

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*

1st December 2021

Vol. 12

NEWSLETTER IN 60 SECONDS

Dear Members of the Great and Little Shelford Community,

We hope this week's newsletter finds you and your family well.

Yesterday, we marked the start of Advent with our Advent Service. We invited children from across the school to bring items to build this year's Advent wreath, whilst we all joined via Teams. It was wonderful to welcome children from across the school to the hall to place and combine items to make the wreath.

- Advent Service
- Christmas Events
- Key Dates
- Playscape Opening
- Celebration Worship
- Staff Update
- International Schools Award
- Announcements



Meanwhile, pupils read passages to explain the symbolism behind the different candles. We explored the shape of the wreath, which has no beginning and end, like God's love. We discovered about the choice of the evergreen foliage, representing everlasting life. We ended the service by lighting the first candle, which we remembered that Jesus is the everlasting light.



At present, the corridors are filling with a mixture of carols and songs to support the nativity. It has brought so much joy to hear our wonderful children singing and we look forward to sharing the Nativity and Carols by Candlelight videos with you.

The traditional Shelford Christmas Day will take place on on Friday 17th December. On this day, pupils come to school dressed in smart party clothes or Christmas jumpers. We will be raising funds through Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day.



Key Dates

This date and other key dates for the remainder of this term can be found below:

- **W/C 13/12/21** - Release of pre-recorded Nativity and Carols by Candlelight
 - **17/12/21** - Shelford Christmas Day - End of Autumn Term
 - **4/1/21** - School closed to pupils - Staff Professional Development Day
 - **5/1/21** - Start of Spring Term for pupils
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Celebratory Tree Planting

On Monday, I was delighted to welcome Avril Pedley and Joanna Burch from Newnham College. They visited as part of the 150th Anniversary of Newnham College. To mark their 150th Anniversary, the college aims to plant 150 trees. The aim is to mark the past 150 years, but look forward to the next 150 years of the college. They have been working with young people to inspire them in looking forward to the idea of attending university.

We were thrilled to receive a beautiful lilac tree. This is the first tree to take up residence in part of the school site that we will be developing next, outside of the Reception Class.

Our Head Girl, Gwendolen; Head Boy, Eddie; Deputy Head Girl Erica and Deputy Head Boy, Reuben helped to plant our new tree (*below*).



PTA Update

Thank you to all those who were able to support the Play Scape opening on Sunday. We really appreciate and value your support and generosity.

Thank you to all the amazing PTA members and parents that led stalls, set up and cleared down afterwards! We really appreciate your hard work.

St. Mary's Christmas Services

A very warm welcome to your historic Parish Church. Please call in and enjoy the sacred space, especially near Christmas.

Regular Services

Prayer for the community is offered every morning and evening.

Sundays:

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 10.00 a.m. Parish Communion (Main Sunday service)
- 4.30 p.m. or 6.30 p.m. Evensong / Evening Prayer

Advent Evening Services:

- Sunday 28th Nov.** 6.30 p.m. Advent Reflection (by Zoom link)
- Sunday 5th Dec.** 6.30 p.m. Service of Hope (by Zoom link)
- Sunday 12th Dec.** 4 p.m. Special service for Children and families. (in church)
- Sunday 19th Dec.** 6.30 p.m. Festival of Lessons & Carols Followed by Mulled Wine & Mince Pies in the Parish Church

Christmas Services: Everyone welcome at all our services.

Friday 24th Dec:

- 4p.m.** Christmas Eve: Crib Service Planned for children and the young at heart, a simple re-telling of the Christmas story with traditional carols.
- 11.00 p.m.** 'Midnight' Parish Communion First service of Christmas - carols, sermon and Holy Communion.

Saturday 25th Dec. Christmas Day:

- 8.00 a.m.** Holy Communion (BCP 1662) A 'said' tradition language service with a short sermon.
- 10.00 a.m.** Parish Communion Christmas morning with carols, sermon and Holy Communion.

No evening service

Sunday 26th Dec.

- 10.00 am Parish Communion for St Stephen's Day
(This will be the only service on 26th Dec.)

Pupils gathered together on Zoom for our weekly Celebration Worship. As we joined, we shared this [Advent in Two Minutes](#) video, linked to our focus 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

International Schools Award: Mrs. Unwin shared news from the International Schools Awards Ceremony, which she attended last week.

Cross Country: All of the children did a great job of representing the school at our first competition in nearly 2 years. It was great to see the way that they supported and encouraged each other. A special mention for Humphrey W who finished 5th in the Y6 boys race.

Celia - Alex D - for kindness and consideration to others.

Cyril - Mrs. Haigh - for her kindness across the classes.

Silver Bins: Year 2 & Year 4 (second week running)

Dinner Winner: Reception

Wonderful Walkers: Year 2 (second week running)

Shelford Mile: R - Delphie; Y4 - Max; Y5 - Simone

Star Writers:

- **Emily F** - for an stellar cosmic story! Additionally, a wonderful, careful and consistently written autobiography that you enhanced with images from home.
- **Rosie F** - for your excellent diary entry about the Great Fire of London. You used all of your senses such as sight, smell, feeling and hearing to write powerful descriptions about what Samuel Pepys might have experienced during the Great Fire of London. The vocabulary that you used was very detailed and created a good image for the reader to imagine the chaos that the Great Fire created for the people of London.

Headteacher Awards:

- Sihali S - for making super attempts at writing whilst making a 'You are Special' card to a friend during our kindness week! Well done!
- Jayden Pugh - for always having a happy and positive attitude to his learning. He has shown great focus and makes a great effort in everything he tackles at school. Well done!
- Charlotte N - for trying really hard to use words to explain your feelings. You have also been extremely polite to others. Thank you!
- Bertie G-C - for being super helpful in the classroom. We have noticed that you make a great effort during tidy up time, really helping to look after our classroom and everything in it. Thank you!
- Joshua S - for Your lovely clay sculpture of the Loch Ness Monster. You showed great originality, sculpting your monster with a series of spikes, getting gradually smaller towards the tail and a beautifully shaped head, rising from the water with an open mouth.
- Charlotte C - for Your lovely clay sculpture of the Loch Ness Monster. You showed great originality, sculpting your monster with a carefully shaped curved body, humps and a head rising from the water.

This week's winning house is - domus venerantium - the house of respect - The Swans!

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPPORTUNITIES, REMINDERS AND EVENTS

POSADA - ST. MARY'S

POSADA Making room for JESUS this Christmas

What is Posada? Posada is an old Mexican tradition where young people dressed as Mary and Joseph travelled from house to house asking for a room for the night and telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We are using nativity figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey who will travel from home to home during December.

What is involved? All you need to do is add your name to the Journey Rota, which you will find at the back of the church, for a night that will suit you to 'host' Mary & Joseph. For the evening you 'host' Mary & Joseph you can choose to do what ever you like. Why not invite friends and family to sing carols and to talk about the meaning of Christmas? The next day you need to take Mary & Joseph to the next host on the Journey Rota. We will also be collecting for the charity Shelter so please give generously. Please make sure you have added your details on the Journey Rota. We hope you will enjoy taking part.

VACANCY

Clerk to the Governors at Great and Little Shelford CE(A) Primary School

Great and Little Shelford CE(A) Primary School is looking to appoint a Clerk to the Governors, to provide efficient and effective administrative support in their vital strategic role. The successful candidate will be highly organised, provides attention to detail, is reliable and has excellent communication skills. The clerk prepares meeting papers, takes minutes and carries out a range of administrative tasks for the Board so flexibility in working hours is necessary. As the operation of the Board is paperless, computer literacy is essential and familiarity with Google Drive would be helpful.

Clerking of 9 evening meetings per year is expected, three per term. These may be virtual or in-person, and attendance at all meetings will be required. Training is available, along with mentoring and support from the Chair, Deputy Chair and outgoing Clerk. An honoraria of £1000 per annum is offered, paid in three termly installments.

For further information or to express interest in the post, please contact the chair of governors, Anna Caroe by email chair@shelfordschool.org.uk.

The deadline for applications is 13th February 2022. The timescale for starting is flexible but a period of handover by July 2022 is essential.



Myopia / short-sightedness study

Vision and Eye Research Institute, ARU Cambridge

We are recruiting children aged 6 to 15 years to wear spectacles designed to control the progression of their short-sightedness

- This is a 12-month study with 4 appointments over the year
- Myopia control spectacles will be provided free of charge

If you would like to know more, please contact us on

manbir.veruresearch@aru.ac.uk



[@veri_aru](https://twitter.com/veri_aru)



Online Workshops for Parents

For Parents and Carers of primary aged children

This set of 3 workshops are aimed at parents and carers that would like to learn more about topics such as challenging behaviour, sibling rivalry and what effects our parenting styles can have.

Parenting Styles and Labelling

Wednesday 1st Dec at 10.30am

Challenging Behaviour and Effective Discipline

Wednesday 8th Dec at 10.30am

Sibling Rivalry and Birth Order

Wednesday 15th Dec at 10.30am

We strongly encourage people to attend all three workshops to be able to gain the most from them, however appreciate this isn't always possible and understand if you can only attend one or two.

If you'd like to join the workshops you will need internet access and a device able to connect to Microsoft Teams. (Full access instructions will be given once your place is booked).

We understand that you may have children in the house with you and so there is no obligation for you to stay on the call the entirety of each workshop, as we appreciate you may have to leave from time to time.

Please note that places are limited.



Cambridgeshire
County Council

To book your place please contact Emily Norman on
emily.norman@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Early Intervention Family Worker Newsletter

22nd November 2022

Parent Carer Support Line

Offers the opportunity to speak to a friendly professional from the E I Family Worker Team about your young person aged 4 to 12 in Cambridge City and surrounding areas.

You can ask question, seek support around behaviour, routines, and boundaries, or just talk about how it is to manage parenting during current times. We will give advice, support, and help with signposting or just listen. You can telephone or email for support any time. Please leave a message with contact details, someone will call you back within 10 working days. We are not an emergency service. [Phone 01354 750420](tel:01354750420)

Activity Idea

Plastic bottle pen pots

You will need:

Empty plastic drink bottle

Scissors

Acrylic paint

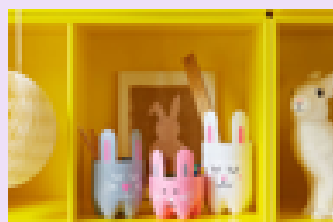
Marker pens

Glue (possibly)

Take a clean & empty plastic drink bottle and help your child to cut it in half, making sure there are no sharp bits.

Paint the bottle with acrylic paint in any design you like.

If making an animal, then use the leftover bottle to make ears and stick them onto the pen pot and use marker pen to draw facial features



Parenting Top Tip

Encouraging self-esteem

It is not unusual for some children to struggle with self-esteem and confidence issues. Here's something we can do to help them.

Offer praise for effort

We may think that we often praise our children, but are we praising their efforts? or only their achievements? It's helpful to praise them if we can see that they have made an effort to do something, even if it has not gone to plan, and not just if they have achieved what we wanted them to. This shows them that we appreciate their efforts reassure it's ok to make mistakes, and we can try again another time. For example, "Well done on your spelling test results today, I know you practiced hard for it" If your child seems disappointed you could say "It's ok, we can work on it together, there's always next time"

Another Resource

Want to get your children involved in the kitchen? It often helps fussy eaters as they are keener to try something if they have helped to make it.

Take a look at the Kids cooking recipes part on the BBC good food website for some simple fun & tasty ideas! www.bbcgoodfood.com

Does your child have, or potentially have, an additional need or disability? Pinpoint (www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk) have lots of information, advice and tips. For Cambridgeshire's Local Offer go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer



Cambridgeshire
County Council

Contact me directly on ☎ 07(change) or
✉ [\(change\)@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:(change)@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)



DRIVE IN CAROLS

Great Shelford Drive-In Carols!

Join us at Shelford Rugby Club on
Wednesday 22nd December for a drive-in carol
concert from the comfort and warmth of your own
car!

The gates will open at 5:45pm with the carols
starting at 6:30pm.

Spaces are limited! For booking information
visit www.shelfordfreechurch.org.uk

This event is in Partnership between; The Free Church, Parish Council, St
Mary's Church, and the Rugby Club of Great Shelford, as well as SSYI

Donations in aid of SSYI and the Shelford Mobile Warden scheme can be
made by card on the night (no cash tendered).