

## **Weekly Update**

### Friday 24h March 2023



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

Dear Families and Friends,

Have a fabulous Easter! We end our term with our traditional Easter assembly, bringing together our RE learning for this time of year. The children were very knowledgeable about Holy Week and the meanings attached to the symbolism and gifts. Each year group sang and shared some of their learning from classrooms too. With celebrations like this, it reminds us what we missed out on during lockdown, with the chances to come together. Even last year, we were still operating a distancing policy at this time of the year when we returned, so for many of our children this was a first.

When we come back we will be close to the statutory assessments that the government provide. For year 1 it is the phonics screening. Traditionally children have had to be able to manage a minimum of 32 out of 40. Mr Wakefield has provided further information for parents and some activities. We will keep our social media filled with titbits to help you support your children too. Mostly, we make phonics fun at Shefford, like it should be. So lots of games and praise. Year 2 will be carrying out the SATs and we have information events to assist you with this. All year groups have assessments every term, and at the ends of each year. The children do just see this as part of school. We keep the atmosphere the same, and focus on praising super efforts. Before transitioning to middle school, our KS2 children have a range of checks. These happen from year 3 with reading and maths. The government take in the times tables scores for year 4—this is known as the MTC.

Huge thanks to our wonderful PSA. They held a whopper of a fundraiser on Friday, with a quiz and other fun games. £1200 on the night, which supports them to do all the fun extras that your children enjoy in school. This week, it was the colouring competition, raising funds, but also winning chocolate eggs. Our men and women on the team worked really hard, and everyone enjoyed it. Please do join the PSA to support them. It's not all or nothing, and they have a range of membership 'levels'.

I have to have a grumble about parking I'm afraid. We have had two instances where parents have been abusive to staff at other schools, and have been seen parking illegally in School Lane whilst using mobile phones. This is not acceptable, but moreover, it puts our children at risk of harm. Whilst we cannot police this area ourselves, we do stress that we request it is patrolled regularly. We photograph and date any misdemeanours we see that infringe on our Flashpark rules, and we encourage all members of the public to report in order to maintain the area as safely as possible.

On a much happier note, I had the pleasure of observing a forest school session on our grounds lighting fires this week. Mr Tilbury operates a highly safe experience, and the children gain valuable knowledge about how to put out fires, and what a fire needs to fuel it. They thoroughly enjoy this hands on learning, and it connects within our curriculum so well to Science, to Life Learning and physical health. We love the fact the children at Shefford Lower School have this opportunity.

Coming up next term we have our new multilingual clubs, and continue to nurture children who understand their role in a global community; something we promote in all learning.

Have a wonderful weekend. From Mrs Finch

## EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION WINNERS

N WINNERS Cherry - Ash & Cady

Peach - Logan & Violet Pear—Buddy & Orla Plum - Noah & Ronnie

Chestnut - Jack & Mia Holly - Oscar & Beattie Sycamore—Yaniehve & Louisa

Oak - Ben & Grace Willow - Charlie & Nancy Maple - Ethan & Jayda

Cedar - Joshua & Keira Hawthorn - Ayaz & Poppy D Elm - William & Orla

Hazel - Giovanni & Elouise / Ash - Ruben & Leeia-Mai Beech - Oscar & Freya

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 March will be Courage & Determination

"What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?" Vincent Van Gogh.

Courage when you least feel like trying. Not giving up. Knowing it is worth it, if not immediately, then in the long run. Courage when you are a lone voice in a crowd, when peer pressure is high.

Earth 1466

Fire 1464

**Water 1559** 

**Air 1330** 

**House Points and Attendance** 

W/C 24/03/23

Well done to last week's house winners.









**House Attendance** 

& Punctuality

Winner

Earth!

#### SHEFFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Office of the Mayor Shefford Town Council



15 High Street Shefford Bedfordshire SG17 5DD Telephone 01462 816321 e:mail towncouncil@sheffordtown.co.

17th March 2023

Dear Mrs Finch

On behalf of Shefford Town Council, I would like to say a huge thank you to the students of Shefford Lower School for their generous donation to the Shefford Warm Spaces, raised by the bake sale. We can consider the Shefford Warm Spaces project as a remarkable success in the town, providing many local residents with a warm and welcoming space over the cold weather period. The money raised has gone towards ensuring this valuable asset of our community continues, and the co-operative spirit of the spaces maintains.

Again please give our sincere tranks to the students for their hard work: their efforts were greatly appreciated.

I hope to see you & the students again soon, and attend the next assembly.

Yours faithfully,

TPRO.

Ken Pollard Mayor of Shefford

## HAPPY EASTER

FROM SHEFFORD LOWER SCHOOL

See you after the break on

**Tuesday 18th April 2023** 

# **PSA**







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

#### Co-Op Local Community Fund

Shefford 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.

#### Family Games Night

We raised over £1000 last Friday! Thanks to everyone who came and supported. More info on our FB page :-)

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

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

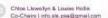
If your company offer matched funding for charities, Please, get in touch and let us know how we can make extra funds for the school!

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

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**





#### parentkind.org.uk





## Planning a clear out over the Easter holidays?

#### Look out for a plastic bag coming home in bookbags!



We are pleased to announce that Shefford Lower School PSA has organised a clothes & shoe collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds.

Bag2School is the UK's leading textile recycler and fundraiser working with schools and since its inception in 2001 it

has now paid out over £36 million.

As well as raising vitally needed funds for Shefford Lower School PSA, it also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from

By getting involved in our Bag2School collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles in the bag provided - this can include:

- ✓ adult and children's clothes
- shoes (tied together please),
- ✓ hats, belts, handbags
- ✓ soft toys

#### Not accepted are:

- X Duvets and blankets
- X Pillows and cushions
- X School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear

(please refer to http://uk.bag2school.com/ for full details).

If you fill the donation bag that will be coming home in your child's bookbag and still have more, then you can use any other bag to donate your items and don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to have a sort

Bag2School will be collecting from Shefford Lower on Thursday 20th April 2023

Please bring your bag (or bags!) to the school office on

#### Tuesday 18th or Wednesday 19th April 2023

and help us have a really good collection.

Many thanks indeed for helping us with this fundraising opportunity.







### **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— Maisie Plum— Huthaifa Pear— Rosalie

**Year 1 Holly – Calella Sycamore — Tyler Chestnut — Noah** 

Year 2 Willow— Theo Oak— Evelyn Maple— Logan

Year 3 Elm— Jemima Cedar— Ben Hawthorn—Harry

Year 4 Beech— Mark Hazel—Grace Ash—Cassian



### **Shefford Sporting Successes**

Early sports achievements for newsletter this week!

Any others that come in will be after Easter now as we are doing these ones in assembly tomorrow because there's no sport assembly on Friday and there are soooo many achievements!

Eddie – Sycamore – Swimming Ava – Willow - Water – Dancing

Nivya – Oak – Earth – Dancing Emilia – Willow – Fire – Gymnastics

Daisy - Cedar - Earth - Gymnastics Daisy - Cedar - Earth - Gymnastics

Thea – Cedar – Fire – Gymnastics Sophie – Elm – Air – Gymnastics

Emily – Elm – Earth – Gymnastics Sienna – Cedar – Air – Gymnastics

Poppy – Hawthorn – Earth – Gymnastics Poppy – Hawthorn – Air – Gymnastics

Isabella – Ash – Fire – Gymnastics Izabella – Ash – Air – Swimming

Frankie – Oak – Earth – Boxing Lizzie – Oak – Earth – Gymnastics

Isla – Elm – Fire – Kickboxing Fabrizio – Cedar – Air – Football Esme – Cedar – Air – Gymnastics

Esme – Cedar – Air – Gymnastics Nancy – Willow – Air – Irish Dancing

Charlotte – Chestnut – Water – Gymnastics/Swimming Calella – Holly – Fire - Gymnastics

Lucas – Hazel – Earth - Karate Sofya – Hawthorn – Earth - Gymnastics

Immy - Holly - Earth - Gymnastics Cara - Maple - Fire - Gymnastics



## Community News

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

















## **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



Myth - "It's none of the school's business if I let my child play games with a 12 certificate."

**Buster** - The school has an obligation to ensure children are not exposed to material rated beyond their age, and log all concerns on \*CPOMS. Rated material may be targeted at stress and tension levels that are developmentally inappropriate, may expose children to images or themes that are harmful and disturbing, or can be accompanied by targeted advertising for older age groups. Older users may contact your child with the intention of harming them.

\*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



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

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/

### Please click on the links to open!



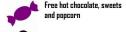












3<sup>rd</sup> March - Angry Birds (lhr 37)
 10<sup>rd</sup> March - Paddington (lhr 35)
 17<sup>th</sup> March - The BFG (lhr 57)

\*\*Free to all, limited spaces available\*\*

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)







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

# Shefford Lower School Diary Dates

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

## **2023 Upcoming Dates**

29th March	Year 1 Cake Sale—Raising money for Battersea Dogs and Cats Home
31st March	End of Term Easter Assembly
31st March	Last Day of Spring Term
3rd—5th April	Mr Tilbury's Holiday Club—See ParentMail to book a place
17th April	Inset Day
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.

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