



**Shute Primary School
Newsletter
17th January 2020**



Attendance Up to this week 94.2%

Target 95%

Dear Parents,

Yesterday, I had a visit from Zoe Briant-Evans who is the new chair of governors and she and I spent some time in each class. She commented on the lovely atmosphere and how hard working the children all were. She mentioned to me that the LEA has now written to a number of schools/education organisations as part of the tendering process for a temporary Management Partnership. Applications will be scrutinised next week and the governor process of selection will be completed afterwards. We are all keen to find out who the successful partner is going to be. The governors will write to you when they have further news and I will keep you posted when I know more.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr Germscheid

Sparrowhawks Reward Afternoon

As team points champions for last term, Mr Smith promised them that they could make pancakes outside over the fire. Unfortunately, Mr Smith lost all the ingredients on the way to school this morning and all he had when he got here was a bag of flour. However the bag of flour had a hole and had been leaking flour! So before they made pancakes, Sparrowhawks went on a treasure hunt, following the floury clues to find the rest of the ingredients!

Next time Mr Smith said to get someone more reliable to run the reward event! A special thank you to Mr Smith for his time and effort to make Sparrowhawks afternoon memorable!

Reminder

I know how challenging it can be for some parents to pay for all the things that schools often ask you to pay for and these requests can put a strain on your finances. As a school we are limited by the amount of money we receive and the majority of school trips, coach costs, special visitors and activities the school takes part in there isn't a pot of money that we can tap into. We are reliant on you to pay for the costs of these activities for your child.

There are two residential trips coming up, Year 3/4 is February 10th-12th and Year 5/6 is March 23rd-27th please make final payments for these trips as soon as possible. Thank you.

PTFA

Thank you to all of you who have requested numbers for the 100 club so far. Last year we sold 50 numbers so we would really like to improve on that this year. It's open to Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncle's, basically anyone who wants to support the school via the PTFA!

The more numbers sold means more money to spend on all the children and it also means the higher the prize money will be.

You can send your £12 into school with your name and contact details or go through the Facebook page or catch one of us in the playground.

If you would like to help out with any of the fundraising events or take on an active role within the PTFA come along to the next meeting. Keep an eye out for date and time etc.

Thank you again for all your support.

PTFA team

Bag2 School Scheme

Please see the recent parentmail about the Bag2School scheme. Last year the school made a nice profit and hopefully we can do the same this year.

Bag2School will be collecting from school on Tuesday, February 4th. Please help yourselves to a special collection bag (or bags!) in the school foyer, fill up at home then leave in the school hall (ask a member of staff or PTFA if you're unsure) any time from now and help us have a really good collection. Many thanks indeed for helping us with this unique fundraising opportunity.

Hooke Court

There will be a meeting after school about Hooke Court on January 30th but I thought I would share a link with you to look at Hooke Court and to read up about some of the activities they do there. The link is <https://www.hookecourt.co.uk/residential/teachers-parents/parents-zone/>

Cake Sale

A huge thank you to everyone that contributed towards and supported our cake sale on Wednesday. We raised a fantastic £81.55 to put towards the trip to Seaton Wetlands for Squirrel Class Gruffalo Day.

Term Dates 2020-21

Please find the term dates attached to the Parentmail email and they are also available on the school website <https://shuteprimary.org.uk/>

Absence and Absence Requests

A reminder that I will not be able to authorise any holidays in term time. School attendance is extremely important. If children are ill, then of course they must stay at home, but please consider whether they really need to stay off school if they are feeling 'a little under the weather'.

I will be monitoring any attendance that is below 95% and attendance below 90% is considered 'persistent absence' and will be questioned by our Educational Welfare Officer.

Devon County Council have mentioned that they are preparing paper work to fine those parents/carers who take their children out of school for 5 or more days in a year in order to have an unauthorised holiday. These fines are substantial and may be implemented to help curb unauthorised absences.

School Meals

Parents should apply for Free School Meals through the **Citizen Portal** on our [Free School Meals Website](#) parents must show the school confirmation of eligibility. If parents are not online they can apply by phoning the **Customer Service Centre** on **0345 155 1019** where an up to date application form will be posted out to them.

Schools **cannot** request application forms on behalf of parents.

Tax-Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare is a government scheme which helps parents with childcare costs. For every £8 a parent pays into their childcare account, the government will pay in £2, up to a maximum of £2,000 per child per year (or £4,000 for disabled children). Parents can then use that money to make childcare payments direct to their childcare provider's bank account.

For further details please go to www.gov.uk/childcare-provider-tax-free-scheme

Data Processing Consent

As a school, under GDPR, we need to have clear consent to use your child's personal information in ways that fall outside our legal obligations. You may give and update your consent at any time by completing this short form: <https://www.axebf.org.uk/information/privacy-policy/consent-form/>
Should access to this form online be difficult, paper copies are available from the school office.

Sickness

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

School lunches

Reminder that the cost of school meals for pupils aged 3-4 (In Squirrels FSU) and in Year 3 and above is **£2.50** per day. Lunch money should be paid in advance via ParentPay. Orders must be placed the Thursday before the week lunches are required.

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 S2 form which can be found on the school website. <https://shuteprimary.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2019/03/S2-October-2018.pdf> 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.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES – BAD WEATHER

A REMINDER FOR EXISTING PARENTS AND NEW INFORMATION FOR OTHERS

All possible efforts will be made to keep the school open. However, we will close the school if the following reasons apply which impacts on our ability to ensure the safety of your children.

These are:

- We cannot ensure that a sufficient number of staff can get in safely to supervise the children adequately
- The school site is dangerous or there is a lack of amenities e.g. frozen pipes, no heating etc.
- The weather forecast is predicting further severe weather that day and we cannot guarantee getting the children home safely

Closing the school is taken in consultation with the Executive Headteacher and Chair of Governors and will be made at around 7.30am to allow as much time as possible for you to make alternative arrangements.

We alert parents that the school is closed by Parentmail by text and by posting a closure notice on our school website. This should be the first place to look if in any doubt. The school website address is www.shuteprimary.org.uk

Closure notice will be posted on the local radio stations (BBC Devon, Heart FM). A notice will also be placed on the Devon County Council Severe Weather Website.

Please do not let children walk to school unaccompanied if the weather is severe and there is a doubt the school will be open.

If the school is open but you judge it is too dangerous to transport your children to school then please stay at home. We do ask that you let the school know as early as possible so that we know that they will not be attending. Should the weather deteriorate during the day and we have to close the school early then you will be sent a text message. Therefore it is vital that your Parentmail contact number is up-to-date and that mobile telephones are switched on. Thanks.

Diary Dates:

Date	Event
January 21st	Squirrel Class Trip to Seaton Wetlands
January 28th	Reception Children Dance Festival at Axe Valley Academy
January 30th	Year 3/4 Hooke Court Residential Trip Meeting after school
February 5th	Year 3/4 Gymnastics Festival at Colyton Grammar School
February 10th-12th	Year 3/4 Residential to Hooke Court
February 17th-21st	Half Term

Crafts

Flame 2

QUIZ TIME!

**Term-time Wednesdays from 3.45 to 4.45pm
for Primary School years 1-6
at The Beacon, Whitford Rd, Kilmington EX13 7RF**

Games, crafts, puzzles, bible stories and loads and loads of fun!

Contact events@beaconbaptist.co.uk or 01297-631638

INFORMATION SESSIONS

(Teachers, teaching assistants, professionals, parents, relatives, childminders and other interested parties all very welcome)

**1:30 – 3pm repeated 3:30 - 5pm in the community room at
WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Topic	Date	Notes
Challenging behaviour (including reciprocity, attachment, shame, and bids for attention)	Friday 17 th January	Children who overreact /are not maximising their potential. Understanding, sensing and changing disruptive behaviour . We are fortunate to have a very experienced retired educational psychologist co-presenting at this and several more sessions.
Sensory needs and Autism - can you have one without the other?	Friday 24 th January	WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SENSORY ISSUE, e.g. sight, hearing, touch, taste, smell, interoception, proprioception, balance, etc? Is my child over- or under-sensitive and how can you be both?
Is there an effective alternative to punishment? Which praise is effective in eliciting better behaviour?	Friday 31 st January	How can I control the children if I don't punish/ reward them? Strategies to gain compliance by connection rather than coercion/ bribery.
Resilience/self-esteem/anxiety	Friday 7 th February	As anxiety is at the root of so many behaviours, anyone wanting a greater understanding of these would benefit from attending.
How can I increase a child's thinking/remembering power?	Friday 14 th February	Discussions will include auditory processing / working memory / executive functioning . If your child is frustrating you, this could be the cause – come along and find out more!

☺ **NO CHARGE – REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED!**

☺ PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE OTHER TOPICS ☺

To book a place or ask for further information, please call 01395-263397 ext2 and leave a message if no answer.

Thank you.

