



## Weekly Update

### Friday 21st April 2023



Please email [schooloffice@sheffield.cbeds.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@sheffield.cbeds.co.uk) if you require support in accessing this newsletter in an alternative format.

Dear Families and Friends,

We have our first week back, and for the most part have enjoyed better weather. The school is a sea of calm and children came back refreshed and ready to learn.

We have been filling our social media with ideas for home. We have more requests for this as the nights are lighter and learning ideas can happen outside. Please do like and follow our page. If you click 'like' on the posts when you see them, they will appear more readily on your regular feed too.

This week we have been directing pupils to our dragon themes in the 'Curiosity cube', the 'Fascinating Finds' and within our Art Gallery, because it is St George's day. Coming up, we have the coronation. Although it is a Saturday, we will have a celebration in school on the Friday. We are allowing children to come to school in Red/White/Blue if they wish to, and will have class parties with traditional songs and games. If weather permits, we will of course take the fun outside.

This term, Mrs Ross and I have the benefit of working together more closely for the handover of headship. We will have further parent focus groups planned in. This group for our 'Schools for the Future' has become smaller, since this project by the local authority has been pushed back. We would love to have more parents in this group, ideally to represent voice from all age groups. The meetings are virtual, and are run twice each time so that members can attend the one that is best suited to their time. One morning and one after school each time it comes up. A parentmail will go home next week. Please express your interest only if you are able to be a consistent member of the focus group so that we can build on items from previous meetings more easily. Thank you.

Tidy Ted has been in year 3 today, and in Plum class this week also. Plum class hid him and swapped him for a 'chair'. What a fun way to learn about their rhyming words. A great game to play at home - swap something in a room for something it rhymes with and see if the children can see what has changed.



We have had new markings in the carpark. Yellow marked areas and cross hatching should have no vehicles, and the disabled bays MUST have a blue badge relevant to a child or parent who is on our school attendance roll. The carpark is too small for the school, children's centre and Acorn staff, so this is not a parent resource. This way, we ensure it remains a safe space.

For the children, we have had the ballcourt remarked with games lines and you may have also seen our wonderful forest school footprints. The children use these for lining up when they leave the school site. They learn about the flowers on the plaques that the PSA funded, and Mrs Barnby has planted those very same plants in our values garden tyres ready for the summer. Our children learn about british trees through their class names. Why not ask them some facts about their tree! Coming up, we have a sun-flower growing competition. These always brighten our site, and attract birds into our forest area too. Mr Wakefield and our super ECO Council would like to hear from anyone that help us plant these with the children in the next week or two.

Our values for April are Trust & Honesty. The children have learned stories linked to those words this week, and about our school motto, BELIEVE~ACHIEVE~SUCCEED. We teach the children how this differs from the fundamental British Values, and how our Ethos of FLOURISH is at the heart of our community loving school. Please ask your children if they know who can help them in school. There are pictures for the children in their classes (on the inside door) so that they know. If your child doesn't know, please tell their teacher and they can ensure there is a reminder. This is part of the secure caring environment we provide for the children which helps them to play and negotiate their needs together. Sometimes we all need a bit of help to do this.

Have a wonderful weekend.  
From Mrs Finch

Please know: We are an Operation Encompass School. This means that we work together with the police to respond quickly to instances of domestic abuse and/or violence. Staff in school are trained responders and we are a safe space.

# Values

The values of April will be Courage & Determination

## Trust and 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."

### House Points and Attendance

W/C 31/03/23

Well done to last week's house winners.



**Earth 992**

**Fire 985**

**Air 892**

**Water 712**

### House Attendance & Punctuality

Winner

**Fire!**



Congratulations to the children below who have been recognised as a Finer Diner



EXCUSE ME

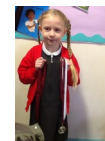
- ◇ Reception **Peach:** Annie & Charlie **Pear:** Orla & Ollie **Plum:** Laila & Killian
- ◇ Year 1 **Chestnut:** Theo & Charlotte **Holly:** Ben & Marley **Sycamore:** Jacob & Theo
- ◇ Year 2 **Maple:** Zoe & Theo **Oak:** Jannat & Arthur **Willow:** Luman & Emilia
- ◇ Year 3 **Cedar:** Quinn & Kiera **Elm:** Lauren & Esmee **Hawthorn:** Edward & Sofya
- ◇ Year 4 **Ash:** Paige & Amber **Beech:** Iewie & Kayleigh **Hazel:** Mabel & Isla

THANK YOU



### Shefford Sporting Successes

Well done to all our achievers!



Katie—Gymnastics  
Esmee—Gymnastics  
Mylah—Horse Riding  
Mai—Dance  
Abigail—Climbing Mount Snowdon  
Sienna—Gymnastics  
Rose—Gymnastics  
Lowri—Swimming  
Benedict—Football  
Isla—Football  
Connie—Gymnastics  
Harry—Swimming  
Emilia—Gymnastics  
Ethan—Football/Karate

# PSA



Sheffield Lower School PSA (Parent & Staff Association) is made up of volunteers who help raise funds to support Sheffield Lower School.



## Co-Op Local Community Fund

Sheffield Lower School PSA is part of the Co-op Local Community Fund.

Choose us by clicking here <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/66495> and you can help us make a positive impact in our community every time you swipe your membership card.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Friday 24 March - Family Games night.**  
Tickets SOLD OUT!

**April**  
Tea towels are back! The children will be designing class tea towels for purchase.

**Sponsored run/ walk/ scoot/ ride.** More info available soon!

**Easter Egg colouring competition**



[www.sheffordlowerschool.co.uk/parents/psa](http://www.sheffordlowerschool.co.uk/parents/psa)



FB @sheffordlowerschoolpsa



Chloe Llewellyn & Louise Hollis  
Co-Chairs | [info.sls.psa@gmail.com](mailto:info.sls.psa@gmail.com)

## Family Games Night – sold out!

But you can still buy raffle tickets online to support – we have some great prizes to win! <https://rb.gy/ifmuge>

## Do you work for a company that offers matched funding for charities?

Last year we received matched funding from Natwest Bank which was great.

If your company offer matched funding for charities, Please, get in touch and let us know how we can make extra funds for the school!

## Join the PSA.....

We are always looking for new committee members and helpers to support the events.

The activities we run to raise funds for the school vary from Christmas Fayres to Sponsored Bounces to Mufti Days but we are always looking for new ideas too. If you would like to help or just find out how you can support, please get in touch!

## parentkind.org.uk

is brimming with articles for parents, to help you support your child's school life and learning, and it's open to everyone!

**Parentkind**  
Member Association

## 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.

Reception Peach: Daniel Plum: Nova Pear: Lillie

Year 1 Holly: Adam Sycamore: Emelia Chestnut: Lowri

Year 2 Willow: Robyn Oak: Heidi Maple: Josh B

Year 3 Elm: Beau & Annie Cedar: Zoe Hawthorn: Holly

Year 4 Beech: Freya Hazel: Tommy Ash: Lilly



## Music News!

This week we moved onto looking at tempo, and related it to our weekly music vote. This week the choices were Coldplay's 'Fix you' and Pink's cover of 'Nothing compares 2 u'. Coldplay took the win, and we discussed the tempo changes within both songs. We will be working towards more subject specific terminology in the next couple of weeks. We have a choir performance pending in Shefford town, please check parent mail if you haven't already. Thanks all!



# Community News

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

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES**  
**EXCLUSIVE SOFT PLAY SESSION**  
**EASTER HOLIDAY**

John Bunyan Sports & Fitness Centre  
 Mile Road, Bedford, MK42 9TS

Date: Tuesday 4th April 2023  
 Time: 11.30am - 1.00pm

Cost: £4.00 per child (AB members)  
 £5.00 per child (non AB members)  
 Under 1's go free, siblings welcome

Children must be supervised at all times by Parents/Carers

**Autism BEDFORDSHIRE**

**Book Now**  
 enquiries@autismbeds.org  
 01234 214871 (general enquiries)

For ages 0-12 years

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES**  
**EXCLUSIVE SWIM SESSIONS**  
**EASTER HOLIDAYS**

Lea Manor Recreation Centre  
 Northwell Drive, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU3 3TL

Date: Wednesday 5th April 2023  
 Timeslots: 12.30pm - 1.30pm  
 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Cost: £3.00 per person  
 Under 3's go free.  
 Siblings welcome.

Additional Information:  
 • Please arrive 15 minutes before your session to change;  
 • You will be responsible for your child/ren at all times;  
 • Parents/ carers must be in the pool supervising their child/ren.

**Autism BEDFORDSHIRE**

**Book Now**  
 enquiries@autismbeds.org  
 01234 214871 (general enquiries)

For ages 0-17 years

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES**  
**MULTI-SPORTS COURSE**  
**6 WEEKS**

Castle Newnham School (Sports Hall)  
 Pollhill Avenue, Bedford MK41 9DT

Date: Thursdays  
 20th, 27th April  
 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th May 2023

Time: 4.45pm - 5.45pm

Cost: £15.00 per child (AB members)  
 £20.00 per child (non AB members)

Parents/Carers must stay on site and supervise their child/ren at all times.  
 Enjoy a range of sports activities across 5 sessions.  
 Be active and have fun doing it!

**Autism BEDFORDSHIRE**  
 Working in partnership with  
**Blues Foundation**

**Book Now**  
 enquiries@autismbeds.org  
 01234 214871 (general enquiries)

For ages 10-17 years

**GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL CHARITY**

**CHARITY SKY DIVE**

**£500 GOAL!**

This is a hospital close to our hearts and all patients, families and staff deserve all the support they can get!

FUNDS TO BE RAISED BY SEPTEMBER THE 2<sup>ND</sup> 2023!  
 EVERY PENNY WILL HELP  
 THANKYOU IN ADVANCE

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chloekydive?utm\\_source=Sharethis&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=chloekydive&utm\\_campaign=rfp\\_email&utm\\_term=0b6a8f15491f48d293b69e4ccac2d8](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chloekydive?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=chloekydive&utm_campaign=rfp_email&utm_term=0b6a8f15491f48d293b69e4ccac2d8)

My name is Chloe, a Student Midwife and a mummy to twin girls and a little boy at Shefford lower school.

**FUNDRAISING LINK!**

**You can be active**  
**You can be creative!**

**Come and join Rainbows**  
**Girls age 4-7**

**Your nearest Rainbow unit is**  
**Shefford**

Register your interest by visiting  
[www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus)  
 or you can ring  
 Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901

Do you want to learn new skills?  
 Do you want to have lots of fun?  
 You can make friends and have adventures!

**Summer school uniform**

New with tags, children's summer school uniform,  
 Summer dresses in red, sizes 6-7years, blue, sizes 9years and green, sizes 10years  
 Grey and Black shorts, sizes 7, 9 and 12 years.  
 Donations welcome.

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April**  
**10am -12pm**

Shefford children centre, School Lane, SG17 5XA,  
 Parking available at Shefford Lower school due to school holidays.

Find us on Facebook  
 Shefford and Stotfold Children's Centre School Lane  
 Shefford SG17 5XA 0300 300 8112

**great**

**BARRACUDAS**  
 Activity Day Camps

Early and Late clubs

Giving every child such an AMAZING experience they can't wait to come back!

Visit [barracudas.co.uk](http://barracudas.co.uk)  
 or call 01480 467 567

**#QUOTE CODE: SCHOOL10**  
**FOR AN EXTRA £10 OFF YOUR BOOKING\***  
 \*MINIMUM OF 2 DAYS

80+ ACTIVITIES  
 CHOICE FOR EVERY ACTIVITY

The UK's Favourite Holiday Activity Camp!

Recommend a Friend  
 Save £5 for every £10 for your friend

Trustpilot

BOOK NOW!  
 DID YOU KNOW?  
 YOU CAN CHOOSE YOUR DATES RIGHT UP UNTIL 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR BOOKING DEADLINE!  
 \*SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Boost confidence  
 Make New Friends!

Ofsted Good Provider  
 Ofsted Outstanding Provider

**DYNAMOS CRICKET**

**For all 8-11 year-olds**

Southill Park Cricket Club

- 8 weeks of cricket sessions for 8-11 year olds
- Southill Park Cricket Club, Southill, Bedfordshire, SG18 9LJ
- 1815 hours - 1915 hours, from Friday 12th May 2023 to Friday 30th June 2023
- £40.00 for all 8 weeks—booking fee includes personalised Dynamos Shirt

**SCAN ME**

## 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

### Mythbuster

**Myth:** "It's fine for them to have the occasional day off for a treat."

**Buster:** Attendance is a legal requirement for parents. Schools must report on all unauthorised absences. Parents may be subjected to a fixed penalty notice. This is £60 per parent per child. A record is kept on \*CPOMS. \*Child Protection Online Management System

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

Central  
Bedfordshire

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/500041336097>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/500041336097>

Please click on the links to open!



**AGES 3 - 17 YEARS**

**£25 PER DAY**

**09:30AM TILL 3PM**

**SUMMER ACTIVITY SCHEMES 2023**

**24TH JULY TO 28TH JULY**

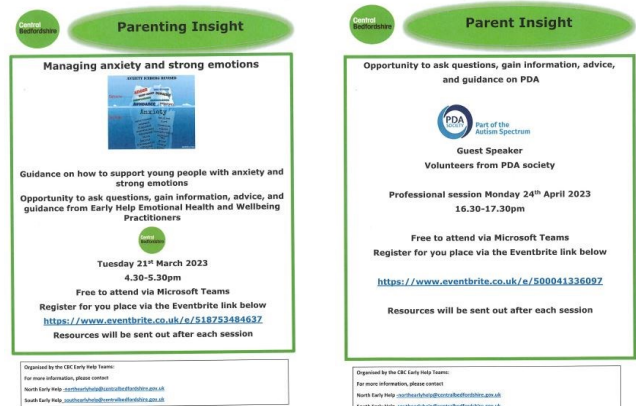
**31ST JULY TO 4TH AUG**

**7TH JULY TO 11TH AUG**

Summer Activity Schemes are respite services that are based in Bedford and Luton. They provide a wide range of onsite activities and community-based experiences for autistic young people who live in Bedfordshire.

See our website with details on how to apply!  
[@autismbedfordshire.net](https://autismbedfordshire.net)

**Autism BEDFORDSHIRE**



**Parenting Insight**

Managing anxiety and strong emotions

Guidance on how to support young people with anxiety and strong emotions

Opportunity to ask questions, gain information, advice, and guidance from Early Help Emotional Health and Wellbeing Practitioners

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023  
4.30-5.30pm

Free to attend via Microsoft Teams

Register for your place via the Eventbrite link below  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/518753484637>

Resources will be sent out after each session

**Parent Insight**

Opportunity to ask questions, gain information, advice, and guidance on PDA

Part of the Autism Spectrum

Guest Speaker  
Volunteers from PDA society

Professional session Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
16.30-17.30pm

Free to attend via Microsoft Teams

Register for your place via the Eventbrite link below  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/500041336097>

Resources will be sent out after each session



**Bedfordshire  
Community  
Health Services**

The **Bedfordshire and Luton Children's Community Health HUB** is our one stop service for our Health Visiting, School Nursing 0-19 and our Looked after Children Teams for parents, carers and professionals. Our Luton Community Paediatric Service can also be contacted via this number, but for emails please continue to use their own dedicated email address.

To access the Health HUB call us on 0300 555 0606 or email: [ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net](mailto:ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net)



**Safe Space**

**BEDFORDSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE PARTNERSHIP**

**IT DOESN'T HURT TO ASK FOR HELP!**

**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](mailto:BDAP@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

[@bedsdv](https://www.bedsdv.org.uk)  
[bedsdv.org.uk](https://www.bedsdv.org.uk)

# Shefford Lower School

## Diary Dates

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

### 2023 Upcoming Dates

18th April	Children Return
26th April	Class Photos
1st May	Bank Holiday
8th May	Bank Holiday /King Charles III Coronation
24th May	Year 4 Cake Sale—Charity: Red Nose Day
29th May—2nd June	Half Term

**Moving to become a primary as part of Central Bedfordshire's Schools For The Future project.**

<https://www.schoolsforthefuture.co.uk/>

**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](mailto:schooloffice@shefford.cbeds.co.uk).

To find Shefford Lower's Academic Calendar for 2022/2023 please refer to our website

[Term Dates Link](#)

Please note this will be different to the Central Bedfordshire