



Fortnightly Newsletter 13/09/24

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well we are at the end of the second week of term already and I'm pleased to be able to say that children's attendance at school has improved steadily as the term has begun to unfold. On our best attended day this week, the percentage was 93%. Our daily target is 95% and above. Thank you for doing all you can to get children to school every day. Children with the best attendance at school typically have the best life chances.

Please remind your children that the classes in each Key Stage that are the best attenders and who are the most punctual, are entitled to extra playtime, subject to teachers' terms and conditions. Winning classes are announced at Achievement Assemblies and are also presented with big shiny cups.

We are in the process of organising a special trip for all those children who achieved 100% attendance for the second half of last academic year as promised. As soon as the arrangements have been made the relevant children, parents and carers will be informed.

You may have seen some of our new members of staff in the playground in the first few days of term. We are very happy to welcome teachers Ms Regmi and Ms Khatun and our new trainee teachers Ms Anjum and Ms Ali.

We are also very pleased to welcome our new apprentices Ms Parez, Ms O'Connor, Ms Chetan, Ms Khan, Ms Torofordar, Ms M Din-Naz and Ms A Din-Naz.

Over the last week Ms Hussain (Assistant Head and Safeguarding lead) has been carrying out Safeguarding Assemblies where children were

reminded about all the ways that they can keep themselves safe and who they can speak to if they ever feel unsafe.

Our parents' and carers' evenings this term are on 16th and 17th October after school as usual. Parents and carers will be sent details so that they can book appointments to see their child/children's teacher(s) and find out about their progress and next steps of learning.

A Phonics Workshop for Parents and Carers of Reception pupils will take place on 23/9/24. At Shaftesbury we use the Read Write Inc (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with their literacy. RWI is a method of learning centred round letter sounds and phonics, and we use it to aid children in their reading and writing. Parents will be shown different teaching strategies that can be used at home to help support their child with their early reading. Details will follow soon.

We've had a new soft play room installed for our children with sensory special needs and a new base for our children who are pre-formal learners.

A few eagle-eyed parents and carers may have noticed that over the summer we had a number of our boundary walls repointed and repaired where pigeons over the years had pecked and scraped out the mortar and made walls unsafe.

And lastly, all of our children are encouraged to learn the Shaftesbury Pledge by memory. Some brave children, as a group, like to recite our pledge at Achievement Assemblies. If you would like to help your child/children learn the pledge, then it goes as follows...

*This is our school where we learn and grow together,
May we respect everybody today and forever.
We are a family at Shaftesbury learning and living as one,
May we be caring, friendly, polite and have fun!*

Yours faithfully,
Mr Hadlow - Head Teacher