

Essex County Council

Sheering Church of England
Primary School

The Street, Sheering, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. CM22 7LU

Headteacher: Mrs LJ Brittain

Telephone: 01279 734210

Email: admin@sheering.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.sheeringschool.org.uk



Friday 12th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone is keeping safe and well.

It has been wonderful to see many of our Year 1 children returning to school this week; they adapted quickly to all our new safety procedures of handwashing, having their temperature taken, sitting in their own workstations and wearing our new animal visors. After talking with parents at home and at school last week, I do understand how increasingly difficult the lock-down situation is becoming with so much uncertainty still ahead of us. However, I want to you know what a TERRIFIC job you are doing by juggling families, home-schooling and work. Please remember that the work we are sending home for the children to complete, is a guide and we are not insisting that all of it is completed. If it is becoming stressful, my advice is to reduce the amount of work but do try and make time for some reading every day.

I also think it is important to begin to venture out a bit more if you have mostly stayed at home. It is really common to feel anxious about this for parents and children but a daily walk is good for the mind and body. It will help the children to see that we are able to do this safely and they will learn by seeing social distancing in practice.

Return to School

Next week we are looking forward to seeing many of our Year R children return to school (9:30-12:00pm). We have been staggering the times for each pod to arrive to reduce crowding at the school gate but as many of our older children are now arriving on their own, I would like to suggest the following times for each pod:

Year 6 and KS2 Key Workers: 9:00am (9:00-2:00pm)

Year 1: 9:15 (9:15-1:45pm)

Year R 9:30 (9:30-12:00pm)

For our new starters tomorrow, can I remind you to enter the school through the Village Hall entrance where you will see the first of many hand sanitiser stations. Please will all parents exit through the playground.

Thank you for getting in touch so quickly about whether or not you would like your child(ren) in Years 2-5 to return to school for at least one day a week before the end of term. It would be very helpful if you could contact me or ring the school office tomorrow if you haven't already done so. Just to reiterate, if we open the school provision to all year groups, it may mean that the children in the government's previously chosen year groups (Year 6, Year 1 and Year R) may have their days reduced to make this fairer to all families. Therefore, I now need to know from those parents (Year 6, Year 1 and Year R who are now in school), which days you would favour due to work or family commitments.

I would also like to say that most schools are not going to offer this provision to their families but the staff, governors and I would like to support everyone as much as we can during this time.

New Menus

We have broadened our lunch menus and have started to offer a hot option with our packed lunches. These are now on our website; I am looking forward to the sausage baguette tomorrow!

Staffing

Back in March, we said goodbye to Mrs Maris as she was beginning a new job, but due to everybody being in lock-down, we were lucky enough to be able to hold on to her until Friday. We wish her well as she begins her new job on Monday.

At the beginning of the summer term, Mrs Sarah Billett took up her position as our new Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and she is enjoying getting to know our children and families. We would like to welcome her to our Sheering family.

Achievement from Home and School

Bronze Athletics certificates were awarded to; Ryan, Lucy, Lily Mae, Danielle, Oliver, Laura, Harry, Orla, Tilda, Alfie D, Max, Mitchell, Olivia, Belle, Jacob, Lenny H, Sonny H, Joshua, Lenny K, Oskar, Molly, Catherine, Kayla, Abigail, Ruby T, Sonny W, Archie, Elsie C, Issy G, Sophia, Edith and Harry T. Well done to Laura, Olivia and Oskar for achieving their **Silver Athletics** award and Lucy, Joshua and Oskar have achieved their **Gold Athletics** award. I will also post these on our +Sharing at Sheering Facebook page. There was a huge improvement with the **Spelling Shed** class points this week; Copeland class were top this week a whopping 20,172,828 points. That is 5 million more points than Durrington's score class last week!

Happy Book

In the virtual Happy Book this week, Archie and Poppie's Mummy wanted to thank Sam and Hannah for helping Archie feel safe when he was on his bike last week and the teachers would like to thank Oskar and his Mummy for bringing us biscuits for the last two weeks.

Have a great weekend,

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Stay safe,

Lorna Brittain