



Shaw C of E Primary School

Corsham Road
Shaw
Melksham
SN12 8EQ

T: 01225 702544

E: administrator@shaw.wilts.sch.uk
www.shawprimary.com

Bumper Newsletter 4th December 2020

There is just too much to fit into our usual newsletter format this week, so I have decided to do it a little differently!

Staffing

I am delighted to tell you that we have successfully appointed a new teacher following recent interviews. Mrs Jemima Richardson will be joining the team from the beginning of January. As well as being an experienced teacher, she also knows Shaw School very well as Mum to Edward in Year 1. She already knows what a special place Shaw School is. She will be teaching Year 3 on Thursday and Friday from the beginning of January and will teach Yr 1 on Monday as soon as her current contract in another school comes to an end. In the meantime, Mrs Martin-Hall will be full time Yr 1 teacher with the exception of Monday afternoon when Mrs Clark will take the class.

Christmas Jumper Day

Next Friday 11th December we are taking part in Christmas Jumper Day. Children and staff are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or to decorate their school uniform with tinsel or other decorations for the day. If you are in a position to do so, donations can be sent in to school for the charity Save The Children.

Christmas Fayres

These will be held in class bubbles on the afternoon of Thursday 18th December with only children and staff from that bubble attending. There will be games with prizes and craft items for the children to bring home. Instead of handling lots of small change on the afternoon, we have made the decision to set up a Just Giving page for donations to the Christmas Fayre. The link is below. Children will not need to pay for any activity or craft on the afternoon. All we ask is that those who are able to, make a donation via the Just Giving link. No child will be treated differently whether or not a donation has been made by their family. Please feel free to share the link far and wide- the more people who see it, the more PAFOS can raise!



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Click to donate to the Christmas fayre-

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/shawprimaryschoolchristmasfayres?invite=true>

Santa

As Santa will not be able to come and set up his grotto this year, we have booked him in for a socially distanced visit on the field on his Santa Float. He will be coming to see all the children on Wednesday 16th December in the morning. Each class bubble will go out to say hello! The Lions Club of Melksham would be delighted to receive any donations which can be sent into school in a clearly marked envelope and we will pass them on.

Christingle

I am delighted to say that the Tier 2 regulations allow us to visit the Church in our bubbles to take part in a Christingle celebration. As always, this experience will be for Yr 3 and 4 only. The Yr 4 bubble will make their Christingles and go to Church on Tuesday 15th and Yr 3 on Wednesday 16th. We will make sure that the highlights are filmed and shared with Yr 3 and 4 parents.

Nativities

Reception, Yr 1 and Yr2 are each doing separate Nativity productions. Your class teacher will have let you know of any costume and props requirements already. As always, the Reception "Scratch Nativity" (meaning starting from scratch, not having an itch!) will be a totally unrehearsed re-telling of the Christmas story with children dressed as their favourite Christmas story character. We often have duplicates and this is not a problem.

Yr 1 and 2 are much more rehearsed!

The links to You Tube versions of all of these events will be sent to parents of children in these classes as soon as possible after filming and editing but certainly in the last couple of days of term.

Carols

Yr 5 and 6 are, as ever, responsible for our carol service. This will obviously be very different in an on line format this year. Yr 5 and 6 look forward to sharing their version of this event with parents in the last couple of days of term too. Weather permitting, we plan to do some whole school distanced carol singing on the playground (a bit like we did for Remembrance) on the last day of term.



Parties

We can still have parties! Today we are having class parties to help celebrate the birthdays of children who missed out on a party due to lockdown.

On the last day of term, we will have class Christmas parties in place of our usual Christmas dinner. Teachers will give you more details nearer to the time.

Christmas cards

A reminder that Christmas cards to other children in the child's bubble should be sent into school in a bag so they can then be quarantined prior to being given out.

Village Connect Magazine competition

You may remember that the Connect Magazine ran a picture competition last year. The winners received a £10 Amazon voucher as well as the honour of their picture featuring on the front cover of the magazine. They are running the competition again this year. Pictures are required for the Feb/Mar, Apr/May, Jun/Jul, Aug/Sep, Oct/Nov, Dec/Jan issues. Pictures can be in any format as long as it can be scanned. Entries should be returned via the school with Name and which months the picture refers to clearly marked. Closing date is 22nd January.

End of term

Term ends on Friday 18th December. There will be no After School Club that evening. Bubbles who usually go home at 3pm will finish at 2pm and those who usually go home at 3.15 will finish at 2.15.

Bubble arrival times.

A key part of trying to ensure that everyone remains as safe as possible in school is the operation of our bubble entry and exit times. Please ensure that you adhere to these. If you are late for your bubble entry time then it is ESSENTIAL that you wait until the next class has cleared and follow the direction of the staff member on the gate. We will endeavour to let the child in if there is a lull in the line for the other class, but this can not be guaranteed. If you prefer, you can take your late child to the main office who will then arrange for them to be let into school by a staff member from their bubble. Preferably, just be on time!



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Public Health England Advice

We sincerely hope that we will not have to close any further bubbles in the next couple of weeks. However, the risk from Covid-19 has not diminished. I have today been part of a Wiltshire Public Health webinar. From this I have been given the following advice.

- If your child develops symptoms before the end of term or on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th December and subsequently tests positive for Corona Virus, it is essential that you let us know by email as a risk assessment would have to be undertaken to ascertain whether close contacts in their class bubbles would need to self-isolate for 14 days. We will need to contact close contact parents if this is the case.
administrator@shaw.wilts.sch.uk and head@shaw.wilts.sch.uk
- If a child develops symptoms and tests positive after Sunday 20th December, we ask that you still let us know by email, but the 48 hour rule would mean that others in the bubble would not need to be contacted or isolate.
- The same need to keep us informed also applies to the return to school in January.
- Closely and carefully following the hand and respiratory hygiene and social distancing regulations for the next 2 weeks does not guarantee a Covid-free Christmas but gives us all the best opportunity possible of a happy and healthy Christmas.
- PHE have identified sleep-overs as a significant sources of infection during the October half term and are actively discouraging meet ups like this over the Christmas break. Also remember the 3 households Christmas rule.

I hope you are enjoying the daily online Advent Adventures with Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Don't forget to book Breakfast and After School Club sessions to the end of term – help us to keep it open!

Kind regards

Simon White