



Weekly Update

Friday 29th 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 have had a full week, including photos, wellbeing sessions, and school improvement visits.

We love how our 'Shefford Connected Curriculum' is designed to ensure we maximise the opportunities for children to make connections with the knowledge they are accumulating. This week, our school hosted a school improvement visit. This meant we had a full scrutiny of Maths and English. You may have heard the words 'Deep Dive' before. We were delighted with the feedback, and importantly included from our children when they were asked about their experiences. The children triangulated the discussions held with staff, and the demonstration of lessons and work in books. Our visitors commented that a particular strength is the learning engagement of our children and the 'feel' of our school, which we are immensely proud of.

At home, you support the children with one-to-one reading opportunities and with the overall message of how crucial reading is. Together, we have created a culture in school where reading has come out as a strength. We know children have missed so much over the past two years, and working together with families to maximise learning and experiences is crucial. Our learning logs also deliver a range of activities connected to the breadth of the curriculum. They ensure you have an overview of the types of learning topics that are happening, and to foster interaction beyond the classroom about the topics, helping repetition of the vocabulary children use for learning. Each time, a range of ability options are given, and a rocket challenge for stretch. I have had recent feedback from families related to the learning logs, and your comments and suggestions are always helpful and welcomed. Thank you for sending your views in so openly.

Since our schools for the future communication from Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC), we have met as a group of head teachers in our group. You will know that together, as a group of schools, we are unified in our response to seek the smoothest transition to primary age range change as possible. The earliest this will happen is 2025 according to the letter from CBC, but could be 2026. This is our current year 1, or if later, our Reception age year group. The new plan is that Robert Bloomfield will be the secondary school that our children transition to, much as they do now, when moving to middle school. We will now be asking for a date by when CBC will confirm exactly the year for change. Please be assured that all school leaders are working behind the scenes, and we are working together. Our parent forum is open, and soon to convene, so that we can facilitate best routes for communication.

In our school we are very fortunate to have additional, qualified staffing to cover lessons and teacher absence. These staff know the children well and this is always preferable to using supply who do not know our classes, curriculum or teaching approaches. Mrs Ross oversees cover and is available to classes in such instances; I am also visible in all of our classes every day.

This year, the government has returned to taking in Statutory Assessments Test results (SATs). For our age range this happens in Reception with the baseline in their first term; Phonics in year 1; Year 2 we have English, Maths and Science results with retakes for Phonics; Year 4 has the governments new test for multiplication skills. Most tests are carried out in May and June ordinarily. As a school, we keep these tests low key, so as not to cause any upset with the children. We do however try to prepare children for what they will be given, as this also lowers any worries if the children have seen mock examples before. We usually find that our children actually quite enjoy the experience as a result. School reports will of course provide you with your child's results to support you. Absences during test weeks will not be able to be authorised.

Coming up in school, we are planning an 'Arts Open Event' to include the opportunity for families and also members of our community to visit the museum and art gallery that we have shaped within the school. We know that you are keen to see the museum and gallery, and we can't wait to showcase this with you. But first, we have the events for the Jubilee coming up.

Keep an eye on our diary dates for more information.

Mrs Finch



Values

The values of April 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

Water—604

Earth—553

Fire—546

Air—487

House Points and Attendance

W/E 22/04/22

Well done to last week's house winners.



House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

Fire

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 – all the children use TikTok, so they need it to socialise

Buster - The safety around TikTok is unguarded, and exposure to language and propaganda that is harmful to children remains highly dangerous. The school is obliged to report pupils of this age using TikTok, 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. The NSPCC operated an urgent helpline on 0808800500

Lunchbox tips



Variety is the spice of lunch!

Be adventurous and get creative to mix up what goes in their lunchbox. Keeping them guessing with healthier ideas will keep them interested and more open to trying things.



[Spicy chicken and salad wrap recipe](#)



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](#)



Early Years had a cake sale today to raise money for Great Ormond Street. Thank you to everyone who donated cakes for us to sell after school and to everyone who brought a delicious treat.

Money raised today was an amazing

£215

For future Cake Sales please find more information in the school diary dates section of the newsletter.



Well done to the Year 2's who went with Mrs Farnan to Pixbrook Academy for a Tag Rugby festival on Thursday morning. The children took part in a range of different activities and games to build on their skills in the sport and all received a certificate for taking part!

"I really liked going to a different school and playing 'it' with a rugby ball."

"I loved it! My favourite game was passing the rugby ball down the line and running to the other end."

"I liked it because it was fun and I like sport and exercise. My favourite activity was when you had to steal rugby balls from the other teams' hoops."



Year 3 and 4 had a visit from the Bedfordshire Police Commissioner Festus Akinbusoye on Wednesday morning. He shared stories with us and reminded us how to be safe online and why it is important. Festus also told us what is involved in his job as Police Commissioner. The children really enjoyed hearing the training of police dogs and how much it costs to oversee the Police in Bedfordshire. He also reminded us about the importance of making good choices in life. It was a fun visit and he really interested the children in his role.



He has inspired me to want to be a police officer when I grow up

I like the story the Police Commissioner told us about John, as it had a clear message that our choices have consequences. It is important to make the right choices

Sheffield Museum and Gallery is growing fast at Sheffield 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



Roman Period Iron Arrowhead



A Roman period iron arrowhead featuring a long curved tang. The body displays a flat leaf-shaped blade flaring outwards and curving into a rounded point. Wide-bladed arrowheads, such as this item, were used for attacking flesh as their shape and the eventual presence of barbs made them difficult to remove.

Date: 30BC-250AD

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—Macie, Pear—Beattie, Plum—Theodore
<u>Year 1</u>	Sycamore—Annabelle, Chestnut—Louie, Holly—Jessica
<u>Year 2</u>	Willow—Kiarno, Oak—Jack, Maple—Jack
<u>Year 3</u>	Cedar—Poppy, Hawthorn—Sidney, Elm—Denis
<u>Year 4</u>	Hazel—Demmy, Ash—Scott, Beech—Abhinaya



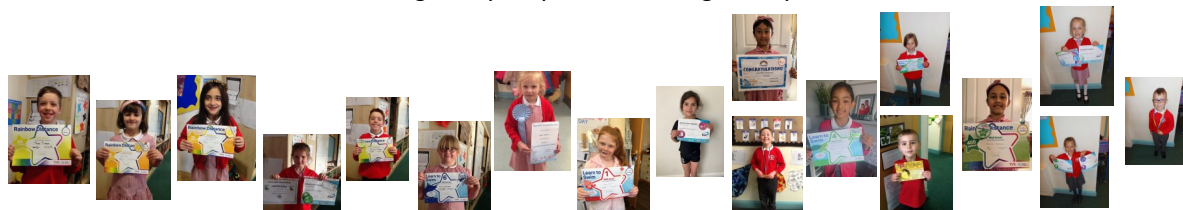
Shefford Sporting Successes

We celebrate children's sporting successes from home as well as those in school. 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. Well done to these children who have shared their sporting success this week.

Water House	Paige—Swimming, Grace—Swimming, Imogen—Swimming, Miles—Dance, Bobby—Football
Fire House	Thea—Gymnastics, Taekwondo & Running, Mia—Swimming, Theo—Football
Air House	Theo—Swimming, Daniel—Swimming, Sienna—Gymnastics, Arianna—Swimming, Abhinaya—Swimming Sophie—Gymnastics, Anuradha—Swimming
Earth House	Jemima—Swimming, Emily—Gymnastics, Imogen—Gymnastics



Mrs Barker—3 gold medals in 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>	Jamie, Lilly, Eleanor, Finn, Arthur, Callum & Kovah
<u>Year 1</u>	Louie, Louis, Eva, Ben, Alice, Theo & Arla
<u>Year 2</u>	Lacey, Esme, Adam, Alyssa, Ollie, Jennifer, Aaron, Esme
<u>Year 3</u>	Isha, Louie, Cassian, Rachel, Jenson & Grace
<u>Year 4</u>	Honey, Isla, Millie, Leo, Bailey, Lilly & Tristan



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.



25th Birthday
CHUMS CHARITY

FOOD STALLS | BAR | GIFT STALLS
BABY YOGA | CHILDREN'S RIDES AND INFLATABLES
SELF STATION | LIVE BAND
FOOD & LIVE COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS
FOOTBALL SKILLS | WIN A RIDE IN A MACLAREN

PARTY IN THE PARK
Saturday 7th May, 12 – 5pm
Robert Bloomfield School Shefford
Free entry – suggested donation £5 per family



Premier Education

Mega fun this May!

With our half-term Holiday Camps.

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:
@PremEducationUK

Get 20% off when you Refer a Friend*

*Booked before 12th May



MBF

MAY/JUNE HOLIDAY FOOTBALL CAMPS

10% Discount for: NHS, Police, Fire Service, Military, Blue Light Card Holders and Siblings

Delivered by UEFA B and Licensed Coaches

Safe, Fun & Creative Environment.

Date: 30th, 31st May and 1st June
Venue: Pendleton Sports Centre, Stotfold

Days: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
Age: 4-16 Years
Cost: £25-£60

Extra 10% if booked before 17th May (can also be used with other codes)

www.midbedfutsal.co.uk

Official Sponsor
Evolution Tree Works Services Ltd

Partners
SBS, The Cancer Support Service, The Wellbeing Hub



Shefford Summer fete @ the STMU #Bigswell
June 5th 2022

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



Children's Community Health HUB

Your one stop contact point

0300 555 0606
cca.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net

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 Lobo 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.



Luton Children & Adults Community Health Services
Bedfordshire Community Health Services



Autism BEDFORDSHIRE

Parent/ Carer Workshop
The First Steps to Supporting an Autistic Individual, and those Pursuing a Diagnosis

Monday 16th May 2022 | 6:30pm - 9pm
£5 per person

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 talk on Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC), an opportunity to hear from and share with other parents and carers, and gain information about local support and services.

LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AVAILABLE

To book:
☎ 01234 214871
✉ enquiries@autismbeds.org

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



Autism BEDFORDSHIRE

Parent/ Carer Workshop
Sensory Processing & Autism

Thursday 5th May 2022 | 9:30am - 12:30pm
£15 AB Members / £20 Non-AB Members

This workshop provides you with the opportunity to explore and understand:

- The impact of sensory processing differences on the lives of autistic individuals
- Resources and strategies to support health and wellbeing where there are sensory challenges
- When to ask for professional input

LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AVAILABLE

To book:
☎ 01234 214871
✉ enquiries@autismbeds.org

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



BEDFORDSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE PARTNERSHIP

IT DOESN'T HURT TO ASK FOR HELP!

Safe Space

What is a Safe Space?

- a place for you to go if you need to access support
- a place where you can contact a domestic abuse support service who will be able to help you safely

For more information, speak to a member of staff or contact BDAP@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

  @bedsdv
bedsdv.org.uk

News Central

Ivel Valley Parent Bulletin



Shefford Lower School

Diary Dates

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

2022 Upcoming Dates

25th May	Year 4 Cake Sale—raising money for MacMillan
<u>30th May—6th June</u>	<u>Half Term</u>
<u>7th June</u>	<u>Children Return</u>
<u>7th June</u>	<u>Red, White and Blue themed Mufti Day—Jubilee celebrations</u>
<u>10th June</u>	<u>Commonwealth Countries Day</u>
14th June	Year 4 Faith Tour
24th June	Year 1 Cake Sale—raising money for RSPCA
30th June	Year 3 Sing Up Concert
13th July	Year 3 Cake Sale—raising money for Smiles
<u>19th July</u>	<u>Year 4 leavers performance—Dress rehearsal</u>
<u>20th July</u>	<u>Year 4 leavers performance</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

schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk

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