
Friday 26th November 2021

Shebbear Community School

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another very disruptive week with further cases of Covid and many children not able to attend school. At one point, we had over 60% of pupils off school although many were able to remote in for live sessions with their teacher. I doubt any of us could have imagined two years ago that children would be accessing their learning in this way or that teachers would be able to deliver lessons from home (as Mrs Gough has been doing until her return on Wednesday).

It is important that pupils who are at home try to attend the online sessions (if they are well enough to do so). If you are struggling with the live lessons, do let us know and alternatives can be provided.

Remember, there are some great pre-recorded lessons, for all ages, on the Oak National Academy website:

<https://www.thenational.academy/> Teachers have also been setting lessons from here. The site is very easy to navigate and you can find lessons on most learning areas that are age appropriate.

All being well, we should be back to a full complement of staff by Monday. Case numbers have slowed over the last couple of days and we now have far more returning pupils who have completed their period of isolation. Hopefully this will continue next week.

Clearly we need to proceed with caution and I thank everyone for the continued mask wearing and the children for their hand washing, sanitising and working in well ventilated classroom which can be a bit chilly as a result.

Testing continues to be the most effective way to monitor new infections and I would ask that everyone continues to do regular LFD testing and carry out a PCR promptly, if needed.



Upcoming Events

December 14

Theatre Trip

December 15

Christmas lunch, parties
and fair

December 17

Carol Service

Learning Awards

None this week

House point winners were
Astor

This outbreak has meant that certain events such as the Christmas fair have had to be adapted and moved from its original date – please see below for details.

To add to everything else, it looks like we have storm Arwen heading our way this weekend bringing strong winds and maybe even snow! It could be a weekend to lock the door, get the fire going and put a Christmas movie on the TV!

Best wishes,

Mr Alford

Other news this week

Christmas Fair: The SSSG Christmas fair planned for next Friday (3rd) has been cancelled as a result of the current situation. The Big Breakfast, planned for the following Friday (10th) has also been postponed but will hopefully take place in the New Year.

There will be a scaled down Christmas fair on Wednesday 15th December. It will be on the playground after school with more details to follow.

The Christmas draw will take place next Friday evening at 7pm. It will be drawn live via the Zoom link below. Hopefully you'll be able to join us.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84820480035?pwd=UkFCRDNXQisrYk4vcU81VmdTOUVFdz09>

Meeting ID: 848 2048 0035

Passcode: Qxe1Rv

Do please buy some raffle tickets in the meantime. It has been a really tough couple of years for the SSSG in terms of fundraising with this year's Christmas fair being the latest blow. Hopefully everyone will get behind this and the alternative Christmas fair.

Christmas Production: This has been a bit of a challenge with some many children off and the logistics of social distancing. We are keen for it to go ahead if possible as everyone is so mindful of how much the children have missed over the last couple of years. The current plan is to assess the numbers at the start of next week and decide from there. There is some scope to move the planned performance dates back and we are looking at all options of how we can perform

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.

Up-coming Term Dates:

Last day of the Autumn term is Friday 17th December

Non-pupil day on Tuesday 4th January 2022

Spring Term starts on Wednesday 5th January

it safely in front of an audience. I will hopefully be able to update you further early next week.

I am hopeful that the planned theatre trip on the 14th December can go ahead along with the service at Lake Chapel on the last day of term although we may need to consider restricting attendance. As ever, I will keep you updated.

Art Club: Sadly, no art club on Monday again but hopefully we will start again the following Monday and we will catch up with the missed sessions in the New Year.

Saints South West: Sadly, Mrs Miali (our sports coach from Saints South West) has got a new job so last week was her final session at Shebbear. They have been able to send a replacement today but this will be the final session until the new-year when Mrs Miali's replacement takes up the post. PE Friday will continue with class teachers but there will be no after school football club until January. I am sure SSW will contact you with refund details.

Book Fair: Thanks to everyone who has supported the book fair this week including some of you from home.

Charity Shoe Boxes: Thanks for the shoeboxes that have already been returned. If not, we have extended the deadline further to Friday 3rd December. The Rotary Club website has some useful information on suggested items for the boxes: <https://www.rotaryshoebox.org/suggested-box-contents/>

Change of Menu: On Tuesday 7th December the menu will now be: Chicken burger or veggie hot dog with skinny fries followed by chocolate mousse and strawberry milkshake.

Website and Emails: We have had a few issues with our school website which has necessitated updating the ip address. This has also affected some emails coming into school which seem to have disappeared into the ether. If you have sent something recently and had no reply, do let us know.