

Dear Parents

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019

This will be my last Friday Letter this academic year. I hope you all have an enjoyable and restful summer break and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

### Postcards!

I would once again like to encourage children to send me a postcard over the summer holidays – this could be from holiday, from a special day out or from a local visit somewhere. At the start of the new term, I will be inviting everyone who has sent me a postcard to a special squash and biscuit event, so we can talk about all the exciting things they have done over the summer holidays. I will also be displaying the postcards in the school library. Postcards should be sent to the school address:

Mrs Foad  
Shepherd Primary School  
Shepherd's Lane  
Rickmansworth  
Hertfordshire  
WD3 8JJ



## 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 **Year 4 Romney** who had fewest 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 **95.2%**. Congratulations to **Year 3 Vendeen** who had **100%** attendance this week. Congratulations also to the **261 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](http://www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org)) where you'll find Blog entries from me, alongside class posts.



## The week gone by ...



### 'Olivia' – Year 5 and 6 parents

Thank you to all those parents who attended the Year 5/6 productions of Olivia this week. I was so proud of all the children, they performed brilliantly!



### Annual Trophy Assembly

Today Mrs Freuchen and I had the pleasure of leading our annual Trophy Assembly, where we presented very special awards to a number of children. Very many congratulations to all the children who were presented with a trophy and received a special award today.

## End of Year School Reports

Today all children are bringing home their end of year academic report. If you have any questions or queries about your child's school report, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

## Next week ...



### Board Games Day, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July

On Thursday, we will be running Board Games Day – children are once again invited to bring a board game to school to play and share with their friends.

### Nursery Leavers Celebration assembly, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 9.15am

Mrs Holt and I look forward to seeing Nursery parents at our Leavers Celebration on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 9.15am, in the school hall.

### Year 6 Leavers Assembly, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July, 9.10am

Next Friday morning at 9.10am will be our Year 6 Leavers assembly. I hope to see as many Year 6 parents as possible at this special event. Our Year 6 children have been fantastic and have worked incredibly hard. We will be very sad to see them leave Shepherd Primary School, but wish them all the very best of luck with their secondary education and beyond.

## General Information ...

### School Uniform

Accompanying this Friday Letter is a leaflet reminding parents of our school uniform. Please ensure that you read through this when purchasing new uniform ready for September.

### School Trips

The following school trip will be taking place this term:

- Year 6 leavers trip to Rock Up and Meat & Shake, 18<sup>th</sup> July



### Dogs

Please remember that dogs are not allowed on our school site, either walking or being carried. When tying dogs up outside school, please tie them up well away from the school gates, so children and families can enter/leave school safely and confidently.

### Scooters and bicycles on the playground

Please can I ask parents to help keep the playgrounds safe, by ensuring that their children dismount bicycles and scooters when they are on the playgrounds. Thank you.



### Sun Protection

As the weather is improving, please remember to send your child to school wearing a sunhat and sun cream – your child may also bring a clearly labelled bottle of sun cream to school, to reapply at lunchtime.

### Helping the Environment

A reminder that:

- we no longer allow single use plastic water bottles in school. Instead, please make sure that your child brings a refillable water bottle to school.
- children having packed lunches are encouraged to recycle their crisp packets after lunch each day. If children would like to bring empty crisp packets from home in their lunchbox, they are also able to recycle these.



### 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](mailto: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 next academic year.

### **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.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad  
Headteacher