

Shepherd Primary School Blog



Don't forget to check our School Blog this week (www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org) where you'll find updates on:

- Mrs Foad's Blog
- Class posts
- Leadership for All

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 parents discuss their 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 tell your grown ups what happens at the end of The Train Ride? (You can also watch it on YouTube together!)

Reception: What did you see on your last train journey?

Year 1: What are the signs of Autumn?

Year 2: Can you name the 7 continents in the world?

Year 3: What do the words durable and permeable mean?

Year 4: What is 3457 rounded to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000?

Year 5: What is the order of the planets?

Year 6: Can you describe the characteristics of an Amphibian?



The week gone by ...

Postcards



This week I have really enjoyed meeting with all the children who sent me a postcard over the school summer holidays. We enjoyed biscuits and squash together, while the children read me their postcards and told me all about their holidays – it was lovely to hear what great fun they all had! I have posted some photographs and some of the postcards I received on the School Blog (www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org)

House Captains

Very many congratulations to the following Year 6 children who were elected as House Captains. Children in each House had the opportunity to vote for the children, following nerve-wracking pitches by our Year 6 children!

Chess: Michael, Jessica M

Colne: Heath, Kacee

Gade: Rory, Samantha

Ver: William G, Sienna

A photograph of our new House Captains is on our school Blog (www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org)

New Key Stage 2 Wall Murals

The amazing new murals in the Key Stage 2 building are now finished! We have loved working with artist, Emmylou, to create eight wonderful murals, depicting the world's continents and links to the children's learning across the curriculum. If you haven't yet had a chance to pop in and see the murals, please do have a look during Family Reading Morning.

Leadership Responsibilities at Shepherd Primary School

There are a range of different leadership opportunities for children at Shepherd Primary School. This year, children in Years 1- 6 have the opportunity to be voted on to the following groups:

- School Council, *led by Mrs Bryson and Mr Turton*
- School Nutrition Action Group (SNAG), *led by Mr Vickers, Miss Douglas and Miss Zanotto*
- PE Ambassadors, *led by Mr Charter*
- Eco-Watchers, *led by Mrs Holt*
- Travel Committee, *led by Mr Charter*

Elections took place in the first week of term and in Friday assembly I announced the children who will be representing their classes on each group – have a look on our School Blog to see who was elected!
(www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org)



PE Kits

This week many children have not have their PE kit in school and were therefore unable to participate in their class weekly PE lessons. Please make sure your child's PE kit is in school every day, including trainers for outdoor PE lessons. As the weather turns colder children in Years 1-6 will also need tracksuit bottoms and a tracksuit top as lessons will continue to be outside. We will be telephoning parents of children who do not have their full PE kit in school and asking them to drop their child's PE kit in to school. Thank you in advance for your support.

SEN Open Morning

Thank you to those parents of children with Special Educational Needs, who attended our Open Morning yesterday. I hope the meetings were useful and informative.

Safety Talk – Years 4, 5 & 6

As children in Years 4, 5 and 6 are allowed to walk to and from school on their own, this week teachers have spent time talking to the children about how to keep safe when they are out on their own, without an adult.

Next week...

Year 6 Kingswood

Next week our Year 6 children are off to Kingswood in Norfolk for the week, with Mrs Freuchen, Mr Turton and Mrs Grace. We know that they are going to have a wonderful time and will make some very special memories. I will post regular updates on the School Blog next week (www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org)



After School Clubs

Today after school club allocations are being sent home. We hope the children are looking forward to clubs starting next week! Please remember to collect your child promptly at 4.15pm from the North playground. If for any reason your child isn't attending their club one day, please notify the school office.

General Information ...

Communication with Parents

I am keen to review the ways that we communicate with parents, to try to make sure we use the best ways to let you know about school life. I would be grateful if parents could complete this very short survey by Monday 1st October:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yt3JTUeBUKkqRYYaXbnDAz6OHYyCKV95FstBd_KUg2iRUnjIKUK1UM0FMVDdZrKfQWdNHwVrTTIICUy4u



New PTA!

Thank you to those parents who have expressed an interest in taking on the roles of Vice Chair and Secretary of our PTA. Please can all people wishing to put themselves forward, let me know by 9am on Monday 24th September. Thank you.

Diary Dates

Accompanying this Friday is a list of Diary Dates for this half term. Dates of particular note are:

- Nursery Home Learning meeting for parents, Tuesday 2nd October, 9am
- Reception Reading & Phonics meeting for parents, Thursday 4th October, 9am
- Grandparents Day Breakfast, Friday 5th October, 9-10am
- Enterprise Week Fair, Friday 26th October, 3.30-4pm

Dates for
your
diary.....



Christmas Cards!

On Monday, each child came home with their Christmas card design, along with an accompanying letter and order form. Please make sure all order forms are returned to the school office along with payment and your child's card design, by Friday 5th October.

Reading Morning

I just wanted to share a few reminders about our weekly Family Reading Morning:



- All children must enter school as usual and register in their own classroom;
- Older siblings, who have a parent attending Reading Morning with a younger sibling, may join their parent and younger sibling after registration;
- Parents can enter school with their children - if parents have more than one child, they should accompany their youngest child;
- During Reading Morning, the class teacher will ask parents to sign in – this is so we have a record of who is in school;
- At the end of Reading Morning, class Teaching Assistants will help parents find their way back to the school office.

Children who do not have parents attending Reading Morning will not be allowed to visit their sibling's classrooms – siblings have other opportunities to read and work together during Paired Reading and our special House events.

Year 6 Secondary Transfer

A reminder to Year 6 parents that the online secondary transfer application process is now open, and will remain open until 31st October 2018. Please apply online at:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/actweb/education/Admissions/startpage.cfm>

School Trips and Local Visits

The following school trips and local visits are planned to take place this term:

- Year 4 tri-golf event (hosted by The Reach Free), Thursday 27th September
- School Council trip to Watersmeet Theatre, Monday 15th October



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!

Family Worker

Our family worker, Debbie Wingfield, is available to work with families on a variety of family issues through individual or group sessions. If you feel you would like some family support, please contact Mrs Freuchen via the school office.

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.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad, Headteacher