



Weekly Update

Friday 9th October 2020



Dear Families and Friends,

In a pandemic, we can all feel a little dispirited for sure. This week's bad weather doesn't add to joy. However, life in school is certainly uplifting. The children have been going about their learning with gusto. Having completed my observations in all of the classes I can hand on heart say that our children are an absolute credit to us and their communities. **Our teachers have focused on ensuring children are happy, settled and ready to learn—they certainly are!**

We have been working with the DfE's third party providers to ensure pupil logins for Microsoft TEAMS. These are all now ready, and the official use can take place when those providers submit handover. Unfortunately, this will not be in time for **parent's consultations**. Whilst we could delay those consultations, we prefer to be in touch with our families in a much more timely fashion. We will therefore be providing our first consultations by telephone. Your input is vital to us, and it is only by working together that we achieve what is best for our children. We all work to the same goals, providing an exceptional educational experience for the best pupil outcomes. Please look out for the appointments sign up from the school office.

Last year we reviewed our uniform policy. This includes the use of **ruck sacks in school, which are not permitted**. This is because they cause coats to come off pegs and cause trip hazards. Book bags go in trays, and PE draw string bags enable kits to be brought in. Our year 3 cloakroom is particularly congested with ruck sacks, so we politely request that bags are kept to draw string only on pegs, in order to prevent accidents occurring.

Black, white or coloured trainers are only allowed for outdoor PE and are not acceptable for daily school wear.

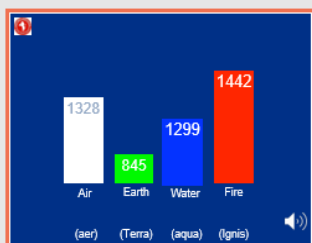
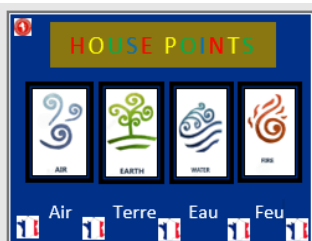
PE kit must be kept in a **named draw-string bag and in school at all times**. Other bags are not allowed due to limited cloakroom space.

Ruck sacks in particular do not allow coats to be pegged over the top, and these then fall off and become a safety hazard.

Some classes, who have scheduled use of the field at the beginnings and ends of lunchtimes, will be asked to **bring in wellies**. These will be kept in bags under tables. We will be requesting this to enable the field to be used for longer than usual, despite our inclement weather. The more we can use our outside spaces safely, the better we can stagger breaks and keep distancing our year group bubbles for Covid-19 at a maximum. Our children thoroughly enjoy being on the field, so we have included this in our learning as well as playtimes. Our forest area is also in use, as we are unable to make use of volunteers presently. Thank you for all the items you are sending us, such as acorns, conkers etc. We do appreciate this support.

We continue to have some families ignoring the safety procedures in place on our site. I'm delighted to say that the majority of site users are respectful and **adhere to the measures in place**. The school reserves the right to refuse entry to unsafe users, and whilst this may seem extreme, the safety of all school users is paramount. Please therefore keep to the one way system, and distancing. Please also ensure that only one adult arrives for a child's drop off or pick up times. Thank you. We are continuing to keep measures in school, and wear visors in communal areas, with some use of other face coverings in line with DfE guidance.

School club provision is being reviewed regularly as new guidance comes out. We currently are able to offer limited use, due to spacing, so have prioritised the extended care provision, and the clubs linked to initial catch up tuition, at the moment. Mr Tilbury is offering a sports club in half term, and spacing out places. He will be running some of our tuition linked to active learning after half term, which we are pleased to be offering. We anticipate our further clubs will start to return after Christmas but cannot promise this, which I know everyone appreciates. As you know, all teachers at Sheffield run a club. When these are safe to restart our curriculum leader, Mr Wakefield, will be communicating this.



On Monday, we have our Harvest Festival. We will be quarantining all food offered, and our newly elected pupil leadership team will be responsible for taking it to church for a blessing with Reverend Roni. Mrs Hall has organised our display in town, and a flag. We thank Francesca Fitch at the town hall for her community support. Reverend Valentine has recorded a special video for our assembly too.

Our assemblies have been virtual since we came back, and we have enjoyed beginning our collection of house points, with our leader boards. This week, we will be collecting our extra points for the house with the best attendance/punctuality too. Each week we start fresh, and the winning house collects 4 leaderboard points, the second collects 3 points, the third collects 2 points and the fourth collects 1 point. As well as learning sign language in our assemblies, we have the names of our houses in French and in Latin. One of our pupils suggested this to me, and I do love a good pupil led idea!

Have a good weekend, from Mrs Finch

Values

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 in our groups so that they feel a sense of belonging.

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 medals which will be displayed on our PE celebration board. After half term our PE assemblies will be beamed into every class too.

Congratulations to the following children:

Year 1

Esme T—Stage 1 in Learn to Swim



Year 2

Kayleigh F—400m in swimming



Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip

Year 3 will be going to the Celtic Harmony camp next week on Tuesday 13th October. Please remember to bring a packed lunch in a carrier bag. Children are encouraged to wear Stone Age style clothing (please see the ParentMail sent regarding simple costume tips) however as children will be spending most of the day outside they will require a warm, waterproof jacket and wellies or sturdy shoes.





HARVEST FESTIVAL



Harvest Festival

Monday 12th October

Please send your child's Harvest gift in to their classroom.

Tins & Packets: Friday 9th Oct

Fresh Food: Monday 12th Oct

**All donations will be going to the
NEED Project**

PSA News

Would you like to join us?

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 have a core elected committee along with a wider committee that you are welcome to join. We also have a list of people who would be happy to volunteer time or skills at events throughout the year. 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.

Your School Lottery – EVERY Saturday

Shefford Lower school has a guaranteed winner EVERY WEEK!

Thank you to all those who have signed up already and a **MASSIVE thank you** to all those generous people who have donated their winnings to the PSA as well – we are very grateful.

Tickets can be purchased at any time. Signing up this term will automatically enrol you into a further prize draw – at the moment this is a Harry Potter Studio Tour for a family of 4! - 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.

If you haven't signed up for Easy fundraising, please do. It's totally free to you, but helps us raise funds to spend on your child's school. Thank you.



Create account

Login

Raise donations for Shefford Lower School PSA whenever you shop online

Turn your everyday online shopping into FREE donations

Over £32m raised for good causes through easyfundraising



Support Shefford Lower School PSA

£435.81 40
Total raised Supporters

Support this cause



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.



OCTOBER HALF TERM

Creativity, Confidence, Control & Courage

26th Advanced Player Development Sessions 1/2

Step up your game with focussed coaching sessions designed to take your attacking or defending skills to the next level. Delivered by UEFA B & FA licensed coaches.
13:00-14:30 & 15:00-16:30
Limited places available.

27th October Camp Day 1 09:00 - 16:00

28th October Camp Day 2 09:00 - 16:00

29th October Camp Day 3 09:00 - 16:00

30th Advanced Player Development Sessions 2/2

Step up your game with focussed coaching sessions designed to take your attacking or defending skills to the next level. Delivered by UEFA B & FA licensed coaches.
13:00-14:30 & 15:00-16:30
Limited places available.

Price List:

Player Development:

- 1 Session: **£20**
- 2 sessions: **£30**

Half Term Camp:

1 day: **£20** / 2 days: **£35** /
3 days: **£50**

Offers & Discounts:

- Refer a Friend and both receive **25%** discount!
- **10%** NHS discount
- **5%** Sibling discount

Terms & Conditions apply

Book Today:

Head to our **website:**
www.midbedsfutsal.co.uk

Send us an **email:**
midbedsfutsal@gmail.co.uk

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