

Our current value is "Peace and Friendship"

Children in Need

Don't forget that tomorrow we will be joining in with the national fundraising event 'Children in Need.' Children can come to school in non-uniform and the school council have requested that we wear spots. We ask that each child donates £1 for this privilege.

Thank you to the School Council who have been doing some super work on developing a great variety of ideas for activities to help make it a very special, fun and engaging afternoon – every child at Shillington will certainly be leaving school tomorrow with Pudsey and needy children in mind.

Throughout the day each class will visit the library with 'loose change' to fill in a giant Pudsey head.

Rainbows will be making and decorating Pudsey headbands

Year 1 will be working on split pin Pudsey

Years 2 and 4 will be decorating Pudsey shapes in the style of a particular artist

Year 3 will be creating a giant Pudsey – each table will decorate a body part of Pudsey and then construct when finished so we have a great large Pudsey on which to let people know how much money we raised in the day.

Christmas Events

We have a super range of Christmas events planned once again this year (see diary dates).

The festive fun starts on Thursday 30th November when we will be setting up our Christmas tree at the Christmas Tree Festival at the Congregational Church. Hopefully you will have received the template star this week so that your child(ren) can make a beautiful but simple artistic creation to decorate the tree. If you have a different thought for a varied type of decoration of similar size do let your creative instincts run as it will give variety to our tree.

Anti-bullying

We were delighted to have Darren Coleman in school on Wednesday to help the children reflect on a wide range of issues in the national anti-bullying campaign. Standing 6 foot 7 inches tall, Darren certainly catches your attention. The fact that he has been much taller than everyone around him since childhood and yet suffered badly from bullying at his Primary School really brought home the importance for everyone looking out for each other and also the importance of this month's Value – Peace and Friendship.

Extreme Weather

As we move into the more wintery time of year please be reminded of our arrangements in readiness.

If the school has to close due to poor weather conditions, the following will apply:

For poor weather preventing children/staff from getting to school:

- The Central Bedfordshire website will detail if the school is closed;
<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/webapps/sos/>
- Three Counties Radio/Heart Radio FM will be informed and the school should be included in their bulletins of closed schools. The radio stations have asked that parents do not ring them directly but listen to the bulletins.
- We will also endeavour to post information on our website.

For poor weather resulting in the closure of the school **during** the school day:

- All parents will be contacted and children will stay with staff until they can be collected.
- Where the school remains open in extreme weather, entry will be via the main office only. Registration will be delayed and remain open from 8:45 – 9:15am. We will try to keep you informed but as you can appreciate the decision to close the school needs to be made early enough to prevent unnecessary journeys, as our priority is the safety and well-being of your children and our staff.

Get Caught Reading

We are inviting children to send in their own 'Get caught reading' photos. They could either bring in a photo of them reading in an unusual place or email it in to school and we will display them in the library.

Attendance

The school is currently working with the other local schools to finalise our new attendance policy. Once complete this document will be made available to all parents/carers. Regular attendance is a major contributory factor to successful outcomes and therefore regular attendance is strongly encouraged. Our school target for attendance is 96%. For the first half term, class attendance was as follows:

Year R 97%

Year 1 97 %

Year 2 98%

Year 3 96 %

Year 4 97%

Overall attendance 97 %

Within these statistics there are children whose attendance has already fallen below 90%. The school will be in contact with these families. Please be reminded that holidays in term time are not permitted. Should your child suffer repeatedly with periods of illness, the school nursing team will be called upon for support to encourage more regular attendance.

Governing Board

Our Governing Board have been busy this term continuing to oversee the strategic direction of the school and providing a challenging and supporting role.

As parents are now very well aware, they have been most particularly working on investigating and then moving towards the collaboration with Stondon. It was very good to have several of the Stondon Governors as well as nearly all of our Governors represented at the very positive meetings with parents on Wednesday night where our incoming Headteacher, Sarah Woodham, was able to talk to and with parents about January's new set-up and looking on to a very special future.

Governors have also been putting in a great deal of work and wisdom to help create our wonderful new pre-school – Pixie class.

In addition to the programme of meetings, we are also lucky to see various members of the governing body in and around school on a regular basis including formal meetings to review a variety of key aspects of how the school is working to deliver the best provision for our children. It is a great governance team and the school is lucky to be able to draw on this great source of support.

Scholastic Book Orders

The school receive valuable funds towards our school library from these book orders – please support us and return your book orders by Monday 20th November for delivery in time for Christmas.

Top Table

Well done to the following children who joined Mr Haddon on top table on Monday. As we know, they were chosen for their exemplary behaviour and values:

Juhaym, Adora, Imogen, George, Hallie-Paige, Logan, Quinn, Oscar, Jack, Kelis, Daisy-May.

Shillington Superstars

Rainbows: Adora

Unicorns: Joey

Dragons: Evie

Centaurs: Oscar

Phoenix: William

Well done everyone!

Dates for your diary

17th Nov

1st – 3rd Dec

7th Dec

8th Dec

11th Dec

12th Dec

13th Dec

13th Dec

14th Dec

15th Dec

Children in Need £1 donation

Christmas Tree Festival at Congregational Church

Pantomime visit Jack & The Beanstalk – **children in at 8.30am please**

PTFA Christmas Fayre

KS1 Carol Service 2pm *at All Saint's Church*

KS1 Carol Service 10am *at All Saint's Church*

Christmas jumper day £1 donation

School Christmas Dinner – *details to follow*

Rainbows Nativity 10am & 2.30pm- in school

Parent open session: Christmas Crafts 9:05am – 10am

Term Dates

Tues 5th Sept 2017 – Tues 19th Dec 2017

Weds 3rd Jan 2018 – Thurs 29th March 2018

(Half term 12th Feb – 16th Feb 2018)

Tues 17th Apr 2018 – Fri 20th July 2018

(Half term 28th May – 1st June 2018)

May Day 7th May – Sch Closed

****Please note our school is open Mon 4th June 2018 (some surrounding schools are closed)****