



**Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School,**  
Church Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EL

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*We live and work in harmony with love for one another so we can achieve our potential within a community of life-long learners*

Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear members of the Great and Little Shelford community,

As we have journeyed into our third week of Advent, we remember the theme of *joy* from Gaudete Sunday. One way we have seen the spread of *joy* this week has been through the sharing of gifts... both in the abstract and concrete sense!

Thinking firstly about the sense of *joy* spreading around the community, we have loved sharing, enjoying and hearing about your love of our EYFS and KS1 Nativity. The children were fantastic and we loved the mixture of music, dance and acting. I am not sure if this was the first time that aliens have ventured into St. Mary's Church, or not! Well done to the KS2 team for their wonderful Carols by Candlelight Service. We loved the traditions mixed with some twists and humour! Both the Nativity and the Service are a culmination of much hard work from the children and staff. We are extremely grateful to the St. Mary's Church team for their support of both events. If you haven't seen them yet – both videos can be found [here](#), along with an Order of Service for our Carols by Candlelight. In addition to our own services, we were delighted to join the virtual Christingle Service (*right*) at Ely Cathedral on Monday too!

Secondly, in the more concrete sense of the word gifts, every member of staff was full of *joy* to receive a very special bag from the governors of the school. There were many expressions of gratitude for such a thoughtful act. Staff were particularly touched because of the strong support from the community: Cara Coffee; the Co-Op and the Deli all contributed towards these, along with our wonderful governors. The crowning glory was a beautifully-worded card (*below*) that – as some staff said – made them feel truly valued.

**Newsletter in 30s:**

- Nativity;
- Carols by Candlelight;
- Gifts;
- Important Christmas Announcement video;
- World Changers Award;
- PTA Raffle;
- Y6 Maya Q&A
- Shelford Christmas Day



This is a message to share our appreciation of you.

Working in a school is simultaneously rewarding and challenging at the best of times, but since the arrival of Covid-19 it has become an experience like no other.

For months, you have been relentlessly tested as individuals and as a team. You have become exposed to extra risk and pressures on the frontline as keyworkers. You have supported your own families and others through unprecedented events from afar. You have worked in ways you would never have anticipated, together and apart. You have navigated uncertainties and regular change with steady resolve and creativity. And through it all you have fought to ensure that the children have the most effective and enjoyable schooling as safely as possible.

Your determination to overcome everything thrown at you over the last nine months is a true inspiration. And your tremendous efforts are so appreciated by the children, their families and the wider community.

We would like to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all that you have done and continue to do to keep School running for the children.

Enclosed are a few small tokens of appreciation that we hope bring moments of calm and joy!



Of course, we continue to be overwhelmed by the support and generosity of our families too. Thank you – on behalf of all of the staff – for your generous gifts and kind support of the work of the school.



PROUD TO BE A MUSIC MARK SCHOOL







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There is a special, important Christmas announcement via video that you can see [here](#). You may see the link to *joy* if you watch until the end.

Even more *joy* has been spread this week in the form of the school receiving a runner-up award as a World Changer in Languages. The Pearson World Changer Awards winners have just been revealed and you can read about the amazing work of many people across the world [here](#). The summary of our school's work can be seen on the right.

I am sure there must be some *joy* spreading around the winning-hamper households! The draw can be seen [here](#). Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA raffle – either through donations, or through purchasing tickets! Your support of the PTA's work has a direct impact on what provision we can offer the children in school.

Speaking about the provision that is on offer, you can see the *joy* in the faces of our Y6 pupils below, during their live Q&A Zoom around the ancient Mayans with Dr. Diane Davis last week.



Shelford Christmas Day is fast approaching this Friday – this will be filled with much *joy*! Don't forget, pupils are to wear smart festive attire for the day. Every year, we use this opportunity to raise funds for Save the Children. To avoid handling coins and cash, we have set up a page for donations [here](#).

All that leaves me with is to wish you and your families a joyful, peaceful and restful Christmas holiday. We look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

With best wishes,  
Chris Grey

## The Languages World Changers

Here are some other examples of schools using languages to connect countries, classes and cultures.



### Great and Little Shelford CE (A) Primary School

This primary school in Cambridge is dedicated to internationalism and building relationships across the world, with partnerships in France, Canada, Kenya, Zambia, Morocco, to name a few. They are committed to encouraging learners to explore different cultures, make connections, and challenge stereotypes through their global pen pal initiatives, student letters and video meetings, as well as weekly global affairs sessions to discuss global events. They even hold an annual whole-school-community 'French Breakfast', where pupils act as French waiters, taking orders for typical French breakfast items. As well as student initiatives, teachers are encouraged to learn from each other too – they run a headteacher placement with a school in France so that they can each reflect and explore the cultural and pedagogical differences of their education systems.





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### **Celebration Worship - 11th December 2020**

**As pupils joined the Teams call, we reflected on the upcoming change of the liturgical season with [this video](#) on Advent.**

We opened the celebration worship with our signed gathering statement linked to our school vision:

**Leader:** *We live and work in harmony*

**Response:** *With love for one another*

#### **Sporting Achievements:**

- **Shelford Mile - Bronze** (10 miles): Y1 - Samantha Q

**Silver Bins** (tidiest classes): Y2; Y3

**Dinner Winners:** Y5

**Pen Licences** - Hugo M, Magnus H, Ella G, Oliver S, James T, Sara B, Charlotte N, Siobhan Q

#### **Heateacher's Awards:**

- Molly F - for fabulous retellings of the Christmas Story.
- Freddie S - for being a creative chameleon in making a fantastic robot model independently.
- Ashley M - for excellent responses during history - thinking about the changes in domestic tasks and technology.
- Georgia M - for excellent writing in retelling the Christmas Story, reading it aloud to others.
- Lilianna S - for excellent focus and participation in phonics lessons, applying your learning in your reading and writing.
- Theodore D - excellent attitude to learning this half term - making good progress because of your enthusiasm.
- Isabelle S - being a positive role model for the class in demonstrating excellent learning behaviours.
- Felix M - superb expression during your lines in the EYFS & KS1 Nativity.
- Charlotte C - excellent listening and performance in the EYFS & KS1 Nativity.
- Henry F, Matthew B and Harry C - for excellent acting, super use of humour and singing in the EYFS & KS1 Nativity as our wonderful three kings!
- Astrid M - for an excellent approach and attitude towards reading, applying all your comprehension skills.
- Sara B - an excellent attitude to all aspects of learning - especially science in our recent inheritance and evolution topic.
- Tommy H - for excellent enthusiasm and engagement during the live Maya workshop, asking fantastic questions.
- Hugo M - a conscientious approach to learning, notably in RE, History and English - especially in how you contribute your ideas thoughtfully and maturely.

**Housepoints: this week's winning house is the house of determination - domus pertendentium - the red squirrels.**

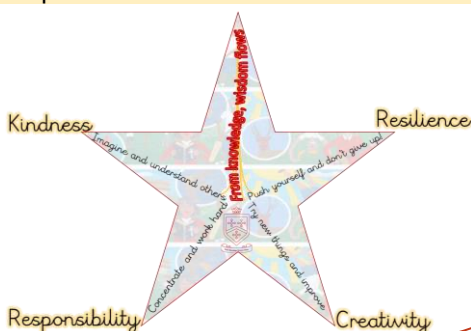
### **Announcements**

#### **PTA**

##### **Raise funds while you shop!**

**AmazonSmile** is a website operated by Amazon that has the same products, prices and service as Amazon.co.uk BUT when you shop on AmazonSmile Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to your chosen charity. There is **no extra cost to you** - the donation is made by Amazon. When you visit AmazonSmile you simply choose Great and Little Shelford School PTA as your chosen charity. And then start all your Amazon shops on [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) to support the PTA.

With **easyfundraising** you can raise free donations for the PTA whenever you buy anything online. There are over 4,000 shops and sites – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. All you need to do is sign up on the easyfundraising website and visit the site before you shop online.







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You can find out everything you need to know about using both websites [here](#). Every penny raised through these websites will help raise valuable funds for the PTA to support the school's activities and equipment.

**Wacky – 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> January**

Wacky Holiday Club is offering sessions on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January, which are both Professional Development Days when the school is closed for children.

**Admissions Consultation**

Due to some changes in guidance, we have revised our admissions criteria for the 2022 intake. In accordance with the Admission Code 2014, we must put the proposed criteria out to consultation with local families for at least 6 weeks. This consultation runs until January 10<sup>th</sup> 2021. The proposed criteria for the 2022 intake can be found on our school website near the bottom of the Admissions page or at [this](#) link. Comments may be directed to the Chair of Governors, Anna Caroe, [chair@shelfordschool.org.uk](mailto:chair@shelfordschool.org.uk) or the school's postal address.

**Shelford COVID Support Group**

The Shelford COVID Support group has been created to help people access basic amenities (shopping, prescriptions, post etc.) should they become unable to do so as a result of COVID. We have a network of 78 volunteers who ensure every street in Great Shelford has at least one key, local contact who are willing to give their time to do this. In the first instance, touch base with Chris Smith - [Christopher.i.smith3@gmail.com](mailto:Christopher.i.smith3@gmail.com) and you will receive details of your local volunteer.

