
Friday 11th February 2022

Shebbear Community School

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the many negative side effects of the pandemic has been a rise in the number of adults and children experiencing mental health difficulties. For many, the long periods of isolation have been tough, not least for many of our children who missed seeing their friends and were not able to enjoy things that two years ago we just took for granted. A prime example are birthdays. Children have missed the chance to celebrate these important milestones in the normal way. For many, these have been low key events so it's lovely to see some of the children enjoying their special days after missing out in the last 2 years.

Mindful of the wider aspects of well-being, we have been undertaking some additional activities this week to mark Children's Mental Health Week. Today, children wore a scarf into school as a reminder to keep a healthy mind as well as body. Earlier in the week, we gave the children a break time treat when they were all given a cupcake, lovingly made by Vikki in the kitchen. It certainly made for a happy break time for both children and staff, who enjoyed one too. Hopefully, this small gesture will have brightened everyone's day.

Thanks for the scarf donations. These will be sent to the children's mental health charity, Place2be. They have a great website with lots of good practical ideas to support children's mental health and well-being. The link to their site is here:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

We are always here to help in whichever way we can. Please let us know if you have concerns about your child's mental health. We may be able to offer advice, point you towards further support or just provide a listening ear. We wouldn't wish for anyone to suffer in silence.

Mr Alford



Upcoming Events

February 21

Half term week

March 3

World Book Day

March 21

Parent consultations this week

Learning Awards

Teddy – Max and Ewan

Panda – Pixie and Casey

Koala – Ollie and Tommy

Astor had most house points
this week



Other news this week

Safer Internet Day: On Tuesday we had a special assembly to mark Safer Internet Day. This is an annual event aimed at ensuring children and young people stay safe when online. Hopefully you will have seen the email I sent earlier in the week with some parental guides on some popular site amongst the children. These have been uploaded to our school website. We have a dedicated online safety page with lots of resources which can be found here: <http://www.shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk/safeguarding/online-safety/>

The Queen's Crown: We had great feedback on these following the church service last Sunday. Those attending really enjoyed looking at them and the creativity shown by the children. These have now been put into a display in the hall at school.

Year 1 and 2 Multi-skills: Pupils in Years 1 and 2 headed off to GTS this morning to take part in a multi skills festival. These sporting events have been another victim of the pandemic but hopefully things are getting back on track. Today the children had the chance to try out a range of activities, alongside children from other schools, in a fun way but while also developing their skills.

The school uses some of its Sports Premium funding to allow the children to take part in events at GTS. We recently took part in a football tournament and there are further events coming up including a dance festival.

School office next week: Just to let you know that the office will not be staffed on Monday or Thursday morning, although emails will be checked first thing. If, during the day, you need to let us know about collection arrangements etc. then please ring the school office and if your call isn't answered leave a message on the answering machine which will be checked regularly.

Half Term: Next Friday marks the start of half term and the school will be closed for the week commencing 21st February. I understand many parts of the country have half term next week which may mean everywhere is a little bit quieter by the time we are enjoying our break.

Useful Links

School Contact Details

Tel: 01409 281220

Email: admin@shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk

Website:
<http://www.shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk/>

Safeguarding: Any concerns should be reported to Mr Alford who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead. In his absence contact Mrs Gough or Mrs Evans.

Ofsted Parent View:
<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

Up-coming Term Dates:

Half Term is the week of the 21st February

The last day of term is Friday 8th April.

Summer term starts on Monday 25th April

May Bank Holiday is on Monday 2nd May

