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Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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# Shebbear Community School

## Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that the children have all settled back in to school after the Christmas break. It has certainly be nice to see them working hard in class.

On Tuesday afternoon we welcomed an ex-pupil in to school. Graeme Ackland attended the school in the mid 1970's. He is now a Professor in Physics at Edinburgh University. He spoke to Koala class about his time at the school and also gave them some input on their new science topic of forces. The conversation did veer off a little towards the children's fascination with black holes in space but it was certainly enlightening. It is great for the children to meet some of the people who have gone before them at the school. Similarly, I think it is always informative for the pupils to find out more about possible jobs they may wish to do in the future. Please do let me know if you would like to do the same. It would be great if we could set a few talks up in the coming months.

I had a lovely email from The Store homelessness project in Bideford and a letter from St Petrock's in Exeter to say thank you for the Christmas cards the children made at the end of term. The cards were well received and cheered everyone up. I shared this with the children as part of an assembly on both being kind to others but also showing gratitude when people help you or give you a gift. Doing kind and thoughtful things for others (particularly when self-initiated) are known to be good for your own mental well-being. It was clear from the responses that lots of children do this already which was lovely to hear.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Alford

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## Upcoming Events

### January 19

Football vs Shebbear College

### January 20

Census day menu

### March 21

Parent consultations this week

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## Learning Awards

Teddy – Jack and Sophie

Panda – Buster and Otto

Koala – Ella and Henry

We had a tie in the house point competition with Babbage and Christie both scoring an impressive 497 points.



# Other news this week

**Covid 19:** We continue to keep a close eye on the progress of the Omicron variant in Devon. To date, there have been no cases in the school community or, as far as I am aware, in the community. For now, we will maintain the class bubbles but review these at the end of next week. We may move to keeping the bubbles just within the school building but allow mixing outside at playtimes. As ever, it will be driven by case numbers in the community. The rules on isolating are changing again from Monday. Those with Covid can now return to school or work after five days of isolation following two negative LFD tests (completed on days 5 and 6 of the isolation). This link gives a good summary of the changes:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/self-isolation-for-those-with-covid-19-can-end-after-five-full-days-following-two-negative-lfd-tests>

**Dance Club:** This started yesterday and was great fun for those who took part. There are still some places available. It runs from 3.30pm to 4.30pm on a Thursday afternoon. Details from the school office.

**The 12 Reads of Christmas:** Well done to everyone who took part. Everyone who returned their book mark received a certificate. Mason and Sophie (both in Teddy class) were the winners of the draw and each won a voucher. Panda class had the highest proportion of children to complete the challenge.

Please see the attached poster for 'Reading in Extreme Places', which is our reading competition for this term to celebrate World Book Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**Governor Visit:** On Wednesday, we welcomed some of our school governors into school to watch lessons and speak to some of the children. They are able to use this information to report to the rest of the governing body about standards in the school.

**SATs Meeting:** Thanks to everyone who came along on Wednesday for the Y6 SATs meeting. I hope you found it useful and informative.

**Lunch Menu Change:** Next Thursday is the day when it really matters that all the children in Teddy have a school dinner if possible as our funding is directly determined by the number of children doing so. Dinner will be: sausages or cheese and tomato pizza with wedges, beans or veg followed by marble cake and custard.

## Useful Links

### School Contact Details

**Tel:** 01409 281220

**Email:** [admin@shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk](mailto: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.

### Up-coming Term Dates:

Half Term is the week of the 21<sup>st</sup> February

The last day of term is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Summer term starts on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April

May Bank Holiday is on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May