

THE SHELFORD STAR

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

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

17th May 2023

Vol. 24

NEWSLETTER IN 60 SECONDS

Dear Members of the Great and Little Shelford Community,

I hope this week's newsletter finds you and your family well, after the weekend of coronation celebrations. As I write to you today, I can hear echoes of a stern voice issuing pupils with the 'back straightener'. Meanwhile, from the same class an aroma of carbolic soap is hanging in the air.

Today marks Year 3's annual Victorian Day. It has been full of experiences, such as 'drill' (outdoor exercises); hand inspections and viewing Year 6's demonstration of the Maypole.

This is part of Year 3's topic into the history of our Victorian school. Pupils have already learnt about what our school was like then, including a little tour and details about the first Headmistress (Miss Hopkins) and Headmaster - her father - Mr. Hopkins.

Rosie F - *We did a drill. There wasn't much running around like PE. We had to stay still. We also wrote our names with pens that you dip in ink. I enjoyed writing on the slates.*

Eliza H - *The back straightener is a long thing with a curve in the middle. You have to put it on your back and put your arms around it. I enjoyed watching the Year 6s complete the Maypole dancing.*

- Victorian Day
- Y6's Darwin visit to Cambridge
- Important Attendance and Punctuality update
- Wear it Green Day! (this Friday!)
- Ascension Picnic
- Upcoming Dates
- Summer Music Events
- Announcements

Year 6's Darwin visit to Cambridge

On Tuesday 16th May, Year 6 pupils traveled into Cambridge. This was to complete a walking tour around Cambridge with the focus on the life and work of Charles Darwin.

The tour was led by Victoria Goodman - from Church Schools of Cambridge. This was a highly-informative visit for the children and linked back to their learning in the Autumn Term on their topic 'Why did HMS Beagle go where it went?'



Y6 Darwin Trip



cont'd Year 6's Darwin visit to Cambridge

This was a great opportunity to apply their previous learning, making long-term, meaningful connections. The children enjoyed spotting links in their prior learning - especially recognising 'Syms Covington', who was a character in their autumn term text, Darwin's Dragons.

This was an amazing opportunity to access many of the fascinating venues and museums of Cambridge in one day!



Year 6 got to use props to help tell the story of different scientists.



Important Attendance and Punctuality Update

In our continued work to ensure pupils are able to attend school every day that school is available, we have been working with the Local Authority to ensure that our attendance and punctuality remain strong.

With respect to punctuality, please remember that **the school day begins at 8:45am**. Improvement Time begins at 8:45am, with some important activities relating to children's learning. This can include a variety of morning challenges, improving prior learning or practising key skills. Meanwhile, some children have specific focused work with adults scheduled for this time. Please help by allowing enough time each morning to arrive on time for 8:45am.

We need to make families aware that there are two codes for recording lateness. Firstly, if a pupil attends 'before registers close' this is marked as 'late'. This is an authorised absence. However, if pupils arrive after 9:15am, this is after the closure of the registers and considered an unauthorised absence.

A total of 8 unauthorised sessions (e.g. 8 late mornings), reaches the threshold for referral to the Local Authority for a fixed penalty notice. This is calculated as £60 per child multiplied by the number of adults responsible for the absence. Please note this is issued by and charged to the Local Authority - not the school.

The school is held to account for its pupils' attendance. Please help your child get the very best school experience by prioritising punctuality each morning.

Wear it Green Day!

As part of Mental Health Awareness Week, we will be holding a green-themed non-uniform day on Friday 19th May, with donations [here](#) to the Mental Health Foundation.



Throughout the week, children will take part in some activities and sessions to promote positive wellbeing.

Volunteer Induction Sessions

As part of our Safer Recruitment Process for volunteers, volunteer helpers are required to complete an induction session. These last approximately 30 minutes and there are two dates below for sessions: **Friday 26th May at 9:05am; Wednesday 7th June at 2:45pm; Friday 16th June at 9:05am.** Please book in advance via the office.

Summer of Music!

We are delighted to share some key performance and concert dates with you for the term ahead! **Please note the amended dates for the Y6 Production.**

Midsummer Concert

Chair and orchestra members
21st June 2023
6:30pm
Great Shelford Free Church
open to families

Y6 Production

Y6 pupils
26th June - 6:30pm
27th June - 2:30pm
School Hall

No need to book!

Booking to follow



Ascension Service and Picnic

On Friday 26th May, we will be holding our Ascension Service - led by Year 4. This will take place at St. Mary's at 11:00am. We will also be holding an Ascension Day picnic on our school field at lunchtime. This will take place from 12pm to 12:55pm.

Families are welcome to attend the picnic and eat with their children. (This time, we are hoping for dry weather!) Visiting adults are also welcome to order a school lunch via [this link](#).

Coronation Picnic Reminder

If you were able to make the Coronation Picnic and ordered a meal - please make sure you have paid for this via School Gateway. The cost of adult meals is £3.06 and will be available to pay through the account of your eldest child at the school.

Cake on the Gate

Year 1 families will be holding the next Cake on the Gate on Friday 26th May. Come along and enjoy the various treats on offer, whilst also supporting the work of the PTA!



Upcoming Dates

Mental Health
Awareness Week

 #ToHelpMyAnxiety

- **19th May** - Wear it Green Day (non-uniform)
- **22nd - 24th May** - Y6 Grafham Water Residential
- **25th May** - Reception visit to Shepreth
- **25th May** Y3 visit to Museum of Zoology
- **26th May** - 11am - Ascension Service at St. Mary's
- **26th May** - 12pm - Ascension Picnic on the School Field
- **w/c 29th May** - Half Term
- **5th June** - PD Day - School closed for pupils
- **8th June** - Empathy Day for pupils in school
- **9th June** - Environment / International Day for pupils in school
- **12th June** - Y4 Multiplication Check window opens
- **12th June** - Y1 Phonics Screening commences
- **13th June** - Class Photographs
- **20th June** - 6:30pm - New Reception Parents' Induction
- **21st June** - Y5 Taster Morning at SVC
- **21st June** - 6:30pm - Midsummer Concert at GSFC
- **26th June** - 6:30pm - Y6 Production - Evening Performance
- **27th June** - 2:30pm - Y6 Production - Afternoon Performance
- **28th June** - Y6 Transition Day at SVC
- **7th July** - Sports Day - Families welcome in the afternoon
- **14th July** - Reserve date for Sports Day
- **19th July** - Leavers' Day
- **19th July** - 9:30am - Leavers' Service - St. Mary's, followed by a reception and presentations for families at school.
- **19th July** - End of the academic year

Current Vacancies

We are currently looking for Midday Supervisors to join our wonderful team that work at lunch. Details can be found [here](#).



CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Friday 12th May 2023

GATHERING

We entered the hall to
Never Giving up, by
Fearless Soul

We gathered with our
vision statement - also
signed in sign
language:

*We live and work in harmony
with love for one another*

LEBRATIONS ->

SENDING

We were sent with our
vision statement - also
signed in sign language:

*we can achieve our potential
within a community of life-long learners.*

and 'Try Everything' by
Shakira

Celia Award - Jack S - for being a kind friend,
who always tries to cheer others up.

Cyril Award - Mrs. Murray and Miss Beck - for
their hard work and thoughtfulness in helping
the football team to play fairly in every aspect.

Silver Bins - Year 1 (3rd week) and Year 5

Wonderful Walkers - Year 2

Dinner Winners - Year 6

Marvellous Manners - Year 3

Headteacher Awards:

Vida I - for super contributions to class
discussions.

Rupert K - for a fantastic letter of reply to Fay, a
rather confused frog, who was worried that her
eggs and babies didn't look how she expected
them to!

Samantha Q - for outstanding contribution to
music in our school - in choir, instrumental
lessons, the concert and in a recent violin exam.

Lily-Rose B - for some fantastic caterpillar and
butterfly inspired art work this week.

Ella B - for great effort and perseverance in
maths, whilst learning about fractions.

Freddie S - for consistently apply good effort -
especially in setting a good example to others.

Molly F - for being a conscientious and helpful
member of the class, going above and beyond to
make the class a nicer place to be.

Lyra N - for demonstrating a consistently good
and positive attitude, listening well and
demonstrating kindness.

Alexandra P - for working hard in all subjects,
setting a fantastic example to the class.

Joshua S - for excellent contributions and
enthusiasm in science.

Charlotte C - for continued effort in class and
helpfulness.

Florence P - for excellent work and
understanding in science.

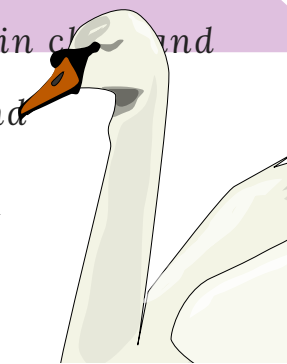
HOUSEPOINTS

This week's winning

house is domus

venerantium - the house

of respect - the Swans



THE LANE
ACADEMY



Summer

HOLIDAY CAMP

Where: Foxton Village Hall

When: Monday 31 July - Friday 4 August 2023

Times: 10.00am - 4.00pm Daily

(early start option from 9.00am)

Price: £140 for the week Ages: 4 - 11



Book Online Today:

<https://the-lane-academy.class4kids.co.uk/camp/11>