

Weekly Update

Friday 2nd October 2020



Dear Families and Friends,

We have had an incredible 'healthy me' week, and as it coincided with my lesson observations, I was able to see first hand all the wonderful opportunities the children have had to think about being healthy.

I am delighted to tell you that this week we voted in our Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects. The votes came in on Monday, and next week we will be having our badge celebration for Captains: Lexi, Daniel, Hollie and Sophie; Vice Captains: Noah, Scott, Henry and Bo; Prefects: Elliott, Reuben and Bethany. As you know, our pupil leadership team have a vital role to play in representing our school, being role models for our ethics and our values, supporting members of their house and leading them to higher successes. Well done to them. Their photos are being placed in our hall house display, and today they will be doing their first house point count. Don't forget, house groups are given additional points for attendance and punctuality, as well as learning and behaviours for learning.

E-safety is a core part of the school curriculum and safeguarding duty of care. We do a tremendous amount in school to inform children and also to support information being shared with families. We know that children want to play grown up games or have online media accounts, and keeping those safety boundaries can be a challenge. Tik Tok and Fortnite are ones that are regularly popping up and these are too old for ALL of the children who attend Shefford Lower School. Tik Tok has an age restriction of 12+ years and Fortnite of 13+ years. We have a duty of care to liaise with families and sometimes with other professionals if children are not kept safe from potential online harms. Children are not permitted to bring in merchandise that may normalise online behaviours and encourage others, such as pencil cases, T-shirts, bags and other



items. We politely ask that families do not put teachers in the awkward position of raising this individually. If you would like support for your family please do contact Mrs Parry via the school office.

Our fabulous School Parliament have been thinking hard about what it means to be a school MP. They even took some learning home. I was thrilled to see the detail in some of the PowerPoints shared with me, and this model too! Isn't it just wonderful?

We remain very grateful for families adhering to the one way walking system. We have a number of vulnerable users arriving to the site, and your support is helping them to feel safe too. Thank you. When dropping children off or collecting them, please be mindful of adult conversations that may not be suitable for little ears or other adults. We realise with social restrictions in place, the school site is a place you will see others and want to talk. However, we ask that you move on and reduce the adults on site, and that conversations overheard should not be of an adult nature.

You will see from our published dates on the pages of this newsletter that our Harvest celebration is October 12th. We WILL still be collecting offerings, quarantining them, then our pupil leaders will be delivering them via the local church. Reverend Roni has offered to bless the food we gather for Harvest. Reverend Valentine has recorded a harvest assembly for the children too. With help from the town hall, we will also be putting our messages into the community and can't wait to share this with you.

Coming soon is the PSA mufti day. Fundraising opportunities are limited for the PSA with current restrictions, and mufti days enable them to support our school with all the wonderful things they do. If you wish to join the PSA, please just let them know.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Finch

<u>Values</u>

The values from 28th September — 16th October are Respect and Responsibility

"Treat others as you would like to be treated." The Golden Rule.

Respect for everyone and everything. Taking on responsibility, owning our mistakes or our errors of judgement and resolving them to learn from these experiences.

Developing our community by building each other up and including everyone is our groups so that they feel a sense of belonging.

Walk to School Week

After Bike to School this week, next week it is Walk to School Week! There are many benefits from walking to and from school such as supporting brain power and performance in class, improving mood and more people walking means fewer cars on the road and less traffic! Please see the Family Walk to School kit attached to the ParentMail that was sent out yesterday, for advice for parents on how to overcome common barriers on walking to school!



Naming Items

Please can we remind parents to name **ALL** items that children bring in to school e.g. clothes, water bottles, snack boxes etc. We try to return any named items to children's classes however we currently have very full lost property boxes at the moment with items that have no names on.





Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip

Don't forget to complete the form and make payment for the Year 3 trip to the Celtic Harmony, by Thursday 8th October.

Music News

We are delighted to share the following music medal results with you. The children deserve particular congratulations for managing to complete their exams before school was closed due to lockdown measures. Certificates and medals have now arrived and will be given out to the children this week.

Silver Medal

Enya B (with excellence) Matthew F (with excellence) Annabel G Priya G (with excellence) Abigail H (with excellence) Sky L (with excellence) Summer L Kayla M Lilly S Ellie S (with excellence)

Bronze Medal

Abigail H (with excellence) Bethany J (with excellence) Lexi M (with excellence) Jessica R (with excellence)



PSA News

Welcome from your new PSA

Following the AGM in March we would like to introduce ourselves officially as the new PSA for this academic year.

Chair

Hannah Hubbard





Vice Chair



Treasurer

Claire Newton



Please feel free to contact us via the school office email or our Facebook page if you would like to find out more about what the PSA does and how you can get involved. We are always looking for more people to join us, all you need is to be a legal parent/guardian of a child attending Shefford Lower.

We had our first meeting this week with the current committee via Zoom and we are excited about some forthcoming events even though these will be different to normal due to the present circumstances.



Book donation

We are pleased to announce that this week we have delivered all of these lovely books, games and puzzles to school to hopefully help with the pupils' wellbeing. We hope you enjoy using them.

Ongoing fundraising

Your school Lottery - EVERY Saturday

Shefford Lower school has a guaranteed winner EVERY WEEK. A massive thank you to all those who have signed up already and also those who have been kindly donating their winnings to the PSA. Tickets can be purchased at any time. Signing up this term will automatically enrol you into a further prize draw PLUS the chance to win the national £25,000.00 weekly jackpot. It's easy to set up. https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play Good luck! This is an ongoing offer and you can set up anytime you like. Remember the more tickets purchased the higher the prize fund.

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 so all you need to do is click on the link below and shop! <u>https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sheffordosa/?invite=E2CZEL&referral-campaign=s2s</u> It costs NOTHING and once you've earnt the school your first £5.00 they will also donate £5 to the PSA. It really couldn't be easier to raise money for the school whilst you go about your general online shopping.



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.

ewer 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.



Community News

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



Hello there,,

Autumn is upon us and our Sep/Oct issue is live now!

We are **hoping** to return to print with our Nov/Dec issue, but in the meantime, we've published our <u>Sep/Oct issue digitally.</u>

This edition is filled with <u>free learning resources</u>, <u>autumn activities</u>, <u>Halloween</u> <u>recipes and games</u>, <u>face - to - face and virtual clubs & classes</u>, reader offers and many super interesting articles. Also <u>win a magical family holiday to Santa's</u> <u>Lapland in Finland in 2021</u> - Flights/accommodation/activities included!

Please see the link to magazine below:

Families Magazine Online Sep/Oct



Diary Dates

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

Autumn Term 2020	
12th October	Harvest
13th October	Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip
20th October	Parent Consultation Evening
21st October	Individual School Photographs
22nd October	Parent Consultation Evening
23rd October	PSA Mufti Day
26th October	Half Term
2nd November	Inset Day
3rd November	Children Return to School
3rd November	Year 1 Vision Screening
6th November	Diwali Day
13th November	Children in Need
16th November	Anti-Bullying Week
26th November	Flu Immunisations for Year R, 1, 2,3 and 4

2nd December	EYFS Dress Rehearsal 2.00pm
3rd December	EYFS Concert 10.00am
4th December	EYFS Concert 2.00pm
7th December	KS1 Dress Rehearsal AM, KS2 Dress Rehearsal PM
9th December	KS1 Concert 9.30am, KS2 Concert 2.30pm
10th December	KS2 Concert 9.30am, KS2 Concert 2.30pm
11th December	Present Day
14th December	Christingle 50th Anniversary
15th December	Christmas Dinner
16th December	EYFS Parties with Santa AM
17th December	KS1 Parties with Santa AM
17th December	KS2 Parties with Santa PM
18th December	Christmas Carols End of Term