

Drugs Awareness Workshop for Parents

As a school, we are committed to providing children with opportunities to learn the skills they need for a happy, healthy life. This includes essential drug and alcohol education that is age appropriate and part of the National Curriculum. Whilst this is very important, a consistent approach from home and school is invaluable. This is why we would like to invite you to a Parental Drug & Alcohol Awareness Workshop to be run by Vanessa Rogers, on **Friday 24th May at 9am.**

Vanessa is a Schools' Drug Education Consultant – she will facilitate the workshop on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council. The workshop will provide:

- Practical, up-to-date information about alcohol, cannabis and psychoactive substances (previously known as 'legal highs') and the associated risks of substance misuse
 - Useful tips on how to talk about this sensitive subject at home
 - Details of where to go for additional information and support
 - An opportunity to ask questions to learn more.

To book your place(s) on this workshop, please contact the school office (01923 773478)

Attendance & Punctuality



The school day starts at 8.50am for children in Years 1-6 and 8.55am for children in Nursery and Reception – please make sure your children are on time for school every day.

Congratulations to **Reception Ryeland, Reception Soay and Year 5 Cheviot** who had no late arrivals to school this week.

In order for a school to be judged as 'outstanding' by Ofsted, the school's overall attendance must be above the national average for all children. Although our overall attendance is improving year on year, we are still below the national average – this is a significant barrier to us moving from 'good' to 'outstanding'.

Children attending Shepherd Primary School should attend school regularly - we see this as being at least 97% of the time. Last week our overall school attendance was **96.3%**. Congratulations to **Year 4 Romney** who had the best attendance this week. Congratulations also to the **273 children** who had **100%** attendance this week.



Shepherd Primary School Blog

Don't forget to check our School Blog this week (www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org) where you'll find Blog entries from me, alongside class posts.

Promoting Discussions about 'Learning' at Home

The children at Shepherd Primary School are busy learning so many new and different things each week. To help you discuss your child's learning with them at home, please find below a question that you could ask your child about something they have learnt this week:

Nursery: Can you find any signs when you are out and about over the weekend? Can you point to where your grown-up should start reading? ie left to right

Reception: How do you make a sandwich?

Year 1: What different things did you find on the map of Rickmansworth?

Year 2: What adverbs can you think of to describe how the pigeon drove the bus?

Year 3: Can you remember the story of Alban?

Year 4: What does the term inference mean?

Year 5: Why are boots better for walking than sandals?

Year 6: When answering a 3 mark question in the reading paper, what does APE stand for?



The week gone by...

Sponsored Bounce!

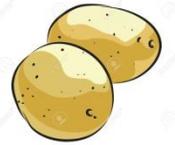


Today great fun was had by all at our annual sponsored bounce!! Each child bounced as many times as they could in 1 minute! Thank you to all those children who have been busy asking family and friends to sponsor them – now is the time to collect the sponsorship money and return it to school, by Tuesday 21st May. Please remember how important your sponsorship/donation is, however small. All the money raised this year will be put towards a range of workshops for children from Nursery-

Year 6 during National Sports Week – we hope to raise enough money to include skipping, martial arts, scooters, skateboarding and dance!

Potato Growing!

This week our potato growing kits (donated by Rickmansworth Garden, Arts and Homecraft Society) arrived! You may well have noticed them situated on the North playground. Mrs Norwood and our Gardening and Wildlife Committee are enjoying tending to the potatoes which are already starting to grow. The potatoes will be harvested in September and will be entered in a competition in the Rickmansworth Garden, Arts and Homecraft Society Annual Show on 7th September 2019.

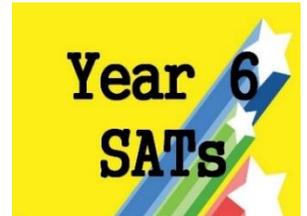


Next Week...

Year 6 SATs, w/c 13th May

Next week is Year 6 SATs week. The children and staff have been working really hard to prepare for these tests. The timetable for the tests is as follows:

Monday 13th May	English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 14th May	English Reading
Wednesday 15th May	Mathematics Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 16th May	Mathematics Paper 3



We will be providing breakfast for all Year 6 children on the days of the SATs to enable them to share breakfast with their friends and have a relaxed start to the day - breakfast will include a variety of cereals, fresh fruit, toast and fruit juice. Year 6 children should arrive at school at 8.30am and enter school through the dining room, where breakfast will be served. If you have any questions about the SATs or arrangements for the week, please speak to Mr Turton or Mrs Grace.



Year 5/6 Cycle Training bicycle checks

A reminder to all those Year 5 and 6 children participating in Cycle Training during the week commencing 20th May, that bicycles must come into school on Wednesday 15th May, to be checked by Watford Cycle Hub. There will be a coned off area on the North playground for all bicycles to be left in.

General Information...

Drug Awareness Workshops for children in Years 5 and 6

In addition to the parent workshop detailed at the top of this Friday Letter, children in Years 5 and 6 will also be taking part in a Drug Awareness Workshop on Friday 24th May with Vanessa Rogers and their class teachers. The children will be learning the basics about a range of drugs, including cannabis, e-cigarettes and cocaine, which will build on the work we have already done in school about alcohol and tobacco. There will also be an opportunity for children to take part in a question and answer session. As this is a sensitive topic we felt it appropriate to inform you about the workshop, and also ask that you follow up this at home by encouraging your child to talk about what they have learnt. Please be assured that all learning will be appropriate for the age, knowledge and maturity of the children.

School Trips

The following school trips will be taking place this term:

- Reception local visit to the local park, 24th May
- Year 1 trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum, 17th June
- Nursery local visit to William Penn Leisure Centre, 19th June



- Year 5 trip to Bucks Railway, 19th June
- Year 2 trip to the Wetland Centre, 4th July
- Year 6 leavers trip to Rock Up and Meat & Shake, 18th July

Safer Places - Domestic Abuse Outreach Worker



Safer Places is a charity offering support to families experiencing domestic abuse. The Reach Free secondary school have been chosen as a base for Emily Hannon (Domestic Abuse Outreach Worker from Safer Places) – she will be present there between 10am and 12 noon each Friday. This means that you can access direct support from the charity should you wish. Safer Places offers a range of different services to support you and guide you through an abusive relationship. Emily can tailor the support to you and your family's individual needs, or just offer advice. To speak to Emily call 01923 711517 at the times above, or email her at emily.hannon@sahwr.org.uk

Family Worker

Our family worker Debbie Wingfield, runs a regular parent drop-in – it is an opportunity to meet her and find out what she does and how she might be able to support families. The next drop-in will be on Thursday 23rd May.

Ink Cartridge Recycling

We are continuing to recycle ink cartridges – please help us raise some extra funds for the school by sending your used/empty cartridges into school. Thank you!



Safeguarding

If you are concerned about the wellbeing of a young person or child you are able to make an anonymous referral through Hertfordshire County Council, by calling **0300 123 4043** and selecting option 1. Remember that you can make a referral at any time – weekday, weekend or during the school holidays.

Enjoy the weekend!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad
Headteacher