



Weekly Update

Friday 4th December



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

Dear Families and Friends,

What a lovely week!

We were delighted to be able to offer the children a very special Christmas experience with Ark Farm's Living Nativity. Declan the Donkey was a firm favourite and the sheep going the wrong way did make us chuckle.

This coincides with the children learning about the story of the Nativity and what this means for people of Christian faith.

As all schools approach Christmas, the workforce are mindful of ensuring that families aren't faced with isolation that takes them over the special day. This includes families of school staff.

We are obliged to send home children displaying any likely symptoms of coronavirus; should there be a positive case in school, class or year group, bubbles will be sent home. This would be a shame, as we have much fun planned in school which is already happening. Please adhere to the measures we have requested to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible.

For the avoidance of doubt, I relist these below.

- **Walk one way and keep the distance to a minimum 2 meters.**
- **Wear a face mask if you can**
- **Sanitise and hand wash as soon as possible and frequently throughout the school day**
- **Do not linger on site – drop and go, collect and go.**
- **Stick to timings as much as possible, so as not to cause build ups.**
- **Stay outside of the 2meter boxes drawn outside classroom doors**
- **Use email or phone to communicate with the teaching or office staff**
- **If you must, in an emergency, use the front desk, you are requested to enter only if wearing a face covering.**

In school, we are now preparing our 'alternative Christmas shows' and our Spoonville Whole School Photo. Your child will be allowed to take their spoon home afterwards.

Our giant cake make has changed destination due to restrictions. We are currently in discussion with Lister Hospital to deliver it to the hardworking medical teams keeping everyone safe.

Have a good weekend

From Mrs Finch

Values

The values from 16th November— 18th December are **Peace and Understanding**

"All we are saying, is give peace a chance." John Lennon

Understanding what peace is, and how we can bring peace about— conciliation, finding resolutions and solving problems together. Understanding the other perspective and point of view. Learning to understand the needs of others.

Thank You!

Thank you for all of your lovely comments that you sent in about our school and staff; it really is appreciated! Mrs Finch has displayed these on a board in the corridor for everyone to see.



Christmas Lunch—Tuesday 15th December



Don't forget to return your Christmas lunch forms by **Tuesday 8th December**. We are unable to place orders after this date. There will be no other lunch choices on Tuesday 15th apart from Christmas lunches or pack lunches that have been pre-ordered. **If you have not ordered a meal for your child please provide them with a packed lunch on this day.**

There will be a menu change on **Wednesday 16th December**. Please see below;

Hotdogs & Wedges

Or

Veggie Hotdogs & Wedges

Or

Jacket Potato

Dropping Items at the School Office

Please can parents ensure that their child has everything with them that they need for the school day, when dropping them off in the morning e.g. coats, water bottles, lunch boxes etc. This is to limit the number of people entering the main reception. Dinner money or other communication coming in to school can be handed to your child's class teacher or can be posted in to the black post box on the left hand side of the main reception window. If you do need to enter reception to speak to the school office please wear a face covering.



Scooters and Bikes

Please can we ask parents to ensure their children dismount from scooters or bikes from Bloomfield Drive to avoid any accidents, as pathways are very busy during drop off and pick up times. Children should not be riding anywhere on the school site.



Sickness and Diarrhoea

Please be aware that if your child is unwell with sickness and/or diarrhoea it is 48 hours, from the last episode, until they can return to school.

House Points and Attendance

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



House Points

Fire—769

Water—738

Earth—650

Air—614



House Attendance

Earth—98.63

Water—98.31

Fire - 97.94

Air—96.38



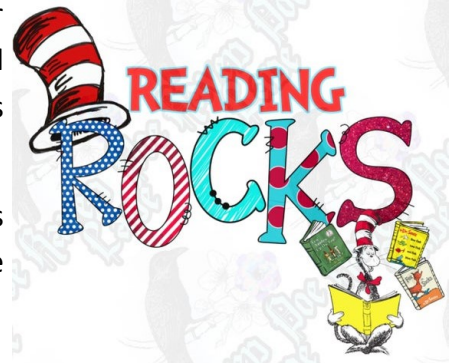
BookTrust Writing Competition

Please see the information attached to this ParentMail regarding BookTrust's writing competition about stories of joy and hope. Prizes include books for the school library! The closing date for entries is 5.00pm on Friday 22nd January 2021.



Useful websites and tips for reading with your child:

- Make it a Campout— Make reading a special event by reading in a tent! The tent doesn't have to be at an outdoor campsite to be fun. Pitch a tent in your living room or the child's bedroom and fill it with blankets and books. Create a magical reading experience and choose books with an outdoorsy or a camping theme.
- Library Adventures—Picking out books can be just as fun as reading them! Take your child to the library and let them choose the books they would like to bring home.
- Find Letters—Look for letters as you drive in the car. Ask your child if they can find anything outside that starts with the 'sss' sound. Relating sounds and letters to words is an important part of literacy, especially for younger children.'



Amazon Wish List

We are very excited to announce that we have created a Wish List on Amazon which 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#

This list is updated by staff throughout the year and can be accessed by anyone. We've made it really easy to donate a book to the school:

You can choose to get the books delivered directly to the school office or if you wish you can add it to your personal shopping and simply bring it in.

Thank you so much for your help with this matter. Your donations will be gratefully received and the children will benefit massively.

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 23/11/20



Reception

Peach — Jackson L

Pear — Anuradha S

Plum — Lizzie D



Year 1

Chestnut — Isla R

Holly — Effie B

Sycamore — Reagan B



Year 2

Maple — Ted R

Oak — Mark J

Willow — Rachel

Year 3

Cedar — Jackson W

Elm — Kenzie B

Hawthorn — Mary O M

Year 4

Ash — Bethany J

Beech — Bo M

Hazel — Reuben L



PSA News

A massive thank you to everyone who attended our meeting on Wednesday. It is always nice to see everyone.

Do you know the main benefits that people get from being involved in the PSA is the feeling of contributing to their child's education 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 and also how we can help support the school with their needs.

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 a bit more about the PSA.

We would love to welcome more new people to the group – we have already welcomed 2 new members this term and have 4 more eager to join after Christmas but the more the merrier.

Reminder - Christmas hamper raffle

Please can you remember to send ticket stubs and money in an envelope into school by Friday 4th December so that the draw can take place the following week.

If you would like more tickets then please email the school office and they will distribute to your child. If you do not wish to purchase tickets then please return to your class teacher so they can be resold to others.

Photos of the hampers have been shared on our Facebook page so make sure you take a look at the fabulous prizes on offer – there are 6 hampers to be won!

Your School Lottery & Easyfundraising

Thank you so much for your continued support with both of these ongoing fundraising projects that we are a part of.

If you are not already signed up then please check out our Facebook page over the weekend for more details.

A big thank you to everyone for your continued support of our PSA



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**



Community News

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



It's story time

Free virtual session sharing stories
together for all the family
All ages welcome

Thursday's 2pm -2.20pm

On Microsoft teams

Call 0300 300 8112 to book



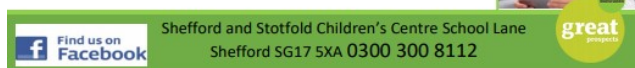
Babies and children love the sound of your
voice have fun together singing songs

Free virtual session for all ages

Monday 10-10.30am

On Microsoft teams

Call 0300 300 8112 to book



Diary Dates

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

Autumn Term 2021	
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
Spring Term 2021	
<i>15th January</i>	<i>Ash Class Assembly</i>
<i>22nd January</i>	<i>Hazel Class Assembly</i>
<i>26th January</i>	<i>Year 1 Vision Screening</i>
<i>29th January</i>	<i>Beech Assembly</i>
<i>5th February</i>	<i>Hawthorn Assembly</i>
<i>9th February</i>	<i>Parent Consultations</i>
<i>11th February</i>	<i>Parent Consultations</i>
<i>15th February</i>	<i>Half Term</i>
<i>22nd February</i>	<i>Children Return to School</i>
<i>26th February</i>	<i>Oak Assembly</i>
<i>4th March</i>	<i>World Book Day</i>
<i>12th March</i>	<i>Willow Assembly</i>
<i>19th March</i>	<i>Comic Relief</i>
<i>25th March</i>	<i>Holly Assembly</i>
<i>26th March</i>	<i>Last Day of Term</i>