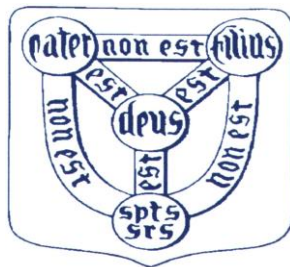


Shellingford CE (A) Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Judith Terrell



"Inspiring hearts and minds"

School Newsletter

Autumn Term Two 2024 - Issue 5

8th November 2024

Value for the next two weeks: Service and Generosity

There is more happiness in giving than receiving.

Acts 20:35

Dear Shellingford School Family,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. There are many exciting events taking place for the children and for parents over the coming weeks. The whole school will be 'Playing with Numbers' during Maths Week and parents are invited to an Open Morning. We are also raising money for Children in Need, taking part in Anti-Bullying Week activities, visiting the Watermill Theatre to see Pinocchio and celebrating Christmas – it's a busy term!

PRAYER SPACE

Earlier this week BeSpace and the Uffington Benefice of Churches organised a **Prayer Space** in St Faith's Church to give the children an opportunity to experience prayer in a personal way. We were very grateful to the volunteers and for everyone's hard work in providing this experience for the children.

Activities focused on Max Lucado's book 'You Are Special'. The children wrote prayers about forgiveness and watched the ink fade away in water. They used plasma balls to think about God's presence in the world, thought about our uniqueness and what makes us special by looking at themselves in mirrors and focusing on personal qualities.



At the end of this newsletter, I have included a revised list of diary dates for this term, however, please continue to read our fortnightly school newsletters and check email correspondence regularly as event information may change.

TEACHING ASSISTANT VACANCY

If you are interested in joining our team as a Teaching Assistant, we currently have a position available. The job advert can be viewed [here](#). If you would like further information please contact the School Office.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Our service of **Remembrance and Dedication** was held this morning in St Faith's church. It was a very poignant occasion for the school community. We would like to give a very special thanks to Mr Matt Mortiboy and Mr Steve Cloete from The Royal British Legion who were in attendance and to The Reverend Jeremy Goulston for leading the service. As a mark of respect, pupils were invited to wear their Brownies, Rainbows, Guides, Beavers, Scouts or Sea Cadets uniform. The school sang three moving songs, each class presented a wreath and poppies were laid as a mark of respect:



Thank you also for supporting **The Poppy Appeal**. Every poppy shows that we care about the lives of our Armed Forces Community. The Royal British Legion wish to send their heartfelt thanks for your very generous donations.

VOLUNTEERS

As a school we appreciate the support that we receive from volunteers, be it on occasional visits, or at regular times during the school week. If you feel you are able to offer some time we are asking for help in the following capacities:

- Hearing individual children read during a session or for a short period at the beginning or end of the school day.
- Working with small groups of children for a morning or afternoon session in a variety of curriculum areas.

Please complete this [form](#) by **Monday 11th November at 4.00pm.**

[Further reminders, requests and information for the next few weeks ahead:](#)

RE AND WORSHIP QUESTIONNAIRES FOR PARENTS

All church schools receive an inspection to evaluate how well the school's Christian ethos and values impact on the development and achievement of the children which it serves. In our most recent review of the effectiveness of our school as a church school, we were judged as 'Outstanding' in all areas.

As part of our ongoing evaluation, one important aspect is to seek your views on our school as a Church of England school.



I know we are approaching a busy time of year, but I would very much appreciate it if you could give some time to reflect on the attached questionnaire. We have also put a copy of this questionnaire in the children's book-bags. *Please complete and return to the School Office by Monday 25th November.*

Thank you.

MATHS WEEK 'PLAYING WITH NUMBERS' & PARENT OPEN MORNING: 11TH - 15TH NOVEMBER

Next week the whole school will be focusing on Maths and 'Playing with Numbers'. On Wednesday 13th November from 9.00-9.30am parents are invited to come into classes to experience Maths learning in action! We hope that this will give you a taster of the kind of activities and games you could do to support your children at home.

CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL 2024: DANCE-A-THON! - FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

Mrs Sucksmith and Miss Long are organising our fundraising event this year. On Friday 15th November in the afternoon we will be dancing our cares away! We are asking for children to come to school wearing something spotty or sporty. We kindly ask for a donation of £2.00 minimum per child which will go to Children in Need.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2024 'CHOOSE RESPECT': 18TH - 22ND NOVEMBER

Anti-Bullying Week takes place in schools across England each November. The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week is '**Choose Respect.**' On the Monday 18th November we would like everyone to wear odd socks to celebrate that we are all unique. Over the week the children will focus on the actions they can take to choose respect and what they can do to stop bullying. Our Anti-Bullying Policy is written in accordance with OCC guidelines and can be found on our school website.

AUTUMN/WINTER SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDERS

As the weather becomes wetter and colder, we require all children to have the appropriate outdoor winter clothing in school daily:

- A waterproof and windproof coat
- A warm hat, scarf and gloves
- A pair of wellington boots. **Please note children are only allowed on the field in wellies.*
- A PE Kit. **Black or navy tracksuit trousers for colder days are useful and a spare pair of socks as most PE lessons take place outside.* (A plastic bag for muddy trainers is also a good idea!) Please note for health and safety reasons, watches and earrings are not to be worn for PE and long hair must be tied back. Please provide a small box or envelope for your child to take out their own earrings or tape for us to cover them, as well as hair ties if this applies to your child.

Forest School sessions: Children also need waterproofs, wellies, and old clothes.

Please check all clothing and footwear are clearly named to ensure any lost items can be returned. If items are not bought into school a reminder letter will be sent home to parents. Thank you.

HEALTHY SNACKS

As part of our Food and Healthy Eating Policy we encourage children to pursue a healthy and balanced diet. Children in Foundation and Key Stage One receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable every school day at break-time through the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme administered by the Department of Health. At lunchtimes our school meals provided by OCC comply with nutritional standards. Children opting for homemade packed lunches are also encouraged to bring in a healthy, balanced lunch. Sweets and chocolate are not allowed in packed lunches and crisps and biscuits are discouraged. Thank you.



A huge thank you for supporting the following fundraising events at the end of last term.

❖ **SMARTIES CHALLENGE - £245.59**

❖ **AUTUMN STALL - £279.13**

Friday 22nd November is Non-School Uniform Day (no football / sports kits). Please bring a £2.00 per child or a donation of chocolate for the Tombola Stall at St Faith's Church Christmas Fayre (on Saturday 30th November, see below diary dates).

With best wishes,

Judith R Terrell

DIARY DATES FOR THE AUTUMN TERM 2024:

AUTUMN TERM TWO		
Week	Date/Time	Event
1	Monday 4 th November	Autumn Term Two begins (School starts at 8.45am) Class 2: TA Sports Stars (pm) weekly
	Tuesday 5 th - Wednesday 6 th November	Whole School Event: BeSpace at St Faith's Church
	Tuesday 5 th November	Year 5/6 Swimming Lessons continue Class 3: Forest School
	Thursday 7 th November (pm weekly)	Class 3: 'Violin' Tuition' (Oxfordshire County Music Service) (pm) weekly FoSS: Events Meeting - (7.30pm)
	Friday 8 th November (10.45am)	Whole School Event: Remembrance Service at St Faith's Church - all parents welcome FoSS Film Night: 'The Star' (3.15 - 5.00pm)
	2	Monday 11 th - 15 th November
Tuesday 12 th November		Class 1 and 2: Forest School
Wednesday 13 th November (9.00-9.30am)		Whole School Event: Maths Parent Open Morning
Tuesday 14 th November		School Council Meeting
Friday 15 th November		Whole School Event: Children in Need
3	Monday 18 th - 22 nd November	Whole School Event: Anti-Bullying Week
	Tuesday 19 th November	Class 3: Forest School
	Wednesday 20 th November	Whole School Visit: Watermill Theatre 'Pinocchio'
	Friday 22 nd November	FoSS: Non-School Uniform Day (for Tombola Stall at St Faith's Church Christmas Fayre)
4	Monday 25 th - Thursday 28 th November	Last week of After-School Clubs
	Monday 25 th November	All Pupils : Nasal Flu Immunisation Programme
	Monday 25 th November	School Choir: Big Christmas Sing Event (Oxford)
	Tuesday 26 th November	Class 1 and 2: Forest School
	Wednesday 27 th November (6.30pm)	FoSS: General Meeting (Class 4)
	Friday 29 th November (2.30 - 3.00pm)	Whole School Event: Celebration Assembly in the Community Hall - all parents welcome & FoSS Stall
	Saturday 30 th November (10.00-12noon)	St Faith's Church Christmas Fayre
5	Tuesday 3 rd December	Class 3: Forest School
6	Sunday 8 th December (5.00pm)	Carols by Candlelight' at St Faith's Church
	Tuesday 10 th December (6.00pm)	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production
	Wednesday 11 th December (1.30pm)	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production
	Thursday 12 th December (all day)	SEN Parent Consultations
	Friday 13 th December (5.00 - 7.00pm)	FoSS: Children's Christmas Party
7	Wednesday 18 th December	Whole School Event: Christmas Lunch FoSS: Christmas Jumper Day
	Thursday 19 th December (2.00pm)	Whole School Event: Christmas Service (led by Class 4) at St Faith's Church - all parents welcome
	Friday 20 th December	End of Autumn Term Two (School closes at 1.30pm for the Christmas holidays)