



**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 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you and your families are well and were able to enjoy the lovely weather that we are blessed with. We are currently in Eastertide –the time following Easter. Tomorrow is Ascension Day, a time where we usually gather together and reflect on Jesus’ time with us on earth before ascending to heaven. Normally, we would be celebrating in school with a service and our annual Ascension picnic in Little Shelford. It was a pleasure to see how you all celebrated VE Day (*right*) and I hope you enjoyed the [collage](#) marking your celebrations. On a similar vein, thinking about the wider elements of school life, **we would love you to celebrate ascension with a picnic this week and share your photos.** We are aiming to create a patchwork picnic rug collage to share with everyone. Thank you to those of you who have already sent your photos in!

**Newsletter in 60 seconds!**  
[The video version of our Newsletter in 60s can be found here.](#)



I am so proud of our amazing teachers and staff in school. Not only have they adapted (virtually overnight) to the demands of home learning and school closures, but they have been supporting learners in school, creating extras like our vlog and Family Learning Menus and making difficult decisions in a very challenging time. **Today is Thank a Teacher Day.** I really think you should thank your teacher every day, but in the spirit of the day, I would be really grateful if you could write to your teachers or record a short message to send to them on their class emails! You can also send a [Thank You Card through the official site!](#)

On a similar vein, it has been lovely to see the responses from families that may be entitled to provision at school in June. I was really touched to see how many parents and carers acknowledged the hard work and dedication of the school staff:

<i>You've been doing a wonderful job, thank you</i>			
<i>We really appreciate all your hard work at this challenging time.</i>	<i>Thanks for working so hard on this. We need to take steps when it is safe to do so.</i>	<i>Happy to have my child at school and trust you will do the best for my child and the school as a whole.</i>	<i>I appreciate how hard the staff and everyone at school are working to offer this option to children to return.</i>
<i>Thank you so much for all your amazing work during this strange time. The home learning provision has been great, and the information about coming back to school etc. has been very informative and reassuring.</i>	<i>We think that Shelford School has done a fantastic job during the current crisis. We have found the home learning materials really helpful and Miss Beck's personal emails in response to [name]'s work each day have been invaluable. Thank you for all your efforts.</i>	<i>Thanks so much to you and the team for your dedication to finding the best route through each change. It is so appreciated.</i>	<i>We think that the home schooling provision and support from the school staff has been exceptionally good and are happy for this to continue.</i>



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We are currently working exceptionally hard to plan how to safely allow more children on site. This, as I am sure you can imagine, is a very difficult task for every setting. We need to take account of our school's site, room sizes, staffing capacity and many more logistical elements like break and lunch times. We are expecting scientific evidence from the government on 28<sup>th</sup> May (Half Term) and will aim to respond and adjust our risk assessments as soon as possible. Currently, we cannot safely offer provision for R, Y1 and Y6 from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, but are working hard to do so as soon as possible. Therefore, we are initially planning for a gradual start for the year groups listed by the government to start returning from 8<sup>th</sup> June. If we can do this safely for our children, staff, parents and visitors at a sooner date, families will be informed. Families in these year groups have received a separate letter to outline our work towards this. We will keep you updated with future changes to home learning.

With best wishes,  
Chris Grey, Headteacher

### Announcements

#### National Book Voucher Competition!

Please support us in the National Book Voucher Competition. There are 2 events. Firstly, the school has the opportunity to win £5,000 of book tokens to enhance our pupils' reading materials – click here to [nominate us](#). Secondly, there is a [competition for children to design a book token](#). The winning design wins a book token for each member of their class!

## Parent/Carer support line

(from 7<sup>th</sup> May)

We offer an opportunity to speak to a friendly professional from the Early Help District Children's Team about any child or young person aged 0 to 19.

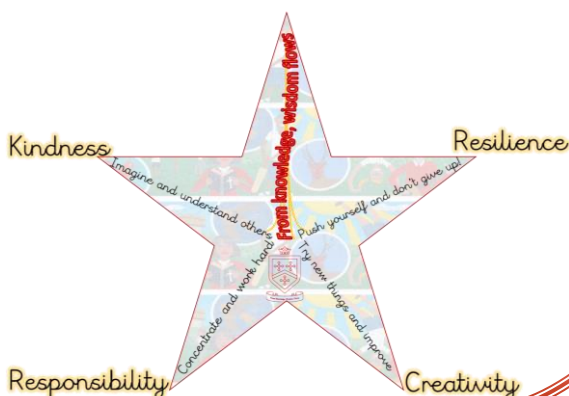
- You can ask a question, request support about your child's or young person's behaviours, get help with new routines and boundaries, or maybe just talk about how you are managing parenting in the current situation.
- We will give you advice, support, and help with signposting or just listen to your parenting experiences.

You can telephone or email for support any time, please leave a message with your contact details, someone will call you back (on a Tuesday or Thursday)

Phone 01354 750420

Email [Districtearlyhelpteam.cambridgecity@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Districtearlyhelpteam.cambridgecity@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/child-and-family-centres](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/child-and-family-centres)



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**Cambridgeshire Fostering:**

Can you consider fostering in support of this year's Foster Care Fortnight 11th – 24th May 2020?

There are around 1000 children & young people across Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, particularly teenagers and children over ten, who need the love and support from foster carers. Anyone who is interested can find out more about the process by phone or video call and ask any questions they may have about becoming a foster carer and what's involved.

Foster Care Fortnight is the UK's largest foster care awareness raising campaign, and aims to show the positive impact foster care has made on children's and young people's lives.

We are encouraging people from all walks of life to consider fostering – and we want to hear from anyone who is over 21, has a spare bedroom and the passion and dedication to help children and teenagers thrive. People should not rule themselves out because they have children, are single, married or partnered, work, unemployed, live in rented accommodation or want to foster past retirement age.

If you would like to register your interest then please visit: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering) or [www.peterborough.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/fostering) Or call 0800 052 0078

**Community Sunflower Competition:**

**Shelford & Stapleford Sunflower Competition**



**Can you grow the tallest sunflower, take the best photo or create the best artwork of a sunflower?**

Enter the Shelford gardens sunflower competition—aiming to brighten gardens and windows throughout the summer of 2020 while raising money for the Scotsdales Charitable Foundation (suggested donation £2).

For details of how to enter please visit the Shelford Gardens Facebook page or email: [shelfordgardens-competition@yahoo.com](mailto:shelfordgardens-competition@yahoo.com)

**Closing date 31 August 2020. Prizes donated by Scotsdales Garden Centre.**

A limited number of packets of mixed variety sunflower seeds can be collected from the front porch at St Mary's Church, Great Shelford.

Three entry categories: tallest sunflower, best photo of a sunflower, and best artwork of a sunflower. Three age categories: age 7 and under, 8 - 14 years, 15 years plus

Supported by: Scotsdales Raising money for: Scotsdales Charitable Foundation Registered Charity No. 1120743 Associated with: Shelford Gardens Facebook page



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**RE Competition:**

Get involved in the 2020 Spirited Arts competition! (4 year olds – 19 year olds)

Join hundreds of schools from around the world taking part in this year's Spirited Arts competition! We welcome entries in (almost!) any artform you can think of, including: Art (painting, drawing, sketching etc); Poetry; Photography; Dance; Music; Drama; Sculpture.

Winning entries will provide a good response to one of the 5 themes (below), and judges will be asking is it original? Is it well-crafted? And (most importantly!) is it excellent RE?

**To enter, pupils should create a piece of artwork related to the themes below and write a short summary of their work (prompt to support writing below).**

Entries should be submitted to [year6@shelford.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:year6@shelford.cambs.sch.uk) by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

<b>Picturing Faith</b> (Photo section!)	This is an innovation for our Art in Heaven competition. Pupils are invited to select up to 4 photographs from a visit to a place of worship (or another trip connected to RE) – preferably those taken by themselves, and give a brief commentary on the pictures to say what was great and what they learned from their visits. Comments about the emotions and the purpose of the place, not just 'labels and captions' are best. We suggest they are sent in a PPT presentation (or similar). If you have another way of responding to the theme 'Picturing Faith' then that is fine, please do send it in!
<b>God's good earth?</b>	Are we spoiling God's good earth? Should we be thankful for it? Can we save it in time from the threats of climate change? The beauty of the earth is celebrated in many religions, but the human spoiling of the earth is a danger and a coming crisis. In this theme, learners are invited to explore ideas and beliefs about the natural world, human responsibility for the earth and ways of praying about climate justice. Great work will show some originality: the globe in God's hands won't win!
<b>Inspiring!</b>	What inspired you? A song? A quote? Another person's life? A place? Religion offers people inspiration to live. Sometimes an inspirational life, a person's example, a text or a piece of music crystallizes our inspiration. In this theme, you are invited to identify what inspired you from a religion – it doesn't have to be your own faith, as inspiration tends to spill over the edges of religions. Explain through your art and text what connects your inspiration to spiritual or religious life.
<b>Holy Words!</b>	What words are holy for you? Select a saying or story you really love about peace, faith, unity, prayer or some other religious theme. Incorporate your holy words into your design or art and express the value and meaning of the words you have chosen in the images and art that you make. This theme has a close connection to the study of holy books and teaching from 2 or more different scriptures can be used, so get reading from the Torah and the Gospel, the Qur'an and the Gita, the Dhammapada or the Guru Granth Sahib. And add some words from a non-religious source of wisdom too if you like.
<b>Where is God?</b>	Atheists, agnostics and believers in God might all respond to this by expressing their sense of the search for God or finding God. Where's God? In your heart, in prayer, in the temple or the universe? Or is she hiding? Is he not there at all? Looking for God, searching for him or her, matters: but how are we doing in finding God? Would you search with google or a 'god-detector'? Is God on Instagram or WhatsApp? Can God be found by prayer or by looking among the world's suffering people? This popular 'Art in Heaven' theme produces great work where pupils use ideas from religions clearly: The Jewish Psalms 42 and 43 are where it starts.



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## Prompts for pupils' writing

Pupils might use a selection of these. Approximately 8 makes a good set, but please don't use them all!

Adapt them freely for different age groups and in any way suitable. Written commentary on artwork should be under 400 words.

- The title I chose is ... because ...
- I've discovered ...
- The deepest thing about my work is ...
- In my picture, you can see ...
- The religion that inspired my work is ...
- What I like best about my work is ...
- My RE art work ...
- I hope people will notice ...
- This art work is spiritual because ...
- This work has helped me to realise ...
- I think my work connects to religion because ...
- If you look carefully at the work, you will see ...
- A quote from a holy book that fits with my work is ...
- My vision is ...
- I've been investigating ...
- To make the image, what I did was ...
- This picture is all about ...
- I like the theme I have been working on because ...
- My 'Art is Heaven' work is about ...
- My main ideas are ...
- In RE it is good to explore ... so ...
- My inspiration came from ...
- Doing this work has made me think ...
- While I was making this, I thought a lot about ... and I would like to say ...
- I've tried to show my thoughts/ideas/vision/feelings by ...

### Free School Meals

Those families entitled to free school meals are currently being provided with vouchers through the national voucher scheme. The school has completed all the necessary requests, but the system is not currently able to meet the demand. Therefore there is some delay to these coming out each week.

### Home from Home Class

Please let us know if you no longer require a day or provision. We are working with a rolling rota of staff and can adjust who needs to be in school if you keep in contact.



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