



Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday 9th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope that you and your families enjoyed a peaceful Christmas and a very happy New Year together. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week and hear many tales of exciting events, trips and family gatherings over the break. I would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank those of you who gave members of staff kind wishes, cards and gifts for the Christmas period.

Looking to the term ahead, the children have returned with enthusiasm! Mr. Cuff and I enjoyed a learning walk around the school on Monday and were able to see the children enjoying a wide variety of activities. Most notably, it was pleasing to see how engaged our children are in their new topics! As usual, we approach our teaching and learning in a cross-curricular way, meaning that as many subjects as possible are linked through a common theme. Further details on this are available on your child's class page and the curriculum pages on our website.

This half term will see our Year 5 and 6 pupils take part in residential visits to Burwell and Grafham Water. We look forward to seeing and hearing about how they respond to the varieties of challenges and team building exercises! There are information sessions for parents this Thursday (a separate letter has been sent). For anyone who is unable to attend, the information will be available on your child's class pages on the website and any necessary letters and handouts will be sent home with your child. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions following the information session.

Further to this, all children will take part in our Art Day focusing on colour – further details below! We are also pleased to welcome Miss Bullman and Miss Foley back, who are visiting teachers from Cambridge University working with Miss Beck in Year 1. Miss Sweeney has also joined us from Long Road for a fortnight in Reception.

Parents' Consultations will take place at the end of January – a separate letter is enclosed, which outlines how to record your preferences for an appointment. Also enclosed is a summary of updated dates, which includes the dates for this term's class briefings.

With best wishes for the term ahead,

Mr. Grey

Announcements

Parent/Teacher consultations

Letters regarding the spring Parent/Teacher consultation sessions should be coming home with your child (years 1 – 6) today. Please note that although the letter states that there will be no clubs on these days, Tournaments club (Tuesday) and Sports club (Thursday) will run as normal.

Art Day

We are looking forward to our third annual Art Day which will take place on Thursday February 7th. This year, one of the activities will be a batik workshop for Years 3-6 led by local artist Sarah Hutchinson. We would be extremely grateful if any parents could assist with the batik, helping the children in small groups in the Think Tank to use the hot wax and inks with Sarah. We need volunteers for both Thursday 7th and Friday 8th of February as batik is quite a lengthy process. Years 6 and 3 will have their workshop on Thursday and Years 5 and 4 on Friday.

If you are able to offer any help, please could you let the office know.

Many thanks
Rosamund Ashton

Samara's Aid Appeal

This week we were intending to launch a project to fund and assemble 20 school bags to help children living in Syria to access education again after living through the horrors of war. Sadly and very suddenly, for reasons beyond anyone's control, restrictions against imported aid to Syria have been significantly tightened and we can no longer collect physical items to send for the time being. We hope these restrictions will be lifted in time and that we can work with Samara's Aid Appeal in the future to enable children in Syria to receive education again.

In this Thursday's assembly Mrs Caroe will be sharing a little about the work that Samara's Aid Appeal are doing in Syria to bring hope and healing to the people there. In addition our retiring collection from the Candlemas Service will be donated to their medical aid appeal to help keep their emergency hospital running as it provides desperately needed medical care to Syrian people. For more information please visit samarasaidappeal.org

Illness in school

Please can we remind parents that if your child vomits or has diarrhoea they must be kept off school for 48 hours after the last episode (as recommended by the NHS and Department for Education). These rules are put in place to limit the spread of illness throughout the school (both for children and staff members). Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Lost items

We have a number of lost items in the office (various watches and two silver rings amongst other things). If you think that we may have something that belongs to you, please speak to a member of the office team.

Class List

The PTA would like to ensure that as many parents as possible are aware of 'Class List'. This is a great way to keep in touch with the other parents in your class and should help to ensure good communication between parents. Please get in touch with your class' PTA representatives for assistance.

General Routines and Reminders

Packed lunches

A reminder, please that packed lunches should be healthy, balanced meals – they should not include fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate bars

Nut Awareness

Please note, we are a 'Nut Free School'. Due to medical needs, pupils and staff should not bring any items in containing nuts. This includes any items in **pack lunches**.

With this in mind, may I take this opportunity to remind parents that the invitation to bring a KS2 break time snack is for **an actual piece of fruit not a cereal bar or fruit snack**.

Thank you for your understanding in this.

School Dinners

Dinner money is £2.30 per meal or £11.50 per week. The school is not able to allow debts of more than £15. A letter will be sent if you are in debt for more than 1 week.

Please will you make every effort to pay this online using www.schoolgateway.com . If you need any information about registering for this please contact the school office.

If you are unable to access the internet then make cheques payable to **Shelford Primary School** and write your child's name on the reverse stating that the cheque is for lunch money. Thank you.

The menu and lots of other information about school lunches can be found on Leicestershire Traded Services website:- <http://www.leicestershiretradedservices.org.uk/Page/1555> Please let the school know of any special dietary requirements.

Medicines in school

Please be reminded that **all** medicines must be given to the school office staff. Please fill out a form in the office if you need a medicine to be given to your child during school hours.

School Uniform

Uniform is ordered online. Please log on via the link below

<http://www.brigade.uk.com/direct/index.php?pdPage=login>. Items will be sent directly to you at home. There is free delivery to your home with orders over £50. Alternatively, any order amount can be delivered to school for free.

Payment for book bags, recorders etc.

When paying for items available from the office, **please bring the correct money as the office does not keep any petty cash for change**. Prices are as follows:

Book bags £6.00, Recorder books: £4.00, Recorders: £9 or £16, School hats: £2.50