

# 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*

2nd November 2022

Vol. 7

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. I hope you enjoyed a pleasant half term break

Welcome back to the second half of our Autumn Term. As we start a new half term, we begin a new thread within our Shelford Curriculum. This half term's thread is '**Our Story So Far**'. You can find out a little more about our curriculum and the half termly threads [here](#).

During the week commencing 7th November, we will be marking our annual Kindness Week. As part of this week, we will be celebrating and exploring the Shelford Star Value of kindness. We will also be exploring this year's Antibullying Week theme of 'Reach out!'

**On Monday 7th November, we invite all children and adults to wear odd socks. This is to mark the start of our Kindness Week and we are asking for donations to the Antibullying Alliance in support of this event. You can make your donations [here](#).**

**Odd Socks Day**

Come to school wearing your odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique!

- Welcome Back!
- New Curriculum Thread
- Kindness Week and Odd Socks Day
- Update from the Governing Board
- Staff Update
- Friendship Bench
- Announcements

## **Update from Governors**

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On behalf of the Board of Governors, it's my pleasure to welcome you back to school this half term. Whilst it is a long stretch from now until Christmas, this part of the year contains some of my favourite school events and there is lots to look forward to. We are fortunate to have brilliant and dedicated staff who work hard to ensure there is so much on offer to the children through curriculum and extra activities.

At the first Full Board meeting of the academic year we said goodbye and thank you to Gillian Scahill and Maria Lazarus who were stepping down from governance. Both have made significant contributions to the school during their time serving on the Board. We also welcomed our new clerk - Mel Walsh, new staff governor - Amy Beck, and two new Foundation Governors - Alice Walker and Douglas Leckie. We were pleased to receive a number of applications for the vacant parent governor seat and will be sending out information about how to vote to elect one of the candidates this week.

As governors, our work this year, as always, revolves around the three core functions of governance - holding the school to account for the educational performance of the pupils, ensuring the clarity of the school's vision and ethos, and overseeing that finance is well deployed. This is done in a range of ways including visits into school, meetings with staff and pupils, and reports presented within meetings. We ensure that we bring both support and challenge during these times to ensure that the vision of the school is being lived out effectively!

Anna Caroe  
Chair of Governors

## Staff Update

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At the end of this term, Mrs. Stewart will be leaving her role as Year 4 teacher for 2 days per week. We will be sorry to see Mrs. Stewart go and have enjoyed having her as part of the Shelford community. I am sure you will join me in wishing her the best for the future.

This means that we will have a **vacancy** for the role of Class Teacher - 2 days per week.

## Friendship Bench

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Today, we have welcomed artist in residence - Miss Hutchings - to the school. A few years back, Miss Hutchings helped design and paint the hall doors, which tell our school's vision. This year, she helps to convert the children's design ideas onto a friendship bench. This project is in memory of the former headteacher, Ken Starling. **The Shelford School Support Fund** has been in receipt of kind and generous donations to fund the project and this has led to the bench being skillfully made by a local carpenter, before the beautiful artwork being designed and added (*below*).



# Household Support Fund - Cambridgeshire Local Authority

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As winter approaches, more people will feel the impact of inflation and increasing fuel bills. [County Council's webpages on support with the cost of living](#) provide information on accessing grants and debt advice, support on getting all the money you're entitled to and more information about the government's recent support measures. The page also contains a link for the Council's Household Support Fund. This fund, which has wide eligibility criteria, provides direct financial support and a gateway to more personalised offers which are intended to provide longer-term help. It is easy to apply to the fund, details and a link to the application form are on the webpage. There is also a telephone application route for pensioners through our partners Age UK Cambridge & Peterborough on 01223 221929 We will continue to run the Holiday voucher scheme for children during Christmas and February half term holidays. If you have difficulties accessing your vouchers, please email [winter.support@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:winter.support@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## Volunteer Induction Sessions

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**We are very welcome to see the return of our wonderful volunteers to the life and work of the school - thank you all so much for your time.**

**We require all volunteer helpers to complete an induction session. Please see the three sessions available next half term:**

- **Friday 11th November - 9:00am-9:30am**
- **Tuesday 29th November - 2:45pm-3:15pm**
- **Tuesday 6th December - 9:00am-9:30am**

**Please book in via the office for these sessions.**