



Weekly Update

Friday 1st April 2022



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

Dear Families and Friends, We had sunshine, rain, snow and hail this week! We began with an Easter assembly with all year groups taking part in main school. Early years have been learning about Easter and why we celebrate it. They have been thinking about how this compares to celebrations at home. They too have been learning about the weather, with emphasis on Spring and the signs we are seeing in our gardens and Forest School.

A white fluttering from the sky on Thursday is very fitting in a week that saw a new government white paper, representing official national proposals being set out for the future of education from 2023.

[Link here](#)

The headline grabbing attention is the focus on schools opening for 32.5 hours weekly by 2023. This is the equivalent to schools opening from 8:45am until 3:15pm. This does not represent a change for most schools. Many operate beyond this scope and include free clubs also run by staff in addition. Shefford Lower School opens the gates at 8:45am, and egresses pupils for 3:20pm. We will consider any minor adjustments accordingly. We have not lost sight of the other information in this paper. The same white paper contains information about catch up funding and budgets for schools amid rising costs. It also details the need to have mental health first aiders. We are very proud of our mental health response and the increased support we have in place for our vulnerable pupils.

During lockdown, Shefford Lower provided training for ALL staff to build capacity to support mental health. We expanded our team for vulnerable pupils and have senior staff trained also. This is a strong focus in our school and we are very pleased to have provided a quality education during this time to exceed some of the outcomes enjoyed pre-lockdown

[Link here](#)

A green paper was also produced this week for SEND. Page 66 stating "Local authorities are uniquely placed to be a champion for the best interests of every child and young person in their area". We have been watching the response with interest too. Of note, IPSEA and NASEN who are two charities focussed on the rights of children who have special educational needs. If you have a child who needs support, you will know that this area of funding and service is never easy to navigate. There have been recent improvements noted at Central Bedfordshire, and we champion the continuation for improvement of support and timely interventions for families. We urge families to read the papers by clicking on the links in the boxes, and remain well informed in order to respond to future local consultations and national feedback.



Year 4 had WWII day on Monday too. They listened to songs from the era and cooked with ration recipes. Carrot cake all round! The children built models of Anderson shelters, and will be using their knowledge of electricity in Science to connect the light bulbs inside next. This is all part of our Shefford Connected Curriculum. Year 2 have also looked at how music lifts mood and feelings, using Mozart as their inspiration. This has connected with their work in art this week, producing abstract works.



This week, we were thrilled to be provided with some feedback from Central Bedfordshire regarding the changes to move towards becoming Shefford Primary School, instead of a lower school. This has been on hold due to recalibration since August. There will be official communications provided by the local authority before the end of the week, and we will endeavour to reach you with these. You will be aware that we have a parent forum for this project. We paused this group due to the recalibration. This is still a small group, and we would welcome further members at this stage, as we are likely to reinstate meetings following receipt of the information from Central Bedfordshire. **Please do contact the office and join in.** We aim to meet at least half termly once the project communication begins again, and I have typically held two virtual meetings (during day, and later than the school day) to ensure access to discussion. One of these is likely to become a face to face meeting.

[School Calendar link here](#)

A reminder that **Tuesday 19th April is NOT an INSET day**, and the children will return to learn. We have an exciting Easter themed carousel planned for the first week back, and coming up, lots of summer plans for sports, and also the jubilee celebrations. Have a great Easter break, From Mrs Finch



Values

The values of March will be Trust & Honesty

"When in doubt tell the truth." Mark Twain

Staying true to yourself and being trustworthy. Exploring what we look for in others & how we place our trust.
Understanding the difference between lying and holding back full truth as equally dishonest.

House Points and Attendance

W/E 18/03/22

House Points

Air—886
Water—883
Fire—762
Earth—658



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: "They can have a TikTok account if I want them to."

Buster: This may expose children to images or themes that are harmful and disturbing, or can be accompanied by targeted advertising for older age groups and users. The age restrictions is a legal requirement so schools have an obligation to investigate and record these instances. At Shefford Lower School we record using *CPOMS.

If you are concerned about a child outside of school you can phone 999 in an emergency or 101 to make a report.

[Follow the link](#)

The NSPCC operated an urgent helpline on 0808800500

Dinner swaps

Salt and saturated fat can really add up at dinnertime without us noticing – there can be a surprising amount of both in everyday foods.

Give some of these dinner swaps a go, or browse our [dinner recipes](#) for loads of tasty, healthier meal ideas.



Swap from

- ✗ Sausages
- ✗ Pizza
- ✗ Salt and soy sauce
- ✗ Ketchup



Swap to

- ✓ Low-fat mince – try our [spaghetti bolognese](#) or [meatballs and sauce](#) recipes
- ✓ Our [cheats' pizza calzone](#)
- ✓ Different herbs, spices and seasoning, like paprika, oregano or lemon juice



amazon
wishlist

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](#)



Thank you to the parents that joined Mrs Carter for coffee and cakes at the Parent engagement morning.

Message from Mrs Carter....

"Thank you to the parents for a successful parent engagement coffee morning. Lots of discussion and ideas on how parents would feel more involved. This gave me lots to think about and I'm looking forward to trying to creating an action plan moving forwards.."



Easter Egg Colouring Competition Winners

Cherry—Lila & Jack	Pear—Rose & Teddy
Peach—Emilia & Henry	Plum—Albie & Francesca
Holly—Niveen & Jessica	Chestnut—Logan & Isha
Sycamore—Anella & Sam	Willow—Forrest & Isla
Oak—Chloe & Ollie	Maple—Elisa & Charlie
Cedar—Lilly & Ollie	Hawthorn—Taylor & Eloise
Elm—Jacey-Mae & James	Hazel—Maisie & Harrison
Beech—Poppy & Leo	

Well done to everyone that entered, the winners got a yummy chocolate egg donated by the Tescos & Morrisons.

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



These are genuine Ancient Roman Coins made from bronze.

Top row: Two coins depicting Constantius II (AD 317-361), Roman emperor 337 – 361. He acceded after the death of his father, Constantine the Great, jointly with his two brothers.



Bottom Right: Coin depicting Valentinian I – (AD 321 – 375), Roman emperor from 364 to 375, who skilfully and successfully defended the frontiers of the Western Empire against Germanic invasions.



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—Muhammad, Plum—Allis
<u>Year 1</u>	Holly—Nivya, Chestnut—Ethan, Sycamore—Alex
<u>Year 2</u>	Oak—Freddi, Maple—Aleen, Willow—Luca
<u>Year 3</u>	Cedar—Poppy, Elm—Theo, Hawthorn—Louis
<u>Year 4</u>	Ash—Harry



Shefford Sporting Successes

Well done for another fantastic term of sporting achievements. We have had so much to celebrate, and it has been lovely being back in the hall for our weekly assembly the last few weeks. We have had 106 sporting achievements since Christmas across the school and we are hoping we can beat this in the Summer term! It's amazing to see the variety of sports the children are taking part in including; football, swimming, basketball, rugby, golf, gymnastics, running, dance, horse riding, twirling, trampolining, Taekwon-do, karate, hockey, tennis and even skiing! Well done and keep up the good work. Miss Leary and Mr Tilbury.

Earth House	Ethan—Karate, Sidney—Football, Lucas—Karate, Arthur & Louie—Swimming, Emily—Swimming
Water House	Edward—Football, Gracie—Taekwon-Do, Grace—Dance
Fire House	Quinn—Swimming, Raith—Karate
Air House	Maisie—Dance Reception—Elsie—Ballet, Rose—Swimming

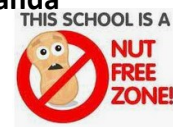


Congratulations to the children below who have been recognised as a Finer Diner this week for displaying good manners and values at lunchtime

EXCUSE ME

THANK YOU

<u>Reception</u>	Lee, Libby, Ronnie, Finn, Jake, Noah S, Callum, Jack
<u>Year 1</u>	Caitlyn, Katie, Hattie, Layla, Heidi, Grace, Leo, Sam, Teddy, Anurahda
<u>Year 2</u>	Amelia, Lacey, Esme, Michelle, Freddie, Holly, David, Sarah
<u>Year 3</u>	Lilly, Joshua, Bethan, James, Sidney, Scarlett
<u>Year 4</u>	Jackson, Devon



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

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 2022
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.midsbafutsal.co.uk
Send us an email: midsbafutsal@gmail.com

Adult Clubbercise classes running at Ardway Village Hall
FUN DAYS during half terms and school holidays

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9:30-10:30am 11:00-12:00pm	9:30-10:30am 11:00-12:00pm	9:30-10:30am 11:00-12:00pm	9:30-10:30am 11:00-12:00pm

For more information contact: midsbafutsal@gmail.com or call 01665 555555

[Click for more information](#)

EASTER FOOTBALL CAMP

Join us for our
Fun Football Camp
April 30th - 7th & 12th-14th 2022
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.midsbafutsal.co.uk
Send us an email: midsbafutsal@gmail.com

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

In Partnership With

Wellness, MBF, BNF, and other local organizations.

[Click for more information](#)

Easter Camp
Ages 3-14

JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR

Tennis, Cricket, Go Karts, Nerf, Football, and other sports.

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: Specializing in Tennis, Cricket, and Football plus an introduction to a wide range of other sports and activities like... (list of activities)

Throughout the day children can choose their own activities depending on what is feeling adventurous, or maybe on the creative side

Food and drink (not included) to suit you and your budget

SPORTS SCHOLARS

BOOK NOW: www.sportscholars.com Tel 07811184810

[Click for more information](#)

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

Follow us on social:
[premiereducationUK](https://www.facebook.com/premiereducationUK)

Get 20% off when you refer a friend

[Click for more information](#)

STMA PRESENTS
Easter Indoor Picnic

We're excited to bring you our Indoor Picnic once again.

There will be a live vocalist, Cara Bo performing children's themed songs that the entire family can sing along to, as well as a show by The Family Entertainer.

Bring your family & friends, as well as your picnic basket, and join us for an afternoon of fun.

Drinks will be available at the bar.

Saturday April 16th 12-4pm

Own supply of alcohol & beverages is not permitted on site

Sheffield Summer Fete @ the STMA
#Bigswell
June 5th 2022

Craft and local product stalls
Food trucks
family games and rides
and much much more

JACK COLLISON SOCCER SCHOOL

FORMER WEST HAM AND WALES INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER

EASTER HALF TERM CAMP!

FOOTBALL, COMPETITIONS, FUN AND PRIZES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-13!

MONDAY 11TH - THURSDAY 14TH APRIL, 10:00-15:00
ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY, SG175BU
1,2,3 AND 4 DAY TICKETS AVAILABLE
***** ONLY 60 SPACES AVAILABLE *****
BOOK ONLINE NOW!

[To book a space please click this link](#)

Children's Community Health HUB

Your one stop contact point

0300 555 0606
nhs.uk/bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub

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 Lobos 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.

Children's Adults Community Health Services

COLOUR DASH LUTON FAMILY FUN 5K

SUNDAY 17 JULY
keech.org.uk/colouredash

News Central

Ivel Valley Parent Bulletin



DOMESTIC ABUSE RESPONDERS' SCHEME

Central
Bedfordshire

Do you work in Central Bedfordshire and have a passion for helping people? Why not apply to become a Domestic Abuse Responder?

WHAT IS A DOMESTIC ABUSE RESPONDER?

A Domestic Abuse (DA) Responder is an advocate for DA issues within their agency or team. They will be able to advise their colleagues and ensure that their team are aware of local and national support services and resources. DA Responders will have access to a network of other DA Responders that can assist in supporting, helping and advising anyone who is, or who knows someone that is experiencing DA either personally or professionally.

WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE SCHEME?

Research tells us that victims can go to as many as five agencies before they find appropriate help, advice and support. By having DA Responders in Central Bedfordshire Council and its partners agencies, the aim is to reduce this number and provide a more joined-up approach for anyone experiencing domestic abuse. You do not need to be a frontline worker to be a DA Responder, you just need to be passionate about raising awareness in a safe way.

HOW DO I BECOME A DOMESTIC ABUSE RESPONDER?

You would apply to attend a two-day workshop covering all aspects of what domestic abuse is and learning about all the support available to anyone experiencing domestic abuse in Central Bedfordshire. You will have the opportunity to be part of a wider network of domestic abuse professionals that can assist in supporting, helping and advising a victim of domestic abuse and their family, and you will have access to a Domestic Abuse Responders' Forum to contact other DA Responders directly for support or advice.

WHEN CAN I START?

Our upcoming workshop dates are:

- Wednesday 19th & 26th January 2022
- Tuesday 10th & 17th May 2022
- Thursday 15th & 22nd September 2022
- Tuesday 6th & 13th December 2022

Workshops are 9.30 - 4.30pm and will be delivered via Microsoft Teams. Both workshops must be attended.

HOW CAN I APPLY?

If you would like to become a DA Responder please register on www.safeguardingbedfordshiretraining.co.uk and then search for DA Responders workshops



Shefford Lower School

Diary Dates

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

2022 Upcoming Dates

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>29th April</u>	<u>Early Years Cake Sale—raising money for GOSH</u>
<u>25th May</u>	<u>Year 4 Cake Sale—raising money for MacMillan</u>
<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>24th June</u>	<u>Year 1 Cake Sale—raising money for RSPCA</u>
<u>30th June</u>	<u>Year 3 Sing Up Concert</u>
<u>13th July</u>	<u>Year 3 Cake Sale—raising money for Smiles</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

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