

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back! It has been so lovely to welcome Year 1 to Year 6 pupils back to school today along with warmly welcoming Henry (Y2) and Francesca (Y6) to the Shelford community. We have also been pleased to welcome Mrs. Haigh and Mrs. Hallebro to the staff team.

I was very impressed to see how well all the pupils came and settled this morning. We gathered together for collective worship this morning and shared what changes have taken place since we were last together. Afterwards, we compared elements of the school to the ingredients of bread and our two bakers, Dougie and Sophie, added the:

- flour (pupils- main ingredient);
- yeast (TAs and Teachers help to grow and learn);
- salt (parents structure and strength, work together for strong foundations);
- water (support staff holding everything together)!

We also used this opportunity to link to our vision, which is the aspiration of our school.

Since our previous newsletter, there have been many changes in school. We are hugely grateful to an amazing team of parent and staff volunteers who have been in redecorating and refurbishing some of the rooms in the school. Most notably, changes in Year 4 and Year 1 have been significant, including some new furniture and redecoration.





# Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School, Church Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EL From Knowledge Wisdom Flows

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e live and work in harmony with love for one another so we can achieve our potential within a community of life-long learner. Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd



In addition, Year 5 have seen some significant changes and, like Year 1 and Year 4, have adopted a variety of stations for pupils to work at following our Active Learning Spaces trial last year, including standing desks, floor sitting desks and gym balls. Year 6 have also seen the addition of a standing desk.

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It is not just internal improvements that have taken place. A team of willing volunteers have been digging out new beds for a new reflection garden at the rear of the hall. Pupils will snake between these beds through the reflection garden after lunch and into the hall for collective worship. This garden is in the process of being finalised.



Throughout my time in education, I have never heard of such a dedicated, supportive and willing group of volunteers. Thank you to everyone who has led or contributed to any PTA events in the last year, your funds made these improvements possible. Of course, thank you to the able team of volunteers who kindly gave their time and effort to create some beautiful areas in the school. In particular, a big thank you to Mrs. McCrone for rallying troops and leading the team of volunteers; Mrs. Dootson for her design of the Year 1 classroom and Miss Smith, our Caretaker, for her flexibility, hard work and support of all the improvements to the school's physical environment.





We have aimed to give you a full summary of the coming year, with as many dates as possible.

I hope that you and your families have had a wonderful summer break together and were able to rest, relax and recharge batteries for the busy and exciting term ahead!

With best wishes,

Chris Grey Headteacher

# **Announcements**

### **Dinner money payment**

Please can we remind you to check your child's dinner money on School Gateway and also remind the parents of children in Year 3 that they will now need to pay for their child's lunch.

#### Choir

Choir will begin again at 8.00am on Friday morning, where Year 3 children will also be welcome to attend.

#### **Safeguarding issues**

Please note the following safeguarding issues to keep our children safe!

#### ✤ Medicine in school

If your child should need medicine while they are on school premises, please bring it to the office yourself (do not send it in with your child). You will need to complete a medication form giving us permission to medicate your child and the medicine will be locked securely in a cupboard in the office. Children should not have medicines in their bags.

#### School access – gates

For safeguarding reasons, if you need to buzz through to the office to gain access to school during the school day, please can we remind you not to hold the gate to let others through. Using the buzzer allows us to know exactly who is on the school premises at any given time and their purpose for being there, so allowing other people access may mean that we are not aware that they are on site.



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### Site Safety

Please can we remind parents that children should not be in the playground unsupervised after school and should not be on the play equipment. Please also remember that when pupils are dismissed, they should not re-enter the school site. There have been several occasions where pupils have been entering school <u>after clubs</u> to retrieve items. For security, safety and safeguarding, pupils should not re-enter classes. Any forgotten belongings should be collected the following day.

## Changes to your child's circumstances

Please can we remind parents to inform the office of any changes to your child's circumstances as soon as possible please, e.g. changes of address, contact details or any dietary or medical needs they may have. If your child needs medication, e.g. an inhaler, it is also important to ensure that they have it in school in case they need it. All medicines must be signed in at the office and will be held at the office and not kept with your child. Thank you for your assistance with this.

## **Illness in school**

Please can we remind parents that if your child vomits or has diarrhoea they must be kept off school for <u>48</u> <u>hours</u> after the last episode (as recommended by the NHS and Department for Education). These rules are put in place to limit the spread of illness throughout the school (both for children and staff members). In severe cases it may be necessary for your child to avoid swimming for two weeks to avoid cross contamination. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

## **Class List**

The PTA would like to ensure that as many parents as possible are aware of 'Class List'. This is a great way to keep in touch with the other parents in your class and should help to ensure good communication between parents. Please get in touch with your class' PTA representatives for assistance.

