

Parentmail Bulletin – 8th June 2017

www.shillingtonlower.co.uk

"Enjoy, aspire and achieve together to be the best that we can be."



Value of Honesty

Our current value is honesty. This can be defined as:

- Telling the truth
- Being true to oneself and others
- Having integrity and using it in everyday life

In school we will be encouraging children to tell the truth even when they have done something wrong and could be in trouble. Our response to children who are honest will demonstrate that they needn't be afraid of owning up to wrongdoing and that we always respect honesty and thank people for being honest. We will use the story of Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket to show how important our consciences are.

'If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything.' Mark Twain. At home you could discuss this quote and its meaning.

Don't forget that there is a values exhibition at Priory House Chicksands until 11th July. Shillington Lower is displaying their piece of art work to show respect. Why not pop along and see the exhibition?

Phonics Screening Check

This takes place for Year 1 children and some Year 2 pupils next week. It is therefore essential that children are in school for this national test. The children have been working hard on their phonics and reading both real and fake words. The check will be done on a one-to-one basis with the class teacher. The children are very familiar with the format of the test and should not be unduly fazed by it. Please remember this is a test of their phonic ability and approach to reading words not about their understanding. Our parent information sessions earlier in the year outlined the content and approach of these checks.

Walk to School Week

Next week Shillington Lower will be holding its Walk to School Week. This was a great success last year. We would like to encourage as many children as possible to walk, scoot or cycle to school. This will not only be a healthier option but also an eco-friendly one that can support our efforts to gain the Green Flag award for which our assessment is imminent! If a car is an essential part of your journey, why not 'Park and Stride' by leaving your car in the village hall car park and walking to school? Each day we will be completing a survey to record our means of travel.

Swimming Pool News

Our swimming pool is now up and running! Swimming kit and towel should be in school every day as we seize the opportunity to use the pool whenever we can (dependent on water and air temperature). The pool is clearly an enticing feature for the village and it has come to our attention from much discussion on social media that some upper school pupils have been climbing gates/fences to gain access to the pool. At this point the school roof has been damaged. If you are aware that such a criminal act is being carried out (eg. trespassing on school property, vandalism ...) can we ask that you report it directly to the police at that time? Much fundraising, time and effort has been put into maintaining the pool for use by the children at the lower school and if the pool is vandalised it will be taken out of action and the children will be unable to enjoy this wonderful facility. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Pre-School Pixie Class

We understand that some parents have questioned why the school is only offering morning sessions initially when the new pre-school Pixie class comes to fruition in September. The Governing Board does aim to provide 30 hours of pre-school provision in Pixie Class. However, in setting up Pixie Class the governors took the decision, following advice from Central Bedfordshire Council Early Years Team, to offer morning only sessions in the first instance while we build up a customer base. We cannot run at a loss to the detriment of the school so are unable to open for full days unless we know we have sufficient numbers of children to break even. We are hoping to build up pupil numbers quickly and therefore offer full days as soon as we can to enable parents to take up their 30 hours of free childcare, where eligible, at Shillington Lower School.

Nut Free Zone

Please be reminded that we do have children in the school who may suffer a severe allergic reaction to nuts and may then need to be hospitalised which can be extremely distressing. The school is a nut free zone. Please ensure that when making a packed lunch it does not contain any form of nut including Nutella and peanut butter sandwiches.

PTFA Camping Weekend

Please see Camping Weekend booking form in book bags today.

Top Table

The following pupils were chosen to sit at Top Table on Monday for their exemplary behaviour and values:

Rosemary, Bailee, Amelie, Lukas, Harry, Natalie, Daisy-May, Amber, Logan and Cian.

Head teacher Awards

Winners for their were:

Rainbows: Elliott

Unicorns: Maisy

Dragons: tba

Centaurs: Camille

Phoenix: Nell

Well done everyone!

Dates for your diary

Wk beg 12th June

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14th June

15th June

22nd June

27th June

28th June

1st July

13th July

20th July

KS1 Phonics screening check

Walk to school week

Y3 trip to Hendon

Rainbows to Knebworth House

New intake evening - parents of children joining Rainbows and Pixies

Sports afternoon - *Parents welcome 1:30pm*

Y1 trip to Woburn Safari Park

PTFA Camping Weekend

KS2 production - 10am and 2:15pm

Y4 Leavers' assembly and afternoon tea - *2:15/2:30pm (details to follow)*

Term Dates

Summer Term 2017

Wednesday 19th Apr 2017 – Friday 21st Jul 2017

(Half term 29th May – 2nd June)

May Day – 1st May 2017 – sch closed

Autumn Term 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017 – Tuesday 19th December 2017

(Half term 23rd – 27th October)

Closure day Monday 30th October

Spring Term 2018

Wednesday 3rd January 2018 – Thursday 29th March 2018

(Half term 12th – 16th February)

Our current value is "Honesty."