

Shelford School News

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Shelford School Website: www.shelfordschool.org.uk

School letter No. 17/17

10th January 2018

New Year, New Changes

Welcome back and a Happy New Year! I hope that you will all, by now, have received and read the letter I sent last Thursday to inform you of my decision to leave the school at the end of the school year. I am re-locating to be near to family, including my three grandsons, two of whom have been born in the last few months. Being five hours away from them is too far to be able to see them regularly enough.

It has been good to talk with the children over recent days, formally and informally to answer their questions and to reassure them about this change. I loved the idea shared by one child that I could work remotely and be the headteacher by via skype but, unfortunately I don't think that the Governors would agree that it is practical enough!

Further Changes

It sometimes happens in the life of a school that events/plans converge and, in the last few days, I have received notifications of three resignations from teachers. These decisions were made before they knew about my decision.

Mrs Mitchell will be leaving us at Easter, due to her husband's job relocation to Harrogate and Mr Paduano and Mrs Jenkins are leaving full-time teaching at the end of the school year for a healthier work-life balance. I am grateful to Mrs Jenkins and Mr Paduano for declaring their intentions earlier than they needed to so that the school can prepare in good time for the changes to staffing. I am sure that you will join me, when the time is right in thanking these staff members for their excellent contributions.

Please be assured that we will be working diligently to recruit the best teachers to these roles in the next few weeks and months. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or catch me outside in the mornings if you have any questions.

Other news

A number of governors and I were pleased to have a positive meeting with Heidi Allen just before the Christmas break. We specifically raised the issues of the inadequacy and inequality of school funding, the pressure on schools of finding £6,000 to support each child with Special Needs, the idiosyncrasies of some aspects of assessment and the need to preserve and protect a view of the reception class experience that understands the needs of young children. Heidi listened well and assured us that she would represent our views in appropriate ways at the appropriate time to the Secretary of State and others.

With Jamie Oliver and Sally Gunnell on the news over the last few days to stress the importance of health, healthy eating and well-being education for children, I am pleased to remind you that a Funtrition programme, explicitly teaching these things has been taught across the school by Mr Spencer since September.

Be Happy. Be Busy. Be Safe. Be Healthy. Be Organised. Reflect. Celebrate. Be an Enthusiastic Learner.

RE Day

The recent RE day was an excellent experience that we will undoubtedly look to repeat regularly. This is some of the children's feedback:

General feedback:

- It made RE more exciting and interesting which has continued in my RE lessons (Bea Year 4)
- 'I liked R.E. day. I especially enjoyed when the monkey didn't give up' (Joshua Year 1)
- 'I really enjoyed R.E. day and I really liked the assembly. (Year 3)

About the Prayer Space:

- 'I liked seeing the tablets dissolve because all my angry moments went away. (Scarlett Year 4).
- I liked the bubble machine because it made me think hard. (Erica Year 2).
- It made me feel happy and sleepy (Hatty Year R)
- The prayer space made me feel calm (Joseph Year 5)
- I felt relaxed and happy. (Year 4)
- It made me feel relaxed and calm (Lizzie Year 6)
- I liked the anchors because it helped you think and reflect (Year 2)
- I liked the tablets because the bubbles came up in the water (Magnus Year 1)
- I liked the tent and it was very calming. Charlotte (Year 3)
- I enjoyed the glowing balls and thinking about special times I have had. Wilf (Year 2)

About the assembly and workshop that helped them to learn about resilience:

- John shared a story about a puppet monkey, Charlie, using resilience. He also did some juggling and used the ball to represent every time you had difficulty. You would bounce back up like a bouncy ball (Year 6)
- The song was good and it helped you to understand resilience in a more exciting way (song) (Elliot Year 5)

Shelford School Christmas Day - feedback from the children

Shelford School Christmas Day is a long-established firm favourite with the children. Here is some of their feedback

What were your favourite parts?

- Shelford School Christmas Day was really fun!
- It was really fun! It would be nice if we got small presents. (Emily Year 1)
- 10 stars! (Emma Year 4)
- I really liked the roast dinner because it was really yummy. (Zachary Year 1)
- I really liked making paper hats (Oliver Year 3)

What would make it even better?

- Would have liked even more games. George (Year 2)
- Have a KS1 film and a key stage 2 film. (Elizabeth Year 6)
- Having Christmas crackers (Year 2)
- More Brussel sprouts! Milo (Year 1)
- Due to the fact that the Stags were last, we only had one musical instrument performance and we would have liked to see more performances (Gordon Year 5)
- It would be even better if we had more instruments and jokes. (Charlotte Year 3)

Wildlife Garden Helpers

We would be grateful to hear from any green-fingered helpers who are willing to join our wildlife Garden Club under Mrs Hodge's leadership on Friday lunchtimes between 12.00 and 1.00pm. Please give your name to the school office. Thank you so much in advance for filling this important role.

Church School Garden Helpers

We would be grateful to hear from any helpers who are willing to lead our Church School Garden activities on Wednesday lunchtimes between 12.00 and 1.00pm. Please give your name to the school office. Again, thank you for filling this important role.

Volunteer Induction session

The next session is Thursday 11th January 9.05 – 10.15am. Please let the school office know if you intend to attend. Many thanks.

Kind regards, Mrs Evans

Art Day

Preparations have started for our second whole school Art Day which takes place this year on Wednesday February 7th for Reception to Year 5 and on Thursday 8th for Year 6. The theme for the day is pattern and we are busy planning a varied and interesting carousel of activities. Some classes (Years 2-5) will have the opportunity to work with felt artist Heidi Street Ward helping her to create two felt wall hangings which will go in the library. Heidi will be in school all day on both 7th and 8th of February and would be very grateful for offers of help from parents for both days. Please contact the office if you are able to help. Please give in your name to the school office, if you would like to help. Thank you.

Mrs Ashton

Celebration assembly achievements - Friday 15th December 2017

This half term's **Secrets of Success** focus:
Improve

Headteacher's Award (4 house points):

- Matthew Russell
- Teddy Page
- Griffin Corney
- Joshua Lee
- Joseph Rayment
- Magnus Melton
- Emily Ford
- Rachel Staines
- Scarlett Wilkinson
- Jessie Godsal
- Ella Sutherland

Star Writer (4 house points):

- Not awarded this week
-

Maths Investigator Award (4 house points):

- Alice Woodcock

Pen Licence

- Not awarded this week

Golden Mile – 5 Miles (2 house points):

- Not awarded this week

Golden Mile– 10 Miles Bronze (4 house points):
Not awarded this week

Golden Mile– 25 Miles Silver (4 house points):

- Not awarded this week

Golden Mile – 50 Miles Gold (4 house points)

- None this week

Celia (10 house points)

- Not awarded this week

Cyril

- Mrs Mitchell

Care of Books (2 house points per class member)

- Reception

Dinner winners (2 house points per class member)

- Year 1

Silver bins (2 house points per class member)

- Not awarded this week
- Not awarded this week

This week's house winners:

- Red Squirrels

Limiting illness

The season for coughs, colds and sickness bugs is upon us. Parents/carers are reminded that if your child has experienced vomiting or diarrhoea **they must not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea**. You will appreciate that the school must enforce this rule to limit the spread of germs between children and staff. Please can you also remind your child about practising good hygiene and the importance of thorough hand washing, covering mouths when coughing and sneezing into a tissue which they then put in the bin.

Change to lunch menu next week

Tuesday 16th

Roast pork with apple sauce & gravy

or

Yorkshire pudding & gravy with seasonal roast vegetables

or

Ham roll

Waffle 'as you like it', or

Yoghurt, or

Fresh fruit slices, or

Cheese & crackers

Thursday 18th

Burger & chips

or

Quorn burger & chips

or

Jacket potato

Ice cream factory (vanilla ice cream with various toppings)

Friday 19th

Fish fingers & potato wedges

or

Veggie burger in a bap

or

Chipolatas under wraps

Chocolate brownie

Yoghurt

Fresh fruit slices, or

Cheese & crackers

Netball

Please note change of start date for Netball Club. Netball will start on **Monday 19 February 2018**. There will be tournaments on the following dates and further details will be issued nearer the time.

Tuesday 13 March

Tuesday 20 March

Tuesday 1 May

Triathlon

The club will run on Thursday mornings between 8 and 8.45 am. (Bike helmet, water bottle and running gear (and gloves and lots of layers) all needed each morning. The start date will be Thursday 18th Jan.

Be Happy. Be Busy. Be Safe. Be Healthy. Be Organised. Reflect. Celebrate. Be an Enthusiastic Learner.

Violin Lessons

Next term's lessons will begin on Wednesday 10th January, when fees are due that week.

Guitar Lessons

There are still some spaces for guitar lessons, so if your child is interested, please speak to the office.

Packed lunches

A reminder, please that packed lunches should not include fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate bars

Nut Awareness Policy

Please note the following extremely important information for packed lunches:

- Please do not include any portions of nuts
- No nutella or peanut butter sandwiches
- No pesto pasta with pine nuts or similar nut ingredients incorporated.

With this in mind, we take the opportunity to remind parents/carers that the invitation to bring a KS2 break time snack is for **an actual piece of fruit not a cereal bar or fruit snack as** this could be a serious health risk nut allergy sufferers

Please help us to keep everyone safe by not sending these foods. For safety reasons, we will need to remove snacks that do not comply with these instructions. Thank you for your understanding in this.

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £2.30 per meal or £11.50 per week. If you think you are eligible for free school meals, please ask at the office for more details.

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 their website:- <http://www.myschoollunch.co.uk/cambridgeshire/parents/menus/default.asp>

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. If payment is not received then we regret that school meals will be withdrawn and you will have to provide a packed lunch until the payment is made. Thank you for your understanding in this.

The Cambridgeshire Catering Service is able to accommodate special dietary requirements in the event of a medically defined need. Please speak to the school office for the relevant form.

Medicines in school

Please be reminded that all medicines and lotions must be given to the school office staff. Pupils are not permitted to have any medicine, lotion or cough sweets in their bags or pockets during school hours.

Please fill out a form in the office if you need a medicine to be given to your child during school hours.

The school staff can only administer medicines that have been prescribed by a doctor and for which permission has been signed.

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

School Uniform prices

ITEM	PRICE	ITEM	PRICE
Cardigans	£10.05	Storm jackets	£17.95
Jumpers	£8.55	Ruck sacks	£10.75
Polo shirts	£6.45	Book bags	£6.00
Fleeces	£11.25		

Any additional teal sweatshirts for Year 6 children are also available to order online.

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.

Rising Stars – South Cambridgeshire

- Do you live within the South Cambridgeshire area?
- Do you have a child with special educational needs or a disability (diagnosed or undiagnosed)?
- Did you know that we hold a closed Facebook support group for parents?
- It's called: Rising Stars - South Cambridgeshire.
- This is a closed group where parents/carers can discuss anything they wish in regards to their children's needs and their families.
- We also run a monthly session on a Saturday morning for families with children aged 0 - 11 years, the session is advertised within our Facebook Group.
- Weekly input and questions answered (where possible) by a Family Worker.
- This group is intended to improve and enhance parental wellbeing.
- This group is for supporting parents living within South Cambridgeshire.

Link to the group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RisingStarsSouthCambs/>

Please note we have a duty of care to all children, therefore if something is posted that is deemed a safeguarding concern, we will need to follow our safeguarding procedures.

Pinpoint Conference for parents/carers of children with additional SEN

Pinpoint's annual conference is being held on Thursday 1st February 2018, 9.45-2.15 at Burgess Hall, St Ives, Cambridgeshire.

The conference is free for parents to attend and we have various workshops running during the day as well as stalls offering advice and products

PTA News

Happy New Year from the PTA team!

More funds raised

The Christmas Fair profits have passed the £4k mark! Simply brilliant. Thank you all.

The Christmas kids' discos were fabulous again, together raising £425.27. Glittering thank yous to Ali Melton and her helpers on the night!

PTA Quiz: SPACES!

****Ticket alert!**** Six spaces are available at the time of going to 'print'! Do you fancy joining a table to experience the thrill of the Quiz?! We are set for another fantastic evening with our resident Quiz Masters Greg Wall and Simon Bullock returning for their third year! Tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis. Please contact charlie_cooke@yahoo.com. Saturday 27th January, £10 pp including supper, 1930 for 2000 start.

Thanks to all the teams entered, especially those who have already returned payments and food choices. Please could all remaining payments and food orders be returned to school no later than **Friday 12th January**. Thank you so much.

Bike sale: Saturday 17th March

If you have a bike you would like to sell, please contact pta@shelfordschool.org.uk. 70% proceeds to seller, 30% to PTA.

The PTA team.

School Calendar for 2017 – 2018

Please ensure that all holidays are booked during the holiday periods only. Authorised absence cannot be given for absences on Friday afternoons or Monday mornings unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please put all requests for absences in writing to Mrs Evans and/or make an appointment, via the school office, to speak to her about these. Thank you.

Spring term 2018			
	Time	Event	Notes
Thursday 11 th Jan	9:05-10:15	Volunteer Helper Induction	Please book a place with the office
Friday 19 th Jan	1:30pm	Year 6 Class assembly/parent briefing & Celebration assembly	
Friday 26 th Jan	1.30pm	Year 5 Class assembly/parent briefing & Celebration assembly	
Saturday 27 th Jan	7.00 – 11.30pm	PTA Quiz	
Thursday 1 st Feb	3.45 – 6.45pm	Pupil/Parent/Teacher consultations Year 6	School hall
Friday 2 nd Feb	2:30pm	Candlemas	St Mary's Church
Mon 5 th Feb- Wed 7 th Feb		Year 6 residential trip to Grafham Water	
Monday 5 th Feb	3.45 – 6.45pm	Pupil/Parent/Teacher consultations Years 1-5	School Hall Mrs Paterson (SENDco) able to attend
Wednesday 7 th Feb	3.45 – 6.45pm	Pupil/Parent/Teacher consultations Years 1-6	School hall
Thursday 8 th Feb	3.45 – 6.45pm	Pupil/Parent/Teacher consultations Years 1-6	School hall
Friday 9 th Feb	All day event	Teacher training day	School closed
Half term 12th February to 16th February 2018			
Wed 21 st Feb to Friday 23 rd Feb		Year 5 trip residential trip to Burwell House	
Friday 23 rd Feb	1:30pm	Year 4 Class assembly/parent briefing & Celebration assembly	
Wed 28 th Feb	9:05-10:15	Volunteer Helper induction	Please book a place with the office
Friday 2 nd March	1:30pm	Year 3 Class assembly/parent briefing & Celebration assembly	
Friday 9 th March	1:30pm	Year 2 Class assembly/parent briefing & Celebration assembly	
Friday 16 th March	1:30pm	Year 1 Class assembly/parent briefing & Celebration assembly	
Thursday 22 nd March	7:30pm	Full Governing Body meeting	Think Tank Room
Friday 23 rd March	1:30pm	Year R Class assembly/parent briefing & Celebration assembly	
Thursday 29 th March	2:15	Easter Service	All Saints Lt Shelford
Easter Holidays 30th March to 15th April 2018			

Summer term 2018			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
Monday 23 rd April	9:15-10:15	Volunteer Helper induction	Please book a place with the office
Monday 7 th May	All Day	Bank Holiday	School closed
Saturday 19 th May		PTA Summer Fair	
Thursday 24 th May	11:15am	Ascension Day service and picnic	
Friday 25 th May	All day	Teaching Training day	School closed
Half term 28th May to 1st June			
Friday 8 th June	9:15-10:15	Volunteer Helper induction	Please book a place with the office
Thursday 14 th June		Class photos	
Friday 29 th June	8am	French Breakfast event	hall
Sunday 15 th July		Shelford Feast	
Tuesday 24 th July	All Day	Leavers' service and event	
Summer Holidays 25th July to 3rd September			

Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
Monday 4 th September 2017 to Tuesday 19 th December 2017 inclusive Half term Monday 23 rd October 2017 to Friday 27 th October 2017 inclusive	Wednesday 3 rd January 2018 to Thursday 29 th March 2018 inclusive Half term Monday 12 th February 2018 to Friday 16 th February 2018 inclusive	Monday 16 th April 2018 to Tuesday 24 th July 2018 inclusive Half term: Monday 28 th May to Friday 1 st June 2018 inclusive
Shelford School Professional Development Days (INSET) on which the school is closed:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 4th September 2017 Friday 20th October 2017 Wednesday 3rd January 2018 Friday 9th February 2018 Friday 25th May 2018 		