

---

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

---

# Shebbear Community School

## Newsletter

---

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have been busy this week undertaking assessments in class. We try to strike a good balance of not testing all of the time, while making sure we do it often enough so we can track their progress. The teachers are assessing the children all of the time through marking, questions in class etc. However, the more formal tests they have been doing this week allow us to see what children have learnt, and most importantly, remembered over a longer period.

The outcomes then allow us to see what we need to do next for each of the children and where any gaps in knowledge may exist.

Surprisingly, many of the children actually quite enjoy a test and it has certainly been lovely and calm this week as the children beaver away in silence. The teachers are now working their way through the children's answers to see how they got on.

There will be parent consultation meetings after half term at which you'll have the opportunity to discuss the outcomes. I'll let you know the dates next week.

Talking of half term, don't forget that the spring half term break is just a week away and starts at the end of school next Friday.

Best wishes,

Mr Alford  
Headteacher

---



## Upcoming Events

### February 12

Half term week

### February 19

School starts again

### February 20

Football team at GTS

---

Award Winners this week

Teddy Class –  
Charlotte, Isla,  
Caelan, Teddy and  
Poppy  
Koala – Reuben and  
Beau

Whole school  
attendance this year  
95.13%

---

## Other news this week

---

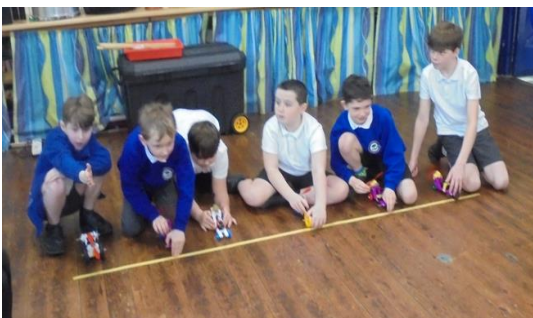
**Attendance:** For this week:

Teddy – 98.75%

Panda – 93.50%

Koala – 94.76%

**Wonderstruck:** The visit on Tuesday proved to be a great success and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Peter (the man from Wonderstruck) led a fantastic science show in the hall which included bottles filled with rocket fuel being launched across the hall, an experiment with a bed of nails and a sledgehammer, a jet engine and a balloon explosion that was rather louder and more spectacular than the type you get when you blow a bit too hard on one. The children then got to make a rocket of their own. They did this in small groups and then we all went on to the field to launch them. The team containing Isla (Y2), Ewan (Y4) and Barnaby (Y5) built the rocket that travelled the furthest. In the afternoon, children in KS2 built wind powered cars with the aim of who could produce the quickest one. After a tightly fought competition, the team containing Solomon (Y4), Beau (Y5) and Sammy (Y6) was the winner.



---

## 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:

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

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

Summer Term Starts on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

Bank Holiday on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Whitsun half term is the w/c 27<sup>th</sup> May

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

**Maintained Heads' Meeting:** As I mentioned last week, I attended a Devon heads' meeting on Monday. It was led by the chief executive of Devon County Council and the newly appointed head of education in the county. Some of the key areas Devon are focussing on are improving school attendance, reducing exclusions in school, looking at its SEND provision and improving outcomes for all pupils. None of these are particularly easy to achieve but as a school head, it was good to see there was a recognition that things could be better across the county and I felt there was a genuine determination to improve in the coming months and years.

**Uniform Orders:** Please ensure that any uniform orders are submitted to the office by next Wednesday (7<sup>th</sup> February). There will be no further orders after this until Easter.

**Art Club:** There are a couple of places still available for this KS2 only club on Mondays after school, which will start immediately after half term. Please check with the office if you need more details.

**Koala Class Visit to Bodmin Jail:** A reminder that on Wednesday after half term Koala Class are hoping to visiting Bodmin Jail as long as we receive enough parental donations. A decision about this will be made early next week. Thank you to those who have already made a donation.

**Panda Class Swimming:** Also, a reminder that Panda Class will continue to go swimming after half term – thank you to those who have made a voluntary donation via the app, your support is very much appreciated.