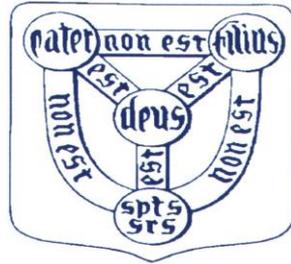


Shellingford CE (A) Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Judith Terrell



"Inspiring hearts and minds"

School Newsletter

Autumn Term One 2023 - Issue 2

22nd September 2023

Value for the next two weeks: Respect and Courtesy

As you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

Luke 6:31

Dear Shellingford School Family,

CLASS VISITS AND RESIDENTIALS

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 headed off to **Yenworthy Lodge** on Exmoor last week for a week of surfing, rock climbing and other outdoor activities with Mrs Sucksmith, Mrs Carter and myself. It was a privilege to spend a week with the children who all embraced challenge and demonstrated growth mindset when facing new experiences. Everyone involved showed a willingness to successfully work together in teams and to support each other in a variety of different ways. The Yenworthy staff commented positively about their behaviour, manners and their resilience.



Class 3 had a wonderful time exploring **Warwick Castle**, not even the rain and wind could dampen their spirits! The children experienced a workshop about how to attack and defend the castle and they explored the Great Hall in all its splendour. The children watched the most amazing falconry display where birds of prey dived over their heads and saw an archer at work trying out his aim! The class climbed to the top of the Conqueror's Fortress and cast their eyes over the amazing view of the River Avon and the land beyond the castle walls. What a fantastic way to kick-start the topic this term!



IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. We would encourage you to read the NHS guidance '[is my child too ill for school](#)' which has further information for parents.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

Our whole school **Harvest Service is next Friday 29th September at St Faith's church** and will be led by the children in Classes 1 and 2. Parents and family friends are very welcome to attend and we do hope you will be able to join us.

This year we would like to support **The Buddy Bag Foundation which was founded in 2015 to help make a difference to children entering emergency care. The charity supply children with a Buddy Bag containing essential items to help restore a sense of comfort and love. At Harvest time we encourage the children to give thanks for what they have and this will give us an opportunity to consider those who are less fortunate.**

If you would like to find out more their website is: www.buddybagfoundation.co.uk

As our Harvest Service this year will focus on the 'colours of harvest' we have decided to hold a **non-school uniform day next Thursday 28th September** and we kindly ask that the children donate **£1.00 to dress-up in their most colourful clothes to fundraise for The Buddy Bag Foundation.**

£25 will supply a child entering emergency accommodation with their own Buddy Bag and we would love to support as many children as possible. Thank you.

NATIONAL POETRY DAY – THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER

We will be celebrating National Poetry Day across the school on the above date. We will be sharing our favourite poems and creating poetry of our own. Children are welcome to bring a favourite poem or poetry book to school on this day. Each class will also be preparing a poetry performance to share with parents at our next Celebration Assembly (on Friday 13th October).

PRIVACY NOTICE

We have updated how we use pupil information and this privacy notice can be read on the school's [GDPR webpage](#).

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2024-25

The school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2024-25 has now been agreed. Please see the attached information and make a note of these dates in your diary. Term dates for this current academic year as well as 2024-25 can also be found on the [school website](#). I would like to remind parents **not** to take their children on holiday during term time and authorisation for such requests will not be granted. We would be very grateful to parents for their co-operation in this respect. Thank you.

THE UFFINGTON BENEFICE OF CHURCHES – FORTHCOMING SERVICES

A message from The Reverend Jeremy Goulston:

-  There is a Family Service this Sunday (24th September) in Uffington which is designed for the whole Benefice. It begins at 10.00am lasts 45mins max and includes children playing instruments.
-  Our Church Harvest Festivals are 10.15am on 1st October in Shellingford, followed by Harvest lunch in the Hall and 10am on 8th October in Uffington.

Children and parents are all warmly welcome at any of these services.



FoSS GENERAL MEETING – Wednesday 4th October at 6.30pm

Please remember that we are holding our first General Meeting on the above date (here at school) and we will be discussing our events planner for the coming year. Everyone is welcome to attend, and your support would be very much appreciated. The FoSS Committee depend on the entire support of the school community to help raise money for the school and our children. If you would like to become involved, please contact Mrs Natalie Cocks or Mrs Jo Perkins (Co-Chairs) friendsofshellingfordschoolpta@gmail.com or speak to any other committee member to find out more about the work of Friends of Shellingford School.

Our first fundraising events are taking place on the following dates:

- **Family Bingo (Sunday 8th October: 4.00 – 6.00pm, in the Community Hall) - Entry tickets are £2.00 per person which includes a bingo book, plus £2.00 per person for the buffet. Games, fun and prizes – this is a great family event for both parents and children.**
- **Non-School Uniform Day (Thursday 19th October) – please bring £1.00 or a donation for the Chocolate Donation for St Faith’s Christmas Fayre**

The calendar of events for the the Autumn Term are also published on the [FoSS page](#) of the school website.

Finally, our Smarties Challenge...

Don't forget our Smarties challenge, keep your children busy running errands and fill the tube with 20p pieces or any loose change! **Remember to bring in your tubes on Thursday 19th October!**

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS (PTIs)

Our Parent Teacher Interviews will be held in-person this term on:

- **Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th October: 3.30 – 6.30pm – Classes 1 & 4**
- **Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th October 3.30 – 6.30pm – Classes 2 & 3**

These appointments are particularly important and we ask all parents to make an appointment with your child/ren's teacher(s).

Please kindly note that we also request for children not to accompany parents to these meetings as it is important for us to have an opportunity to speak openly with you about your child/ren's progress and overall wellbeing.

For the PTI's being held on the Monday, Tuesday and Thursday we ask that parents make their way to the Community Hall initially, where the children's work will be out for you to view. On Wednesday we ask for Parents to make their way to Class 1 initially, where the children work will be out for you to view. Teachers will then collect parents for their appointment directly from the Community Hall or Class 1 respectively. Thank you.

Appointment sheets will be displayed on the green outside the school from the beginning of next week. Each appointment will last for 10 minutes.

With best wishes,

Judith R Terrell

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