

Sheering CofE Primary School

Newsletter 2, Autumn 2, Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers,



We would like to invite you to join us for a short and meaningful ceremony to observe the **laying of the wreath at the war memorial in central Sheering Village.**

This event will take place tomorrow at 10:45-11:15am, as we come together to honour and remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country. The children will be taking part in this act of remembrance, and it would be wonderful to have parents and families present to share in this important moment.

Thank you for your support in helping our pupils understand the importance of remembrance and community reflection.

Mrs James and Ms Shaw
Exec Head and Head of School

Consultation on term dates for 2026 - 2027

We are currently reviewing our term dates for the next academic year and would like to consult with you on a proposed change to the October half term.

Many schools are now moving to a two-week half term in October, and we are considering doing the same. Under this proposal, pupils would break up on Friday 16th October and return to school on Monday 2nd November.

We believe this extended break could provide families with a valuable opportunity for rest and enrichment, as well as help to support wellbeing for both pupils and staff at this point in the autumn term.

Before any decision is made, we would like to hear your views. Please share your feedback by completing the online survey that will shortly be sent out or telephoning the school office to share your views by Monday 17th November.

Please be aware that in order to make this change the school year would start on 3rd September and finish on 23rd July.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and for your continued support.

Winter Coats Reminder

As the weather is turning colder, please make sure your child comes to school each day with a **warm, waterproof winter coat.**

We spend time outside during playtimes and for outdoor learning, so it's important that children are dressed appropriately to stay warm and comfortable.



Thank you for your support in helping everyone stay cosy this winter!

Staffing Update

We wanted to let parents and carers know that we are currently experiencing a few staff absences. Our Site Supervisor and School Business Manager have both been signed off for a period of time, and teaching staff are also managing winter viruses that are circulating at the moment.

Please be assured that we are working hard to ensure the smooth running of the school during this time, and we appreciate your understanding and patience. As always, we thank you for your continued support and kindness towards our staff team.

Growing our Love of Reading - Library Update

We are delighted to share that our school library has been fully refreshed and reinstated



as a welcoming space for children to enjoy and explore a wide range of books. The library has now been organised into clearly labeled sections, including **Fiction, Non-fiction, Poetry, Picture Books and Graphic Novels**, making it easier for children to discover new favourites and broaden their reading choices.

As part of this work, we completed a review of our book stock. Any outdated or tired books (not the classics!) were removed so that children have access to a rich, diverse and high quality reading diet that reflects our world today.

We have noticed that our Non-Fiction and Graphic Novel collections are currently very limited. If you have any high quality children's books in these categories that your family has finished with and would be happy to donate, they would be gratefully received and enjoyed by our pupils.

Thank you for helping us continue to foster a lifelong love of reading in our children.

Enhancing Our School Environment for Learning & Wellbeing

We have been making a number of improvements across the school to ensure our learning environment continues to be calm, purposeful and supportive of every child's needs. Here are some of the key changes:

Our **finance and reception office** has been reorganised to ensure visitors are greeted with a warm welcome as they enter the school. The new layout also strengthens our security and safeguarding procedures, helping us maintain a safe environment for all pupils and staff.

Outdoor Classroom - cleared, reorganised and is now ready for use as an exciting learning space (weather permitting!). This will allow pupils to enjoy more outdoor learning opportunities across the curriculum.

A dedicated **office space** for parent meetings and support - a new office has been established for our Deputy Headteacher/SENCO, Mrs Ansell. This provides a private, comfortable space for confidential conversations with parents, external professionals and support agencies.

EYFS - the **reception classroom** has been carefully cleared and refreshed to create a low-arousal learning environment in line with the

SCERTS approach. This supports children's emotional regulation, communication and readiness to learn. We have also raised the profile of reading by creating a larger reading area for the children to enjoy a story together.

In Key Stage 2, new carpeted areas have been created for pupils to gather during lesson inputs. These support focussed attention, create a sense of class community and allow for movement breaks that can help children regulate and stay engaged.

Year 3&4 has a brand new carpet, and furniture has been thoughtfully arranged to best meet the needs of the children. A cosy reading nook and a quiet area are also being developed for children who may need a calm space during the day. We are in need of a couple of book cases and some fresh new cushions or bean bags, if you can help.

Year 5&6 classroom displays have been pared back to create a calmer, more focussed learning atmosphere. A dedicated reading corner has been enhanced to further nurture a love of reading.

Due to issues with damp and mould, the **cloakroom area** is currently out of use. We have put a temporary solution in place, with children storing coats and bags in the toilet cloakroom lobby areas and lunchboxes in their classrooms. The children have adapted brilliantly and are extremely sensible.

School hall - safety first. We have also made some important changes to the school hall to ensure the space is safe and fully compliant with current safety regulations. We have removed condemned PE equipment and taken down the hall curtains as they are not fire retardant or compliant with current fire safety regulations. This has resulted in a clearer, safer and more flexible space for collective worship, lunch, PE lessons and school events. We will be exploring suitable options for replacing the curtains with compliant alternatives in due course. Special thanks to the PTFA who have booked for the school hall floor to be refurbished during February half term. It will look stunning and be far more fit for purpose as a result, thank you.

We have also revitalised the **staffroom** to create a welcoming space where staff can take their breaks, build team spirit and look after their own wellbeing - an important part of sustaining high quality provision for the children.