

# Newsletter

## January 2025

Hello everyone!

I'm sure I have spoke to you all, but just to wish you a Happy New Year once again!

I'm sure you have all taken the time to read our Ofsted report that is published on the school website. It is a very encouraging report that reflects what is so very special about our school. It has been positive to take time as a team to reflect on the outcome of our report and continue to work at developing our provision here at Shalford even further. The report contains two key targets that reflect our school priorities this year, but next academic year we will seek to develop our curriculum provision here even further, ensuring the school experiences the same focus and precision that we explored in the core subjects of reading, writing and maths this year. This will sit alongside the current government's wide-ranging curriculum review, and I will keep you up-to-date with any changes that arise from this process.

On Friday we enjoyed our first class assembly from Chestnut Class that I hope their respective parents enjoyed. We will be ensuring that every class holds an assembly for their parents and carers and friends in the school before the summer break. As you know, I am very keen to embed opportunities for parents to explore and support the learning that takes place in the school. One area that we will explore before Easter will be a home learning project competition supported by our local historical society around the theme of 'evacuees'. I look forward to sharing details of this with you shortly.

As always, please come and speak to me at any point. I am always happy to support you.

Mr. Arding

## Attendance

It is important that children attend school as much as possible in order to secure and embed their learning and develop the life skills that will allow them to navigate the wider world.

As a small school, we are able to support children very closely, so if your child is a bit 'under the weather' please don't worry about sending them in, as we will be able to look after them. Mrs. Coombs is always happy to offer guidance

We have very strict guidance from the government in regards to authorised absences, so please be aware that requests for children to not attend school for a period of time will have to be classed as 'unauthorised'.

Additionally, if you child's attendance falls below 90%, the school will have to ask for evidence that your child is ill if you inform the school that this is the case. This evidence can take the form of a doctor's appointment or note from a GP. You can access your child's attendance percentage on the MCAS app, or please speak to the school office.

## Parent Workshop

**We will be holding a parent workshop on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Currently no club</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Currently no club</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	Multi-sports club to start after half-term. Please speak to the school office for further details.
<b>Thursday</b>	Lego and Fun Club: run by school staff (small snack and drink included). £4.75 per session (book and pay on MCAS APP)
<b>Friday</b>	<a href="#">Shalford Primary School- After School Club - Whole School Football (1) (4-11 yrs) at Shalford Primary School.</a> , <a href="#">Braintree</a>   <a href="#">Colchester United Community Foundation</a>   <a href="#">Powered by ClassForKids</a>

A new multi-sports club will be starting on Wednesdays after half term. Children will receive a free taster session before half term as part of their weekly P.E. provision. We will share details with parents if they wish their child to join this club.

## Dates for your diary:

Below I've tried to include every date that has been confirmed for the rest of the academic year. Please speak to me if you have any questions about any of these events.

6<sup>th</sup> February – Compass Concert at John Ray Juniors  
 9<sup>th</sup> February – Parent Workshop = Safeguarding  
 14<sup>th</sup> February – last day of Spring 1 term.  
 24<sup>th</sup> February – first day of Spring 2 term  
 27<sup>th</sup> February – Science Day  
 6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day – non-uniform day (dress up as your favourite character)  
 7<sup>th</sup> March – Ash Class Assembly @9am  
 21<sup>st</sup> March – Elm Class Assembly @9am  
 21<sup>st</sup> March – Shalford's Got Talent  
 4<sup>th</sup> April – last day of Spring 2 term  
 31<sup>st</sup> March-1<sup>st</sup> April – Chestnut Class Bikeability  
 22<sup>nd</sup> April – first day of Summer 1 term  
 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Beech Class Assembly @9am (rescheduled)  
 w.b. 12<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 SATs week  
 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Sports Day  
 23<sup>rd</sup> May – last day of Summer 1 term  
 2<sup>nd</sup> June – first day of Summer 2 term  
 5<sup>th</sup> June – Y4 Multiplication Checker  
 12<sup>th</sup> June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check  
 20<sup>th</sup> June – Class Photos  
 30<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Y6 School Journey  
 9<sup>th</sup> July – KS2 Performance @ 1.30pm and 6pm  
 16<sup>th</sup> July – Meet the Teacher day and Reports sent home  
 18<sup>th</sup> July – last day of the school year. Y6 Leaver's assembly at 2pm  
 3<sup>rd</sup> September – first day of the new academic year