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Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

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# Shebbear Community School

## Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this, the children have just completed their rehearsal at Lake Chapel ahead of the carol service this afternoon. I am sure it will be an excellent occasion and a great way to start the Christmas holidays. The children and staff have worked really hard to put the service together and I am sure as parents and carers, you will be very proud of them all.



On Wednesday the children enjoyed a lovely Christmas lunch – many thanks to Vikki for cooking it and the staff who served it all up.

In the afternoon we had a visit from Father Christmas who distributed some presents to the children. The children were also able to watch a video clip sent in from the North Pole. Some of Santa's elves sent a message to the children – hopefully it will help to ensure that everyone remains nice between now and the big day.

Talking of presents, many thanks from all of the staff for the various gifts sent in this week. While we never expect them, it is always lovely to receive them and to think that you have taken the time and thought to buy us something in. It is very much appreciated.

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## Upcoming Events

### December 16

Christmas holidays  
start

### January 2

Non-pupil day

### January 3

Spring term starts

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### Award Winners this week

Teddy Class – Isaac,  
Sofia, Oakley, Sophie  
Panda – Fred and Max  
Koala – Sammy and Isla



Astor had the most  
house points and Drake  
topped the TT Rockstars  
table

Whole school  
attendance this term is  
95.6%

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All it remains for me to do is wish you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. The school opens again for the children on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

Have a lovely Christmas break.

Best wishes,  
Mr Alford  
Headteacher

## Other news this week

**Attendance:** The end of term attendance figures are as follows:

Teddy – 96.61%

Panda – 95.83%

Koala – 93.86%

There are currently 22 children across the school with 100% attendance and 32 who have no more than one day of absence this term. To give some context – and I do appreciate that illness is sometimes hard to avoid – the difference between the best and worst attenders in school this term equates to 16 days of absence. In other words, some children have had more than three school weeks of additional school than some of their peers.

**Christmas Reading Challenge:** The letters and book marks have gone out for our annual reading challenge. The aim is for the children to complete the 12 reads of Christmas over the holidays. Do check the rules on the accompanying sheet and we look forward to seeing lots of completed bookmarks.

### **Panda Swimming:**

Panda class are due to start their sessions on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

**Handball Club:** This will be starting after the Christmas holidays and run on a Friday after school – please book on via the School Money app or by emailing the school office.



## 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.

### Ofsted Parent View:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

### Latest Ofsted report:

<https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50188808>

### Up-coming Term Dates:

Term ends on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2.10pm

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 is a non-pupil day

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January is the first day of the spring term

Spring half term is the w/c 12<sup>th</sup> February

Spring term ends on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Full date list can be found here: <http://www.shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk/parents-carers/term-dates/>