

Dear members of the Great and Little Shelford community,

We arrived at the new season of Advent on Sunday. In school, we marked this with our annual Advent Service. As with everything in 2020, we made some adaptations! This year, we led the service from the hall with Y6 and readers from across all classes read to explain the different symbols contained within our Advent wreath.

Y6 have been marking the start of Advent by preparing an advent window to share with the school community. This has also been shared with the Great Shelford Free Church Advent Window project (*below*).

Looking to other community links, we are delighted to continue to support orchard projects in both Great and Little Shelford. Over the next fortnight, Y4 pupils will be involved in some of the planting of these exciting projects.

This week, we have continued to enjoy hearing snippets of various carols and Christmas songs in preparation of both the EYFS & KS1 Nativity and the KS2 Carols by Candlelight. We have been incredibly grateful to the team at St. Mary's for kindly allowing groups to use the church for elements of each. We are also busy putting the finishing touches to the plans for Shelford Christmas Day on 18th December. We will include all the familiar events such as: the Christmas Service; Christmas dinner; entertainment during Christmas dinner; a Pantomime. For this day, pupils should come in festive

Don't forget - this Friday 4th December, we will be taking part in Elf Day 2020! This is in support of Alzheimer's Society. Pupils are invited to wear an elf or Christmas-based accessory with their usual uniform for a donation to the Alzheimer's Society. We have set up a Just Giving page to allow for

contact free donations <u>here</u>. These donations go directly to Alzheimer's Society. We have set our target at £211 – which is equivalent to each pupil paying just £1. We are delighted that with just 26 donations, we have already raised £183! Thank you to everyone who has already donated!

With best wishes, Chris Grey

Celebration Worship - 27th November 2020

As pupils joined the Teams call, we reflected on the upcoming change of the liturgical season with <u>this</u> <u>video</u> 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

Celia - Sara B - for kindness in knitting and selling bows for donations to the Arthur Rank Hospice

Shelford Mile - Bronze (10 miles): Y1 - Kayley, Rosie, Joey, Zoe, Eloise, Eleanor, Ava, Henry, Samuel, Molly

Silver Bins (tidiest classes): Y2; Y3 Dinner Winners:Y2

Star Writers: Molly W - for a super, descriptive autumn poem.

Heateacher's Awards:

- Juno C for an excellent start to Shelford School. You have become fully involved in all aspects of the school day.
- Leo P for fantastic science explanations on how sound travels.
- Jack D for a very convincing dramatization of a Roman taxman!
- Ava C for outstanding contributions to Y5 you are a real joy to teach!

Housepoints: this week's winning house is the house of courage- domus fortium - the Stags





Sday 2rd December 2020

- Newsletter in 30s:
- Advent Service
- Advent Window
- Orchard Planting
- Elf Day 4/12/20





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twe 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

Update from our Governors:

It's hard to believe we're in Advent already! It's thanks to tremendous dedication and effort from our amazing staff that our children have been in school, learning and laughing. The new routines and systems for keeping everyone safe have been successful, thanks to brilliant support from families too.

The second Full Board meeting of the year took place last week. We said a heartfelt 'thank you' to Dawn Scott who has stepped down from the Board after 8 years, and welcomed Stephanie Bachewich as the new staff governor. A key part of maintaining the school's strong safeguarding culture is to keep up to date on new legislation and guidance so Mr Cuff attended to share this and Mrs Alderson gave us a wonderful insight into the ways that RE teaching, learning and assessment have developed in school. We approved our Governor Development Plan for the year ahead, which is closely linked to the School Development Plan, and this year focuses on Collective Worship, Staff/governor link roles, our own training and learning, and importantly, wellbeing and mental health.

As always, the governors can be contacted by email (see below) and we're working on a few other ways of communicating the work we do with the rest of the school community in the new year. In the meantime, the Shelford School Support Fund is always open for contributions! Designed to support children of the school, this charitable fund is held and administered by the Governing Board. It is separate from school finances and from the PTA. Over the years, many pupils have been supported through this, both individuals and groups. Sometimes we have been able to pay for refurbishments to parts of the school that improve the learning environment, other times we have been able to finance individual pupils' access to key educational experiences like trips or visits which they otherwise wouldn't have been able to attend. We have also purchased gifts to thank volunteers who have made significant contributions to the life and learning of the pupils at Shelford School. We are always very pleased to receive donations to enable us to continue enriching learning and supporting inclusion for all pupils. Contributions can be made by bank transfer or cheque. Please make cheques payable to 'Shelford School' and forward them to: The Treasurer, SSSF, c/o the school office. Direct payments should go to account 00811386, sort code 20-17-19. Then please contact the treasurer, Polly Stanton (pstanton@shelfordschool.org.uk), so that she can ensure that your gift is recorded. If you are able to gift aid your donation, please complete the gift aid declaration which can be found on the governors page of the school website.

Lastly, due to some changes in guidance, we have revised our admissions criteria for the 2022 intake. In accordance with the Admission Code 2014, we must put the proposed criteria out to consultation with local families for at least 6 weeks. This consultation runs until January 10th 2021. The proposed criteria for the 2022 intake can be found on our school website near the bottom of the Admissions page or at <u>this</u> following link. Comments may be directed to the Chair of Governors, Anna Caroe, <u>chair@shelfordschool.org.uk</u> or the school's postal address.

<u> PTA</u>

Announcements

CHRISTMAS RAINBOW HAMPER RAFFLE – BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW

Even though we won't be having a fundraising event this Christmas, the PTA will still be running the annual Christmas Rainbow Hamper Raffle. Tickets are now on sale at **£1 each** (buy as many as you like!). You'll be in with a chance to win one of seven beautiful colour-themed Christmas hampers – filled with gorgeous goodies.

Class reps are kindly organising the hampers so please do donate a coloured item to your year group's hamper collection.

Tickets will be on sale until **Thursday 10 December** and the winners will be chosen at random on **Monday 14 December**. Mr Grey will be drawing the raffle and hampers will be available for delivery/collection during the last week of term. To buy a ticket or tickets please **send Hannah Mohamad a message on Classlist** with the number of tickets you'd like. You will need to transfer the money for your tickets to the PTA bank account (**Sort: 30-91-74 and Account No: 01248038**) using the reference **Xmas Raffle**.





Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd

Once the money has been received you will be sent an image of your tickets and your ticket numbers. If you're a lucky winner we will let you know on 14 December and you will then be able to arrange collection of your hamper with the relevant class rep.

Thank you and GOOD LUCK! PTA

Raise funds while you shop!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that has the same products, prices and service as Amazon.co.uk BUT when you shop on AmazonSmile Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to your chosen charity. There is no extra cost to you - the donation is made by Amazon. When you visit AmazonSmile you simply choose Great and Little Shelford School PTA as your chosen charity. And then start all your Amazon shops on smile.amazon.co.uk to support the PTA.

With easyfundraising you can raise free donations for the PTA whenever you buy anything online. There are over 4,000 shops and sites - including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S - and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. All you need to do is sign up on the easyfundraising website and visit the site before you shop online.

You can find out everything you need to know about using both websites here. Every penny raised through these websites will help raise valuable funds for the PTA to support the school's activities and equipment.

Advent Windows

Great Shelford Free Church invite you to create an Advent Window! Create a Christmas themed window, take a photo of it, and send it to us at administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk by the 10th of December. On each day of Advent we will reveal a different window on our website!

You can be as imaginative and creative as you want! You can use paints, papers, models and other accessories to decorate your window. Ideally your window will be stuck to the window inside your home and visible from the street. Will your window be one of those to be revealed on our website? Photos should be accompanied by names and contact details (addresses) of the creators.

Have fun creating!

Shelford COVID Support Group

The Shelford COVID Support group has been created to help people access basic amenities (shopping, prescriptions, post etc.) should they become unable to do so as a result of COVID. We have a network of 78 volunteers who ensure every street in Great Shelford has at least one key, local contact who are willing to give their time to do this. In the first instance, touch base with Chris Smith - Christopher.i.smith3@gmail.com and you will receive details of your local volunteer.

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