



Weekly Update

Friday 23rd April



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

Dear Families & Friends,

We have had a very lovely week in school, and children have been completing some excellent work. I have been especially enthused with children telling me exactly how the digestive system works this week, and the vocabulary they use too. The enthusiasm for dinosaurs never wanes, and I have seen some wonderful fossil making in our early years classes.

This term, we will be liaising with Robert Bloomfield about the one way system up the path. You should therefore have received a couple of questions via parentmail so that we can reflect parent views in those discussions. We are also considering whether we are ready to open the gate near the year 4 end of our school to allow two way site access just at Shefford Lower School.

We are beginning to think about clubs and visits that can be managed within the current restrictions. It has been incredible to have our Forest School sessions up and running again, and little by little we are seeing a return of activities. Our next communication will be about the year 4 events, and we are thrilled to be able to offer memorable experiences this year. The planning for our sports week in Summer is underway. Mrs Freeman and I have tentatively put forward plans to provide our open evening for Nursery and Reception too. Please do keep an eye out for our communications and share them so that we ensure our school family are all included.

Our office will be contacting you imminently about parents consultations. These are remaining virtual.

This week in school our children watched The Lorax together, and this was superb to have a theatre production shared by everyone. Please do talk about this at home and share in the enjoyment.

It's always pleasing to start the day with a housepoint, and we do try to be outside to greet pupils and praise them for doing the right thing. In the mornings this is often seen with children walking safely with their bikes and scooters as they approach the site. Please also encourage children to show integrity—showing their values by doing the right thing even when no one is watching...!

Helping children to think about being actively involved in positive change, and being part of the community, is a crucial part of our lower school curriculum. By the time you read this, we hope to have raised funds through our sports mufti to support Shefford Saints. I want to say thank you for participating in this good cause.

Wishing you all a great weekend (and some wonderful reading, of course).

From Mrs Finch

Values

The values from April 13th —April 30th are **Cooperation and Sharing**

Team work, playing a part whether large or small, encouraging each other to be included and feel valued. Sharing games, sharing equipment, sharing feelings, sharing friends. Understanding what might make others reluctant to share or cooperate and helping each other overcome these barriers.

House Points and Attendance

Well done to the winning houses, and last week for house points and attendance!

W/E 16.04.21



House Points

Water—547

Earth—770

Fire—770

Air—837



House Attendance

Air—98.08

Water—98.82

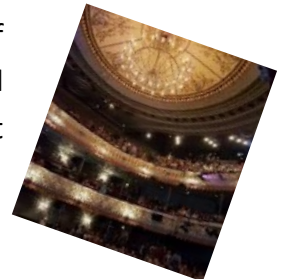
Fire—99.02

Earth—99.3



The school was invited to watch a live performance of The Lorax virtually at The Old Victorian Theatre on 22nd April which coincided with Earth Day. Here is what children thought of the show ;

"I thought it was very entertaining to see the Lorax puppet move. It was very funny." "It was very clever the way the actors and Lorax puppet interacted with each other." "I loved the Pop song!"



Amazon Wish List



Just a reminder about our Wish List on Amazon! It contains carefully selected books and resources which we know will greatly benefit your

children with their learning this year. If you wish to purchase a book for our school, please use the link below to find the full list:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2ZZUJD59NIDQ7/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist#



We held a Sports Themed Mufti Day today to help raise funds for Shefford Saints. They recently had some sports equipment destroyed.

Shefford Lower School raised an amazing....

£357.63

Thank you to everyone who contributed





Sheffield Sporting Successes W/C 19th April 2021

We celebrate children's sporting successes from home as well as those in school. As clubs begin to start up again, 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.



The children will be taking part in active challenges during their playtimes. This week's challenge was to see how many jumps they could do in 60 seconds. The children who improved their score the most were:

Holly—Edward and Evie
Sycamore—Zoe and Fabrizio
Chestnut—Emily, Eden and Gabriel

Oak—Joshua and Lara
Willow—Isla and Noah
Maple—Remmy and Paige

Cedar—Beth and Masen
Hawthorn—Iris and Leo
Elm—Olivia and Freddie

Ash—Bethany and Noah
Beech—Amely and Bailey
Hazel—Elliott and Tulisa

Next week the children will be seeing how many squat jumps they can do!

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 12/04/20



Reception

Peach — Mya D

Pear — Elinor L

Plum — Blake P

Year 1

Chestnut — Sarah D

Holly — Holly W

Sycamore — Zoe R



Year 2

Maple — Charles L

Oak — Scarlett N

Willow — Emily B



Year 3

Cedar — Felix M

Elm — Shae S

Hawthorn — Max H

Year 4

Ash — Charlie W

Beech — Renae I

Hazel — Reuben L





VACANCY – APRIL 2021

2 POSTS

TEACHING ASSISTANT – 20 hours over 5 days
Inclusion Support

NJC Level 2A, SCP 3 -4 (£18,065 - £18,426 FTE)
£9.36 - £9.55 per hour – pay award pending

Or

NJC Level 1D, SCP 2 – 3 (£17,711 - £18,065)
£9.18 - £9.36 per hour – pay award pending.

Sheffield Lower School is an excellent, thriving, friendly and values based school with over 500 children on roll. Our school offers a very well-resourced and vibrant learning environment for both children and staff to develop and achieve their potential. We pride ourselves in our community and a warm school family.

We have a vacancy for 2 Inclusion Teaching Assistants to support children with an Education Health and Care Plan. An NVQ Level 2 qualification in childcare is preferred, together with a minimum of 6 months' experience of working with children in an educational setting within the last 5 years. Members of our team must be caring, cheerful and proactive being able to support children with a range of learning and pastoral needs.

Closing Date: 26th April 2021

Interview Date: 28th April 2021

Interested applicants should complete an application form which is available on our School Website.

All staff are required to follow our policies and procedures working in line with the ethical framework and values of the school.

Sheffield Lower School is committed to safeguarding children and all appointments are subject to enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check



VACANCY – APRIL 2021

MIDDAY SUPERVISORY ASSISTANT

7.5 hours per week (5 days)

Level 1D, SCP 2 – 3 (£17,711 - £18,065)

£9.18 - £9.36 per hour

Shefford Lower School is a thriving, friendly, values based school with over 500 children on roll. Our school offers a very well-resourced and vibrant learning environment for both children and staff to develop and achieve their potential.

Join our team of Midday Supervisory Assistants to look after our children at lunchtime. No experience is necessary but what is required is a friendly, caring nature with a “can do” attitude.

All staff are required to follow our policies and procedures working in line with the ethical framework and values of the school.

Interested applicants should complete an application form which is available on the school's website: www.sheffordlowerschool.co.uk

Closing Date: 9am 26th April 2021

Interviews: 28th April 2021

All staff are required to follow our policies and procedures working in line with the ethical framework and values of the school.

Shefford Lower School is committed to safeguarding children and all appointments are subject to enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check



If your child has:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of
smell or taste

This could be a sign of
coronavirus

Book a test

If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell
But they don't have:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste

These are
not normally symptoms of
coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial
111 or see your GP

parent safety measures

Walk the one way

The one way system prevents the risk of contamination from passers by, and also helps to maintain the social distancing.

Keep the distance

Covid spreads less easily if people aren't close to each other. We have marked out lines to stay behind, and a safety box at the door to keep clear. Please stay outside of the box when talking to teachers.

One adult per drop off or collection

With 500 families, keeping numbers down will help to keep you safe, reduce the infection rate and help to keep our school empty. Please do not arrive on site in twos, or threes, or with friends.

Fewer adults on site

at the same time

Our staggered timings reduce the numbers of adults on site at any one time. We know they don't fit everyone, particularly if you have several drop-offs, so please talk to us if you have exceptional challenges. We have classes using different doors, and we also request adults move on after their designated time to help us keep congestion down. We are available by phone or email to answer queries and support you.

Sanitise and hand wash

Kill the virus in its tracks by using soap or hand sanitiser, and support your child to understand the benefits of hand hygiene

Masks

If you enter the reception foyer, you will be in an enclosed space with other users. We advise you wear a mask. In all situations, please do not discard masks on the school grounds. Use bins or take them home to dispose of. We recommend contacting the office by phone or email in most circumstances.

**Thank you
for your support**



PSA News

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 29th April @ 7.30pm** via Zoom

Would you like to join the PSA?

One of the main benefits that people gain from being involved in the PSA is the feeling of contribution to their child's school life and also the social aspect of meeting other parents.

During our meetings we discuss ideas for future fundraising and community events for the benefit of the children at Shefford Lower School.

Does this sound like something you want to be a part of?

Please contact us through the school office or via our Facebook page to find out more about the PSA.

How to support the PSA

Help us raise **FREE** funds for

Shefford Lower School PSA

every time you **shop online**

Just search for us on easyfundraising.org.uk

DINO BANK





You'll find him in the school entrance.

He's always hungry and is kept happy by feeding him your spare change!

Thank you



How the lottery works

	<p>£1 per ticket</p> <p>That's right, unlike many other lotteries, our lottery tickets are only £1 per week.</p> 	<p>Help us do more</p> <p>For every ticket you play, 75% goes to our school and prizes.</p> 	<p>£25,000 grand prize</p> <p>Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT!</p> 
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A big thank you to everyone for your continued support of our PSA



Have your say...

on proposed changes to schools in your area

Around 43,000 new homes are expected to be built in Central Bedfordshire by 2035 – and that means more SEND school places will be needed.

Local schools have been working together, with Central Bedfordshire Council, on a long-term plan to make sure we have:

- The right schools
- In the right places
- Delivering the best education

The proposed plan includes an increase of places at 4 Special Schools, an increase of Additional Resource Provision places within mainstream schools and including multi-use and nurture spaces in mainstream schools, where there is space to do so.

**Find out more and have your say at
www.schoolsforthefuture.co.uk/SEND**

The consultation is open until
8 July 2021.

**Additional Resource Provision
in mainstream schools**

Schools for the Future

...the right schools, in the right places, delivering the best education

Community News

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



MAY
17

Emotional Wellbeing session for Parents - Year 4 transition

by Central Bedfordshire Council - Early
Help Team

[Follow](#)

Free

Virtual Information and guidance session - Year 4 transition

About this Event

This is a virtual information and advice session to support families, the session will provide you with ideas on how to support children with their Year 4 transition.

The session will be split into 2 parts:

16.30-17.00 :Presentation from Chloe Lovell - CBC Emotional Wellbeing Practitioner

17.00-17.30:Time to ask questions

Date And Time

Mon, May 17, 2021
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM BST

[Add to Calendar](#)

Location

Online Event



The First Steps to Supporting a Child with Autism Spectrum Conditions

A workshop for parents/ carers

This will be a relaxed session, specifically for parents and carers of children who are undiagnosed, newly diagnosed, or going through the diagnostic process. The session will consist of a 60 minute talk on Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC), followed by an opportunity to hear from and share with other parents and carers, and gain information about local support and services.

Date: Tuesday 25th May 2021

Time: Log in from 6:15pm for a prompt
6:30pm start, till 9pm

Cost: £5.00

To Book:

✉ enquiries@autismbeds.org

☎ 01234 214871

Evening
Session



The training will be online, using Zoom. Once booked on, we will provide you with the details to join.





60-Second Vegtastic Lunchbox Hacks

Veg are a key part of a healthy diet but it can be a real struggle to get kids to eat enough of them. Adding an extra portion or two to their packed lunch will help to up their intake. Try these simple ideas to **veg-pack their lunchboxes** with limited faff.

The basic toolkit:

- **Containers** (small and lidded for dips, leftovers and more)
- **Cutlery** (if needed)
- **Thermos** (any heat-retaining flask is great for soups, baked beans, leftovers, etc.)
- **Bamboo kebab sticks** (optional, but helpful for making veggies more fun)

Top tip: Know your portions – a child's portion of veg is roughly 50g or what fits into a child's hand.

kids fruit



#LunchboxHacks
@VegPowerUK
For recipes, tips and free downloads visit:
vegpower.org.uk

VEGPOWER

5 easy #LunchboxHacks to add more veg in 60 seconds or less:



1. The Salad-on-a-Stick

Get a bamboo kebab stick and thread on different veg such as cherry tomatoes, cubed cucumber, cubed cooked beetroot, chunks of peppers, raw button mushrooms, crunchy lettuce, etc) in fun colours. If your child isn't a fan of veg, try starting off by alternating veg with cooked meat, cubed cheese, etc to ease them into it.



My Favourite veg was:

2. The Lunch Crunch

1 carrot chopped into sticks (or pre-chopped carrot sticks) with a pot of hummus (or their favourite dip) adds a portion of veg.



I ate this many carrots:

3. The Sandwich Slice

Slice 5cm cucumber (about the length of a small egg) and add to a sandwich for an extra portion of veg with minimal effort.



I ate this much cucumber:

4. The Helpful Handful

Add a handful of ready-to-eat snacky veg to a container. Try cherry tomatoes, drained tinned sweetcorn, celery sticks, green beans, cucumber etc.



My Favourite veg was:

5. The Half-Baked Plan

Heat through half a tin of baked beans (ideally low sugar and salt) and stick in a heat-retaining flask for an easy veg portion win.

Top tip: Keep trying! If they are not used to veg in their packed lunch, it may be picked out and ignored on the first few days. The more they see it and interact with it, the more the veg becomes "normal".

This week my rating is:

For recipes, tips and free downloads visit:
vegpower.org.uk



HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMP

Creativity, Confidence, Control, & Courage

JUNE 1st, 2nd, & 3rd

Including indoor & outdoor activities

We're now offering a payment plan to help you spread the cost.

Get in touch to find out more!

Join us for our half-term camp!

1 day: £20

2 day: £40

3 day: £50

- Held at **Pendleton Centre, Stotfold.**
 - Camp drop off **10am**, pick up **3pm**.
 - Available for players between the **ages of 5-15.**
 - Delivered by UEFA B & FA licensed coaches.
- Limited spaces available!**

Book Today:

Head to our **website:**
www.midbedsfutsal.co.uk

Send us an **email:**
midbedsfutsal@gmail.co.uk



Activities to smile about

Whitsun half-term: Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June, 2021



Multi-activity Holiday Camps for your children!

Our Holiday Camps have been making kids happy for over 20 years, and this Whitsun half-term should be no different. Our super-fun sessions are jam-packed with safe activities for every child to enjoy.

To book now, visit
premier-education.com/holiday-camps
Follow our socials @PremEducationUK



Our Holiday Camps near you...

Venue: Henlow Academy

Dates: Tues 1st - Fri 4th June 2021

Times: 08.00 - 16.00

Price: £80 - 4 day block booking (£20 per day)

Ages: Juniors (5-8 years) & Seniors (9-12 years)

Additional Info:

We will be continuing to work with a 'bubble' system to keep your child & our staff safe, following current guidance.

Taking every precaution

Our Activity Professionals have been undergoing additional training in order to provide the best care to the children under their supervision, specifically the Transcend Level 2 Award in Infection Prevention, Mitigation and Management.

They will need

- A packed lunch
- Plenty of water
- Suitable clothing for the weather
- Loads of energy!

Premier Education Promise: In the event these courses are cancelled, we will issue a full refund within 7 days.



Diary Dates

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

Summer Term 2021	
28th April	Class Photos
19th April—30th April	The Big Pedal
3rd May	Bank Holiday
<i>12th—14th May</i>	<i>Year 4 Leavers Activities</i>
<i>13th May</i>	<i>Year 4 Frontier Day Trip</i>
<i>14th May</i>	<i>Year 4 Frontier Day Trip</i>
<i>17th—21st May</i>	<i>Walk to School Week</i>
31st May—4th June	Half Term
7th June	Children return
2nd July	Transition (Move Up) Day
22nd July	Last day of Term