



Weekly Update



Friday 27th September 2019

Dear Friends and Families,

This has been another busy week in school. It's that time of year that I go into classes to observe the teaching and talk about the ways we improve the learning with our teaching team.

I have been wowed by the work I have seen this early in the term. Our children are being keen historians and scientists in their writing lessons, and using their maths resources creatively to solve problems. If you want to help your child at home, our teachers will be only too happy to share ideas with you that have worked well.

Today, in our PE assembly, lots of children brought in their sporting achievements from home. We are encouraging this so that children feel valued in all of their healthy pursuits, not just the ones they have time for in school. Please send them in before Fridays for Miss Leary and Mr Tilbury to share in assembly. Forest school is part of our healthy learning, and it also teaches children a wealth of independence skills too. We do this in all weathers—teachers and volunteers too! With the recent deluge of rain, it is clear that children need a rainproof coat for school and wellies for forest school. Mrs Edwards has sourced some rainwear for our school supplies also.

Music is important to us here at Shefford. Mrs Rayner runs the singing and recorder groups, and always goes the extra mile with medals being awarded from the Royal College of Music. The ukulele group is underway, and years 2, 3 and 4 are doing ocarinas. We hope they will soon coach our youngest children, as they become proficient. In Year 3, the Sing Out Play Out programme is underway and the children are thoroughly enjoying the African Drumming alongside the singing coaching. The culmination of those efforts build up to a concert at the Corn Exchange by June. If your child wants to take up an instrument, they can have a taster session. All you need to do is make a request at the office, or you can contact the Inspiring Music service directly via <https://www.inspiringmusic.co.uk/>

The staff carpark is a busy space in the mornings and we need to keep it safe for its intended users. If you have a blue badge, we do have allocated disability spaces. Sometimes children's needs are advised to school by medical professionals, and we allow those spaces to be used in these circumstances too. If this applies, our office need a copy of the professional medical advice.

The puddle in the alley by Bloomfield is quite deep. This paving isn't owned by either school, but we do raise these issues with the highways and byways services at the local authority. You can also do the same and this supports our case.

Parents have approached me again about parking in School Lane. You will note that it is marked with double yellow lines, and particularly where the fence opens to allow emergency vehicles onto the back of our field. Please do not park here—we have been assured that legal enforcement will be managed as a spot check.

Please help us to make our book share a success. Bring along your unwanted books, and swap them for ones you do want. If you want, you could also hide some books in the community as a book sprite.

The school supports The Need Project which supports lots of Shefford families. If you have food to donate, please just drop it into the basket in the foyer of our entrance.

I hope you children have been enjoying the golden mile. I know I have. I might even do some more at the weekend!

Have a lovely weekend.

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.*

Jeans for Genes

A big thank you to everyone who put their jeans on last Friday and donated to Jeans for Genes! We have raised a fantastic £375.65!



Lost Scooter

Please can everyone look out for a black, 2 wheel scooter that went missing last Friday from outside Cherry Class.

Just a reminder that if you are leaving scooters and bikes outside school, please ensure they are left securely.



Year 4—St Alban and the Romans Trail Trip

Year 4 will be going to St Albans on Monday 7th October to take part in St Alban and the Romans Trail at St Albans Cathedral.

Please complete the consent form on ParentMail by **Monday 30th September**. Children will require a home packed lunch for the day however children who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to request one from the kitchen. Please speak to a member of the school office by **Monday 30th September**.



School Parliament

Congratulations to the following children who have become School Parliament members:

Chestnut—Amelie S and Ted R

Holly—Lexi F and Theo T

Sycamore—Mia W and George C

Maple—Phoebe L and Theo K

Oak—Honey W and William H-M

Willow—Demmy L and Felix M

Cedar—Lexi M and Joshua A

Elm—Rocco G and Nyla J

Hawthorn—Pippa C and Ewan

Ash—Tom C and Sienna H

Beech—Bobby C and Kyra Lee

Hazel—Lily-Mae J and Vinnie C

Shefford Sporting Successes

We have begun celebrating children's sporting successes on a Friday in assembly. Please let your child's class teacher know by about any successes in sport they have had by Thursday morning at the latest.

Congratulations to the following children:

- Ashley A—Maple— Taekwondo
- Louie B—Cedar— Go Karting
- Noah R—Elm—Swimming
- Enya B—Ash— Aquathlon

Enya entered a junior Aquathlon, The Duck n Dash in Letchworth, where she had to swim and run on Sunday 1st September. She came 7th in her age group (8 Years) in the 50m swim and 600m run.



- Harrison R— Beech— Tennis
- Annabel G—Hazel—Swimming
- Kayla M—Hazel—Karate

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 23/09/19



EYFS

Peach — Jack W

Pear—Georgia H

Plum—Raith C

Year 1

Chestnut—Amelie S

Holly—Rachel P

Sycamore—Freya G

Year 2

Maple—Phoebe L

Oak— Shae S

Willow—Willow S



Year 3

Cedar— Amelia F

Elm— William L

Hawthorn— Ewan C

Year 4

Ash— George F-S

Beech— Ethan N

Hazel— Emma G

Lily-Mae J



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

Jack R
Harry W
Thea C
Michelle O
Sophie B
Maria D

Year 1

Giovanni A
Edie C
Freddie C-P
Isabella T

EXCUSE ME



THANK YOU

Year 2

Devon C
Ellise-May F
Matthew L
Milena L

Year 4

Matthew F
Max E
Sophia J-S

Year 3

Stevie B
Shenai L
Floyd H
Holly J
Abbie H

STREET FOOD

**Crispy Chicken
Vegetable Nuggets**

Served with Wedges

Sweetcorn or Baked Beans

Selection of Ice-Cream

★ **FESTIVAL** ★

Jackets and Sandwiches still available

LET'S BE
FOOD
SMART
FOR BODY AND BRAIN

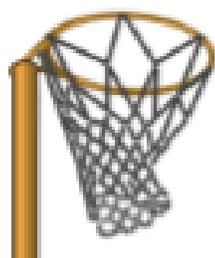
**Thursday 3rd
October**



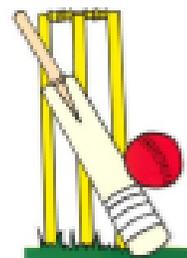
Shefford Lower School

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

New members are still welcome to join music clubs, all of which are held on Tuesdays as detailed below:

Recorder Groups (Years 2,3 and 4)

All children who attend groups must have their own instrument and tuition book so they can practise at home.

Year 4—Advanced recorders—8.30am-9.00am

Year 3—Intermediate and Beginner Groups—Lunchtime 12.00pm-12.30pm

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

Most of the instrumental orders have arrived in school and been given out. **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>

Harvest Festival

Our musicians in Years 3 and 4 are busy practising for our school harvest festival which is to be held on Tuesday 15th October.



PSA News

Circus—Saturday 28th September

The circus takes place tomorrow. We still have tickets remaining for 1.00pm which can be purchased on the 'door' so please come along and support our event. Tickets are £8.00 per person (over 2 years).

Don't fancy the circus??? Alongside the shows we are running several stalls which will be open from 12.00pm-5.00pm, these include tombolas, candy floss, popcorn, ice cream and burgers plus many more. These stalls will vary in cost from 50p-£1.00 (refreshments and flashing wands etc. will be more) Why not come along and see if you can recognise any of our stall holders!

All proceeds from this event will go to the immersive room fund to complete the remainder of the project. Your children have already started to benefit from this, this term.

Your School Lottery—Saturday 5th October

Our first lottery draw is now only 1 week away. We still have a handful of tickets left to reach our target of 50. Buying your tickets this term will automatically enrol you in a further prize draw to win the national £25,000 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 which 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 some slots left so please contact the school office to book your place and secure with a £10.00 sitting fee (non-refundable).

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: Wed 9th Oct @ 7.45pm

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 into the school office to register your interest.



your school lottery

supporting



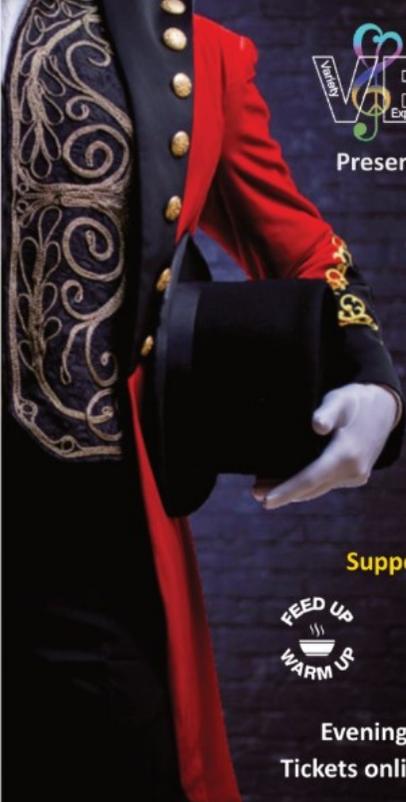
**BACK-TO-SCHOOL
EXTRA
CASH PRIZES**

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.



VE
Variety Express
Presents

THE GREATEST SHOW

A FAMILY VARIETY SPECTACULAR
St Francis' College Theatre, Letchworth

Supporting Local Charities:

Tickets:

FEED UP WARM UP

Above & Beyond
Cancer Foundation

£9 Adults
£7 Concessions

Evening and Matinee shows 24th - 27th October 2019, 2pm & 7:30pm
Tickets online at www.VarietyExpress.org.uk Box Office 0333 666 3366

Central Bedfordshire Libraries

LEGO

Central Bedfordshire
great
lifestyles

Lego & Mega Block Fun!

Come along and have fun with our
Lego & Mega Block/Duplo Bricks
Shefford Library

Half Term Session
Tuesday 22nd. Oct.
10—11.30 am

Drop in—it's free!

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

 CBCLibraries
 @cbc_libraries



4Cornercoaching October Half Term Rugby Camps



Monday 21st Oct:

Sandy Sports Centre Astro - SG19 1BL - Ages 5 – 14

Wednesday 23rd 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

Mark – 07419764033 – mark@4cornercoaching.co.uk

www.4cornercoaching.co.uk



4Cornercoaching October Half Term Multi-sports Camps

**Tennis – Dodge ball – Volleyball – Cricket
Rounders - Athletics**



Tuesday 22nd Oct:

Eynesbury Rovers FC Grass - PE19 2SF - Ages 6 – 12

Thursday 24th Oct:

Sandy Sports Centre Astro – SG19 1BL – Ages 6 – 12

Friday 25th Oct:

Sandy Sports Centre Astro – SG19 1BL – 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

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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.

Autumn Term 2019	
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
15th October	Harvest Festival
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
<i>19th November</i>	<i>Flu Vaccinations for Years R –4</i>
22nd November	Year 2 Cake Sale
26th November	Oak Manor Music Visit

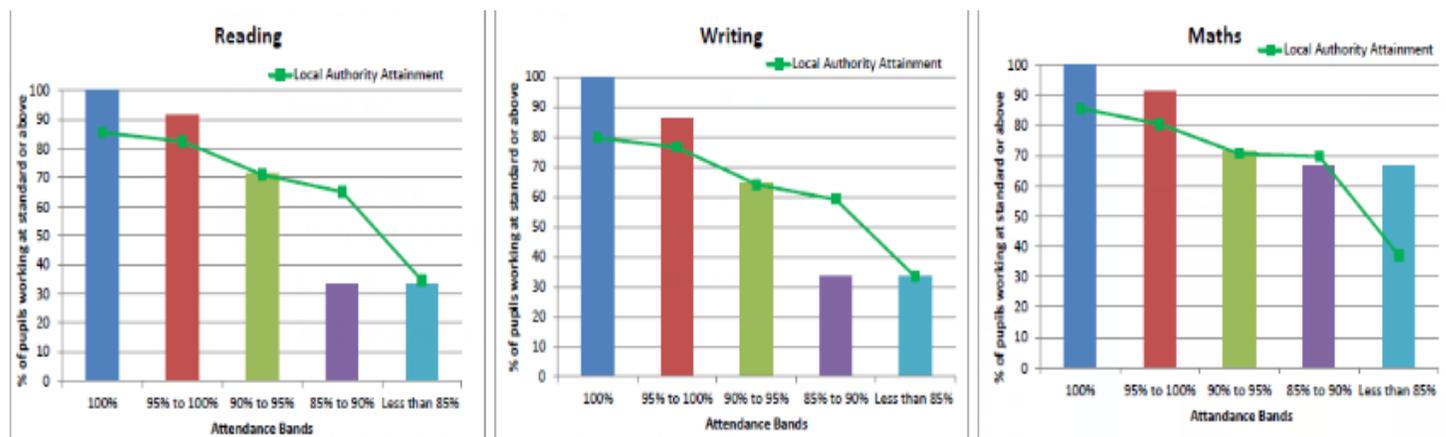
Autumn Term 2019

2nd December	EYFS Dress Rehearsal 2.00pm
3rd December	EYFS Concert 9.30am
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	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