



Shirley Schools



Weekly Communication

To contact any member of staff, please email office@shirleyschools.co.uk marked for the attention of the member of staff and your email will be forwarded.

Dear Parents and Carers,



THANK YOU!
thank you!

Thank you to all the parents and children who have brought Christmas gifts for all of the teachers, TA's and office staff, this is very much appreciated. Thank you again

COVID 19 GUIDANCE

Please follow the guidance below regarding Covid 19

- ◇ If your child displays any Covid symptoms please take them for a PCR test and inform the school.
- ◇ If a parent or carer tests positive on a lateral flow or PCR test, but your child is negative, your child can still come to school.
- ◇ If a child tests positive from a PCR test, please inform the school and keep your child home for the isolation period.

Dates for your Diary

Shirley Infant School

December

Saturday 11th FOSIS Breakfast with Santa
 Tuesday 14th Year 1 Christmas Party (am)
 Wednesday 15th Year 2 Christmas Party (am)
 Wednesday 15th Year R Teddy Bear Hospital
 Thursday 16th Year R Christmas Party (pm)
 Friday 17th School Pyjama Day—No donation
Friday 17th Last day of Autumn 2—School closes at 3.10pm for Christmas Break

January

Tuesday 4th School re-opens at 8.45am
 Tuesday 11th FOSIS Bags2School
 Wednesday 12th Year 1 Fire Visit

Shirley Junior School

December

Saturday 11th PTA Breakfast with Santa
 Monday 13th Year 5 Anglo Saxon dress up day
 Wednesday 15th Year 5 Lemming Swimming Lessons
 Wednesday 15th Year 3&4 Carol Singing
 3.10pm - 3.40pm on Playground
 Thursday 16th Year 5&6 Carol Singing
 3.10pm - 3.40pm on Playground
 Friday 17th Christingle Service for children only
 Friday 17th Collect children 2.30pm Choir Concert in playground with mince pies for parents

Friday 17th Last day of Autumn 2—School closes at 3.20pm for Christmas Break

January

Tuesday 4th School re-opens at 8.45am
 Thursday 6th Year 5 Minstead Parents Evening 5pm
 TBC virtual or hall
 Tuesday 11th PTA Bags2School
 Wednesday 12th Year 5 Tundra Wolf Swimming Lessons
 Wednesday 12th Young Voices Concert 02 Arena
 Wednesday 19th Year 5 Tundra Wolf Swimming Lessons

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Unfortunately in the **Infant School** we are unable to hand out Christmas cards this year due to the current restrictions

Junior School can bring in Christmas Cards but only for their own year group, there will be a box in each year group corridor.



Junior Parent Forum Outcomes – Autumn Term 2021/22

You said... we did - here are the outcomes from the most recent parent forum

Action	Outcome
Ask office to preface messages and emails with SIS or SJS	The office staff will endeavour to do this going forwards
Discuss the possibility of notifying parents when there are 3 cases in a class so they can take protective measures at home	Both schools happy to do this, it has now been added into the 'responding to positive cases' section of our Covid Risk Assessment
Add in to the risk assessment to encourage parents to use LFT with children in a class when 5 or more cases	This has been added in as a step in the risk assessment at the point where we reach 5 or more positive cases in a class within 10 days.
Communicate more specifically the parental help needed so parents have more information	We requested help with photocopying last week, which was gratefully received, and are about to share further details with parents about listening to children read in school, with a training session for those who can help.
Share photos from Y6 Little Canada residential on the website	We apologise for the hold up with this – it was due to waiting to have an updated media register so we knew whose photos we could share – this has now been procured so photos can appear on the website soon.
Find out about translating the recent parental engagement survey into other languages so it is more widely accessible	We have compiled a full list of families with home languages that are not English and are in the process of finding out which of these families cannot easily read written English. Once we have this information, the next step is to see if we have any parents who would be willing to translate the questions into the languages needed for us.

INFANTS CHRISTMAS PARTIES

We ask that the children are in school uniform but can wear a festive hat or headband for the day. Please could we ask for your child to bring in a £1 contribution to the party by Friday 10th December.

Year R Thursday 16th December

Year 1 Tuesday 14th December

Year 2 Wednesday 15th December

Juniors Carol singing & Christingle

Due to Covid restrictions our Christmas events will be different again this year.

On Wednesday 15th December we would like to invite all Lower School (Yr 3 and 4) parents to Carol singing on the playground and Upper School parents on Thursday 16th December. This event will run from 3:10pm - 3:40pm on both days.



Please bring hats, scarfs, mittens and wear your Christmas jumper to keep warm.

The children only (sorry no parents) will attend a Christingle service on Friday 17th December.

On our return at 2:30pm, you are all invited to come to the school playground where we will be holding a choir concert and offering mince pies. Children may also be collected at this time if you wish.

Please find below links to some really useful parent/carer videos for families/carers who are supporting CYP with ADHD and Autism.

1. Animations that have been made by a parent/carer charity in West Sussex in association with a small film company. Thanks to funding from West Sussex County Council, Reaching Families have designed a number of animations on various issues related to children with SEND. Views of their animations have been significantly greater than views of their factsheets and CYP/carer feedback is that they were much preferred.

<https://www.reachingfamilies.org.uk/animations.html>

2. New animation series on YouTube from Oxfordshire Health Foundation Trust (second link is the series via YouTube)

How do I help? Animation series launched for parents and families of neurodiverse children and young people - Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/news/how-do-i-help-animation-series-launched-for-parents-and-families-of-neurodiverse-children-and-young-people/>

A parents' guide to supporting children and young people: ADHD and autism -

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKw7kjGJdcXCiene7r3m8qYSN2T8Vxb1K>

Advice for parents and carers from CEOP - Keeping children safe online over the break

Lots of us will continue to rely on technology over the winter break, for entertainment and keeping in touch with friends and family.

The following articles will help parents and carers keep their children safer online:

[A parent's guide to privacy settings](#)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/a-parents-guide-to-privacy-settings/>

[Gaming: what parents and carers need to know](#)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

[What is the Internet of Things \(IoT\)?](#)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-the-internet-of-things-iot/>

FACE COVERINGS

We politely request that we all return to wearing face masks at drop off and pick up times in both schools.

We know wearing a face mask out side is not compulsory but we would like to protect our community.

Thank you for your understanding.



SOUTHAMPTON MUSIC SERVICE

Please note that Southampton Music Services have an INSET day on Wednesday 15th December, therefore no music lessons will take place that day.



COLD WEATHER WARNING

As we are now into cold weather season and temperature's are dropping and our classrooms are well ventilated, children are allowed to wear extra layers underneath their uniform.

This is the same for January and February

For example:

Thermal or long sleeved white or black tops under polo shirts.



Seeking parents who could translate for us



We have a survey we would like translated into Polish. Is there anyone who could offer their services? Please contact the office if so.



Travel and Parking Newsletter

December 2021



Road closure

The road closure operates for a short time in the mornings and afternoons, to keep the road safer for children and parents arriving at and leaving school.



At the moment, there are not enough volunteers to operate it on a Thursday or Friday afternoon, so it's important that children know to be careful at those times.

If you are able to offer time to support the road closure, please email the school.

Travelling to school

We encourage children to walk, scoot or cycle to school, for the whole journey or part of the journey.



If children scoot or cycle to school, their bikes and scooters can be left in a locked bike shed during the day.



Don't forget helmets, for safety!



Parking near the school

The roads around the school, including Shayer Road and Morland Road, are now permit parking only, which means it is illegal for parents and carers to park in these roads even to drop their children off. In addition to this, the road closure in place means that parents should not be accessing these roads at school drop off or pick up time, even when the closure is not marshalled.



The map shows the nearby roads with parking spaces.

We also have permission from The Range and Pets At Home to use their car parks for a short time in order to drop off or pick up children.

We take the safety of our children seriously, and will report any driver parking illegally, or not respecting the road closure.

FOSIS/PTFA

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA, SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER – TICKETS STILL LEFT



Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a visit from the big man, so come and join us at the Junior School on **Saturday 11 December 2021**.

We still have tickets for the 9am and 11am sittings, each sitting is 45 mins. Tickets are **£4 each** (every attendee needs one) and include bacon/sausage/veggie roll, unlimited tea/coffee/juice, activities on the table and a chance to chat with Santa himself.

Numbers are restricted due to social distancing and doors will be kept open to allow air flow, so imagine it's the North Pole and wrap up warm! Don't forget your reusable cups too!

Purchase tickets here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosis/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=44327#.YafdshrP3IU>

BUY YOUR SCHOOL A PRESENT THIS CHRISTMAS!



At this seasonal time of year it's always nice to give something back. As we all know schools are chronically underfunded so aren't able to spend on some of the resources that would really add value to our children's education. If you feel able to help then please have a look at the school's Amazon wish lists and see if you could gift them something useful this year. Remember if you shop through AmazonSmile, the school will receive a percentage from your purchase! Thank you!

[Juniors Wish List](#) – remember to choose Shirley Junior School PTA through AmazonSmile

[Infants Wish List](#) – remember to choose Friends of Shirley Infant School through AmazonSmile

THANK YOU...



DON'T FORGET ...



Our school lottery raises money directly for the **Junior School**. Every week there is a guaranteed cash prize for someone from the school. This prize money goes up the more tickets we sell. You are also automatically entered into the national draw where you could win £25,000! The tickets cost just £1 each week.

Sign up here: <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/shirley-junior-school>



If you are **shopping online**, please click on these links first. They then donate to the school at **NO EXTRA COST TO YOU**. Amazon = <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>
Infants – choose Friends of Shirley Infant School
Juniors - choose Shirley Junior School PTA

Online shopping from bread to bathrooms, use Easyfundraising, sign up here:
[Infants – Friends of Shirley Infants – Southampton](#)
[Juniors – Shirley Junior School PTFA – Southampton](#)

STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED...

On Facebook through the private year groups – please remember that these groups are managed by parents and not run by the school:

Infants

- Year 2 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/172919936937823>
- Year 1 Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/849370902208557>
- Year R Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/774368666506974>

Juniors

- Parents of Year 6 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1601794303401012>
- Parents of Year 5 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1716707195249069>
- Parents of Year 4 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/649407131910961>
- Parents of Year 3 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/137311320449399>

Through your class reps (see list below) and WhatsApp groups:

Infants

- Woodpeckers - Gayle Doulton and Jo James
- Badgers - Tracey Ward and Natalie Formstone
- Foxes - Katy Durston and Colette Thorp
- Owls - Lisa Witt and Lisa Longhurst
- Rabbits - Gemma Gore and Kerrie Read
- Moles - Maria Dimech and Tabytha Greenhalgh
- Hedgehogs - Sarah Willcocks and Gill McCann
- Squirrels - Sarah Scott and Hilary Rebecca
- Otters – Zoe Konn and Sarah Whicher

Juniors

A complete list of class reps for Juniors can be on website

Community Information

Offer for **Horrible Histories – Barmy Britain**, which might be of interest to your families.

Find out more about the show:

We all want to meet people from history. The trouble is everyone is dead! So it's time to prepare yourselves for this very special production of Horrible Histories live on stage!

Can you beat battling Boudicca? Would you be a martyr for the Magna Carta? Will you lose your heart or head to horrible Henry VIII? Will Parliament survive gunpowder Guy? Dare you stand and deliver to dastardly Dick Turpin? Escape the clutches of Burke and Hare and move to the groove with party Queen Victoria!

It's the horrible history of Britain with the nasty bits left in – to entertain the whole family this December.

<https://www.mayflowerstudios.org.uk/what-s-on/horrible-histories-barmy-britain-2021/>

Key info:

- **Saturday 11th December at 10.30am**
- Venue: **MAST Mayflower Studios**, 142 - 144 Above Bar Street, Southampton, Hampshire, SO14 7DU
- Approx. length of performance: 1 hour 10 mins (no interval)
- Recommended age 5+
- Please note that tickets are first come first serve and not bookable via website or box office

Accessibility information: <https://www.mayflowerstudios.org.uk/visit-us/accessibility>

Getting here info: <https://www.mayflowerstudios.org.uk/visit-us/getting-here>

Interested?

Please ask those who are interested to email gemma.bell@mayflower.org.uk with their names and number of tickets **before 3pm Friday 10th December**.

Please note, following the latest government guidance we are delighted that the shows will continue. All audience members over the age of 11 are required to wear face coverings, unless exempt. In line with government guidance this is the only change of protocol, our existing measures will continue which include:

- During your visit we ask you to keep movement around the theatre to a minimum.
- Toilets are open for use throughout the performance. Please wash your hands before and after using the toilet facilities.
- Hand sanitiser will be available for your use at various points around the theatre building.
- Enhanced cleaning will take place throughout the venue before, during and after the performance.
- Our air handling units are fed by filtered fresh air. Used air is extracted to the outside and is not recirculated. Filters are changed as part of regular, routine maintenance and we have full control over the air system throughout the theatre via our building management system. You may want to bring/wear an extra layer in case you feel cold.
- You do not need a vaccine passport to visit our theatre as we are a seated venue.

You can find out more on the FAQ page of our website: <https://www.mayflowerstudios.org.uk/visit-us/faqs>