

Newsletter

December 2024

Hello everyone!

If you're anything like me, you won't believe that we are very nearly at the end of 2024! Where has the year gone?

It has been so special over the last few days to celebrate the festive period with you all. We have enjoyed two fantastic nativity performances from Elm and Ash class, a beautiful KS2 concert at St. Andrew's and an astonishing craft afternoon. Thankyou all for your amazing support for these events; it has been wonderful to see so many of you and your extended families in and around school. We've also had a delicious Christmas lunch and worn our seasonal jumpers in school. Some of the children even met Father Christmas one Saturday morning!

Thankyou for all the support you have given the children to help them prepare for these events, including making costumes and practising lines and songs. We could not do these events without you. I'm sure you would join me in thanking the wonderful staff here at Shalford who have worked so hard to organise these events.

On a personal note, thankyou all for your generosity in the cards and gifts you have given me this year. I feel very excited about what's in store for the school in 2025!

Next term, our school value will be responsibility. It would be amazing if you could support the school by discussing what it means to be responsible. It's especially worth discussing what it means to take responsibility for our actions and words.

I wish you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas holiday!

Mr. Arding

Ofsted

Thankyou to all your kind words throughout and following our recent Ofsted inspection. We look forward to sharing the report with you once it is published in the new year.

Parent Workshop

Thankyou to all those parents and carers who attended our workshops across the Autumn term; we hope you found them useful.

We will be holding one final workshop for the academic year on Friday 7th February at 9am. The theme for this session will be 'safeguarding' where we will be exploring the work the school does to keep your children safe and how we can work together to keep your children as safe as possible outside school. We will also be discussing E-Safety and how families can stay safe on the internet, on online games and on apps. It will be a great opportunity to ask any questions you may have about safeguarding.

Mr. Arding will be leading this session. There is no need to book, and teas and coffees will be provided.

Please ensure your child attends school with a warm coat and gloves/scarf during the winter months.

Reception Parent Tour

We have one final parent tour ahead of September 2025. These have proved to be very popular so far this academic year, so if you, or anyone you know are exploring your child starting school next year please come along on 10th January at either 9.30 or 10.30am.

Please speak to Mr. Arding or Mrs. Coombs if you would like any further information about these days.

Parent Governor

We have one space on our newly-formed governing body for a parent governor. I am a governor myself for another school and I understand what a valuable role you play in supporting the school and challenging it to make further progress. Training and support can be provided to anyone new to this role.

If you are interested in volunteering for this essential role, please speak to Mr. Arding.

Class Assemblies

Next term, we will hold our first class assemblies for parents and carers. These will be your opportunity to come into school and share in the learning your child has explored thus far this year.

For parents in Chestnut class, your child's assembly will be on Friday 31st January, and for parents in Beech class, your child's assembly will be on 14th February. Both assemblies will start at 9am and should last approximately 20 minutes.

Ash and Elm class's assembly will be in the Spring 2 term.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

To attend Early Bird/Breakfast Club, just turn up at the black door in the car park and ring the doorbell. Sibling discount available.

Option 1: Breakfast Club starts at 8am and includes Toast/cereal/drinks for £3.50 per day.

Option 2: 'Early Bird' Club starts at 8.15am and does not include food or drink. The cost for Early Bird Club is only £1.25 per day. If a child needs to arrive before 8.15am, the price will be £3.50, regardless of whether they eat or not.

PLACES AVAILABLE IN ALL CLUBS FOR ALL AGES - YOU DO NOT NEED TO WAIT UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF A HALF TERM TO BOOK

Monday	Currently no club
Tuesday	Currently no club
Wednesday	Singing club: please speak to the school office for more details.
Thursday	Lego and Fun Club: run by school staff (small snack and drink included). £4.75 per session (book and pay on MCAS APP)
Friday	Shalford Primary School- After School Club - Whole School Football (1) (4 - 11 yrs) at Shalford Primary School. Braintree Colchester United Community Foundation Powered by ClassForKids

Dates for your diary:

7th Jan – First day back after the Christmas Holidays.

10th Jan – Parent Tours at 9.30 am and 10.30 am.

31st Jan – Chestnut class assembly at 9am.

7th Feb – Parent Workshop (safeguarding) at 9am.

14th Feb – Beech class assembly at 9am.

14th Feb – last day of half term.

24th Feb – first day back after the half term holiday.