



Shinfield Infant & Nursery School

Autumn Term Newsletter 7

Monday 21st October 2019
admin@shinfield.wokingham.sch.uk
School office telephone: 0118 988 3389
www.shinfieldschools.co.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the last newsletter for this half term. School and Nursery will close this Friday 25th October at normal times for the half term holiday, reopening at normal times on Monday 4th November. An updated set of diary dates is attached to this newsletter for your reference. The next newsletter will come out on Monday 11th November, so there are some reminders below for the first week back after half term.

Wishing you all a good last week at school and a lovely half term holiday.

Best wishes, **Mrs Amanda Turner, Headteacher**

Reminders for the first week back after half term: Poppies are on sale in school.



- Reindeer Reading Award starts on Monday 4th November for Year 1 and 2
- There is a writing workshop for parents on how we teach this, including the new school handwriting style, on Thursday 7th November at 7pm. Please do come along if you can. A crèche is available.
- On Friday 8th November parents are invited to join us for a short act of Remembrance on School Green. The whole school (not Nursery) will come out for this at 10.45am. Shinfield Remembrance Service is on Sunday 10th November at 10.45am
- Please keep Aldi stickers coming in. We are over half way towards our goal of 300 stickers
- **Apple Class Cake Sale** is on **Friday 8th November**. We hope you can support them!

Oak Class Cake Sale raised £183.12. Thank you so much for your support!

Attendance

The attendance for the whole school last week was 96.68%. The class with the best attendance last week (and the Shinfield Cup) is Willow Class with 98.99% attendance. Well done!

Shinfield Dental Practice have an Open Week in half term. Please check your child's book bag for more details sent home last week or pop round for a visit with your child. We were very impressed with the children's knowledge of how to look after their teeth and the right foods to eat. Some were not sure of how much 'hidden' sugar there is in some foods.

Parents' Evenings tomorrow

The staff are looking forward to meeting parents. Willow Class parents will be able to meet with Mrs Bates who has been teaching the class whilst Mrs Lowes is away. Mrs Wright, one of the class teaching assistants who knows the class well, will join her. For all the classes that have job-share teachers, it is hoped that both teachers will be there to talk to the parents. We hope that you find Parents' Evening helpful and interesting. If you cannot attend, please let the school office know as soon as possible. It will be manned throughout both Parents' Evenings. There will be a crèche. Staff are on hand to welcome you and help new parents with signing in.

GOLDEN GOOD BOOK

Friday 18th October
For sensible behaviour

Birch Class - Mrs Foldvari:

Brenton and Ellie G

Maple Class - Miss Cresswell and Mrs Roedel

Abir and Zoha

Willow Class - Mrs Lowes

Julia and Lucas

Apple Class - Mrs Lawn and Mrs McDonald:

Suraya and Albert

Cherry Class - Mrs Lauchlan and Miss Anderson:

Leo and Sienna

Plum Class - Mrs Linkens:

Sophia and Zane

Ash Class - Mrs Massey and Mrs Belas:

Reya and Amani

Elm Class - Mrs Devos and Miss Hulme:

Cian and Thomas

Oak Class - Mrs Gray and Mrs Feeney:

James N and Ava P

Well done children!

Nursery Corner

Last year Mrs Belas and I took part in "Voice 21" a project created to raise the profile of oracy skills. Raising skills in "talk" is vitally important to children's ability to communicate. Being able to extend, reason, suggest and vocalise thoughts and opinions as well as describe what they see is an important skill which will enhance imaginative writing skills further up the school.

We have been investigating pumpkins in the Nursery. We have imagined what may be inside - it's important that the children were allowed to imagine and have the confidence to believe they didn't need to give a right or wrong answer. We cut the pumpkins up, describing what we could see, smell and touch, again introducing an extension of language. We planted the seeds and talked about what they would grow into. We read Jasper's Beanstalk. We had a discussion about what we would like to find at the top of our beanstalks. The children then created their ideas from various resources whilst we scribed for them.

We found an enormous spider which created much excitement. The children were busy talking about the spider and drawing it. Go on a spider hunt this week, and think about all the language you can give your children. All the extra vocabulary they learn now will help them reach for greater depth writing as they move through the school. Kind Regards, Mrs Ayres, Ms South and the Nursery Team



Bollywood!

As part of Art week, we all had a fantastic time trying out some Indian dancing last Monday with K-Z Dance. Each class learnt two dances which we did together as a whole school at the end of the day. What fun!



Drama workshops

We were very pleased to receive a visit from [Perform](#) on Thursday 17th October. The children had a wonderful time exploring the theme of [Castles, Knights and Princesses](#) and using drama, dance and singing to help develop their confidence, concentration and social skills.

To complement the workshop, there is a free educational app for iPhones and iPads based around the theme of [Castles, Knights and Princesses](#). It contains fun games, creative tasks and videos of the themed songs and dances. Click [here](#) to download it free or [here](#) to find out more about the [Castles, Knights and Princesses](#) theme.

Perform run regular weekly classes in the local area and they are offering **a special introductory discount** to all parents of Shinfield Infant School if they come along for a free trial session before Thursday 7th November.

To claim your discount, just call Perform on 020 7255 9120 quoting **SHIN071119** or book online at perform.org.uk. Please also see the attached flyers for more information, including half term holiday workshops.



F2 Welly Walks

F2 were so lucky with the weather on their Welly Walks to the SANG over the road from school. Thank you to all the parents who came along and helped. We hope they had a great time too.

We will be going on more welly walks at different times of the year so that the children can observe the changing nature of the seasons in the same places. They love spotting all the things that look different each time. Please come and join us on the Spring Walk if you would like to.



Fundraising Events run by Friends of Shinfield

Many thanks to Friends of Shinfield, and all the parent helpers and staff for their time and hard work to prepare and run the Children's Film Night and Quiz Night last week to raise money for the school. Our goal this year is to replace the Computer Suite and buy new interactive whiteboards for some of the classrooms, as well as some tablets for use in the classrooms. The Film Night, together the Quiz Night, Bags 2 School and a car boot sale run by one of the parents in the summer, has helped us off to a good start. There will be a thermometer on display near the school entrance soon which will display how we are progressing towards our goal.

We cannot achieve this without the help of Friends of Shinfield who work so very hard for the school. Last year they raised an amazing £27,000. All of the FOS committee and many of the parents who help us also work, or have family commitments or other responsibilities. Without this help there simply would be no fun events for children and parents, and no money to buy what are increasingly essential items due to limited school budgets. If you can, please do offer any help for fundraising events in the future as this is greatly appreciated.

We hope that all the children who attended Children's Film Night enjoyed themselves. We are sorry numbers had to be limited (for health and safety reasons) and not all children got to join in, but we hope to hold another one in the future. Thank you to the parents whose children did not get a Film Night ticket, but accepted this with good grace – we are very grateful to them for this. Thank you to all who came to the Quiz Night and we hope you enjoyed it a lot!

When booking online, please look out for a confirmation email and keep this handy to remind you that your child has a ticket for an event. We had a few parents who forgot this for the Quiz Night or who may not have known, as we had a few last minute calls from parents asking if children were on the list or asking staff to remind children about the film night. Please also respect deadlines as this allows time to finalise lists (including children's medical and other needs), purchase enough food and arrange the right amount of supervision and help. We don't want to limit numbers for all fundraising events, so we include a few where all families can join in such as the Christmas Fayre or Summer Fair, and the Family BBQ. Help is needed for the Christmas Fayre so we hope some of you can join in with us!

Please contact the Friends of Shinfield at Friends@shinfield.wokingham.sch.uk if you have any questions or would like to offer your help with events. If you have any concerns or complaints, please do not post these on the FOS or year group Facebook pages, or message parents directly via these pages, as this is not the appropriate forum for these. Any concerns can be emailed to the school office. Complaints should be addressed with the school following the Complaints Procedure which is on the school website. We will address these as soon as we can and work with you to try and put things right. Thank you for your support in this matter.

School Polite Notice

Our school is a place in which all members of the school community— children, parents, carers, staff, Governors and visitors—should feel safe and respected. Please find attached a notice that is displayed around the school to remind everyone of the expectations for acceptable behaviour in this school. Thank you to everyone for helping to keep our school a safe and happy place to be. Please let me know if you have any concerns about this. Thank you. Mrs Turner

What a wonderful **Arts Week** we had! Many thanks to Mrs Lawn for helping to organise it all and to the teachers for their amazing ideas. We had fun working with a huge range of media and different themes in each year group and hope you enjoyed the exhibition at the end of the day last Friday. Look out for the new canvases going up on the Hall walls!



COATS NEEDED

Please ensure your child has a coat in school every day, as we will try and get out to play unless it is very wet!

School Dinner Reminder

When looking at the school dinner menu with your child, please ensure he or she tries a variety of foods. We recommend jacket potatoes are eaten just twice a week at most.

Update on proposed quarry

It is expected that there will be an appeal to be lodged for the building of a quarry behind Shinfield St Mary's CE Junior School, close to this school. There has also been an application to widen Hyde End Road which, if it were to go through, would make the success of the appeal to open the quarry a bit more likely. Please let Shinfield Parish Council know how you feel about the widening of Hyde End Road, especially as this will allow larger traffic to come through by the school, which may include vehicles for the quarry. You may also email our local Councillor Andrew Grimes about your feelings in this matter. Councillor Grimes' email address is: andrew.grimes@shinfieldparish.gov.uk.