



# Shute Primary School Newsletter 20th September 2018



Attendance Up to this week 95%

Target 97%

Dear Parents,

What a busy week we've had at the school! Squirrels and Hedgehogs have been on exciting trips and both classes were able to share a coach and then go their separate ways for the day. We have had donkeys visit us, new whiteboards installed in all classrooms, a Greek temple being built by Badgers along with many other activities that truly show that school life is in full swing!



### Donkey Visit

Buster and Oscar the donkeys came to visit us for the morning. All of the children got to meet the donkeys and we found out that a female donkey is called a Jenny and a male donkey is called a Jack. The staff from The Donkey Sanctuary told us about the important work they do in the UK and Ireland and we discussed how to care for a donkey.



### Squirrel's Seaton Wetlands

Squirrels had a fantastic day at Seaton Wetlands on Tuesday. They began the day with a treasure hunt, searching for different animals on their walk down to the outdoor classroom. Everybody found a different animal to take safely back. After snack they headed into the woods where they searched for items to create their own stick people.



They worked in teams to create homes for the stick people, before making some tasty muddy snacks and music for a stick people party! After lunch they



headed back into the woods where Penny made a campfire. The children worked in teams to follow a recipe to make a blackberry pancake batter using flour, sugar, eggs, milk and crushed blackberries. Penny then cooked the pancakes on the campfire - they were delicious!



### Tram and Jurassic Seaton

On Tuesday, the children in Years 3/4 went on a trip to Seaton to the Jurassic centre and then after lunch to the tram station where they boarded a tram which took them to Colyton. Here is one account of the day from Cassian in Year 3



*Our first activity was a treasure hunt for food, water and finding shelter cards. Our second activity was keeping mammals warm. Our team came second to last with 47°C. Next we did team challenges. We played get the bucket out of the quicksand, cross the toxic river and we built dens. In the afternoon we went on a tram. We had a lot of fun and we went home. By Cassian*

I've had a meeting with PCSO Chris Bolsover, firstly to discuss his support with talking to the younger children about safety around the roads and for the older children about anti-social behaviour and internet safety, we will let you know once we have scheduled in the talks. PCSO Bolsover visited the school at collection time last week and observed the issues around parking at collection time, he will be visiting our site more often to monitor the situation. Unfortunately, we still have the select few inconsiderately parking. Please think of the safety of the children and parents when parking.



### **Opera**

Grassroots Opera's outdoor performance of Orfeo ed Euridice entranced its audience in Shute on Friday 14 September. The production was adapted for children at Shute Primary School who took part in a workshop in the afternoon leading to some of them taking part in the chorus in the actual performance. It was a wonderful opportunity to listen to and take part in a professional opera.

### **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

This month is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and an envelope containing more information will be sent home on Monday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Patrick Germscheid

### **Woodroffe Open Day**

27<sup>th</sup> September 2018 9:30am and 12:30pm, please let Mrs Haysom know if you are planning on taking your child.

### **Harvest Festival Assembly Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

All welcome to the church at 2:45pm.

### **Junk modelling request from the Squirrels**

Please could you hand any items ideal for junk modelling to the staff in Squirrels class, many thanks.

### **Sickness**

In line with NHS and Department of Education guidelines, children should not come in to school for at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

### **Pupil Premium**

To qualify for Pupil Premium (the old free school meals) parents need to be in receipt of certain benefits. Not only will your child benefit from a dinner each day (if they want it) but the school receives £1320 towards supporting your child's education. The money is primarily spent on our academic and pastoral support staff, but each pupil is allocated £80 per term towards a variety of costs to support families e.g. subsidy of school uniform and trips. To see if you are entitled please log onto the Devon County Council Citizen Portal.

## School lunches

Reminder that the cost of school meals for pupils aged 3-4 (In Squirrels FSU) and in Year 3 and above is £2.40 per day. Lunch money should be paid in advance at the beginning of the week (half termly payments are also allowed, just contact Mrs Haysom to confirm the amount). Cash or cheques (**made payable to Devon County Council**).

## PTFA Meeting

**AGM did not take place due to low numbers the revised date will be October 2<sup>nd</sup> with further details to follow soon.**

## Uniform Orders.

**The next orders will be placed Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October.** School uniform is available from School Trends please visit [www.stparent.co.uk](http://www.stparent.co.uk)

## Illness and Absence

If your child is absent from school, you are requested to contact the school office before 9.15am. As required by our Safeguarding Policy if the administration team have not heard from you by early morning they will contact you to establish why your child is not in school. If we are unable to establish contact we may have to report this to the School Education Welfare Officer.

If your child needs to attend a medical appointment in school time, please complete the L5 form which can be found on the school website. <http://www.shuteprimary.co.uk/parents/illness-and-absence/> or ask Mrs Haysom for one prior to the absence.

If a child is late, he or she must be signed in by a parent or carer, they must follow the instructions in the entrance and use the intercom to alert the office and a member of staff will come and let you in to sign them in. Persistent lateness has a negative impact on learning and we support families to ensure all children arrive in good time. A letter or email must be sent to school with the child on their return to school and for any planned medical appointments.

Did You Know.....

.....that having good talking skills is really important for your child when they start school? It's what they need for making friends, learning, reading and writing.

.....that having a dummy in the day can affect how much your child talks and reduce the number of different speech sounds they can make?

You can find more information about how children learn to talk on the following website:

[www.talkingpoint.org.uk](http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk)



The poster features the Virgin Care logo (a red flower) and the NHS logo in the top right corner. The main title is "Let's Talk More – What is it?". Below the title, there is a paragraph explaining that the tool helps identify children aged two to three who may have early signs of speech and language difficulties. It states that identifying children as soon as possible means they are most likely to make progress quickly. A second paragraph describes the screening process, mentioning a trained member of the Health Visiting or Children's Centre Team who will see the parent and child, carrying out specially designed activities to look at early speech and language development, listening and concentration, understanding, and vocabulary.

Let's Talk More is a screening tool that helps us to identify children aged between two to three years who may have early signs of speech and language difficulties. Identifying children as soon as possible means they are most likely to make progress quickly.

A trained member of the Health Visiting or Children's Centre Team will see you and your child, to carry out some specially designed activities. These screening activities help us to look at all the parts of early speech and language development, such as how your child listens and concentrates; how they understand what you say when you are talking to them; what words and sentences they can use; and how well you can understand what they say to you.

Babcock  Devon 

After the screen, the results will be explained to you. There are three possible results:

A green outcome means that your child's ability to understand and talk is typical for their age and they don't need any more help. If you are at all worried in the future you can get back in touch.

An amber outcome means that your child is not yet understanding/talking as expected for their age. We know that Amber children are likely to make good progress when the adults around them focus on using some easy talking strategies. The strategies are chosen to suit each individual child. You will be given information about the Let's Talk More help available for you and your child in your area.

A red outcome means that your child is experiencing some difficulty with understanding and talking that would benefit from an assessment with a Speech and Language Therapist. You will still be given some easy talking strategies to use at home, and the person screening your child will talk through different support options available while you are waiting.

Many children find learning to talk difficult but go on to make good progress so don't worry if your child currently has an amber or red outcome. Let's Talk More is all about identifying children early and providing some support that may help prevent longer term difficulties with learning, making friends, reading and writing.