
SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL

Part of the Bourne Partnership

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Tuesday 11th February 2020

Dear Parents, Grandparents and carers,

With half term approaching, we are almost at the halfway point of the school year, which as always seems incredible. This term, we have continued to develop our curriculum, with a focus on reading and writing. History, Geography and Art have continued to develop, and the children have gained a wealth of knowledge and skills along the way. It has been a pleasure completing learning walks over the past few weeks and seeing such enthusiasm in both staff and pupils.

Next term, we will develop Computing, French and Design Technology, and hope to share our learning with parents in open classrooms sessions nearer Easter. In March, we will be celebrating World Book Day with a whole school dress up – favourite book characters please – and time to share in a range of book-based activities. We are also very excited to be welcoming the author Rachel Valentine into school. Her books will be available to purchase during the day so please send money in with your child or join us after school in Hampton Class to make your selection. Tinley parents are encouraged to attend the phonics workshop in the school hall at 3pm to discover more about how this important area is taught in school so that you can support your child in their learning.

Today is Safer Internet Day (<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2020>) and all children have focused on important safety messages for when online. In particular, discussions have centred on developing a safe online identity, how to judge the reliability of the identity of others and how to make safe choices. We have added an Online Safety page to our website (<http://www.shipbourne.kent.sch.uk/online-safety/>) where you will find all key policies and links to very helpful websites that will support you as parents. Do not hesitate to contact us if you ever have any concerns or questions about how you can manage this important part of your child's wellbeing. Today may be a good time to review our Acceptable Use Policies with your child – see links on Online Safety page. Please also note the content of the policies outlining social media use which states that all members of Shipbourne School community are expected to engage in social media in a positive and responsible manner, and are advised not to post or share content that may be considered threatening, hurtful or defamatory to others on any social media service. If you ever have any concerns around this area, please raise it with us as soon as possible. When entering the school building, mobile phones should be switched off or to silent and must not be taken into Tinley Class in line with EYFS statutory expectations. Children should not bring any mobile devices into school unless by prior agreement, when they should be dropped off by an adult in the school office. Smart watches are permitted, although discouraged, but should always be disconnected from any mobile network or WiFi.

Many thanks for parking considerately over the past few weeks. This remains a priority in supporting the safety of all our pupils. If your child is not in year 5 or 6, we also ask that you walk them to the top gate rather than dropping them off – this includes arrival for Breakfast Club, please. When parked, we also ask that engines are switched off to limit pollution and to keep the air quality around and on the school site as fresh as possible.

Recently we have seen a bout of chicken pox and with the coronavirus firmly in the news, it seems a good time to share government advice on when your child should remain off of school, including when they have a fever (<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>). Please be very strict when following these guidelines – recently children have returned to school too soon after a bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea. Also included are illnesses for which your child can attend school safely and advice on preventing the unnecessary spread of illness by teaching your child to follow good hygiene habits. Thank you for your help and co-operation in this matter.

Finally, we are in the final stages of confirming details with the supplier of our new school uniform. We have been able to secure lower prices for the majority of items and hope that you will be able to order from Friday onwards. We will send details of the website as soon as contracts are signed. You may order uniform to be delivered to school once a term on a specified date, free of charge, or you can pay P&P and have it delivered to your home address. Shirts and grey trousers may be sourced elsewhere but should match the school supplier in design and colour. Summer dresses will be phased out given the feedback received. The new uniform, including a more standardised PE kit, will be compulsory from September 2021 except for children currently in year 4.

We hope that the rest of the term goes smoothly and that you all enjoy a great break. We look forward to marking the end of term by enjoying a whole school art day focusing on illustrators and The Lost Words book kindly donated by the Lion's Club, followed by the PTA hosted disco on Friday.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs T Daters

Head of School

Shipbourne School

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 11th February - Safer Internet Day

Friday 14th February – Creative morning for whole school: 'The Lost Words' poetry and illustration

- Final swim for Fairlawne

- PTA Valentine's Disco after school (letter to follow)

- End of term 3

Monday 24th February - first day of term 4 (all clubs continue)

Friday 28th February - First swim for Hampton (letter to follow)

-Tom Tugendhat (MP for T and M) to visit

Week beginning Monday 2nd March – Book Week

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day (book character costumes please) – author visit (books will be for sale)

- 3pm Tinley parent phonics workshop in school hall

Friday 6th March - Year 5/6 PGL payment of £50 due

Monday 9th March - Ten Pieces morning for whole school: Vivaldi 'Winter'

Friday 13th March - Football tournament 1.30pm to 3.30pm – team to be selected

Tuesday 17th March - Fairlawne trip to Museum of Kent Life Egyptian Day – costumes please

Friday 20th March - Ms Armstrong's final day in Fairlawne

Week beginning Monday 23rd March – book fair in school from 3pm to 4.30pm every day

Last week of clubs

Wednesday 26th March - Parent consultation appointments (Fairlawne from 1.30pm to 6.30pm/ Tinley and Hampton 3.15pm to 6.30pm)

Monday 30th March - Year 5/6 PGL payment of £50 due

Tuesday 31st March - PTA Easter Egg Hunt and Film Night

Wednesday 1st April - Spring Service at St Giles' Church 1.30pm to 2.30pm (early finish)

End of Term 4

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th April – no school INSET days

Monday 20th April - Term 5 begins

Advanced Notice

Year 6 SATS week beginning 11th May 2020

Year 5/6 residential to Windmill Hill week beginning 6th July 2020