



Shelley First School Newsletter

January 2022

Care, fairness and respect... No barriers to learning... Celebration and joy

Happy New Year!

We hope that you all had a healthy and peaceful Christmas. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school and they have settled in well after all of the excitement and festivities.

We have welcomed Mrs Caroline Pinder to our team. She has joined our lovely support team and is mainly based in Year 3.



We have also welcomed Mrs Andrea Dyson to our support team. She is based in Reception.



As Mrs Smith is in the third trimester of her pregnancy she will be mainly working at home. Mrs Westerman is working as an acting Assistant Head Teacher and she is in school Monday—Thursday lunchtime.

Mrs Louise Stinson who works in our Trust will be working in school on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Stinson is leading the PSHE meeting for parents and she will also be leading some assemblies.



Miss Westwell is back in school and will be teaching Class Carroll on a Thursday and Friday. Miss Barker is now back in school, you will see her around KS1 and in Class Donaldson.

School environment

Our classrooms have bene re-carpeted during the Christmas holidays and they look great! It would be really helpful if parents could remind children not to play on the grass/muddy areas in the mornings—let's try to keep the carpets looking new. In the February Half-Term we will be replacing all remaining carpets.

We are also currently developing our ICT Suite into a new multi-functional Learning Centre. This will be a wonderful learning area where children can use the library and computer resources. We will keep you posted.

Covid

We are pleased to see that Covid cases appear to be dropping at Shelley First. Just to clarify the new guidance which stipulates that self-isolation can be shortened after day 7 following 2 negative lateral flow tests. We will continue to **record a pupil absence for 10 days (from the onset of symptoms or positive test) once we have been informed of their positive test result.** However, your child can return to school from day 7 if **they have had 2 negative lateral flow tests on consecutive days.** We would ask parents to inform **school if their child will be returning before day 10 for this reason.** All children can return following 10 days of isolation unless unwell with a temperature.

Mini reports

We are sending home mini reports next week, w/c 17th January. These are just a summary of how your child is doing—we hope that you will find this helpful.

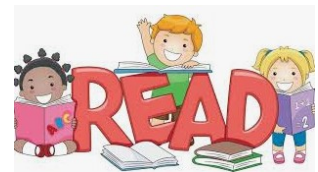
Annual reports will be sent home towards the end of the academic year. We will still hold the planned Parents' evenings this term and will keep you updated on the format that these will take.

Reading

Phonics has resumed this week (we could not do it last week as it was only a 3-day week). Therefore, children in Phonics groups should have had a new book to read this week.

We really appreciate parents supporting good reading habits at home and with this in mind Mrs Smith has set a Reading Challenge this week. We are challenging all children to read **at least 3 times per week**—we will monitor this between w/c January 17th and w/c February 7th. Further information is attached to this newsletter. If your child has done this we will celebrate this by giving them a certificate during the last week of this half-term. In addition to this all children who complete this challenge will be entered into a prize draw.

Therefore, parents will need to write in their child's reading diary. Here's to some fantastic reading!



Special Educational Needs

A reminder that parents should speak to the class teacher if they have concerns about their child's learning or development. Mrs Westerman leads our SEN provision in school and she supports staff in meeting pupil needs.

In these difficult times we are finding that more children may need additional support. If Mrs Westerman or teachers contact you regarding SEN please be reassured that this is in no way judgemental. In our experience early referrals for support or interventions are beneficial and in the interest of the child.

Careers Week

We are starting to plan our annual Careers Week which will be held in the week commencing March 14th. If any parents have relevant contacts in industry please let us know via the office. We would be very grateful. We are very keen for our younger children to meet people who help us such as police, doctors, nurses, fire officers or dentists. We really want the children to aim high in life and the Careers Week can really open up a world of opportunity to them. Thank you.

Clubs

Clubs have re-started this week and it is great to see so many children taking part. We have a lovely choir club on Fridays before school. Numbers are quite low and unless they increase, we may be in the unfortunate position of having to decide if we can continue to run this club at a loss. Therefore, it would be wonderful to enrol some more children joining the choir if they have an interest in singing.

Please contact us if you have any questions about clubs.



Dates for your diary

17/1/22	Reading Challenge starts
18/1/22	PSHCE Workshop in school with Mrs Stinson 9am in the school hall
21/1/22	Pantomime in school
25/1/22	Reception parents - ReadWrite Inc Meeting - 9:15am or 6pm (Teams meeting)
	Y4 Football - After school event
8/2/22	Y1 parents - Phonics Screening meeting - 9:15am or 6pm (Teams meeting)
	Y5 Football - After school event