



Shinfield Infant & Nursery School Autumn Term Newsletter 12

Monday 30th November 2020

admin@shinfield.wokingham.sch.uk

School office telephone: 0118 988 3389

www.shinfieldschools.co.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

We were sorry to have to close the school for a day last week but pleased that we could reopen for most groups following a lengthy track and tracing activity. Our member of staff is still poorly but thank you for all your good wishes for their speedy recovery. We are delighted to have so much positive feedback about the home learning for Year 2, and look forward to their return to school on Friday 4th December. We hope that 'Reading Eggs' is a great success in helping children practise reading at home. Many thanks to The Circle Trust who have kindly purchased this for use by all F2, Year 1 and Year 2 children.

Mrs Amanda Turner, Headteacher head@shinfield.wokingham.sch.uk

Shinfield Schools Christmas Hamper and Giving Tree Appeal

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we will be collecting food items for Christmas hampers until Wednesday 9th December in a box outside the school office. All donations will be gratefully received and will help a number of families within the local community. Many thanks to all who have contacted us to say they will buy a present for our Giving Tree appeal, and we will be in touch to let you know the age of the child for whom to buy a gift.

If you would like any help or advice, please contact our Parent Support Adviser Lisa Ward at lward@shinfield.wokingham.sch.uk in confidence. Alternatively, please contact Mrs Amanda Turner at head@shinfield.wokingham.sch.uk or Mrs Sue Runciman at head@shinfield-st-Mary's.wokingham.sch.uk.

COVID-19 updates and reminders

Government guidance for parents and carers:

[Changes to schools and education during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

[Supporting your children's education during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#)

Holidays

Government guidance is that school attendance has once more been mandatory since the start of the school year in September. As usual, you should plan your holidays within school and college holidays. Avoid seeking permission to take your children out of school during term time. Keep in mind that you and your children may need to [self-isolate when you return from a trip overseas](#).

Government

Social distancing on the playground

Many thanks to all we see keeping a safe distance on the playground or on School Green when coming in with children in the mornings and when collecting children at the end of the day. **Please allow for 2m social distancing at all times on the school site.** If you are on the playground in the mornings please stand back, well away from the children who are lining up by themselves. Please do not stand close to other people's children or other parents in the line, or in groups talking to other parents less than metre away. Thank you for your support in keeping our school community safe.

Staggered finish times at the end of term

Please see diary dates at the end of the letter for more details about different finish times for year groups.

Contingency Closure of Schools

Recent Government guidance suggests that schools may be asked to close by the Government if COVID-19 infection rates are too high in an area. In these circumstances schools may stay open for vulnerable children or children of critical workers as we did earlier in the year. We will be emailing all those parents and carers of children already on it. If you have not already responded to our parent survey sent out at the beginning of term here is the link: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ph7f6Nnoe02Hr1YmxJbkgXEmSf0tR1RIiO7B0-HXbjJUMINGVkwxMFhEUUZDNTIxMTJRvFVVV1daTi4u>

It will no doubt be the case that we have to respond quickly to such a directive, as we did back in March with less than 2 days to set up completely new school arrangements! The better prepared we are now the easier it will be if we have to run the school like this again in future. Please help us by filling in this survey, keeping all your contact details as up to date with the school office, and asking any questions you may have in advance as far as possible.

Online safety

Most people, including children, have been spending more time online, whether that is in the classroom or at home.

See the [support for parents and carers to keep children and young people safe from online harm](#). It suggests resources to help keep children and young people safe from different risks online and where to go for support and advice.

[Support to stay safe online](#) includes information on security and privacy settings.

E-Safety skills are so important as our reliance on technology increases. Thinkuknow.co.uk is a great resource with age appropriate animations about keeping safe online, as well as information for parents to support their children. Visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends/



Christmas Cards in school

We suggest that children make or bring one card for their class which will go up on display in the classroom, so we don't send lots of cards home and increase the risk of spread of COVID. If parents would like to bring in a card or gift for staff we are sure this would be greatly appreciated, and will be placed in a box in the classroom for a period of quarantine before the staff member can open it.



Christmas Bauble Decorating Competition

Open to all children—please see attached form, also being sent home in book bags. Year 2 can have theirs on Friday.

GOLDEN GOOD BOOK

Friday 27th November 2020

For trying to solve problems

Birch Class - Mrs Foldvari:

Matheus and Aaliyah

Maple Class - Mrs Roedel:

John and Anaya

Willow Class - Miss Cresswell:

Avah and Louie

Apple Class - Mrs Massey and Mrs Belas:

Theo N and Tommy

Cherry Class: Mrs Hursey and Mrs Feeney:

Shay and Elliott

Plum Class - Mrs Milne-Smith:

Ainhua and Hazara

Ash Class - Mrs Lawn and Mrs McDonald:

All the class for home learning

Elm Class - Mrs Linkens:

All the class for home learning

Oak Class - Mrs Lauchlan and Miss Anderson:

All the class for home learning

Well done everyone!

Diary dates for events in the next few weeks. These will be updated with any new dates or changes in red each week. Please note the staggered finish times for the last day of term for F2, Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 4th December - Birthday party afternoon in classes to celebrate the September, October and November birthdays. Thereafter we will run birthday afternoons each month on these dates: Fridays January 29th, February 26th, March 26th, April 30th, Thurs May 27th (INSET on Friday May 28th), June 25th and Friday July 16th for the July and August birthdays. This is because so many children have missed out on birthday parties or family celebrations - we thought they might like to have a little fun with their classmates to help make up for the missed events.

Sunday 6th - 13th December - FOS and Junior School PTA Winter Window trail, open to the wider community in Shinfield, and ask for donations to school funds. There will be prizes for the best (adult and children's most favourite) windows and a quiz for the children with a prize. Please see poster in last week's newsletter.

We are not able to have large Christmas performances for parents this year, but will let you know of a new idea being planned as we don't want the children to miss out on the enjoyment of taking part in these.

We are also running a Christmas hamper and Giving Tree appeal to support families in the Shinfield community, and a Christmas Raffle. More details will follow this week.

Monday 7th December - INSET day. School and Nursery will be closed for staff training. Staff will be taking part in First Aid training and curriculum development.

Tuesday 8th December—Elves and Fairies Day in Nursery and **Start of phonics screening week in Year 2.** Please note change in date due to Year 2 self isolating until Friday 4th December.

Friday 11th December - Christmas Jumper Day (optional) in aid of Save The Children. Donations can be made online and the link will be in the school newsletter. Cash can be donated via school and we will pay it in. If you have any Christmas jumpers you would like to donate (via school office), we could sell these with the proceeds going to Save The Children.

Monday 14th December - Shinfield Showtime in year group bubbles. Don't forget children should come to school in their show outfits plus warmer clothes on top as needed.

Wednesday 16th December - Children's Christmas dinner—date now confirmed

Thursday 17th December - Last day of term for Nursery. Nursery will have their Christmas party this day. Fred in The Shed separate performances for F2, Year 1 and Year 2. F2, Year 1 and Year 2 parties to be confirmed. **Christmas Raffle draw at 12pm. Winners will be notified by phone or ScoPay. Prizes will be given to parents/carers at home time or can be collected from the office**

Friday 18th December - Staggered finish times

12.45pm - Year 2 1.00pm - Year 1 1.15pm - F2 Please see note below for more information

Monday 4th January 2021 - Term begins for school and Nursery (no INSET day)

Staggered finish for the end of term for F2 Year 1 and Year 2

We intend to arrange a hot/cooked packed lunch option with Caterlink for school meals on the last day of term. The children will have their packed lunches in their classrooms.

ASC will set up in the Hall ready for the children to go there in their year group bubbles. We may have to stop foot traffic on the playground to take children through. The gates will be opened at 12.40pm.

The finish times for each year group are as follows. Siblings may be collected from their classrooms after the older child has been picked up.

	Home time
Year 2	12.45pm
Year 1	1.00pm
F2	1.15pm