

Shepherd Primary School

Friday Letter

Friday 12th March 2021

Dear Parents



A Wonderful Week!

I know I speak on behalf of our whole school team of staff, when I say what a wonderful week we have had, welcoming all the children back to school! The children have once again amazed us, demonstrating superb resilience and adaptability as they move from remote learning to being back at school learning and playing alongside their peers. It is lovely to hear the 'buzz' of happy children filling our school once again.

Special Visits to School Next Term

We continue to be highly committed to enriching the curriculum as much as possible for the children. The children are really enjoying the development of our Forest Schools provision and enjoy being outside for their learning. We also know how much the children enjoy the range of school trips that we usually plan for them.

Usually at this point in the term, we would be busy planning a range of summer term trips for the children. With all the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic and exactly when different events will reopen, we have decided that next term we will host a range of exciting and engaging visitors in school instead, to run workshops – these will be closely linked to the curriculum and will enrich the children's learning experiences. Class teachers are busy planning one workshop/special visit for each class, choosing the most exciting and appropriate opportunities for the children.

At the start of next term we will let you know the visit/workshop we have booked for your child's class. We will be asking you to contribute to the cost of the workshop, just as we ask you to contribute towards the cost of school trips. We very much hope that parents will be able to support this – without the financial support of the vast majority of parents in each class, we will be unable to run these class workshops.

As a school we are booking and funding a range of workshops for the children to participate in during National Sports Week in June, which we know they will enjoy as well!

Red Nose Day

Wear red to school next Friday!

Next Friday (19th March) is Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. Money raised on Red Nose Day helps to tackle important issues including homelessness, hunger, domestic abuse and mental health stigma, all of which have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. So as a school we would like to support Red Nose Day this year, by asking children to come to school dressed in red clothes in exchange for a £1 donation (minimum) - donations can either be made on School Gateway, or your child can bring their cash donation to school next Friday. You may also like to support Comic Relief by buying a Red Nose – if you do, please do not send your child to school with this next week.



School Uniform

A reminder that as outlined in letters during the autumn term, the new school 'zoodie' is an additional layer of clothing for the children to wear to keep them warm during colder weather, as classroom windows are open to allow good ventilation to help prevent the spread of germs.

Please remember that the 'zoodie' has not replaced our normal school uniform cardigans and jumpers. As the weather improves and children wear just one layer to school on top of their polo shirts/shirts, that this must be their school jumper and cardigan, not their 'zoodie'.

From after Easter, staff will only allow children to wear their 'zoodies' at breaktime, lunchtime and during PE lessons – they will not be able to wear them in class, and should wear their normal school cardigan/jumper instead.



New Gym Equipment on the School Field

I know that many children have already spotted the new gym equipment that was installed on the school field during lockdown!



We have installed 5 pieces of children's gym equipment, laid on special safety surfacing, for the children to play on when they are on the school field. We know from our 'pupil voice' with the children, that this is something they really wanted, so I hope they will enjoy playing on it as they start using the school field at breaktimes and lunchtimes as the weather improves.



School Dinners

Please make sure you order your child's meals on School Grid, by 9.30am each day.

Week commencing	Children in Reception and Years 1-3	Children in Years 4-6
15 th March	Cold school dinners	Hot or cold school dinners
22 nd March	Hot or cold school dinners	Cold school dinners

Nursery Parents – Summer Term Nursery Lunch Club

If you would like your child to attend Nursery Lunch Club next term (after the Easter holidays), please complete the survey at the link below, by 9am next Friday (19th March).



https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yt3JTUeBUKkgRYYaXbnDAz6OHYyCKV95FstBd_KUg2iRUQldZNVFDTTIZTTIzRDg2UDdCNTJKUIBOWi4u

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad
Headteacher