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

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# Shebbear Community School

## Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all getting geared up for our trip to Paignton Zoo on Wednesday. Thank you for all of the contributions which will make the trip possible. As I think I have mentioned before, school trips have become increasingly expensive mainly as a result of the rising cost of coach companies. We are fortunate that Shebbear College continue to be generous in lending us one of their mini-buses meaning that we have a way to transport those children and adults who cannot fit on the main coach.

The children will need to be here promptly on Wednesday morning (8.40am) so will can hopefully leave on the dot of 9 o'clock. The children will need a packed lunch from home or to have ordered one from the kitchen. As part of this, do include a water bottle and bring a light back pack to put it all in. Because of the geography of the zoo, the children will need to carry their lunch with them. They will need to wear their school uniform but can wear trainers as there is a good amount of walking there. Finally, it looks like we won't be enjoying some of late summer sun we have had over the last week or so. Therefore, a light waterproof coat is a must.

It should be a great day out and is a lovely way to start the new school year. We should return to school at around 4pm but will update you if we are going to be late. After school club will go ahead as normal.

Many thanks to the SSSG for a donation which has helped to reduce the cost for everyone.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Alford  
Headteacher

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## Upcoming Events

### September 18

Koala swimming starts

### September 20

Paignton Zoo trip

### September 28

Author visits

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Awards were given this week to: Pixie and Rachel (Koala)  
Fred and Dexter (Panda)  
Ella, Sophie and Sofia (Teddy)

Astor had the most house points.

Whole school attendance this week is 100%

Whole school attendance since the start of term is 96.57%

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## Other news this week

**SOE3 Form:** Thanks to everyone who has returned these. If you have not, we please ask that you do so ASAP. Spare forms can be obtained from the office.

**Attendance:** I wrote about the importance of attendance last week and hopefully this information was useful including the how days of absence equate to the percentage figures. I have received lots of information this week from both Devon County Council and the Department for Education regarding what schools need to do in terms of raising attendance. I was certainly left in no doubt that this is an issue they really want to crack down on. I won't overwhelm you with information but I would strongly advise you to have a read of the document linked below. It is from the NHS and is called 'Is my child too ill for school?' <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

It is a really useful guide when having to make a decision on this. As you will see, in the majority of cases the guidance is that children can come into school for minor illnesses and even for some slightly for more serious ones. The time needed at home is generally minimal.

I am pleased to report that we have achieved 100% attendance this week across the school. Well done everyone.

Whole school attendance so far this term is 96.57%

The best attending class so far this term is Teddy on 98.62% followed by Panda on 97.37% and Koala 92.21%

**Y6 Bikeability:** Well done to all of the children who successfully completed the Bikeability training earlier this week. The instructor commented on what an excellent group of children they were and the high standard of their cycling.

**New Atlases:** The new set of atlases, which were donated by our departing Year 6 parents and carers, are being well used already. Here the Year 5 and 6 children are using them to locate countries as part of their learning on Scandinavia.



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## 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:

Autumn half term is the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Term ends on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

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

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