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Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

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# Shebbear Community School

## Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

In spite of the weather, we had a lovely trip to Paignton Zoo on Wednesday. The children were incredibly stoic and I'm not aware that anybody complained about the dreadful conditions (Shebbear kids are made of strong stuff and won't let a bit of rain get in the way).

While some of the animals were doing the sensible thing and hiding inside, there was still plenty to see with a highlight for many being the baby orangutan who was learning to climb under the watchful eye of his mum. The children were fascinated to see how he kept on trying despite not finding it easy at first – I guess it's a good maxim for learning in school!

The zoo were very accommodating and changed our planned workshop to be an indoor activity where the children were able to handle a range of artefacts including bones, skeletons and animal skins. I can confirm that a crocodile's teeth really are very sharp judging by the skull that we were able to touch.

Our initial plan to have lunch in the picnic area was scuppered, but the zoo kindly provided a nice indoor space and allowed a break from the rain.

Unusually for a school trip, we returned exactly on time at 4pm and I imagine everyone was happy to get home and change into some dry clothes.

Thanks for all of your contributions to allow the trip to go ahead as well as the donation from the SSSG and all the adults who took part.

Mr Alford  
Headteacher

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## Upcoming Events

**September 28**

Author Visits

**October 4**

Harvest Festival

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Awards were given this week to:

Teddy Class – Mabel, Ella and Liam

Panda Class – Darcie and Max

Koala Class – Hannah and Sammy



Christie had the most house points

TT Rockstars was won by Astor

Whole school attendance this week is 97.41%

Whole school attendance since the start of term is 96.57%

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## Other news this week

**Attendance:** Panda class had the best attendance this week with 98.58% followed by Teddy on 98.26% and Koala 95.10%. Attendance for the whole school from the start of term is 97.39%

**After School Football Club:** Apologies to all of those who were due to do football after school. We have been really let down by the provider and have now terminated the contract with them. We are seeking an alternative and will update you as soon as possible.

**Harvest Festival:** This will take place in school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October starting at 9.15am. All parents/carers are welcome to attend. We will be happy to take donations of canned/packet foods which we will pass on to a local foodbank.

**Open Days:** We are running two open days for parents/carers who have children due to start school in September 2024. These take place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> both with a 9.30am start. If you know someone who may be looking for a school place for next year (or sooner) please do let them know. Places can be booked via the school office.

**Other events coming up:**

Our author visits take place next Thursday as part of the Appledore Book Festival. Copies of the books are available to buy in advance.  
Panda class have a multi-skills session coming up at GTS on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October – more details to follow  
Torrington Library has a Fun Palaces event coming up on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Please see attached poster for more details.



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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/>