
Friday 26th January 2024

Shebbear Community School

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Tuesday we will be welcoming 'Wonderstruck' into school. They provide presentations and workshops for schools to encourage children's interest in science.

They will be doing a whole school science show on Tuesday morning which I know the children will really enjoy. This will be followed by some workshops which will be undertaken in small groups from across the school (younger and older pupils working together).

Just before lunch the children will be launching rockets on the field and the Key Stage 2 children will be designing and making fan powered cars with a final competition near the end of the day.

It should be a fantastic day and I am sure the children will enjoy it. Hopefully they will feel inspired so you may want to have a look at these STEM resources for activities that can be done at home: <https://www.stem.org.uk/news-and-views/opinions/simple-stem-activities-do-home>

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,
Mr Alford
Headteacher



Upcoming Events

January 30

Wonderstruck Science Day

February 12

Half term week

February 19

School starts again



Award Winners this week

Teddy Class – Mabel, Liam and Macsen (Ella from last week)

Panda – Remi and Solomon

Koala – Sammy and Casey

Babbage and Christie tied for the most house points

Whole school attendance this year 95.09%

Other news this week

Attendance: For this week:

Teddy – 96.88%

Panda – 94.00%

Koala – 89.52%

Local Authority Advisor Visit: On Wednesday, we had a planned visit from our local authority advisor Julie Stevens. She spent the whole day in school looking, in particular, at the teaching of phonics and mathematics. These were both targets from our last Ofsted inspection in May 2022. She was pleased with the progress the school has made on the specific targets identified by Ofsted.

As well as watching phonics being taught, she heard some children read and talked to staff about their work. Similarly, she spent time in all classes, including Reception, to see how mathematics is taught across the school and how we use assessment to support children improve and how we challenge children, not least our most able mathematicians.

Mrs Stevens met with our School Council and asked them a range of questions about what it is like being a pupil at Shebbear, their safety and well-being as well as the support they get in their learning.

There was also an opportunity to discuss future school priorities as well as meeting some of our school governors.

It was a very positive visit and we were all pleased with the feedback we received. Well done and thanks to all of the staff and children for their continued hard work to make the school as good as we possibly can.

Maintained Heads' Meeting: On Monday I will be attending a meeting in Exeter of headteachers across Devon to discuss the future of education in the county. The CEO of Devon County

Useful Links

School Contact Details

Tel: 01409 281220

Email: 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 12th February

Spring term ends on Thursday 28th March

Summer Term Starts on Monday 15th April

Bank Holiday on Monday 6th May

Whitsun half term is the w/c 27th May

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

Council (Donna Manson) and the new head of Devon education (Ceri Morgan) will be in attendance. As you will know, a number of schools in our local area have taken the decision to join a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) over the last few years. Shebbear and its governors remain committed to staying as a maintained school and the meeting on Monday will be discussing how Devon County will continue to support schools like ours so that we can maintain our independence outside of a MAT.

Uniform Orders: Please ensure that any uniform orders are submitted to the office by the end of this half term (9th February). There will be no further orders after this time, until Easter.

Art Club: I am pleased to let you know that Mrs Shadrack has kindly agreed to run another Art Club after half term. It will run on Mondays until 4.30 p.m. after school and will be open to pupils in KS2. Look out for a letter with further details.

Dogs on the Playground: Just another reminder that dogs are not allowed on the playground before or after school (or during it for that matter) with the obvious exception of assistance dogs. It is a pretty standard rule in most schools and certainly all the ones I have worked in. While I am sure all of the dogs would be well behaved, it does only take one to bite a child, not least as children can be drawn towards petting one of our four legged friends and it can be a little overwhelming for some. Can I please ask that if grandparents (or other family members/friends) are collecting, that you let them know too?

Keyboard: One of our ex-families has a keyboard that is free to a good home. Please let the office know if you would like it.