
Friday 29th April 2022

Shebbear Community School

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to everyone after the Easter holidays. I hope you had a lovely break and were able to enjoy some family time together. This school year seems to be racing by. We now have a very short half term (just five weeks including a bank holiday next Monday) and then we are into the final furlong before the summer holidays.

There is still lots to fit in, so it should be a busy, but hopefully enjoyable, summer term.

One job I did earlier this week was look at attendance across the school. I am pleased to report that all three classes have improved their attendance. Teddy class has the highest attendance at 93% while Koala have had the best improvement (up by 3.88%).

While we are moving in the right direction, our overall school attendance is still low at 91.7%. This figure may sound high – over 90% in an exam would be a great outcome – but this is well below the DfE expectation of 96% and our school attendance last year of 98%.

To give some context 90% attendance is equivalent to half a day a week off school while 80% is equal to a day a week. The cumulative effect of this over time can have a very negative impact on the children's learning not least when so much time has been lost already over the last two years.

Clearly the Covid outbreak in November has had the biggest impact and our school is not alone in having lower than usual attendance levels this year.

However, I would ask that we all endeavor to push this figure up higher before the end of the summer term. With better weather and hopefully fewer bugs around, I still think we can get close to somewhere around 95% by the end of the school year.



Upcoming Events

May 2

Bank Holiday

May 3

Panda class cricket at SC
(Koala on the 5th)

May 9

KS2 SATs start

Learning Awards

These will start again next week.

One of the reasons why attendance in the last school year was so high, was the absence of term time holidays as a result of travel restrictions. These are back with a bang this year and while I am trying to sympathetic where possible (particularly where children have good attendance and efforts are made to minimise the time out of school) I would ask that these are avoided where possible.

Don't forget that we have the long weekend coming up in June. School will be closed for a non-pupil day on Monday 20th June and we have the extra day for the Queen's jubilee on Tuesday 21st. Adding in the preceding weekend, there may be an opportunity to book a short break somewhere without having to worry about missing school.

On a positive note, all of the children are in school today.

In the meantime, this coming Monday is a bank holiday, the weather looks fairly decent so I hope you all have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday.

Mr Alford

Other news this week

Cricket at Shebbear College: Children in Panda and Koala classes will be having an afternoon of cricket up at Shebbear College next week. On Tuesday it will be Panda class and Thursday Koala. On both days, all of the children in the respective classes will attend and the children should be back in time for the end of school. On their day, the children can wear their PE kit into school but must wear either a school hoody or school sweatshirt on top.

Lunch Update: Next Wednesday (4th May) the roast will be pork and not chicken as advertised.

Swimming for Years 1 and 2: Don't forget that swimming for Years 1 and 2 will start again on Tuesday morning (change of time for this term). Therefore, they will need their kit first thing and it may save time to send them into school with their swimming costume on underneath their uniform especially as they will be going first thing (don't forget to put some underwear in their bags to change back in to). Thanks to everyone who has paid for these sessions, if you have not, could we please have these on Tuesday?

Clubs: Multi Skills Club started on Tuesday afternoon and looked to be great fun. Football club starts again after school today albeit

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>

Up-coming Term Dates:

May Bank Holiday is on Monday 2nd May

Half term is the week commencing 30th May

The school is closed for a non-pupil day and the extra day for the Queen's Jubilee on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st June

The last day of the summer term is Friday 22nd July

The autumn term starts on Monday 5th September

with a new coach (Ross) who will also be running our Friday afternoon PE sessions for each class in the coming weeks.

Extended School Provision: You may recall the recent parent survey. One of the questions was around the school potentially providing extended provision for those parents and carers who needed it. This would be in the form of a before and/or after school club. I have started to look at the responses in more detail. The two biggest challenges to us as a school will be staffing and also sustainability, in particular, will there be sufficient numbers to cover the costs each day? If you do have any further thoughts on this, do feel free to speak or email me at admin@shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk I am keen to move this forward one way or the other so parents and carers know what will be in place for September.

Shebbear College Spring Fete: On this coming Bank Holiday Monday, our friends up at Shebbear College are having a Spring Fete starting at 2pm. There will be various stalls and games as well as a fun dog show. Everyone is welcome to attend.



The Friends of SHEBBEAR COLLEGE

SHEBBEAR COLLEGE SPRING FETE
FUN DOG SHOW

MONDAY 2ND MAY 2022 @ 2.30PM

ALL WELCOME
BRING YOUR DOG!



1. Dog most like its owner
2. Best rescue/rehome
3. Prettiest Bitch
4. Most Handsome Dog
5. Best Young Handler (11 years and under)
6. Dog with the waggiest tail

£150 per class. Rosettes 1st - 6th Place.

Proceeds in aid of Devon Mind



Dogs to be kept on leads at all times.
Please clear up after your dog.
Water will be available for the dogs.