



## Weekly Update



**Friday 20th September 2019**

Dear Families and Friends,

We are all here in our casual gear today, wearing our jeans for genes. As part of our learning in PSHCE, which we call 'life learning' with the children, we teach the children about their roles as active members of their communities. We hold cake sales for various charities and cover aspects of community in assemblies. Learning why we raise monies for those less fortunate and how this helps them also ties in with our values learning and the two most important rules we have in school – Be kind. Be helpful.

We are still enjoying the results of last week's scoping audit here at Shefford Lower School. Our fabulous results at the end of year 4 show clearly how well children achieve during their learning journey with us, and we have a clear focus on further improvements. Our results for children achieving across the subjects were very good, and we had an astonishing number of children leaving our school with greater depth grades.

The school was especially praised for the enthusiasm of the teachers as subject leaders and SLT, in terms of driving forwards improvements with big ideas. It is our aim to work for the outstanding grades for our school and offer you the best provisions possible.

This year, our school development plan focuses even more on our writing opportunities, and with reading especially, as this is known to support writing and every other subject too. We are aiming to make better progress with maths reasoning skills too. Reading also supports reasoning. With this in mind, you will have noticed our drive to support reading through our rewards daily, our book sprites and now our new book share. Please join in if you see a book to share or hide.

I was thrilled this week to know that we are having an impact with this already. A parent took the trouble to email me and tell me about the new enthusiasm both their children had towards reading every night. We don't need to tell parents the importance of a daily read, and how a daily read has been shown to develop neurons most successfully for learning – little and often is our message. No matter how old children get, this approach has been shown to be of continued benefit beyond the teenage years, so it is little wonder we are encouraging all of our children to read every night.

This year, the local authority produced graphs for Shefford Lower School attendance, and not just a generic one for the local authority. This graph shows very clearly that the highest outcomes are attributed to the highest attendance in all areas. This must therefore be a significant aspect of our school development plan for all pupils. We follow the advice and templates from our inclusion and attendance officer when responding to absences, and we do not authorise holidays. There are exceptional circumstances where this might be changed.

This week we launched our golden mile activity. The teachers are taking children outside to run their mile during the afternoons, but we are also using our wonderful new house captains to develop this further at breaks and even at the beginning of the school day. We hope to see many of our children gaining their house points for running their miles.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Finch

## **September Values**

The values for this month are **Unity** and **Belonging**.

- *Starting in our new classes with a sense of togetherness and belonging.*
- *Belonging and working together in our school, as a new class, in our house groups.*
- *Developing our community by building each other up and including everyone in our groups so that they feel a sense of belonging.*

## **Bike to School Week - 23rd-27th September**

Next week is Bike to School week and we are encouraging pupils, parents and staff to cycle to school! This is a great opportunity to promote the positive impact that an active lifestyle can have on a pupils' wellbeing and health and a fantastic way to get warmed up for the Sustrans Big Pedal in the spring! Please see the guide attached to this ParentMail on walking, cycling and scooting to school. There is also a chance of winning a brand new children's Frog Bike when you share a photo of your family cycling to school. To enter:

- Follow @Sustrans on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram
- Share photos of your family cycling to school during Bike to School Week
- Use #SustransWin

Competition closes at 9.00am on Monday 30th September 2019.

## **SEND Coffee Morning**

Mrs Ross our SENDco and Mrs Parry our Family Support Worker will be holding a coffee morning on Tuesday 24th September. This is an opportunity to meet other parents in similar situations and discuss things in a more informal environment. This will be held in the library from 9.15am—10.30am, entry will be via the Community Entrance .

## **Aldi's Kit for Schools**

We are collecting Team GB stickers with Aldi's Kit for Schools for the chance to be one of 20 schools to win £20,000 to build a health legacy at our school.

From the 6th-7th November, when you spend £30 or more in any Aldi store, you'll receive a special Team GB sticker—if our school works together to collect 300 stickers, we will automatically receive an exclusive sports kit, in addition to entry into the £20,000 prize draw.

Please send any stickers you receive into school with your children, or bring them in yourself to the school office and we will add them to our Aldi's Kit for School poster.

## **Donations please!**

Cherry Class are in need of girls pants and socks age 3-4/4-5 for spares please! Also any Duplo that your child doesn't play with anymore, would be greatly appreciated.

## House Captains

Votes have been counted and here are our house captains, vice captains and prefects; congratulations!

### Fire



**House Captain**—Copper R

**Vice Captain**—Violet H

**Prefects**—Oscar E, Jefferson W,  
Bobby C, Jaya A

### Air



**House Captain**—Aaliyah H

**Vice Captain**—Harry K

**Prefects**—Charlie H, Eli C, Harry H,  
Matthew F

### Water



**House Captain**—Poppy M

**Vice Captain**—Theo C

**Prefects**—Logan H, Lily S, Sophia  
JS, Harrison R

### Earth



**House Captain**—Charmaine L

**Vice Captain**—Oliver A

**Prefects**—Aston M, Jamie H, Ellie  
S, Lily W.

## Shefford Sporting Successes

We have begun celebrating children's sporting successes on a Friday in assembly. Congratulations to the following children:

### W/C 09/09/19

Frankie, Freddie, Harrison, Zion and Theo K - Year 2 - Football

Louie B—Cedar—Go Karting

Phoebe B—Elm—Dance

Abigail H—Cedar—Dance

Aaliyah H—Hazel—Street Dance

### WC 20/09/19

Evie E in Willow came 3rd in a baton twirling competition last weekend and received a medal. She has also qualified for Nationals! Well done Evie!

## 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!

**09/09/19**

### EYFS

**Peach** — Thea C

**Pear**—Holly W

**Plum**—Lana C



**16/09/19**

### EYFS

**Peach** — Ava C

**Pear**—Jack S

**Plum**—Jessica R



### Year 1

**Chestnut**—Charles L

**Holly**—Shiron A

**Sycamore**—Molly B

### Year 2

**Maple**—Theo S

**Oak**— Freddie W

**Willow**—Niamh R

### Year 3

**Cedar**- Amely H & Harry G

**Elm**—Harper M

**Hawthorn**—Jude B

### Year 4

**Ash**— Charmaine L

**Beech**—Madison H

**Hazel**—Annaliese L



## 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

Rory M  
Bethan L  
Max H  
Amelie S

### Year 2

Beth G  
Arianna M  
Freddie W

EXCUSE ME



THANK YOU

### Year 3

Katherine Z  
Charlie H  
Noah R  
Bethany J

### Year 4

Lauren D  
Miles M  
David R  
Oscar E

# 😊 SAVERS CLUB 😊

- You can join at any time
- You can save once a week on Thursdays and get a sticker
- Get to know the different denominations and counting.  
**Maths is fun!**
- Gain certificates
- Make withdrawals
- The account can be transferred to online banking when moving on to a different school.



## SAVERS TEAM NEEDS YOU!

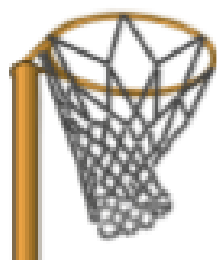
If you can spare some time on a Thursday morning to join this friendly team please leave your details with the office.



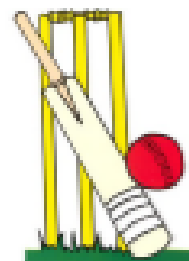
# Sheffield Lower School

## Holiday Club

### Autumn 2019



£18 per day  
£12 per sibling



9am—3.30pm



Current Years 1-5



Monday 21st October 2019 Tuesday 22nd October 2019

# BOOK NOW !

Booking can be made via ParentMail or forms can be obtained from the school office

## Music News

Music clubs all restarted this week and a good number of children attended. New members are still welcome. All clubs are held on **Tuesdays**. Please see details below:

### Recorder Groups (Years 2,3 and 4)



Year 4—Advanced recorders—8.30am

Year 3—Intermediate and Beginner Groups—Lunchtime

Year 2—Group for each class during the school day.



### Choir (Years 3 and 4)

3.30pm-4.00pm

### Ukulele Group (Year 4)



Morning break

Instrumental orders have been sent off and should be with us soon. **Please ensure that your children's recorders, ocarinas, ukuleles and music tuition books are clearly named.**

### Instrumental Lessons

There are spaces available for children in Years 2, 3 and 4 to commence violin, flute, clarinet, piano, guitar and trumpet lessons. Research into music has shown it to have many wide-reaching benefits including intellectual development, boosting self-confidence, self-expression, speech and developing maths skills. Lessons take place during normal lesson time, break or lunchtime. There is a cost for these lessons but the loan of an instrument for approximately 2 years is included in the price, subject to availability (except piano and guitar). Group lessons are offered subject to availability of another pupil of a similar ability. Please enquire at the school office for more details or check the Inspiring Music website <https://www.inspiringmusic.co.uk/lessons-schools/overview>





# PSA News

## Circus—Saturday 28th September

One more week to go and tickets are selling fast. The 2.30pm show is now SOLD OUT but we do still have tickets for the 1.00pm. Order forms are available from the school office. Tickets are £8.00 per person (over 2 years). Alongside the circus we are running several stalls which will be open from 12.00pm-5.00pm, these include tombola's, candy floss, popcorn, ice cream, burgers plus many more. These stalls will vary in cost from 50p—£1.00 (refreshments and flashing wands etc. will be more).

## Your School Lottery—Saturday 5th October

Our first lottery draw is now only 3 weeks away. We only have 9 tickets left to reach our starting target of 50. Enrolling and buying your tickets this term will automatically enrol you in a further prize draw to win one of 3 £100.00 cash prizes **PLUS** a chance to win the national £25,000.00 weekly jackpot. Our current school jackpot would be £20 if we can raise 50 supporters. There are some people that have registered but not purchased tickets.

Don't forget to go in and register as already one of our lucky supporters won the luggage set that was the incentive last term! Please use the link <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/shefford-lower-school>.

## Family Photo Shoot—Sunday 13th October

Back by popular demand we have Figment photography returning to the school to take family portrait photos in time for Christmas gifting. There are 5 slots left so please contact the school office to book your place and secure with a £10.00 sitting fee (non-refundable)

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

# Early Help Ivel Valley Locality

Community Drop-In

Shefford Lower School

Tuesday 1st October 2019  
9:15 - 11:15 am

Pop in to your local drop-in to access advice from the Early Help Ivel Valley Locality team and local agencies that can support you and your family's needs



## 4Cornercoaching October Half Term Sports Camps



**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct: Sandy Sports Centre Astro - SG19 1BL**  
Football camps - Ages 5 – 14 & Rugby camps - Ages 6 - 12

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct: Eynesbury Rovers FC Grass/Astro – PE19 2SF**  
Football camps – Ages 5 – 14 & Multi-sports camps Ages – 6 - 12

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct: Sandy Sports Centre Astro – SG19 1BL**  
Football camps - Ages 5 – 14 & Rugby camps - Ages 6 - 12

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct: Sandy Sports Centre Astro - SG19 1BL**  
Football camps – Ages 5 – 14 & Multi-sports camps Ages – 6 - 12

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct: Sandy Sports Centre Astro - SG19 1BL**  
Football camps – Ages 5 – 14 & Multi-sports camps Ages – 6 - 12



**Times/Costs:**

**Option 1 - 9.30am-4.30pm = £20 per day - Option 2 - 10am-4pm = £15 per day**

**Contact : Natasha – 07957980492 – [natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk](mailto:natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk)**

**Mark – 07419764033 – [mark@4cornercoaching.co.uk](mailto:mark@4cornercoaching.co.uk)**

**[www.4cornercoaching.co.uk](http://www.4cornercoaching.co.uk)**



## 4Cornercoaching October Half Term Football Camps



**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct:**  
**Sandy Sports Centre Astro - SG19 1BL - Ages 5 – 14**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct:**  
**Eynesbury Rovers FC Grass – PE19 2SF – Ages 5 – 14**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct:**  
**Sandy Sports Centre Astro – SG19 1BL – Ages 5 – 14**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct:**  
**Sandy Sports Centre Astro - SG19 1BL - Ages 5 – 14**



**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct:**  
**Sandy Sports Centre Astro - SG19 1BL – Ages 5 – 14**

**Times/Costs:**

**Option 1 - 9.30am-4.30pm = £20 per day - Option 2 - 10am-4pm = £15 per day**

**Contact : Natasha – 07957980492 – [natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk](mailto:natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk)**

**Mark – 07419764033 – [mark@4cornercoaching.co.uk](mailto:mark@4cornercoaching.co.uk)**

**[www.4cornercoaching.co.uk](http://www.4cornercoaching.co.uk)**

# Diary Dates

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

**NB—Please see the change of dates for the Harvest Festival and the Christmas Music Concert.**

<b>Autumn Term 2019</b>	
23rd-27th September	Bike to School Week
24th September	SEND Coffee Morning 9.15am—10.30am
28th September	PSA Shefford Circus
7th October	Year 4 Alban and the Roman Trail Trip—St Albans Cathedral
11th October	Healthy Me Day
13th October	PSA Family Photo Shoot—Figment Photography
<b><i>15th October</i></b>	<b><i>Harvest Festival</i></b>
16th October	Parent Consultation Evening
16th October	Individual and Family Photos
17th October	Year 4 Cake Sale
18th October	Parent Consultation Evening
21st October	Half Term
28th October	Inset Day
29th October	Children Return to School
1st November	Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip
8th November	Diwali Day
11th—15th November	Anti-Bullying Week
15th November	Children in Need
22nd November	Year 2 Cake Sale
26th November	Oak Manor Music Visit

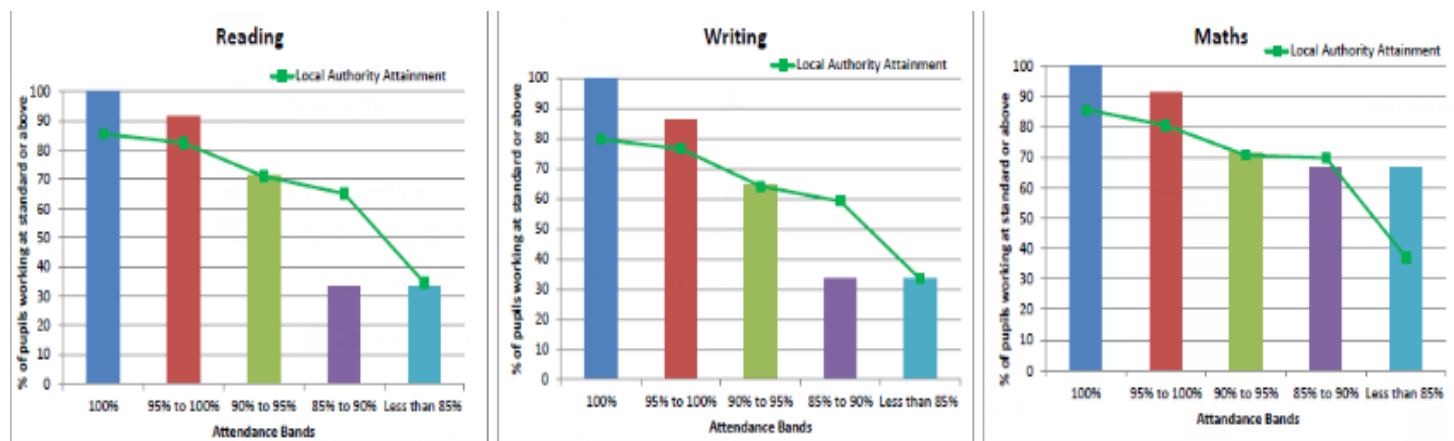
## Autumn Term 2019

2nd December	EYFS Dress Rehearsal 2.00pm
3rd December	EYFS Concert 9.30am
<b>4th December</b>	<b>Christmas Music Concert</b>
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	KS2 Concert 9.30am, KS1 Concert 2.30pm
17th December	Christmas Dinner
18th December	EYFS Parties with Santa AM
18th December	KS1 Parties with Santa PM
18th 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