

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 **Year 1 Lonk and Year 3 Texel** 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 **96.6%**. Congratulations to **Year 6 Merino** who had the best attendance this week. Congratulations also to the **263 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 remember 3 things that we should do to keep our teeth healthy?

Reception: How many different ways can you make the number 15?

Year 1: What different types of buildings can you name that people live in?

Year 2: What has happened to our caterpillars?

Year 3: If Mr Dunkley had 512 bananas to share between Vendeen and Texel classes, how many would each class get?

Year 4: Which verbs should not be followed by 'of'?

Year 5: How many metres in a kilometre?

Year 6: How are you going to relax this weekend after SATs week?



The week gone by...



Year 6 SATs

Very many congratulations to our Year 6 children who completed their Key Stage 2 SATs this week. The children behaved brilliantly and worked so hard, we are all incredibly proud of them.

Charity Song, 'It don't take much'

Today in assembly we listened to a song called 'It don't take much', which has been written by Mark Khan, Dad to Emma and James. He has written the song to raise money for two charities. We really enjoyed listening to the song – if you would like to learn more about the charities the song is supporting, or would like to download and buy the song to listen to at home, please visit <http://markkhan.com/it-dont-take-much/> We wish Mr Khan the best of luck with his charity fundraising and thank him for providing us with the song to listen to at school.



Next Week...

Year 2 SATs

Next week our Year 2 children will be sitting their SATs, so please make sure that the children are on time for school each day.



Year 5/6 Cycle Training

A reminder to those Year 5 and 6 children participating in Cycle Training next week, that you must have your bike and helmet in school every day.

Walk to School Week



Next week is 'Walk to School Week'. In order to encourage as many children as possible to walk to school, we are running the following two events:

- 'Trainer Tuesday': children and staff can walk to school wearing trainers on Tuesday, and they can wear them all day at school!
- 'Funky Footwear Friday': children and staff can wear a 'funky' pair of shoes to school!

General Information...



Water Bottles

As a school we are looking at what we can do to support the environment and climate change. As a school we use a lot of single use plastics, in the form of water bottles and plastic cups. So as from after half term, single use plastic water bottles will not be allowed in school. Instead, please make sure that your child brings a refillable water bottle to school. Thank you.

Sponsored Bounce!

Thank you to all those families who have returned their sponsored bounce money – so far we have raised over £800! Please keep the sponsorship money coming in and return it to the school office by Tuesday 21st May, as certificates for the children will be generated shortly after this date. 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!



Dangerous Dinosaurs in Reception!

We are delighted to announce that 'Community Learning Partnership' are coming to Shepherd Primary to run literacy sessions for parents/carers and children in reception. The sessions will run on Thursdays from June 13th from 1 to 3pm. The first hour will be about updating your knowledge about phonics and the second hour will be working with your child on exciting craft activities. There are a few spaces left and if you or an adult in your family would be interested in coming, please ask your child's teacher.



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