

## Nursery January 2019

*Do you have a child born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015?*

*If so, then they could start in our Nursery class in January 2019.*

If you would like to look around our Nursery, please call the School Office to book an appointment.

Ofsted (March 2018) said: 'Children make a positive start in the high-quality early years provision'.

## Attendance & Punctuality



The school day starts at 8.50 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 3 Texel** who had the fewest number of late arrivals to school this week.

Children attending Shepherd Primary School should attend school regularly - we see this as being at least 97% of the time. This week our overall school attendance was **94.9%**.

- Congratulations to the **249 children** who had 100% attendance this week.
- Congratulations to **Year 2 Swaledale**, who had the best 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.

## 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 remember the story of We're Going on a Bear Hunt? Can you tell it to your family?

Reception: What items around your home could be recycled?

Year 1: What did you enjoy most about Enterprise Week?

Year 2: How many coins can you name?

Year 3: What are the instructions for making the book animals?

Year 4: What things could you do to reduce the amount of plastic in our oceans?

Year 5: How can you tell if a number is a multiple of 3?

Year 6: What do the words revenue, stock, profit, break-even and expenditure mean?



## The week gone by ...



### Charity 'Loom Band Jewellery Sale'

Very many congratulations to Ayse, Rani, Henry, Kelicha, Oliver, Molly and Isaac, who made lots of loom band bracelets, necklaces and rings which they sold to children across KS1 and KS2 over the last two weeks. The children raised a staggering £115.37 for the World Wildlife Fund, their chosen charity. I enjoyed supporting them with their sales at breaktime each day and was so impressed with how well they worked together and how determined they were to raise money for a charity important to them. I have posted a photograph of our charity fundraisers on the school Blog ([www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org](http://www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org)).

## 100,000 Bulbs Challenge!



As I mentioned in Friday Letter last week, we have teamed up with 16 local schools to buy 100,000 crocus bulbs for the children to plant! We have chosen crocus bulbs because they are an RHS approved pollinator and we hope their annual flowering will be a visual reminder of the importance of the environment in all our lives. Earlier this week a bag of bulbs and a small set of instructions were sent home with each child - please plant the bulbs by early November at the very latest, the sooner the better. We hope that you will support your children to plant their bulbs across the local area so we can all enjoy a community in bloom in spring!



## Remembrance Day Poppies

This week Liam and Olivia in Year 6 have been selling poppies, along with a selection of other Remembrance day items priced between 50p and £1 (including wristbands and keyrings), to commemorate Remembrance Day. We will continue to sell these items the week after half term. If your child would like to buy a Poppy, please ensure they bring at least 30p to school in a named envelope. Please ensure your child sends in the correct money as change cannot be given.

## Enterprise Week at Shepherd Primary School



This week has been 'Enterprise Week' at Shepherd Primary School! Children in Year 1-6 have been busy planning, designing and making items to sell at the Enterprise Fair this afternoon. Yesterday we had our annual 'Dragons Den' assembly, where each class pitched their item to our 'dragons' (myself and Mrs Luts)! More about Enterprise Week can be found on our School Blog ([www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org](http://www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org))

## Upcoming Events ...

### Parents Evening

Last week a letter was ParentMailed home about Parents Evening, which will be on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November (3.30-5.30pm) and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November (3.30-8pm). Please follow the instructions to book an appointment online to see your child's class teacher. You also have the opportunity to book an appointment to see Mrs Freuchen and myself, if there is something you would like to talk to us about.



### Spanish Day – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding a 'Spanish Day' to celebrate the launch of our new Spanish Curriculum in Key Stage 2! The children will take part in a range of Spanish themed activities throughout the day.

- We would like to invite all children to come to school dressed in either the colours of the Spanish flag (red and yellow), or wearing Spanish style clothes!
- There will be a special Spanish themed lunch for all children, served in the dining room that day – accompanying Friday Letter is a flyer outlining the menu.

**We need your help!** We wondered if there were any parents out there who speak Spanish and would like to help us on the day? We also need a team of parents to help our class teachers run some of the more practical activities – if you can help out during the morning or afternoon of Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November, please let the school office know.

### Anti-Bullying Week, 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November



We will once again be joining in with national Anti-Bullying Week during the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> November. The theme of Anti-Bullying Week this year is 'Choose respect'. To kick start the week, we would like to invite all children to come to school wearing odd socks on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November! School Council will be selling anti-bullying wristbands at breaktime during the week, for £1. All proceeds will be put towards buying resources for our new 'Playground Buddies' and 'Play Leaders', who will be supporting children on the playground at break and lunchtimes.

## General Information

### Policy on Dogs on School Grounds

A reminder to all families that whilst our Governors and staff recognise that dogs are an important part of life for some of our families, dogs are not allowed on the grounds of Shepherd Primary School at any time (unless used to aid visual impairment or disability). Dogs can continue to be tied up on the railings outside both entrances in to school, but please do not block the entrances in to school. Please do not tie up your dog on the railing by the Nursery and Reception playground gate, as this is still on school premises.

### Parent Governor Vacancy

Accompanying Friday Letter last week was a flyer and letter regarding a vacancy that we have for a Parent Governor to join our Governing body. Please ensure nomination forms are returned to the school office by 9am on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

## SNACK BAR

### Breaktime Snacks Menu

Herts Catering will be making changes to the Key Stage 2 Breaktime Snack Menu, starting after half term. I have asked them to produce a flyer giving parents and children more details – I will send this out as soon as I receive it from Herts Catering.



### Lunchtime Skills

Please can we ask parents of our Reception and Year 1 children to keep supporting their children at home as they learn to cut their own food during meal times, as a large number of children having school dinners are unable to cut up their lunch to eat it. We really want to encourage skills of independence, so our lunchtime supervisors will be continuing to positively encourage the children to try to cut up their own food and will be rewarding them with lots of stickers and positive praise!



### Rock & Pop Foundation Music Lessons

We have an excellent partnership with the Rock & Pop Foundation, who not only deliver our whole class music lessons for Year 4-6 as part of our music curriculum, but they also deliver 1:1 and small group peripatetic music lessons to those Key Stage 2 children who would like to learn an instrument. Instrumental lessons that Rock & Pop currently teach, include: drums, guitar, piano and keyboard. If you are interested in your child learning an instrument, please contact the Rock & Pop Foundation, on: 01252 368330 or enrol them at: <https://www.rockandpopfoundation.com/enrol>



### Reading Morning

A reminder that the last Friday of every month will be Paired Reading, where the children have the opportunity to read alongside children in other year groups, therefore there will be no Family Reading Morning on the last Friday of each month.

### School Trips and Local Visits

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

- Year 2 visit to St Peter's Church to plant poppies, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November
- Year 6 trip to STEM at St Clement Danes, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- Years 1-6 trip to the pantomime at Watersmeet Theatre, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December



### 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. Remember that you can make a referral at any time – weekday, weekend or during the school holidays.

Have a lovely half term!

I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad  
Headteacher