

Year 1 Parent Handbook



Welcome to the new school year!

Introduction

Within this booklet we have put together an overview of the curriculum for your child this year and also some general information and reminders that we hope you will find useful. The booklets are specific to each year group so if you have more than one child please do read each booklet.

Working Together

Your support is important to enable your child to do as well as they can and we value a close working relationship with parents and carers. We aim for children to leave our school having achieved their best, by developing their skills and talents through a range of learning activities and experiences. The school teaches a broad and balanced curriculum that includes the National Curriculum, which is enriched through additional events and activities. We do expect children to fully participate in events and educational visits. If there is a concern or difficulty in your child participating please speak to Mrs Finch in confidence.

Your child will be given homework activities which are detailed in this booklet. Please do support your child in completing these. It is important that homework is done so that your child can participate confidently during follow-up activities in school.

Your child's teacher will be the key point of contact for you and it is most helpful if you let the teacher know about any matters that may affect your child, so that we can support them in school. You may sometimes have questions or concerns and your child's teacher will be happy to discuss these with you. Brief updates, for example about end of day collection, can be easily exchanged at the classroom door as your child arrives for school. However, it is best to arrange a meeting for the end of the day if you wish to have a more lengthy conversation. Due to the current climate and limitations and pick up and drop off telephone appointments or conversations can be arranged via the school office if needed.

Most matters will be appropriately discussed and resolved with the teacher. However, you may feel a matter is more appropriately discussed with a more senior member of staff, in which case you may wish to arrange a conversation with either Mr Wakefield (Key Stage Lead), Mrs Ross (Deputy Headteacher) or Mrs Finch (Headteacher). Any conversations or meetings can be arranged either directly with the class teacher or via the school office.

Attendance

We value children's good attendance and children receive bronze, silver and gold certificates for 100% attendance each term. There is a strong link between children's good progress in school and their good attendance. We are a local authority school and governed by their policies. It is not permitted to take children out of school for a holiday during term time. Exceptions are made for families in the armed forces if a parent is due to go/returning from a tour of duty. If you do feel there is an exceptional reason for your child to be absent from school, the request should be made in writing at least two weeks prior to the event, marked clearly 'Request for Authorised Absence', and handed into the school office. Any requests will be considered and authorised at the Headteacher's discretion in accordance with the Local Authority and National guidelines.

Welcome to Year 1

Key Stage Leader – Mr Wakefield

Holly Class – Mr Wakefield

Sycamore Class – Miss Sharma

Chestnut Class – Miss Shearsmith



We are a Values School!

Shefford Lower is a values school. Below are the values for each month which can also be found on our school website. Although we have two values to focus on each month, the other values are still used, modelled and lived every day in school.

Children are rewarded with a stamp on their individual values leaf when they have demonstrated one of the school's values. Special Milestone Leaves are awarded to the children in assembly when they have achieved certain numbers of stamps.

Start	End	Our Values 2020 – 2021
Sept 7th	Sept 25th	Unity & Belonging. "I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things." Mother Teresa Starting our new classes with a sense of togetherness and belonging. Belonging and working together in our school, as a new class, in our house groups. Developing our community by including everyone so everyone feels a sense of belonging.
Sept 28 th	Oct 16th	Respect & 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.
Oct 19th	Nov 13th	Tolerance & Friendship. "A day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside it." Winnie the Pooh by A.A Milne. Tolerance is understanding, rather than 'putting up with'. Exploring building supportive and trusting networks and knowing who to talk to. This will also be explored in Anti-bullying month.
Nov 16th	Dec 18th	Peace & Understanding. "All we are saying, is give peace a chance." John Lennon. Understanding what peace is, and how can we bring peace about – conciliation, finding resolutions and solving problems together. Understanding the other perspective and point of view. Learning to understand the needs of others.
Jan 5 th	Jan 22 nd	Excellence & Quality. "Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better." Pat Riley (NBA Basketball Coach). Not accepting less than our best, but striving for excellence. Practising to develop quality. Rehearsing and trying so that we achieve what we believe is possible. Understanding what is excellent to one person might be different to another.
Jan 25 th	Feb 12th	Love & Kindness. "Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward knowing someday someone will do the same for you." Princess Diana. What is love? How it is shown through our acts of kindness, and being thoughtful to one another.
Feb 22 nd	Mar 12 th	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.
Mar 15 th	Mar 26 th	Trust & 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. Understanding the difference between lying and holding back full truth as equally dishonest.
Apr 13 th	Apr 30 th	Cooperation & Sharing. "We are a team, one person struggles we all struggle. One person triumphs we all triumph" Barcelona FC. Team work, playing a part whether large or small, encouraging each other to be included and feel valued. Sharing games, sharing equipment, sharing feelings, sharing friends. Understanding what might make others reluctant to share or cooperate and helping each other overcome these barriers.
May 4 th	May 28th	Thoughtfulness & Patience. "Be a rainbow in somebody else's cloud" Maya Angelou. Thinking of others and putting their thoughts before our own. Thinking of the needs of others and giving time and space to support them. Enduring hardships and difficulties to achieve your goals.
June 7 th	June 25 th	Simplicity & Freedom. "It's the simple things in life which are the most extraordinary" Paulo Coelho. Enjoying the simple things... around this time of year the flowers and trees are blossoming and we are outside more. Exploring the idea of mindfulness and taking time to relax and appreciate life.
June 28 th	July 22 nd	Happiness and Hope. "It's the moments that I just stopped to be that I have been the happiest" Sir Richard Branson. Looking forward to the future. Understanding optimism and looking for the best as we move forward. Reflecting on how to keep ourselves and others happy.

Clubs

There are a range of clubs available for the children to join. This information is available from the office and you can apply for your child to join a club should spaces be available. You will be notified if your child has a place in the clubs of your choice.

Any club changes or updates will be passed to parents via letter or parentmail. Children will be invited to attend at the beginning of each full term.

Due to the current climate all clubs are under review and won't start until Autumn 2 at the earliest.

English

Learning in English will be based on books both fiction and non-fiction. There will be a wide variety of texts that we base our learning on and aim to immerse the children in a love of reading. Books link to topics and learning in other subjects.

Spellings will include:

CVC words (**consonant-vowel-consonant** (CVC) words)

CCVC

CVCC

CCVCC

Words with **consonant digraphs**

Words ending with 'nk'

Words ending with 'ff', 'll', 'ss', 'zz', 'ck'

Words of more than one **syllable**

Words with 'tch'

The 'v' sound at the end of words

Adding -s and -es to the end of words

Adding -ing, -ed and -er

Adding -er and -est

Vowel digraphs and trigraphs

ai

oi

ay

oy

a-e

e-e

i-e

o-e

u-e

ar

ee

ea (as in 'ee')

ea (as in 'e')

er (stressed sound)

er unstressed 'schwa' sound)

ir

ur

oo

oo

oa

oe

ou

Examples:

bad, leg, fit, hop, fat

step, drip, frog

sand, help, lost

grand, print, frost

ship, fish, chips

bank, pink, think

bell, kiss, back

pocket, rabbit, picnic

catch, fetch, kitchen

have, live, give

cats, thanks, catches

hunting, buzzed, jumper

fresher, quickest

rain, sail, train

oil, boil, join

day, play, Sunday

boy, toy, enjoy

made, take, late

these, theme

kite, time, slide

home, those, note

June, use, cube

star, park, garden

tree, green, week

dream, meat, read

instead, head, bread

her, term, verb

summer, winter, butter

girl, bird, shirt

turn, curl, hurt

food, moon, spoon

book, foot, wood

boat, road, soap

toe, goes

cloud, round, sound

ow ('ou')	now, down, town
ow ('oa')	grow, grow, show
ue	blue, rescue, argue
ew	grew, drew, threw
ie ('igh')	lie, cried, fried
ie ('ee')	chief, field, thief
igh	high, light, bright
or	fork, born, horse
ore	more, before, wore
aw	draw, yawn, crawl
au	August, dinosaur, astronaut
air	fair, stairs, chair
ear	dear, clear, near
ear ('air')	bear, pear, wear
are ('air')	bare, share, stare
Words ending in -y ('ee' or 'i')	happy, carry, party
Consonant spellings 'ph' and 'wh'	dolphin, phonics, where, when
Using 'k' for the 'k' sound	sketch, skeleton, skip
Adding the prefix -un	unload, unfair, unlock
Compound words	football, bedroom, laptop

Phonics is taught daily in class and we will begin this current year with a revisit and review of Phases 1 to 5

Glossary of terms

Compound word	A compound word is formed when two or more words are put together to form a new word with a new meaning e.g. football.
Consonant	A consonant is any letter of the alphabet except for a, e, i, o and u; y is sometimes a consonant e.g. yesterday; sometimes a vowel e.g. worrying.
Digraph	A digraph is a combination of two letters representing one sound e.g. 'ow' in now.
Prefix	A prefix is added at the beginning of a word in order to turn it into another word e.g. <u>un</u> load, <u>un</u> fair.
Syllable	A syllable is a unit of pronunciation having one vowel sound, with or without surrounding consonants, forming the whole or a part of a word; for example, there are two syllables in <i>water</i> and three in <i>inferno</i> .
Trigraph	A trigraph is a group of three letters representing one sound e.g. 'ear' in bear.
Vowel	a, e, i, o, u (and sometimes y) are vowels.

Some useful websites:

Oxford Owl – Phonics: This website provides a parent guide to phonics with a range of definitions as well as a video and audio guide of how to pronounce each sound.

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-site/expert-help/phonics-made-easy>

Oxford Owl – Reading: This website provides a library of eBooks to help the children practise their reading online.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

An online phonics workshop link for parents will be shared in the Autumn Term.

Mathematics

The national curriculum is designed to ensure all pupils become **fluent** in the fundamentals of mathematics, **solve problems** and **reason** mathematically.

Fluency in mathematics is related to children being able to learn and remember key mathematical facts e.g. the number bonds to 10 (1+9=10, 2+8=10, 3+7=10, 4+6=10, 5+5=10).

Problem Solving is the ability to apply mathematics to a variety of problems e.g. word problems, investigations.

Reasoning is to use what is known about mathematics to tackle a problem and make connections between their learning e.g. *Are all numbers in the 2 times table even? Yes!*

See Calculation Policy (Appendix on website)

Glossary of terms

Addition	The process of calculating the total of two or more numbers or amounts.
Division	Division is splitting into equal parts or groups.
Fraction	Part of a whole.
Geometry	The area of mathematics that deals with shapes and space.
Measure	To find a number that shows the size of something. Usually the number is in reference to some standard measurement, such as a metre or kilogram.
Multiplication	The basic idea of multiplication is repeated addition. For example: $5 \times 3 = 5 + 5 + 5 = 15$
Number	A number is a count or measurement.
Place Value	The value of where the digit is in the number, such as units, tens, hundreds, etc.
Subtraction	Taking one number away from another.

Topic

In year one our learning will be based on the National Curriculum and linked with our 'Connected Curriculum'. The children will explore new knowledge and deepen existing knowledge through a range of different subjects. We will be led by the children's interests to cover the objectives. Autumn term starts with our topic it's 'All About Me' where we are exploring what the children like to do and their outside of school activities and interests. We will also be learning about the bones in the body and the senses as well as a 'Healthy Me' day.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
It's All About You!	Picture this!	Fantastic Beasts!	All Around the World	All at Sea!	Into the Woods!

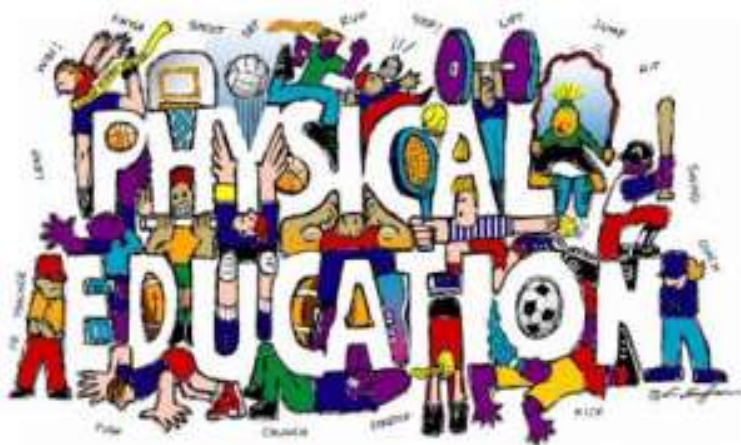
Computing and ESafety:

The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world. Throughout all of the units children will be taught how to keep safe when using any computer, device or website. This will include the safe use of photographs, usernames and email. Children will be encouraged to use tablets and computers in the presence of their parents and your child’s teacher will follow up any concerns regarding children’s use of Facebook, Twitter, etc. Social Media sites are not considered appropriate for children of lower school age. At Shefford Lower School we aim to support parents as much as possible and will send out supporting updates and advice as well as organising E-Safety sessions run by the local police.



PE

PE will be on the following days:



Holly Class – Monday & Thursday

Sycamore Class – Monday & Thursday

Chestnut Class – Monday & Thursday

The children take part in two PE sessions per week. One session is led by Mr Tilbury our school sports coach and one session by the class teacher.

PE Kit must be in a drawstring bag which will be stored on pegs. In the current climate parents can choose to take them home more regularly for washing if desired.

The children will be taught games, gymnastics and dance in school, including some outdoor PE and indoor work using a range of apparatus. The children will need warm clothes for winter outdoor sessions as well as trainers.

In Year 1 some children may be invited to partake in inter/intra school competitions, including a range of festivals such as Sports hall Athletics, Multi-skills and Gymnastics Festivals arranged by the Redbourne Sports Partnership.

Children are selected to participate in sports festivals based upon their effort, learning behaviours and ability in that area of PE. The school will endeavour to provide an opportunity for as many children as possible to attend these events throughout their time at the school.

Forest School

Forest school for year one will be in the Spring Term for all classes.

Monday – Chestnut

Tuesday – Holly

Wednesday – Sycamore

Forest school is led by Mr Tilbury. The children will spend one week in the school forest area and then the next week we will walk to the Chicksands Woods. The children can come to school in their Forest School clothes and bring their uniform with them to change into afterwards. Please make sure that the children wear warm clothes that you don't mind getting dirty or wet. We will endeavour go in most weather so please make sure that they have appropriate footwear.

Music

In class the children will have an opportunity to compose some of their own music. Using the 'Charanga' program the children will also be learning musical terminology and how we can manipulate our voices both individually and as part of a group.



General Information

School Book bags can be bought from reception. Children are expected to bring a book bag to school rather than other types of bags as they will need to fit into their class tray.

Snacks: In Key Stage 1 children will be provided with a fruit or vegetable snack. However if they wish, they may bring their own snacks in for morning playtime; these need to be raw or dried fruit and vegetables. We would also encourage your child to bring in their own named water bottle to ensure they get enough fluids during the school day.



Reading: We expect the children to read to an adult at home every day as part of their weekly homework. Children who have read at home will be rewarded every day with a house point.

Spellings: Spellings will be given weekly after half term. These will be a mixture of activities to support spellings and phonics to revisit learning in the classroom. Spelling activity sheets should be kept in their red folder. The children should practise their list of spellings up to three times at home before a close quiz the following week. The words will be based on a particular spelling objective.

The quiz will take place on a Monday and new spellings will be issued on Tuesday. The score they received and the spellings they got wrong will be shared with parents.

Learning Logs: Children in Year 1 will be issued with a Learning Log activity every two weeks. Children will choose a new learning activity from the learning log grid every other week on a Friday, with the work being handed in on a Tuesday. Learning Logs will start in Autumn 2.