday 29th October at 9.00am -9.30am regarding the Year 4 Frontier trip. This will give you additional information about what your child will be doing while they are away and a chance for you to ask any questions. Please complete the form on ParentMail to let us know if you are able to attend.



## Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip

Year 3 will be going on their Celtic Harmony trip on Friday 1st November, the first week back after half term. Children are encouraged to dress in Stone Age clothing and basic tips on how to make a simple costume has been sent out on ParentMail. Children will be spending most of the day outside, so they will also require a warm waterproof jacket, wellies or sturdy shoes and a hat and gloves.



## Phone Calls Home

Teachers will be making phone calls home every week to let parents and carers know how well their child has been working and for showing school values! Keep up the good work Shefford Lower!

**W/C 30/09/19**



### EYFS

**Peach** — Jacob H

**Pear**— Serafina J

**Plum**— Eden E-M



### Year 1

**Chestnut**— Paige S

**Holly**— Rory M

**Sycamore**—Leeia-Mai W

### Year 2

**Maple**—Emelia N

**Oak**— Victoria J

**Willow**— Evie E



### Year 3

**Cedar**— Bailey S & Ryan A

**Elm**— Theo H

**Hawthorn**— Trystan D



### Year 4

**Ash**— Poppy P

**Beech**— Amelia W

**Hazel**— Jake C



## 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

Oliver N  
Layton W  
Joshua S  
Max P  
Isaac P  
Sienna A

### Year 1

James R  
Kayleigh F  
Sonny B  
Mia W  
Max H  
Alexandra D

EXCUSE ME



THANK YOU

### Year 2

Mille B  
Scott B  
Ellise-May F  
Kiera H

### Year 4

Hayley E  
Violet H

### Year 3

Daniel H  
Phoebe B  
Ryan A

## **Shefford Sporting Successes**

We are pleased to announce some sporting successes that have taken place within Shefford Lower as well as outside of school! Please let your child's class teacher know about any successes in sport they have had by Thursday morning at the latest.

Congratulations to the following children (and staff!):

### **Year 1**

Poppy R—Swimming

Ollie W—Gymnastics

### **Year 2**

Joel B—Taekwondo

Phoebe L— Ballet

Grace C— Ballet

Scott B—Swimming

Ellise F— Gymnastics

Beth G—Gymnastics

Lily Joyce G

### **Year 3**

Eleanor B—Little Ninjas

Toby H, Albie , Harry D, Charlie H, Harrison B, Joshua A and Jack B—Rugby

Reuben L—Swimming

Shenai L—Gymnastics

Abbie H—Gymnastics

Annalise P—Swimming

Daniel H and Harry D—Futsal

Tommy C— Thai Boxing

Noah R— Football

### **Year 4**

William R—Taekwondo

Harrison R—Taekwondo

### **Staff**

Mrs Goldsmith—Rugby



## Internal Clubs

Keep a look out for more clubs coming in the Spring Term!

### Year 3 and 4 Press Club

Booking for this has now closed. This club will run the week commencing 28/10/19—09/12/19. You will be notified by ParentMail on the first week back after half term, whether your child has received a place or not.

### PE Club and Multi Skills Club

PE Clubs and Multi Skills will continue after half term and will finish the week commencing 09/12/19.

## External Clubs

### Little Ninja's

Little Ninja's will continue after half term and will finish on 20/12/19.

### Mid Beds Soccer

Please see a Mid Beds Soccer booking form attached to this ParentMail. This starts on the 29/10/19—03/12/19.

## Music News

This week we held our school harvest festival celebration. Musicians, including both Year 3 recorder groups and also the Year 3/4 morning recorder group, played as the rest of the school filled in. Other musical performances included Matthew (trumpet), Aaliyah and Abigail (flute) and Ellie (clarinet). The choir sang enthusiastically and the whole school joined in with some harvest hymns.

Year 2 recorder taster sessions have now finished. After half term, all children who wish to continue must have their own instrument and tuition book so that they can practise at home.

A special thank you to Ms Constable for all that she has done to help with the school recorder groups over the past few years. She will be greatly missed.

### Christmas Music Concert

Our evening Christmas music concert for Years 3 and 4 musicians and choir members will be on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.





## PSA News

### Your School Lottery— EVERY Saturday

We have another winner...well done Iain Mac. £20.00 is winging its way into your bank account. Tickets can be purchased at any time. Signing up to this term will automatically enrol you into a further prize draw to win one of 3 £100 cash prizes PLUS a chance to win the national £25,000 weekly jackpot. It's easy to set up, just follow the link <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play>. Good luck! This an ongoing offer and you can apply and set up anytime you like. Remember the more tickets purchased the higher the prize fund.

### Raffle Tickets

This half term your child will be bringing home some raffle tickets for this years Christmas Hamper draw. We have 5 lovely hampers to be won. One of which has been kindly donated by the new Shefford Co-Op store. The raffle will be drawn during the last Christmas concert on Thursday 12th December.

### Bag 2 School

Your child will be bringing home a bag to fill with unwanted clothing. Please take the time to fill it if you can and return to school on Wednesday 30th October. Bags are weighed and monies raised go directly towards our fundraising targets.

### Easy Fundraising

We have a link with the Easyfundraising company that allows online shopping to feed commission back to a chosen charity. The PSA have registered with this and have so far raised an additional £367.00 for the school. Please use the following link to register <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/E2CZEL>. It costs **NOTHING** and once it's set up there are reminders as you send on applicable websites. It really couldn't be easier to raise money for the school whilst you go about your general online shopping.

## PSA News

### Go Henry

Does your child receive pocket money? Do you want to have more control over how they save and spend? If so, Go Henry could be the solution for your family. Combining a pre-paid debit card and an app with unique parental controls, it's been built from the ground up for both parents and children. **Sign up today for your one month's free trial offer**, after which it's just £2.99 per child per month. The card can be used online, in-store, and at ATMs, so as we move ever closer to a cashless society, it allows children to experience money in all its different forms. This summer term gohenry is offering to give £20 to our PSA for every parent who activates. Go on – give it a try by clicking on the link <https://www.gohenry.com/uk/pta-referrals//?promotion=UKPTASLS&ght=UKPTASLS>

### Next meeting: Wednesday 13th November from 7.00pm

We are always looking for new supporters so if you are interested in joining our team or learning more about what we do please call in to the school office to register your interest.

your school lottery

supporting

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL  
EXTRA  
CASH PRIZES**






Buy Your Lottery ticket this term for a chance  
to **WIN** one of **THREE £100 prizes!**

- Chance to win £25,000 jackpot
- 40p in every £1 goes to school funds
- Local cash prizes **EVERY** week
- Extra cash prizes this term



# Community News

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



**Active Lifestyles**

**great lifestyles**

**October half term activities for families with children with Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)**

Siblings welcome. Note small group sizes, First come, first serve.

**Monday 21st October**  
**1pm – 3pm**

**Branch Out Forest School**  
Houghton Hall Park Visitor Centre,  
Park Road North, Houghton Regis,  
LU5 5FU

**Cost: £10 per child** - Must be accompanied by an adult/carer (free of charge). We also apply a 10% sibling discount after a full paying first child is booked.

Advanced booking required, contact [branchoutforestschool@gmail.com](mailto:branchoutforestschool@gmail.com)  
Or call Rosie on 07706 753260.  
For information about Houghton Hall Park visit [www.houghtonhallpark.org](http://www.houghtonhallpark.org)

**Tuesday 22nd October**  
**12 noon – 1.30pm**

**Flitwick Climbing Wall**  
Flitwick Leisure Centre  
Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Beds,  
MK45 1TH

**£8 per child**  
Advanced booking required  
Contact [climbing.flitwick@sl.co.uk](mailto:climbing.flitwick@sl.co.uk) or call 01525 493131  
Parents/carers need to stay to help supervise their child/children.

**Wednesday 23rd October**  
**10.00am – 11.00am**  
**11.15am – 12.15pm**

**Sandy Trampolining session**

**£2.50 per child**  
Advanced booking required  
Contact Engayne Avenue, Sandy,  
Beds SG19 1BL  
01767 681 872

Parents/carers need to stay to help supervise their child/children.

**Wednesday 23rd October**  
**10 am - 12 noon**

**Greensand Trust Supervised shelter building challenge.**  
Rushmere Country Park, Linslade Rd,  
Heath and Reach LU7 0EB

**£5 per child.**  
Maximum 12 participants. Minimum age 6 years old. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Advance booking required, visit [www.greensandtrust.org/whats-on](http://www.greensandtrust.org/whats-on)  
Or call 01234 743666

**Thursday 24th October**  
**12.30pm – 1.30pm**

**Flitwick Trampolining Session**  
Flitwick Leisure Centre  
Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Beds,  
MK45 1TH

**£3 per child**  
Advanced booking required  
Contact [kim.perry@sl.co.uk](mailto:kim.perry@sl.co.uk) or call 01525 493131  
Parents/carers need to stay to help supervise their child/children.

**Thursday 24th October**  
**11am**

**Relaxed Screening of Playmobil: The Movie (U)**  
The Grove Theatre, Court Drive,  
Dunstable, LU5 4GP

**Cost: contact for charges**  
To book visit [www.grovetheatre.co.uk/events/playmobil-the-movie-u-relaxed-screening/](http://www.grovetheatre.co.uk/events/playmobil-the-movie-u-relaxed-screening/) or call 01582 602080



**Active Lifestyles**

Central  
Bedfordshire  
Libraries

Central  
Bedfordshire  
**great**  
lifestyles

# Treasure Hunt

## Shefford Library

Can you help Scooby solve the mystery  
of who ate all the Scooby Snacks?




Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October


9am – 3pm



Parents and Carers are strongly advised not to leave children unsupervised in the library.  
Children under 8 must never be left unsupervised in the library

[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/libraries)

 CBCLibraries

 @cbc\_libraries

### Home-Start Central Bedfordshire Children and Family Charity Open Morning

You are invited to our Open Morning:

**Venue:** Stanbridge and Tilsworth Community Hall  
Stanbridge Rd, Tilsworth LU7 9PN

**Date and Time:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 10.00 to 12.00

Learn more about the work of our charity and hear presentations  
from our service users and volunteers.

Light refreshments available.

**Please RSVP:** 01582 660061

[office@home-startcentralbeds.org.uk](mailto:office@home-startcentralbeds.org.uk)



[www.home-startcentralbeds.org.uk](http://www.home-startcentralbeds.org.uk)

Company no. 5414484/charity number 1109262

# Diary Dates

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

**N.B—Please be aware of the change of time for the EYFS Concert on Tuesday 3rd December.**

<b>Autumn Term 2019</b>	
21st October	Half Term
28th October	Inset Day
29th October	Children Return to School
30th October	Bag 2 School
1st November	Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip
2nd November	STMA Fireworks—Glowsticks sold by the PSA
<b><i>6th November</i></b>	<b><i>RBA Open Evening 4.15pm</i></b>
8th November	Diwali Day
11th—15th November	Anti-Bullying Week
<b><i>12th November</i></b>	<b><i>Odd Sock Day</i></b>
15th November	Children in Need
<b><i>18th—24th November</i></b>	<b><i>Road Safety Week—'Step Up for Safe Streets'</i></b>
19th November	Flu Vaccinations for Years R –4
<b><i>20th November</i></b>	<b><i>Beep Beep Day</i></b>
22nd November	Year 2 Cake Sale
26th November	Oak Manor Music Visit
29th November	PSA Mufti Day

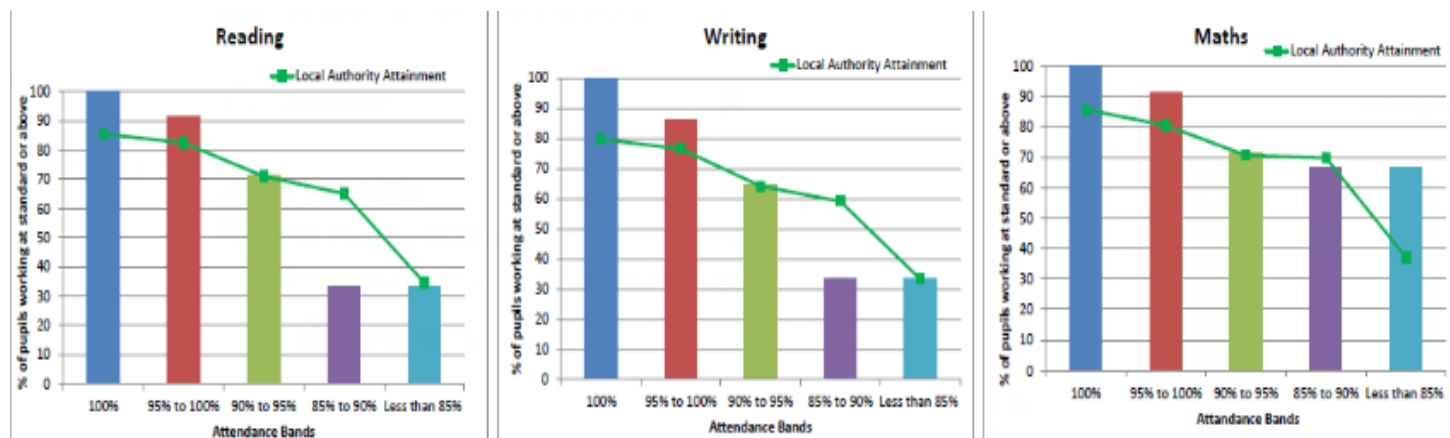
## Autumn Term 2019

2nd December	EYFS Dress Rehearsal 2.00pm
<b>3rd December</b>	<b>EYFS Concert 2.30pm</b>
4th December	Christmas Music Concert
6th December	EYFS Concert 2.30pm
9th December	KS1 Dress Rehearsal AM, KS2 Dress Rehearsal PM
11th December	KS1 Concert 9,30am, KS2 Concert 2.30pm
12th December	Hamper Raffle Prize Draw
12th December	KS2 Concert 9.30am, KS1 Concert 2.30pm
13th December	Present Day AM
13th December	Winter Fayre
17th December	Christmas Dinner
18th December	EYFS Parties with Santa AM
18th December	KS1 Parties with Santa PM
19th December	KS2 Parties with Santa PM
20th December	Christmas Carols End of Term

## 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