



Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School,
Church Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EL

Tel: 01223 843107
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www.shelfordschool.org.uk

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 18th December 2019

Dear parents and carers,

As I write to you today, Christmas songs are dancing down the corridor and pupils are enjoying the different ways we are celebrating our Shelford Christmas Day. We commenced our day, in our Christmas attire, with our Christmas Service. We shared hymns, songs, prayers, before an explanation of our advent wreath. As part of this, we lit the Christ Candle in the centre of our wreath for our School's Christmas Day. Also, we dressed our altar in gold to mark our day. As a surprise for the pupils, Mrs. Alderson accompanied 12 staff members in a special, surprise performance of the Twelve Days of Christmas (with Shelford-specific lyrics)!

There are two competitions running over the Christmas holidays. One is linked to Scientific Enquiry and is named 'Science Selfie Competition'. Look out for the accompanying digital poster! The second has been set by our Eco Warriors at their last Eco Committee Meeting – see the Eco News below to create a poster linked to energy use.

Thank you to all of you who were able to attend our Carols by Candlelight Concert – I'm not sure how the Government missed that date in their diary and scheduled the election at the same time as such a special occasion! Thank you to all of the KS2 staff and pupil teams in creating a beautiful concert. Thank you also to Mrs. Barlow's work with the choir and orchestra performances and to St. Mary's for the use of the church.

Our choir was also particularly busy over the past fortnight. Members from different age groups have sung at the Cancer Care Trust, Little Shelford Village Hall and All Saints' Church. It has been fantastic to spread the children's joyful singing at this time of year in our community.

Our other links with clubs and communities has been reinforced with a violin performance by our violinists in school and a drama performance by Drama Club attendees.

All that leaves me with is to wish you and your families a wonderful, joyful and peaceful Christmas. We look forward to welcoming you back on 6th January.

With best wishes,
Chris Grey,
Headteacher

Newsletter in 30 seconds

- Christmas Service
- Science and Eco competitions
- Carols by Candlelight
- Choir performances
- Other performances

Science Spot

Look out for the Science Competition!

Bio for January's Stem Ambassador Talk:

Molecular biologist

I am a molecular biologist, which means I study the tiny building blocks which make up all living things. My work is trying to understand how a germ, a bacterium called tuberculosis, can infect our bodies and what the cells in our bodies do to fight back. We use microscopes to watch what happens in cells when they are infected with bacteria, and we can see lots of molecules using different coloured dyes. We use a tiny fish, called a zebrafish, as a model for what happens to humans when we get germs. These fish are completely see through when they are young, which allows us to watch cells and the germs interact. We can treat the fish with the same medicines doctors give to patients, to see how the medicines work and what happens when they don't work.

Eco News

*Our second Eco Committee Meeting took place, where we discussed the recently completed Environmental Reviews. Having shared the findings, we decided on 3 areas to focus on as a school, the three areas the children want to focus on are: **Energy, Litter and Marine.***

It was decided that this was to be an 'optional' homework over the Christmas holidays. Competition brief being:

- *Bright, Bold and Beautiful*
- *A4 in size*
- *Not too wordy but wordy enough to include the line: 'Remember! Have you turned off.....'*

Deadline: Friday 10th January 2020



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Diocese of Ely





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Dates Summary

Changes / additions are in blue

	19/12/19 – 5/1/20		Christmas holiday	Somewhere festive
	3/1/20		PD DAY	School
	6/1/20		Spring Term commences	School
	6/1/20		Epiphany	
	31/1/20	14:00	Reception Class Briefing	Hall
	3/2/20	14:30	Candlemas Service (led by Y2)	St. Mary's Church
	5/2/20 – 12/2/20		Scholastic Book Fair	
	6/2/20 – 7/2/20	All day	Art Days	School
	10/2/20	15:45 – 18:00	Pupil, Parent, Teacher Consultations	Hall
	11/2/20	All day	Safer Internet Day	
	12/2/20	15:45 – 18:00	Pupil, Parent, Teacher Consultations	Hall
	13/2/20	15:45 – 18:00	Pupil, Parent, Teacher Consultations	Hall
	14/2/20	PM	Quicksticks Hockey Tournament	Netherhall
	14/2/20	14:00	Y4 Class Briefing	Hall
	14/2/20		End of first half of Spring Term	School
	w/c 17/2/20		February half term holiday	Somewhere relaxing
	24/2/20		Second half of the term commences	School

Announcements

Save the Children donations

The collection at the Carols by Candlelight service made £407.82, and £146 was raised today, both of which will be donated to Save the Children. Thank you all for your generosity!

Choir and Orchestra

Choir will resume on Friday 10th January. Orchestra will resume on Monday 13th January.

Volunteer induction sessions

The next volunteer induction sessions are on the following dates:

Friday 24th January – 9.05am

Tuesday 24th March – 9.05am

If you would like to attend either of these sessions, please contact the office.



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PTA Fundraising Update:

Since September the PTA has held and/or helped out at several events, raising around £6,240 for the school to spend on curriculum enrichment projects and equipment that the school may otherwise not be able to provide for the pupils.

Details of the events and funds/commission raised are listed below:

- Just under £260: Kittle photography commission from the 2018-19 school year
- Almost £10: AmazonSmile commission
- Just over £340: September Camp out
- Just under £830: October Bike sale
- Just over £70: November Cake at the Gates
- Almost £155: House T-Shirts
- Nearly £4,200 Lights Switch On
- Nearly £100: Nativity refreshments
- Just over £310: Kids' Christmas Disco

Thanks to your tireless support of the PTA over the last year, we have been recently been able to provide funds for the following at the request of the school:

- £750 Purple Mash Online homework platform
- £920 Starz online learning subscriptions
- £995 Library reading cloud subscription
- £265 First News School Junior Newspaper subscription
- £8,450 for 23 new iPads, charging and storage trolley, cases, licence and installation costs etc
- £950 for year group curriculum enrichment activities
- £2,390 for whole school curriculum enrichment activities (£1,495 Art Day, £345 International Day, £550 Science workshops)
- £330 final tranche of library improvement funding
- £32 for a small Christmas decoration art activity for the whole school

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped with the events, whether you have camped out, volunteered, baked, bought, washed bicycles, lugged equipment, hung decorations, set up or cleared down we are thankful for all your efforts and look forward to sharing our next exciting events with you and our Shelford School family in 2020.

Actions from PTA meetings:

If you would like to read more about the decisions made at our meetings this session, please click [here](#) for a brief summary. Full meeting minutes are available on request to PTASecretary@shelford.cambs.sch.uk

The PTA team



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