



# Shirley Infant School Weekly Communications

**KINDNESS.  
RESPECT.  
INTEGRITY.**

**Friday 11th October 2024**

## **Head Teacher Message**

Dear families,

This week held World Mental Health Day (10 October) which was an opportunity to raise awareness of mental health, how to look after it and where to go for help if you are struggling. We support children with thinking about having a healthy mind and sharing worries. We teach them to use their zones of regulation and 'Bubbletime' to regulate themselves or ask for help. You could encourage your little ones to use these strategies at home with you too.

There are small actions you can take also to look after your mental wellbeing to help you feel better and more in control, such as taking time to do mindful breathing exercises, going for a walk, catching up for a chat with a friend or loved one, or even planning an hour of screen-free time in your day.

The [NHS Every Mind Matters website](#) has lots of free NHS-approved tips and advice to help you be kind to your mind. You can also search 'mental health' on the [Southampton City Council website](#) for links to local mental health support services.

## **Messages:**

**Scooter Shack** – We are aware since the company removed the canopy this is now exposing the scooter shed. We are working on repairing the metal work so the company will install a new roof on the canopy. Please bear with us whilst we work on this area of the school.



## **Reading book reminder**

Please can we ask for your little one to have their reading book and diary in their book bag each day. It is important that we can support them reading this book at school and at home to help build fluency.



## **Crazy Hair Day – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

Please see the attached poster for further information

# Coming up in your year group...

## Year R

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents Evening - please remember to attend your parents evening appointment. We are very much looking forward to talking about your little one's progress.

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October** – Celebration Event – see the children's clay dinosaurs and their wonderful DT project that they have been working on.



We are working on your children's fine motor development. This is a really, helpful video with activities that you can do to help your little one develop their muscles.

[Shining Stars | Immediately learn to write](#) ❌❌ [Motor warm-up smoothly first](#) ✅✅ [Follow @the\\_shining\\_star\\_speech](#) ..... [#preschool...](#) | [Instagram](#)

## Year 2

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** - Trip to Southampton Common (Information sheet has been sent to all parents).

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents Evening - please remember to attend your parents evening appointment. We are very much looking forward to talking about your little one's progress.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October** – Celebration Event – The children will be retelling Jack and the Beanstalk through music, drama and storytelling.



**Shirley Junior School Open Morning and Afternoon**

Open Morning Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November – 11am to 12pm

Open Afternoon Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November – 2 to 3pm

## Year 1

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents Evening - please remember to attend your parents evening appointment. We are very much looking forward to talking about your little one's progress.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** – Celebration Event –The children will be sharing their writing from this half term, including their Three Little Pigs story.



**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** - Zoolab – In school, no action required

Thank you to all who were able to attend our recent virtual Year 1 Curriculum workshop. The presentation slides and recording are now available to view on the school website.

**Weekly Attendance** Whole School Attendance – 96.6%



96.6%	98.3%	93.5%	97.6%	93.8%	94.1%	98.3%	99.7%	97%
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**If your child is not in school, we miss them greatly and will call to see how they are.**

The school's Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

DSL: Mrs C Gregory

Deputy DSL: Mrs L Watts

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# Community Messages...

## School Travel Policy 2025 – 2026

Please be advised that the School Travel Policy 2025-2026 consultation was launched on 9th September and Southampton City Council would like to hear your thoughts on the proposals and any impacts or alternative suggestions you would like them to consider.

All documents are available on the SCC website at:

[www.southampton.gov.uk/schooltravelserviceconsultation](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/schooltravelserviceconsultation)

It is a 7-week consultation period that will end on Monday 28th October at 5pm.

## Light Up Drama – Half Term Workshop

Dare to make your spookiest nightmares come alive with Light UP youth theatre this October! Work alongside theatre professionals to devise, direct, and perform your own horror story. This workshop for 7-14's will include:

Playing fun games

Creating characters

Directing and devising an original story

Making props

Performing to family and friends in a studio theatre!

The workshop will be held at Maskers Theatre Company, a professional theatre venue. After a day of creating and rehearsing, you will perform to family and friends with full stage lights, sound, plus costume and prop items.

To learn more and book, visit: [WHAT'S ON | Light UP](http://WHAT'S ON | Light UP)

[lightupdrama.org.uk](http://lightupdrama.org.uk) Should you have any questions, please email the team at [info@lightupdrama.org.uk](mailto:info@lightupdrama.org.uk)

## 2025/2026 Cohort Year R Open Mornings

We are holding open days for families that have a child starting in year R in September 2025.

Saturday 12 October 2024 11:00am and 12.00pm.

Tuesday 15 October 2024 9:15am and 11:00am.

Wednesday 8 January 2025 9:15am

book on to one of the sessions please click on the link below or visit the school website for more information. Please feel free to share this information with anyone you know who has a child due to start school in September 2025.

[Open Days for 2025 Year R Admissions - Shirley Infant School](#)

## Infant School Choir

### SHIRLEY INFANT SCHOOL CHOIR



Our school choir takes place on Friday lunchtimes and is open to all children in Years 1 and 2. Children are collected by Mrs. Clark from the playground after they have had their lunch. We rehearse songs for a number of concerts that take place throughout the year both in school and at events across the city.

We encourage all children to try choir if they want to. There is no obligation for them to continue coming, once they have tried a session. However, if we are preparing for a concert we do like children to attend all choir rehearsals to ensure that they are familiar with the songs and routines. Look out for song words and soundtracks on the school website in the 'parents' section.

# Community Messages...



## Halloween at Tudor House – Southampton

### Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 10am - 5pm

Join us for the Spooktacular Halloween Family Day!

Enjoy FREE admission to the most haunted house in Southampton and take part in loads of spooky and fun family activities throughout the day, including creepy crafts, gruesome games and a haunting trail!

[Book a spooky ghost tour](#) (Recommended for children age 6+) Join one of our ghost hunters to discover the spooky stories of Tudor House as you creep up into the dark attic and down into the dingy cellars. \* Charges apply for some activities.

<https://tudorhouseandgarden.com/>  
[Thursday 31 October 2024 10am - 5pm](#)

## Sea City Museum – Southampton – October Half Term Activities

It's never too early to start planning fun activities for the spookiest time of the year! Pick from a range of our Halloween themed activities for all ages! There'll be lots of fun things to do, including creepy crafts, gruesome ghosts and even some magical wizardry!

### **Activities include:**

Mon 28 Oct to Fri 1 Nov – [Culture Club for Kids October Half Term](#)

Mon 28 Oct to Tue 29 Oct – [October Art School \(7 – 13yrs\)](#)

Mon 28 Oct – [Wizard School \(6yrs+\)](#)

Tue 29 Oct – [Wizard School \(6yrs+\)](#)

Wed 30 Oct – [Art for All: Spooky Fruit Press Printing \(6yrs+\)](#)

Wed 30 Oct – [Tour for All: Scary and Spooky Southampton Walking Tour](#)

Thu 31 Oct to Fri 1 Nov – [Art For All: Clay Pumpkins \(5yrs+\)](#)

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