



Weekly Update

Friday 24h March 2023



Please email schooloffice@sheffield.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 Sheffield, 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 Sheffield 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

Peach - Logan & Violet

Pear—Buddy & Orla

Cherry - Ash & Cady

Chestnut - Jack & Mia

Holly - Oscar & Beattie

Plum - Noah & Ronnie

Oak - Ben & Grace

Willow - Charlie & Nancy

Sycamore—Yaniehve & Louisa

Cedar - Joshua & Keira

Hawthorn - Ayaz & Poppy D

Maple - Ethan & Jayda

Hazel - Giovanni & Elouise

Ash - Ruben & Leeia-Mai

Elm - William & Orla

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
01452 816321
e-mail
towncouncil@sheffordtown.co.uk

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 thanks 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,

Ken Pollard
Mayor of Shefford

HAPPY EASTER

FROM SHEFFORD LOWER SCHOOL

See you after the break on

Tuesday 18th April 2023

PSA

NEWS



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.

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 Multi 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!



UPCOMING EVENTS

March
Easter Egg colouring competition winner will be announced on Friday 31 March.

April
Sponsored 6k – can you run/walk/scoot/ride to raise money? More info coming in bookbags this week.

Tee towels are back! The children will be designing class tea towels for purchase soon!

www.sheffordlowerschool.co.uk/parents/psa

FB @sheffordlowerschoolpsa

Chloe Llewellyn & Louise Halli
Co-Chairs | info.sls.psa@gmail.com

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!

the news

Planning a clear out over the Easter holidays?

Look out for a plastic bag coming home in bookbags!



We are pleased to announce that Sheffield 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 **Sheffield Lower School PSA**, it also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill.

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 Duvs and blankets
- X Pillows and cushions
- X School uniforms with and without logo
- X 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 out as well!

Bag2School will be collecting from Sheffield 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 sooooo 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.

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 2ND 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=info_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
 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 4th 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
 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
 Earn £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 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/e/500041336097>

Please click on the links to open!

SUMMER ACTIVITY SCHEMES 2023

AGES 3 - 17 YEARS

£25 PER DAY

09:30AM TILL 3PM

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 21st March 2023
4.30-5.30pm

Free to attend via Microsoft Teams

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

Resources will be sent out after each session

Organised by the CBC Early Help Teams
For more information, please contact:
North Early Help: north.earlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
South Early Help: south.earlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Parent Insight

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

PDA Part of the Autism Spectrum

Guest Speaker
Volunteers from PDA society

Professional session Monday 24th April 2023
16.30-17.30pm

Free to attend via Microsoft Teams

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

Resources will be sent out after each session

Organised by the CBC Early Help Teams
For more information, please contact:
North Early Help: north.earlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
South Early Help: south.earlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

WARM SPACES

A Place to Stay Warm this Winter

Shefford House – Council Chamber
(15 High St, Shefford, SG17 5DD)

Every Friday 3.15 - 5.30

Free hot chocolate, sweets and popcorn

• 3rd March – Angry Birds (1hr 37)
• 10th March – Paddington (1hr 35)
• 17th March – The BFG (1hr 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

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

[@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

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