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# SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL

**Mrs T Daters**  
**Interim Headteacher**  
**SHIPBOURNE**



**STUMBLE HILL**

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Tuesday 4th September

Dear Parents, Grandparents and carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope that you have all enjoyed a restful and fun-filled time with family and friends, and that you are all excited as we are to be back to Shipbourne. A special welcome to all our new families; we hope that your children settle quickly into their new classes and that you all soon feel a part of our unique community.

The year ahead is set to once again be full of many enriching learning opportunities, and we have many new ideas to develop together. As we step forward into the next chapter for Shipbourne School, we have looked carefully at staffing responsibilities. Our senior management team now includes me as Interim Headteacher; Mrs Bass as SENCo, and Senior Teacher with responsibility for Inclusion and Wellbeing, working under the title of Inclusion Manager; and Mrs Holmes as Senior Teacher with responsibility for Curriculum Management.

We would love parents to be included as much as possible in life at Shipbourne, and you are all invited to join me and Mrs Bass for tea or coffee on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September, from 2.30pm. This will provide the opportunity for you to chat to us and other parents, sharing ideas you may have and perhaps signing up to support reading in classes if this is something you would like to do. This will be followed by a PTA meeting at 3pm, where plans for the coming year will be discussed, including our eagerly awaited Fireworks Party. It would be great if as many of you as possible were able to join us – child care will be provided once children leave classes at the end of the school day.

Hopefully your children have returned to school with smiles on their faces. The first week is Science Week, in which we will meet a range of unusual animals brought to us by Animalia Encounters and later investigate 'Worms'. It is anticipated that the children will be inspired to ask questions, produce some informative writing and discover many interesting facts through the course of the week. The first week also brings the Kent Test for a number of children in year 6. I will ensure that the children involved know exactly what to expect before the day arrives. This is a very nerve-wracking time for all of year 6 as they prepare for their transition to secondary school. Please be reassured that we will support you and the children as they move through the year and are here if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for ensuring that your children are fully equipped for learning. PE kit should be in school every day, and all children should have a full water-bottle and coat now that we are approaching autumn. Children in Hampton and Fairlawne should also have a well-stocked pencil case. Please could you also support your child with daily reading, completing their class record books regularly and checking that all homework is completed on time. May we also encourage you to ensure that all children are on the playground in time for the bell at 8.55am and that absence from school is kept to a minimum.

Should you need to discuss any concerns, your child's class teacher should be your first port of call as they are in the best position to answer questions and offer advice and reassurance. Should you need to discuss matters further or in confidence, please don't hesitate to arrange an appointment with me or Mrs Bass our SENCo as appropriate.

Many thanks again for all your support,

Yours sincerely,

Mrs T. Daters

Interim Headteacher

## **Term 1:**

### **Composers of the Term- Joseph Bologne Chevalier de Saint Georges and Hans Zimmer**

Week beginning 4 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Science Week
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Animalia Encounters
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Steps In Time Vikings Show (or Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September) Class Teacher Welcome Meetings 3.15pm in classrooms
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Kent Test all day (Mascots and extra snacks permitted)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Reception staying for first school dinner
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Reception staying for first full day Parent tea and coffee 2.30pm followed by PTA meeting at 3pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	-	School Council Elections for Year 1-6 (candidates to prepare manifestos at home) Whole School Creative Art Day – Collage
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Fairlawne to Pashley Manor and Scotney Castle – Sketching and Sculpture
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Individual photos
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	-	Hampton to Museum of Kent Life – Stone Age Day
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Harvest Donations to school hall
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Harvest Service at St Giles’s Church 1.30pm (Early finish) – flowers welcomed
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Staff INSET – school closed

## **Term 2:**

### **Composers of the Term – Antonin Dvorak and Ennio Moricone**

Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	-	Whole School Ten Pieces Music Day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	-	Parent Consultations Hampton and Fairlawne 1.30pm to 4.30pm
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	-	Parent Consultations Hampton, Fairlawne and Year 1 3.30pm to 6.30pm
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	-	Flu Vaccinations for selected year groups (letters will follow)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Nativity performance 9.30am
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Nativity Performance 9.30am
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Whole School trip to pantomime at Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Christmas Party afternoon
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Service at St Giles’s Church 1.30pm (Early finish) – flowers welcomed

### **Advance Notice:**

Year 6 SATS testing week – 13<sup>th</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> May

Year 2 SATs assessment week 20<sup>th</sup> May (provisional)

Year 1 Phonics Screening – week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> June