

Helping the Environment

As a school we are looking at what we can do to support the environment and climate change:

- 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.
- On Friday 7th June, Mrs Holt will be leading a special environmental assembly. As part of this assembly, she will be introducing the TerraCycle scheme that we have joined – this will mean that we will be encouraging children having packed lunches to recycle their crisp packets after lunch each day. If children would like to bring empty crisp packets from home in their lunchbox, they will also be able to recycle these.



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 2 Swaledale** 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 **93.0%**. Congratulations to **Year 5 Dorper** who had the best attendance this week. Congratulations also to the **257 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 talk about your 5 senses?

Reception: What was your favourite part of our trip?

Year 1: Where does the minute hand point for a half past time?

Year 2: What is Neil Armstrong famous for?

Year 3: Where do we use reflective surfaces and how do they help us in our everyday lives?

Year 4: What is 82 divided by 100?

Year 5: Explain the effect of air resistance on a parachute.

Year 6: Why would people want to live near a volcano?



The week gone by...

Year 2 SATs

Very many congratulations to our Year 2 children who completed their Key Stage 1 SATs this week. The children were very sensible throughout and worked very hard.



Bikeability Cycle Training

Congratulations to those children who took part in the Bikeability Cycle Training this week, and to those who successfully passed their Level 2 award in Cycle Training. The instructors said how well all the children listened and how well behaved they were.



PTA Disco

On Wednesday over 140 children put on their dancing shoes and joined us at the PTA Discos! The children had so much fun and really enjoyed the disco, games and pizza! A huge THANK YOU to the PTA for organising another special event for the children and also to those parents who volunteered to help at the event – we really appreciate your support.

Drugs Awareness Workshop for Parents

Thank you to those parents who attended the Drugs Awareness workshop this morning, run by Vanessa Rogers. I hope you found the information useful – Miss Whiteman and I certainly felt that the session was very informative. For those parents who were unable to attend, a copy of the presentation will be available on the school website. Please do contact me if you have any concerns or would like to talk to me about anything discussed.

General Information...

Sponsored Bounce!

Thank you to all those families who have returned their sponsored bounce money – **so far we have raised an amazing £2000!** Please keep the sponsorship money coming in and return it to the school office as soon as possible, as we are keen to generate certificates for the children. All the money raised this year will be put towards a range of workshops for children during National Sports Week.



Charity Song, 'It don't take much'

Last week 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.



Dangerous Dinosaurs in Reception!

We are delighted to announce that 'Community Learning Partnership' are coming to Shepherd Primary School 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.



School Trips

The following school trips will be taking place this term:

- 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 6th June.

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.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 3rd June.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad
Headteacher