



Shirley Juniors

Weekly Communication

To contact any member of staff, please email office@shirleyschools.co.uk marked for the attention of the member of staff and your email will be forwarded.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached to the school website the following;

- Team Spirit Flyer
- SASS Flyer, Zoom Dates and Poster
- Parent Survey Home Learning Results
- Wellbeing Leaflet
- Returning to School Booklet
- Potentially Dangerous App Letter
- Symptom Free Testing Letter

KEEPING US INFORMED

Please could we ask all parents to inform the school if anyone in the household is going for a coronavirus test or is self-isolating as another family member in the household has tested positive.

Please remember to be considerate of others when lining up in the queue and to wear a mask where possible unless you have a medical condition which exempts you.



Dates for your Diary

MARCH

Friday 12th	INSET DAY CANCELLED (rescheduled date below)
Wednesday 31st	Bags2School
Friday 1st April	INSET DAY—School closed to pupils

LAPTOPS / IPADS/ DONGLES BORROWED FOR HOME LEARNING

If your child borrow a school laptop/ipad/dongle for online learning during lockdown, these **MUST** be returned to a member of the school office team so they can be signed as received no later than **Monday 8th March 2021**.

Weekly Communication—IMPORTANT NEWS

As of the week beginning the 8th March when all children return to school we will be sending out our weekly communication via parents email addresses, this will be sent as an attachment and also available on the schools website. Please ensure we hold a current email address in order for you to receive this.

MARVELLOUS ME

Techers will continue to use Marvellous Me for communications / rewards / updates etc

PARENT SURVEY PLEASE HELP— WELLBEING OF YOUR CHILD

We have created a survey for parents to tell us their child's experiences of this lockdown and any particular challenges their child has had. We would be very grateful if you could complete it by Sunday 7th March so that any information can be acted on.

<https://forms.gle/WSZ5i2KLv1Hz1nCt9>

YEAR 6

Year 6 will come through the gate in to the playground and socially distance until 8.55am and then come in to the school from the playground. This will allow more space on the pavement for Year 5 to line up.

Don't forget to look at our Community Information page also in the letters section for what's happening in Southampton on our website.

<http://www.shirleyinfantschool.org.uk/page/default.asp?pid=82>

PARENT SURVEY HOME LEARNING RESULTS

We asked you to complete a survey for us to find out your thoughts about our home learning, and were very grateful to have over 100 responses. This is a summary of what we discovered, which was overwhelmingly positive, a fact that we are very proud of.

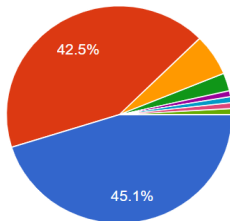
Luckily the children are returning next week, and hopefully there will be no further lockdowns - however we can still take the feedback on board for times where a bubble might close and a class needs to switch to remote learning for 10 days

1. What are we doing well

You mentioned so many things – live lessons, structure, tutor time/home room, recorded sessions variety of topics, positive and engaging lessons, breakout rooms...

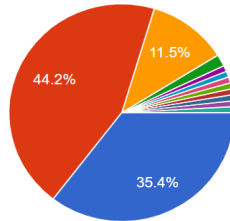
2. Children's learning:

Is the Learning/support at the right level for child?



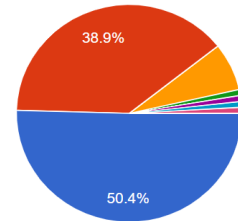
88% said 'yes' or 'mostly'.

Do you feel they are making progress?



80% said 'yes' or 'mostly'.

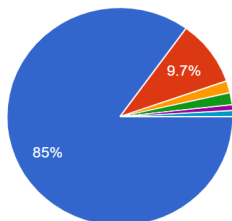
Are they able to learn independently?



89% said 'yes' or 'mostly'.

3. Timings of lessons:

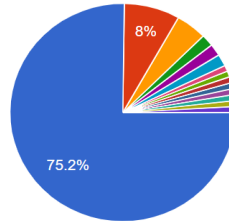
Length of live lesson



85% said 'about right' the remainder mostly split between 'too short' and 'too long'

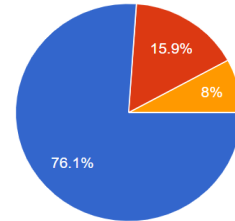
It is worth noting that teachers are generally staying on to give individual support after live lessons.

Length of time for Practice tasks



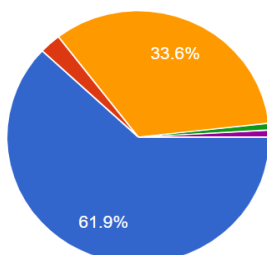
75% said 'about right' with the remainder mostly split between 'too short', 'too long', and differing answers for different lessons

Length of time for Prove It tasks



76% said 'about right' with the remainder mostly split between 'too short' and 'too long'

4. Have you felt supported with technical issues?



The vast majority of responders had either felt supported (62%) or not had any technical issues for us to support (34%)

1. **What could we do better?** The main responses were:

- Longer teaching time – *we considered this, however without either reducing the number of lessons per day or reducing the time available for the independent task, there is no realistic way to make this happen.*
- More 1:1 sessions for child and teacher – *we felt this too, and these did increase – some were requested by children or parents, and some were initiated by teachers or TAs*
- More feedback to children – *we were limited by the number of hours teachers could physically work during the day when they spent most of their time teaching live lessons, doing 1:1 or small group sessions, and planning or recording lessons. We had a staff meeting focussed on different ways to give feedback, and things such as Mote, highlighting work, whole class feedback, and pre-formatted spreadsheets for maths were shared and began to be more widely used.*

2. **What are you proud of your children for?**

The responses to this were so lovely, we would like to share a few!

Great attitude and perseverance

Turning up (early) every day and being an active member of their class.

Hard work, independence and for being so reliable and helpful at home.

For always trying your best and always being ready and on time!

Trying their hardest and being patient. Being well mannered during live group sessions.

Keeping himself productively occupied

Being accountable and responsible, managing his time effectively and having a positive approach - we are very proud of him! Xx

Persevering when Mum is busy on a call or helping your brother and for keeping track of live lesson start times when Mum gets distracted with work.

Being amazing, having a can do attitude, and independently managing her day, getting on with her work, and consistently accessing the breakout sessions for support.

Persevering and engaging even when they would rather just play minecraft!

Totally owning and acing his learning! He's bossing the lockdown life.

Always having a positive attitude to learning

Persevering at his work and listening to me when I'm trying to help him understand but I am of course no teacher!

Persevering, even when it felt impossible. We are so proud of you and your attitude is blossoming.

Her hard work which she put into study, dancing during the break, lovely smile on her face and her optimism during home learning time 😊

Dealing with a difficult situation so maturely, for being independent and showing so much adaptability and getting on with it all with a big smile even though it is tough.

For trying so hard and not giving up! Overcoming frustration

Results of children's home learning survey.

We also asked for the children's views about our home learning, and received 188 responses from our very vocal children! Their responses, like yours, were overwhelmingly positive and delightfully characterful!

1. Lessons and support

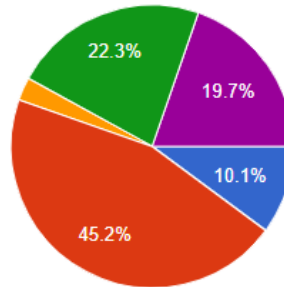
Are the session the right length?
What are your favourite elements?

The children largely mirrored the parents' views on the length of the sessions and their favourite aspects of the home learning.

Only 9% of responders felt they were not joining in as much as they could, with our favourite reason for a 'no' response being "I'm sometimes on the toilet"!

Are you being offered extra support when you need it?

This was very positive, with only 5 children saying that the extra help had not benefitted them:



- I haven't seen it being offered
- It is offered; I haven't needed it yet
- Yes but it didn't help me with my problem
- Yes and it has been a bit helpful
- Yes and it was really helpful

2. What could we improve?

The main things the children requested were:

- The chance to talk more with friends – *Y5 and 6 trialled social sessions such as a disco and these were really well received, so this is something we would continue going forward.*
- More off-line learning – *This is a tricky balance because we were aware that lots of parents needed their children as engaged as possible so they themselves could also work*
- More time for the tasks/longer teaching – *see response to the same question in the parents results*

3. How are you feeling?

The main answers were:

- Happy (by far the most common answer)
- Bored
- Lonely/Missing friends/school
- Sad

Happy because even though its lockdown I see my friends everyday on zoom.

I miss school, but feel happy learning from home

Sad as I'm missing school and my school friends

I'm feeling just fine. :)

4. Messages to teachers

Children sent some absolutely lovely personalised messages to teachers, thanking them for all their hard work and support – we suspect there were a good few teachers in need of tissues! Here are a couple of examples:

"Thank you for helping me do my learning, going through this tough time not many have been through before and really supporting me. I don't know where I would be would out you"

"Thank you so much for making it more fun and supporting us all through this tricky time. It is not the same as being in school but you are making the home learning so much better than the last lockdown home learning. Can't wait to see you back in school."

"Thank you so much for this learning! It probably has been stressful at times but to be honest it's all worth it when I realize how much stuff I have learnt that I haven't learnt before this all started."

You might need your own tissues for these bits!

I would give a reward for coping with a puppy, two kids and their own work

Helping me on my work when I struggle

1. What are you proud of your parents for?

Being the best unexperienced teacher and supporter ever because it is a first for my mum and is (as well as the teachers) doing really well.

I would give my mum chocolates for helping me out even though she has lots of work to do and my dad an award for helping me when my mum doesn't know!

I thank my Mum and Dad for decorating my bedroom so that it is a nice place to do my home learning and for being here for me.

I would give my mum an award because she manages to help me with a baby and my sister to worry about.

I would give flowers, for being kind and being all round just lovely and supporting me as best they can.

Staying out my way so the teachers can do a good job!

The Hug Award for my Mum for helping me

Thank you for sporting me mummy and daddy.

Being there for me if I need help. And for feeding me lots during the day.

I would give them a reward for working hard and still have time to spend time with

You have helped me get through this hard time so thank you for everything. I would book a holiday just for us to go on and book mum a relaxing spa day and get my dad a new phone.

For calming me down when I get frustrated, for helping me.

Encouraging me to work my hardest.

2. What are you proud of yourself for?

For completing my work on time at a high standard.

I am proud of myself for doing the best I can and not giving up.

I am proud of myself for trying to do stuff on my own because I know that my parents have work to do to.

I feel happy because I have seen that I have been more responsible.

Doing work by myself, reading the questions, learning to use laptop

I am proud of myself for getting all my work completed, for being on time to all the lessons and not missing one live lessons, home room or check out!!

Trying to stay focused as its pretty different

Not getting distracted by the things around me

I am understanding my lessons more then I thought over zoom

I've improved on my maths

I am proud of all of my writing pieces because I find it hard to get started.

I am proud of myself because I am struggling with work but I am powering through

I have gone to every live lesson

I am proud of my french learning because I was a bit behind on my french but I put some effort in and now i feel like i am at the same stage as everyone else.

The amount of concentration I have put into the tasks

We are privileged to work with your lovely children – thank you for regularly lending them to us!

Community News

SOTSEF Goes Digital 2021

SOTSEF Goes Digital is the digital edition of the Southampton Science and Engineering Festival, an annual award-winning science festival that allows everyone to explore and discover what the world of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) has to offer.

The Festival will run from Friday 5 to Sunday 14 March 2021.

For further information, please visit <https://www.sotsef.co.uk/>

[Free online activity packs](#)

For all parents with children at home at the moment, you may find some of these fun, creative and free education resources really useful.



Tudor House and Garden - <https://tudorhouseandgarden.com/hands-on-learning/online-resources/>
SeaCity Museum - <https://seacitymuseum.co.uk/online-activities>
Southampton City Art Gallery - <https://www.southamptoncityartgallery.com/resources/>

COVID-19 vaccination walk-in service

From tomorrow, for the next 7 days, walk-in appointments **for eligible groups** will be available 7 days a week, between 12.30pm and 3.30pm, at Solent NHS Trust run centres including: Basingstoke Fire Station, St James's Hospital in Portsmouth, The Riverside Centre in Newport on the Isle of Wight and Oakley Road in Millbrook, Southampton.

Am I eligible for a walk-in appointment?

- People age 64 and over
- People who have received a letter from the government saying they are at high risk from coronavirus (clinically extremely vulnerable)
- Adults in receipt of Carer's Allowance

What do I need to bring with me?

Please bring proof of eligibility (e.g. shielding letter from the government, photo identification including date of birth, or Department of Work and Pensions letter for eligible carers, specifying in receipt of Carer's Allowance).

Until Tuesday next week, eligible people can now walk-in for their COVID-19 vaccination at Oakley Road in Millbrook, Southampton, between 12.30pm and 3.30pm. Eligible people can also visit 3 other vaccination centres offering this trial walk-in vaccine service over the next few days, or pre-book appointments by visiting www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination, where they can choose a time slot and location that suits them, or they can call 119 free of charge, anytime between 7am and 11pm, seven days a week.

Find out more about the [COVID-19 vaccine walk-in service](#) and the [vaccine roll-out](#) across Hampshire and the Isle of White.

COVID-19 vaccines for unpaid and family carers



Do you know someone who is an unpaid or family carer?
Let them know to register their caring responsibilities with Carers in Southampton to be on the priority list to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

carersinsouthampton.co.uk/covid19vaccine 0800 776 5217

Do you know someone who is an unpaid or family carer? Unpaid and family carers aged 16+ are on one of the priority lists for an early COVID-19 vaccination and vaccines for this group have already begun.

Many unpaid or family carers do not recognise their caring role. Please encourage any family members, neighbours or colleagues you think might have caring responsibilities to register with Carers in Southampton as an unpaid or family carer to be in line to receive the vaccine, even if they are already registered with Carers in Southampton. They must be registered with a Southampton GP Practice.

They will need to tell Carers in Southampton they are a carer by completing a form here: www.carersinsouthampton.co.uk/covid19vaccine or by calling Freephone 0800 776 5217 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm) but please be aware that the phone lines are extremely busy.

It is also possible for people in receipt of a carers allowance to go online and book their vaccination at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/, or call 119.

SASS Supporting parents and carers of children and young people with Autism

A Southampton based Autism support service. We provide support, guidance and advocacy for families with children/young people (4-18) with suspected/a diagnosis of Autism. (Doesn't have to be suspected by professionals). We offer support at any stage of the diagnostic process as well as post diagnosis. We are volunteers with both personal and professional experience.

Please see the Leaflet attached to our school website.



Balfour Beatty

Working in partnership



SCN4 Access to Southampton General Hospital

We are making improvements to how people get around Southampton on foot and by bike. This proposed improvement would deliver targeted measures to create a continuous cycle corridor between Adanac Park (site of a new Park and Ride) to the city centre, via Lords Hill Centre and the General Hospital (See map). We are planning enhancements to add cycling facilities along this route which forms an important part of Southampton's Cycle Network (SCN route 4 or SCN4).

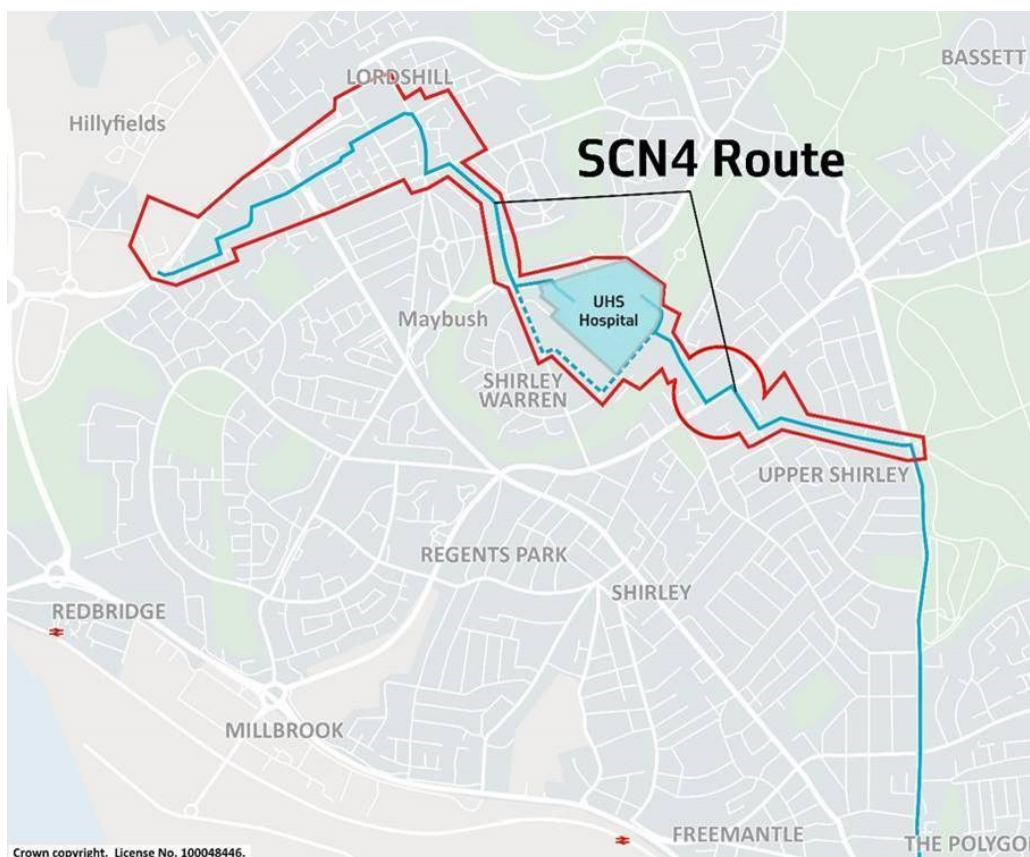
As part of providing a safe cycling route we are making upgrades to the junction of Dale Road, Winchester Road and Wilton Road, then guiding cyclists through quiet roads to the cycle facilities on Hill Lane.

We want to hear your opinions on the Active Travel routes in this area. All feedback received will help to closely inform our plans for the area as these continue to be shaped and developed over the coming months.

If you would like to participate in our short survey, please visit: <http://bit.ly/SCN4survey>.

The closure for this survey will be Wednesday 10 March.

For additional information please visit <https://transport.southampton.gov.uk/scn4access>



Do something amazing - help someone learn to read!



What is Read Easy?

Southampton City Libraries are playing a key role in setting up a Read Easy group in Southampton. Read Easy is a volunteer organisation that provides free and confidential one-to-one coaching for adults who struggle to read.

Like all Read Easy groups, the Southampton branch will be run by a local volunteer management team using Read Easy UK's structure, policies and procedures. Please visit the website to find more details about the organisation. <https://readeasy.org.uk/>

For the group in Southampton to provide this vital help we need to form a volunteer management team of at least six people.

Fancy Joining our Team?

We have exciting opportunities for volunteers to join the team running Read Easy in Southampton. We are looking for volunteers who have the following qualities:

- an interest in the difficulties faced by those who struggle to read
- energy, enthusiasm, commitment
- ability to use initiative and work independently
- ability to work as part of a team

What are the Management Team Volunteer Roles?

Coordinator - The Coordinator is central to the running of each Read Easy group, but is not formally a member of the Management Team. If you are interested in this rewarding role, please ask for the separate role description.

Management Team Leader - Guide and support a team of volunteers, manage meetings, set the agendas, take responsibility for the project, network within your local community and be a spokesperson for your local group. A separate role description is provided for this particularly important role.

Secretary - Take minutes, keep records up to date and generally support the Team Leader with meetings and communications.

Treasurer - Ensure the accurate management and recording of the group's income and expenditure.

Data Protection Champion - Liaise with members of the Team to make sure that all personal data is stored according to the Data Protection Policy.

Fundraiser - Help raise funds to ensure that the group's running expenses are covered, so that more people can learn to read.

Literacy Specialist - Provide support with literacy issues and assist in running Coach Meetings. Experience of teaching literacy to adults would be required.

Publicity Organiser - Getting the message out there, using local media, social media, leaflets, posters and other resources provided by Read Easy UK.

Referrals Networker - Create and develop relationships with local agencies who may be able to refer potential readers.

Safeguarding Champion - Ensure that your group implements, understands and works within the Safeguarding Policy and organise DBS checks when necessary.

Venue Organiser - Liaise with local businesses and organisations to find and arrange suitable reading venues for your group.

Volunteer Recruiter - Help to manage the recruitment and interviewing of volunteers for your group.

IT Supporter - Provide invaluable support to local volunteers. If preferred, this role could be taken up without joining the Management Team.

Reading Coach – Could you help someone to learn to read? No special qualifications are needed to become a Reading Coach, training is provided, and you will be supported throughout your coaching journey.

Want to find out more?

If you think you can offer the time, skills and experience that we are looking for, we would be delighted to hear from you.

If you are interested in a particular role, have any questions or need more information, please contact Allison or Catherine via email: southamptonpioneer@readeasy.org.uk

Additionally, we are also hosting two public online Zoom meetings on Wednesday 24 March 2021 at 2pm and 6.30pm. During these meetings you can find out more alongside meeting Michelle Baker, the Read Easy Regional Advisor, who can answer any questions you may have about Read Easy and volunteering.

Please contact us via email address southamptoncc@public.govdelivery.com for the Zoom meeting invite.



PTFA

Uniform sale

This is still open on our facebook event – take a look and stock up before Monday!! Loads of good quality uniform to be had. Here is a link to the event.

<https://fb.me/e/1ceeoXJIO>

World Book Day

Thank you for all your donations towards books for the library this week. If you'd still like to donate you can do so here:

<https://paypal.me/pools/c/8xl9hXgx89>

Schools Lottery

If you haven't already, why not come and try your luck in our school lottery. Weekly prize money currently standing at £20.80, and the more people that play the more you could win! There's also big prizes to be won nationwide – a big bike voucher this week! Only £1 a ticket, and this year more than ever this funding is vital for us to continue to support the school. Sign up here:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/shirley-junior-school>

Date for your diary

Bags2school Thursday 31st March – details to follow...

At the end of this Academic year both the co-chairs, the treasurer and the secretary will be stepping down. We would love to talk to anyone interested in taking over our roles. Please contact us via facebook or on ptfa@shirleyschools.co.uk if you'd like it through with us. We have all thoroughly enjoyed the years that we have done this.