



Shirley Infant School

Newsletter 2 - 20th October 2023

DCSF: 852/2426

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DIARY DATES

OCT

Friday 20th

23rd - 27th
Monday 30th

**School closes at 3.10pm for
October Half Term**
HALF TERM 1 week
**School re-opens at 8.40am for
Autumn 2**

NOV

Wednesday 1st
Friday 3rd
Tuesday 7th
Thursday 9th
Thursday 9th
Thursday 16th
Monday 27th

Flu Immunisations
FOSIS Fireworks 5-7pm
Parents Evening
Year 1 Zoolab - on site
Year 2 Seacity Trip - off site
Parents Evening
Year R Heights & Weights check
Year 2 Titanic Dress-up Day

DEC

Friday 1st
Monday 4th
Friday 15th

Year 2 Cinderella off site
Year 2 Spelling Quiz
**School closes at 3.10pm for
the Christmas Holidays**

Dear Families,



We continue to be extremely proud of our children and how they are growing in the values of the school. They have had to deal with many routine changes this half term due to the scaffolding and they have truly coped amazingly, especially when a route has had to change very quickly. We are pleased to share that Phase 1 of the roof has been completed and we are now waiting a date for Phase 2 of the roof.

We have had some fabulous celebration events over the past two weeks. Year R proudly showed off their roarsome dinosaurs and the label writing of their dinosaurs name. Year 1 & Year 2 showed off their fabulous stories and how they are working hard to remember the school's 'an elephant never forgets' writing must-haves (non-negotiables).

We would like to echo the support from FOSIS for the Elibrary we have implemented this year for Year One reading at home. In our letter last year, we shared that if the books are not returned this would affect the whole reading scheme and we may have to implement the Elibrary should this happen. The Little Wandle scheme works on the basis that the children read a book in groups of around 6 in class, three times per week, and that same book goes home with the children so that they can confidently and fluently read to you at home. A substantial number of books haven't been returned, which means the next group doesn't have enough for home reading. With the amount that have been lost or damaged we have had to find an alternative solution such as online books. The books, as they are bought in complete sets, are extremely expensive with over £5k (£3k from FOSIS / £2k from school budget) spent on the scheme last year. The school's budget for this year for Little Wandle is assigned to books needed for Year 2 to begin the scheme, so won't stretch to purchasing replacements of existing sets for Year 1. This means we have had to look at the Elibrary to enable children to read at home and continue the validity of the phonics scheme. We are not allowed to send home different books hence the electronic books. We want our children to love and hold and share a book. They are getting this much more in school now and we have library books to share. The E books are currently not a long term solution, however should these books continue to be lost we can not financially, year on year, continue to replace them. FOSIS have come up with the idea of an amnesty for over half term. If you find one at home you can pop it into the box in the office round the corner of the entrance door.

We hope you have a fabulous half term break.

Mrs Gregory and The Shirley Infant Team

KINDNESS INTEGRITY RESPECT

FOSIS

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the FOSIS team last year. They have agreed to stand again and they were voted in at our AGM last week. We are so grateful for all of the support and kindness they have shown the children and community. We are looking forward to another great year



TRANSFER TO JUNIOR SCHOOL



Parents of children in Year 2 are currently making applications for junior school places.

The nearest junior schools to Shirley Infants are:

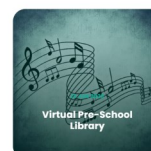
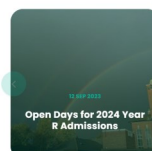
SHIRLEY JUNIOR SCHOOL
HOLLYBROOK JUNIOR SCHOOL
FAIRISLE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Please be aware that **Wordsworth is a primary school**, therefore you are not able to choose this as one of your options when applying for a Year 3 place.

ADMISSIONS 2023-2024

If you are considering our school for your child's sibling or know someone in the community who is considering our school for their child, please visit <https://www.shirleyinfantschool.org.uk/key-information/admissions> for more information on the admissions process and a video about the school. Open Day information and a booking link is available at the bottom of the website homepage.

Latest News



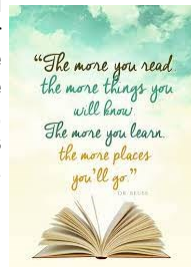
ECO COUNCIL

We are also very proud of our Deputy School Council members. They will be our Eco Warriors and they will work on improving, reducing, reusing and recycling systems so that we all do our part to keep our planet healthy!



READING CHALLENGE

Your child will be coming home with a reading challenge, we would love for them to read and share as many of these books as possible. We have most of the texts in school for the children to read in their weekly love of reading sessions or they can look out for them in the library. You might also like to visit your local library and find some there. If you choose to take part in the reading challenge, please hand it into Mrs Watts when you have completed it. Happy reading!



SCHOOL COUNCIL



This week we held our School Council elections. The children experienced a proper election with voting slips, sealed boxes and mini-booths to vote in their new school council representatives. The whole school really enjoyed this experience of real life democracy.

We would like to congratulate our newly voted in School Council for 2023. They will be supporting Mrs Watts to lead initiatives and evaluate how effectively our school runs so that Shirley Infants is the best school it can possibly be!



Saturday 9th December at 11 am

Shirley Infant School Choir will be singing their Christmas songs at Southampton City Farm's Christmas Fayre.

Further details will be sent out in a letter at the beginning of November but please keep the date free if your child is interested in performing.

The choir is open to any child from Years 1 and 2. If your child has not tried our Friday lunchtime choir yet and would like to, it's not too late to join!



28th & 30th November 2023 Parents Evenings

Our parents evening meetings will take place over 2 evenings and be face to face with the class teacher. Appointments will be bookable using the My Child At School App/Website. You may have noticed in the App that the 'Parents Evening' tab is now highlighted. You will receive an notification this evening once bookings have opened.

To book:

Log into the MCAS Parent App and from the Menu select Parents Evening. This will show a list of those available to you. Select the one you wish to Book and click the Book button. Then select the Time and click the Book button. A message will be displayed Evening booked successfully, click OK. The selected Appointment will now display as booked, with the selected Time, you can Cancel it by clicking the Cancel button.

Full information on how to book can be found at:

<https://docs.bromcom.com/knowledge-base/how-to-book-parents-evening-appointments-using-mcas/>

If you need any assistance with using the MCAS App/Website please ask a member of the office team.

Fireworks tickets go on general sale on **Sunday 22 October at 6pm** and will be available here - [SJS PTFA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](https://www.pta-events.co.uk).

Please note we are expecting tickets to sell out fast!



WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS CURRENTLY 97.6%



Data not currently applicable for Year R



95.6%



96.5%



97.4%



97.6%



97.7%



99.0%