

Weekly Update

Friday 8th November 2019



Dear Families & Friends

WE NEED YOU

We have had a number of parents who have kindly volunteered to walk to Bridge Street with us next week, to see the 'Children In Need Rickshaw Challenge' come through the town. It is clear we are going to need more support. Both Shefford Lower School and Robert Bloomfield are planning whole school outings, and this will be a huge undertaking. Our lovely mayor, and school governor, Paul Mackin, is meeting with school leaders after school today to devise a coordinated approach to travel and spectating for such large numbers. We are very much looking forward to this great community time together. We will wear uniform, but encourage spotty accessories—donations will be collected in class for Children In Need for those wishing to donate.

Next week in school is also Anti-bullying week. This is an opportunity for us to reinforce the school rules 'Kind & Helpful' and ensure that our values of tolerance and friendship are further instilled in our children as they learn and grow. Our teachers are planning lots of related activities, and we are also taking part in 'odd socks' day to raise awareness of diversity and difference.

Thank you for collecting your Aldi stickers. We are continuing to collect them and hope to have enough for a second set of PE equipment. The children enjoy seeing the chart expand as the stickers were put on

Mrs Woods, one of our English leaders, has registered our school for a reading book token scheme running through the Sun newspaper. If you have these tokens, please send them in - we hope to raise enough for £600 worth of books.

Dangerous driving into our premises has been reported. If you were one of the drivers who sped up by our zebra crossing to drive under the parking barrier, then you nearly knocked over a 4 year old. This was witnessed by two of our school governors, and we take this very seriously. It cannot be stated enough that slow driving around schools and safe parking is paramount to the safety of the 504 children who attend Shefford Lower School. We have also reported several drivers parking in restricted areas.

Shefford Lower School has been selected by a charity who produce local calendars with pictures from a local photographer. Our hardworking PSA entered our school and were selected. The calendars will be on sale at the winter fayre and in our school office.

Have a wonderful weekend

Pamela Finch

Values

The values from October 29th—November 22nd are **Tolerance** and **Friendship**.

- *This is also Anti-bullying month.*
- *Tolerance is understanding, rather than 'putting up with.'*

Remembrance Day Parade—Sunday 10th November

A form was sent out on ParentMail before half term regarding the Remembrance Day Parade in Shefford on Sunday 10th November.

If children would like to represent Shefford Lower School on this special occasion please complete the form on ParentMail to let us know that you will be attending. Mr Bowen and Mrs Finch will be meeting children and parents at 10.25am at Old Bridge Way, we will then walk down to the War Memorial where we will be laying a wreath.

Children will need to wear school uniform and will need to be accompanied by a parent throughout the parade.



Dinner Money

School dinners can be paid via cash or cheque (made payable to Alliance in Partnership) and need to be paid for in advance. All payments should be made in a sealed envelope marked clearly with your child's name and class.

Daily: £2.10

Weekly: £10.50

Half Termly: £81.90

Aldi's Kit for Schools

We have managed to complete a Aldi's Kit for Schools poster; thank you for collecting the stickers! We have more stickers left over so we will now start completing a second poster so keep them coming! Stickers can be collected from Aldi stores until Sunday 3rd November.



Savers Club

The last Savers Club for this term will be on **Thursday 5th December**.

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

Oivia
Edward
William
Scarlett
Kiera
Daisy

Year 1

Albie
Rachel
Charles
James R



THANK YOU

Year 4

Kayla
Summer
Max
Jefferson

EXCUSE ME

Year 2

Demmy
Laurence
Theo
Faith

Year 3

Isla
Joshua
Sophie
Myka

CHANGE OF MENU

We are swapping the menus for next Thursday and Friday as we are not sure what time we will be returning from the Rickshaw Challenge and burgers are easier to prepare and serve if we are late returning to school.

Thursday, 14th November :

Fish fingers and Chips or Cheese and Tomato Pinwheel with Oven Chips

Friday, 15th November:

Beef Burger or Veggi Burger with Potato Wedges

Music News



Year 2 Recorder Tasters

Year 2 recorder tasters have now finished. All children who wish to continue must have their own instrument and tuition book so that they can practice at home.

Community Carol Singing at Shefford Christmas Lights

There will be community carol singing at the switching on of the Shefford Christmas lights on **Saturday 30th November.**

Christmas Music Concert

Our evening Christmas music concert for Year 3 and 4 musicians and choir members will be on **Wednesday 4th December.**

Choir Visit to Oak Manor

This has been postponed so will not be taking place on 26th November, the new date to be confirmed shortly.



PSA News

XMAS CARDS – DEADLINE TO PURCHASE = MIDNIGHT 11th NOVEMBER

Your children's card designs came home last week. Purchases can be made online via www.apfsorders.co.uk and input the unique code found on the back of the design. You can personalise the internal messages in these cards and even use them as Thankyou cards if you choose. Orders received online and by the deadline will be sent back to the school and save you postage costs...any issues with the online ordering system then please see the school office

RAFFLE TICKETS

Raffle tickets are coming back thick and fast, thank you. We have 5 luxury hampers to be won PLUS a special children's one. One of this year's hampers has kindly been donated by the new Shefford Co-Op store. The raffle will be drawn during the last Christmas Concert on 12th December. Additional tickets are available via the school office

MUFTI DAY – FRIDAY 29th NOV

The school is kindly allowing your children to wear their own clothes on mufti day, the last Friday of the month. In exchange for wearing 'mufti' we are requesting donations as contributions towards our Xmas Fayre please. There is a poster attached to this parentmail and should be on the classroom windows too.

Early years = £1.00. Key Stage 1 = Chocolate, Year 3 = bottles and year 4 = filled jars.

PRESENT DAY – FRIDAY 13th DEC

Our firm favourite is back again this year. You should have seen the separate Parentmail with all instructions on how this works. Presents must be brought to school week commencing 2nd Dec ONLY and handed in at the classrooms on drop off. The PSA team will collect and sort each day. No presents can be accepted after 9am on Friday 6th Dec. For those taking part - presents will be chosen by your children on Friday 13th Dec and wrapped by the elves. They will bring them home that evening.

XMAS FAYRE – FRIDAY 13th DEC

We are also holding this year's Christmas Fayre on Friday 13th December. This will take place in the afternoon and run after school for you to drop in at after you've collected your children from their classes. There will be the usual favourite game stalls, tombola's, crafts to purchase and refreshments including hot dogs and cakes. Please come along and support this fun event.

We are also collecting jam jars to fill for the tombola – if anyone has the ones they may have won at the circus still lying around we are happy to take these back (full or empty). Please return to school office.

Your school Lottery – EVERY Saturday

We have had 2 winners during the school holidays..... Well done Kim M who won £20.00 and James N who has won for a second time. Your winnings are on their way to you both. ITS NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!

Tickets can be purchased at any time. Signing up this term will automatically enrol you into a further prize draw to win one of 3 £100.00 cash prizes PLUS a 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 apply and set up anytime you like. Remember the more tickets purchased the higher the prize fund.



PSA News

EASY FUNDRAISING

Christmas is fast approaching and most online purchases can give us a kick back. 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 £380.00 for the school. Please use the following link to register <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sheffordpsa/?invite=E2CZEL&referral-campaign=s2s>. It costs **NOTHING** and once you've earned 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.

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. At the moment 'gohenry' is offering to give £20 to our PSA for every parent who activates. Why not give it a try by clicking on the link <https://www.gohenry.com/uk/pta-referrals/?promotion=UKPTASLS&ght=UKPTASLS>

Next meeting: Wed 13th November from 7pm

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.

Mufti Day

Friday 29th November 2019

The PSA ask that the children bring in the following donations for the Christmas fair and in return they can wear mufti to school!

Reception & Cherry Class £1.00 donation

Year 1 & 2

Chocolate : Selection boxes, chocolate bars, bags of chocolate sweets, box of chocolates



Year 3

Bottles : Wine, juice, bubble bath, anything in a bottle!

Year 4


Filled Jam Jars : Use an empty glass jar and fill it with anything you like. These will be used on our tombola's

All food and drink items need to have a 'Best Before' date of at least Jan 2020



Community News

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



Managing Emotions, Resilience, Self-Esteem & Risk-Taking Behaviours

Wednesday 13th November 2019


We are pleased to announce the second session as part of the Child & Adolescent Emotional Wellbeing Programme which is being run by Bedfordshire CAMHS

When: Wednesday 13th November 2019
Time: 6 - 8.30pm (arrival from 5.45pm)
Where: King's House, 245 Amphill Rd, Bedford MK42 9AZ

Who can attend?

- ⇒ Any parent or carer who has a child registered at a Bedfordshire GP
- ⇒ You do NOT need to be accessing CAMHS
- ⇒ Siblings & family members over the age of 18





In this session we will focus on managing emotions, resilience, self-esteem & risk-taking behaviours to enable you to find ways to support the children and young people in your life. We will cover both signs & symptoms as well as strategies to help manage these difficulties



How can I book tickets?

Tickets are free and are available online from [Eventbrite](#). You can also scan the QR code on your smartphone for access to the website.

Where can I find more information?

 @EastLondonNHSFoundationTrust	 @camhswellbeing1
 www.camhs.elft.nhs.uk	 www.eventbrite.co.uk



Etonbury

4 Corner coaching

Football Development Centre



Wednesdays:
Etonbury Academy, Arlesey. SG15 6XS – 5.00-6.00pm - Astroturf – Ages 4 – 6 year olds and 6 to 12 year olds (Mixed Sessions).

SOG's small sided games 3v3, 4v4

Individual skills sessions – players supported in all 4 corners
Technical – Physical – Psychological – Social

Matches 5v5, 6v6, 7v7

To book onto the course visit www.4cornercoaching.co.uk
Cost £4 per session – paid in blocks of sessions

Contact : Natasha – 07957980492 – natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk
All coaches DBS Safeguarding and Emergency Aid.



Diary Dates

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

Autumn Term 2019	
11th—15th November	Anti-Bullying Week
12th November	Odd Sock Day
15th November	Children in Need
18th—24th November	Road Safety Week—'Step Up for Safe Streets'
19th November	Flu Vaccinations for Years R –4
20th November	Beep Beep Day
22nd November	Year 2 Cake Sale
29th November	PSA Mufti Day
<i>30th November</i>	<i>Community Carols at Shefford Christmas Lights</i>

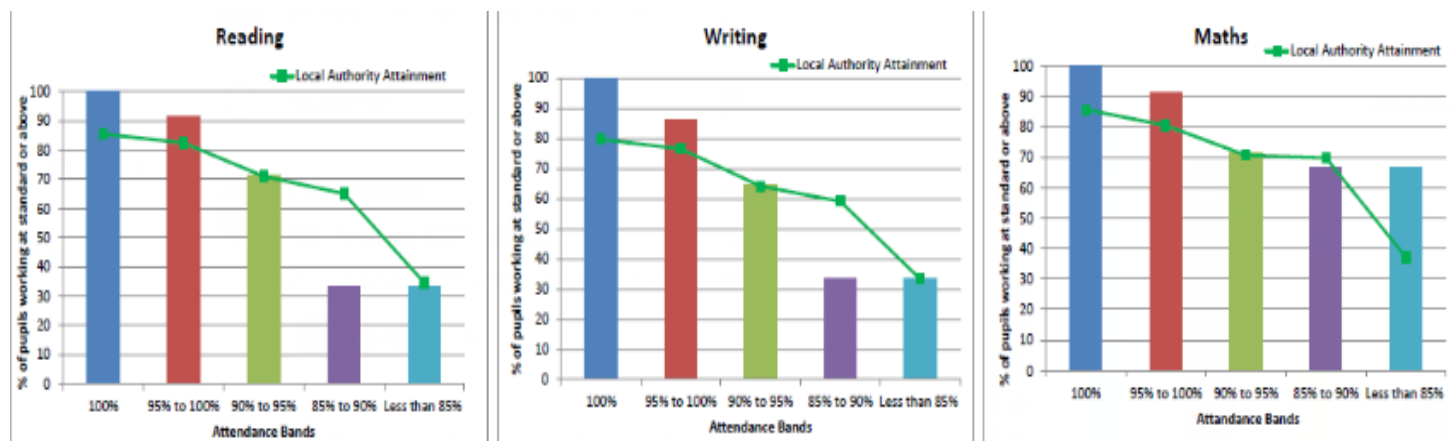
Autumn Term 2019

2nd December	EYFS Dress Rehearsal 2.00pm
3rd December	EYFS Concert 2.30pm
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	Hamper Raffle Prize Draw
12th December	KS2 Concert 9.30am, KS1 Concert 2.30pm
13th December	Present Day AM
13th December	Winter Fayre
17th December	Christmas Dinner
18th December	EYFS Parties with Santa AM
18th December	KS1 Parties with Santa PM
19th 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