



Shirley Schools



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.

Friday 3rd February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached to the school website the following letters;

- Shirley Schools Digital Parenting Guide
- Shirley Infants Safer Internet Day Newsletter
- Shirley Infants Safer Internet Family-Agreement
- Shirley Infants Internet Safety Day home activities
- Shirley Junior Siberian Husky Swimming Letter
- Shirley Juniors—Year 5 Home Learning—Identity

MEDICINE REMINDER

If you send your child to school with any medicine for headaches, coughs, colds, indigestion etc, please make sure it is signed in at the school office.

Please find the links to the letter pages on our websites:

[Infant School Letters Link](#)

[Junior School Letters Link](#)

Dates for your Diary

Shirley Infant School

FEBRUARY

Thursday 2nd

Year 1 Celebration Event 2.45pm in classroom

Friday 3rd

Year 2 Home Learning due

Tuesday 7th

Year 1 Fire Visit - on site

Thursday 9th

Year R Celebration Event 2.45pm in classroom

Friday 10th

School closes for Half Term

13th—17th

HALF TERM

Monday 20th

School re-opens for SPRING 2

Monday 20th

Author Visit / Workshop

Wednesday 22nd

Year 2 Great Fire of London - on site

Thursday 23rd

Year R Mill Cottage - on site

Thursday 23rd

Year 1 Manor Farm - off site

MARCH

Thursday 2nd

World Book Day Special Menu

Friday 3rd

World Book Day - Dress up

Friday 10th

FOSIS Family Disco

Tuesday 14th

Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm on site

Thursday 16th

Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm on site

Friday 17th

Year 2 Home Learning due in

Monday 20th

Year 1 Victorian Day-on site, Dress up

Thursday 23rd

Year R Celebration Event 2.45pm in Class

Friday 24th

Year 1 Home Learning due in

Saturday 25th

FOSIS Colour Run

Monday 27th

Year 2 Woodpecker Class Celebration

Tuesday 28th

Event 2.45pm - Hall

Wednesday 29th

Class Photos

Thursday 30th

Year 2 Fox Class Celebration Event

Friday 31st

2.45pm - Hall

Friday 31st

Year 2 Badger Class Celebration Event

Friday 31st

2.45pm - Hall

FOSIS Non Uniform Day

FOSIS Cake Sale Year 1

School closes for Easter Holidays

APRIL

3rd—14th

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 17th

School re-opens for SUMMER 1

Saturday 22nd

FOSIS School tidy up day

Shirley Junior School

FEBRUARY

Thursday 2nd

Share my learning 8.45am & 3.20pm in classrooms

Thursday 2nd

Year 5 Swimming Arctic Foxes

Thursday 2nd

Year 4 Fishbourne Roman Palace - off site

Friday 3rd

PTA Quiz

Thursday 9th

Year 3 Sleep over and light party - on site

Thursday 9th

Year 5 Swimming Arctic Foxes

Thursday 9th

Choir performance 4pm (school hall)

Friday 10th

PTA Cake Sale

Friday 10th

Yr 5 'No Planet B' outcome day

Friday 10th

School closes for Half Term

13th—17th

HALF TERM

Monday 20th

School re-opens for SPRING 2

Thursday 23rd

Year 5 Swimming Siberian Husky

Tuesday 28th

Junior Parent Workshop 6pm - Zones of Regulation. More information to follow

MARCH

Thursday 2nd

World Book Day Special Menu

Thursday 2nd

Year 5 Siberian Husky Swimming - off site

Friday 3rd

World Book Day - Dress up

Tuesday 7th

Parents Evening Face to face 3.30-6.30pm

Thursday 9th

Year 5 Siberian Husky Swimming - off site

Thursday 9th

Parents Evening Online 3.30-6.30pm

Friday 10th

PTA Family Disco

Thursday 16th

Year 5 Siberian Husky Swimming - off site

Tuesday 21st

Share my learning 8.45am & 3.20pm

****note change of day****

Thursday 23rd

Year 5 Siberian Husky Swimming - off site

Friday 24th

Careers Fair 1pm – 3pm

Saturday 25th

PTA Colour Run

Thursday 30th

Class photos

Thursday 30th

Year 5 Siberian Husky Swimming - off site

Thursday 30th

Year 4 Project Outcome, Rags to Riches - off site

Friday 31st

PTA Non Uniform Day

APRIL

3rd—14th

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 17th

School re-opens for SUMMER 1

Saturday 22nd

PTFA School tidy up day

Share my leaning—Juniors

We will be changing days from Spring 2 as follows:

Tuesday 21st March

Thursday 18th May

Tuesday 11th July

In light of the announcement of His Majesty's coronation on Saturday 6 May 2023, an **additional bank holiday has been announced on Monday 8th May**. Settings that are normally closed on a bank holiday should close on this day. This will include schools and colleges.

Coming soon

- World Book Day

Shirley Infants - Watch this space!



Shirley Infants are going to be working towards our Green and Bronze Modeshift Award in school - Travel Plan.

The children were told in assembly this week that they have to keep their ears and eyes open to find out how to take part in the competition alongside lots of Southampton Schools.

We have fantastic prizes to be won and Miss Salter even won a scooter for learning all about the awards too! Well done Miss Salter!

There will be some more information to follow soon....keep looking in the Weekly Communication for more information.



Congratulations to Shirley Infants - Moles Class!

EVERYBODY earned their Travel Tracker badge for December's walking to school challenge.

2nd place were the Otters and in 3rd place we had the Owls!

Keep making those fantastic choices on travelling to school everyday, we are making a difference!



Shirley Infants Behaviour & Relationships in School



Please have a look via the link below:-

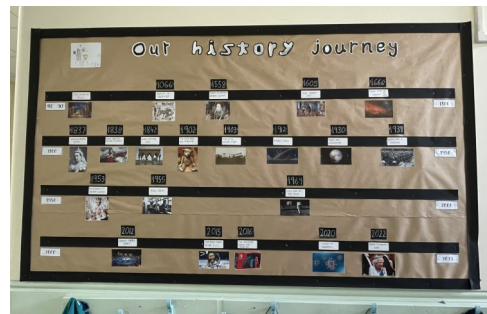
[Behaviour & Relationships](#)

Shirley Infants ****NEW**** Whole School History Timeline Display

Miss Sneddon, our History lead, has been busy beavering away at creating a brand new historical timeline display! You can find the display by the school hall.

The history timeline was created to enable the children to understand the organisation of historical events, when and what happened at the time and how things have developed or stayed the same. The timeline includes key past and present events, which have helped influence and shape our society today.

How many historical events can you see on our new timeline? Can you think of any other historical events that could do on our timeline?



FREE READING BOOKS

We have been alerted to a new reading book online service called Scooper Books

Have a look on the link below to view browse and read as many books as you can.

<https://sooperbooks.com>



Year 1 Photo Request

Please can you send in a photograph of your child as a baby to help with their science topic after half term?

We are finding out about the similarities and differences between babies and children.

You can upload your photo to Google Classroom or pop it in bookbags for children to give to their teacher.



Parents Evening Dates

Shirley Infant School

We will continue with face to face meetings in school.

Tuesday 14th March - 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Thursday 16th March - 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Sign up sheets will be available from Monday 27th Feb, these will be located outside the school office.

Shirley Junior School

Following parent feedback we are going to offer a hybrid model for parent teacher consultations with one day face to face in school and one day virtual online using School cloud.

Face to face - Tuesday 7th March - 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Online School Cloud - Thursday 9th March - 3.30pm - 6.30pm

The booking system will go live on 24th Feb at 10.30am and the closing date is 6th March at 10.30am. This will be via your school cloud account.

Digital Life

Please find attached a guide to help your family live a better digital life on our website.



We would appreciate your feedback

We would like to know what your child/children think about the school dinners, due to using a new provider - Dolce

Please provide the feedback by emailing the school office:- office@shirleyschools.co.uk



Shirley Junior Year 3 'Let it Shine' Light party and sleepover

Thursday 9th February 2023



The party will begin at 5:30pm and will finish at 7:30pm. The children can wear clothes of their choosing. We will be playing games, exploring light and telling stories in dark conditions. You can collect your child from the junior school hall at 7:30pm if they choose not to come to the sleepover.

For those remaining for the sleepover the children will need to bring the following: -

- Pyjamas and slippers
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Sleeping bag and pillow (roll mats if you have them)
- Small hand towel/ wash bag
- Change of underwear (change of clothes if your child wishes)
- Cuddly toy (optional)
- Reading book

Remember to label all of your child's belongings.

[Sleepover Information Slides](#)

Shirley Junior Choir Performance



The school choir will be performing to their parents at 4pm in the school hall on Thursday 9th February. If your child attends choir, please come along and listen to them sing.

Shirley Junior Year 5 'No Planet B' Outcome Day



Year 5 children are invited to come to school on Friday 10th February in their best professional work attire.

This is so they can be part of the Climate Summit. (This is a date change from the curriculum slides!)

Children will be debating and creating a plan for global change.

Further to the Online Behaviour & Relationships Workshop held on Tuesday 31st January

Below are weblinks to some useful Free Webinars being presented by

'My Family Coach'

<https://www.myfamilycoach.com/>

Sibling Wars! How to Help Your Children Get Along With Each Other - Free Class
Wednesday, 15th February 2023 7:00pm

[Book Now](#)

Our monthly class gives you the opportunity to ask questions about your child's behaviour and listen to expert ideas and inspiration.

This month's theme is: Difficult sibling relationships and how you can help your children get along with each other

Friction between your children can make home life unbearable. Siblings are meant to be best friends but can often end up as worst enemies! Find ways you can help your children get on better with each other and overcome sibling squabbles.

In this class, you will learn about:

- Why siblings can fall out and wind each other up
- Sibling rivalry and feeling jealous
- Ways to reduce conflict between your children
- How you can help your children show respect towards each other in this class

No Problem at School, But at Home..! - Free Class Thursday

20th April 2023 7:00pm

[Book Now](#)

Our monthly class gives you the opportunity to ask questions about your child's behaviour and listen to expert ideas and inspiration.

This month's theme is: Children who seem fine at school, but explode when they get home.

Many children seem completely fine at school and their teachers are surprised to hear about the behaviours you experience at home. In this class, we'll explore why some children show different behaviours at school and home. We'll look at ways you can teach your child to recognise how they feel, and strategies to help them calm down before they explode.

The importance of boundaries and consequences for children

Click on the link below to watch a YouTube tutorial presented by 'Place2Be' Parenting Support & Advice Website:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/article/the-importance-of-boundaries-and-consequences-for-children>



CLEANER REQUIRED

Shirley Infant and Junior School are looking for a hardworking, enthusiastic and reliable person to join our friendly cleaning team to help maintain the high standards of cleanliness in our school. We are looking for someone who understands how important it is that our pupils have a clean and safe place to learn. Experience would be an advantage but it is more important to be someone who takes pride in your work.

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 3.30pm TO 5.30PM

Grade 1 (£10.50 per hour)

Please email Bree Enemark bree.enemark@shirleyschools.co.uk for an application pack or come into the Shirley school office (Wilton Road, Shirley SO15 5LA) to pick one up.

Closing Date: 10th February 2023



SITE ASSISTANT REQUIRED

Shirley Infant and Junior are seeking a practical and enthusiastic Site Assistant to join our team, supporting our Site Manager in providing a clean, safe and well-maintained learning environment for our pupils and staff. Our ideal candidate will have experience of general maintenance tasks, cleaning and/or ground maintenance, and be enthusiastic in managing the demands of a busy school site. The successful candidate will take pride in the schools, have high standards and be proactive. They will also need to be computer literate and have GCSE Maths and English qualifications.

23.5 hours per week:

6:30am – 10:30am Mon-Fri and one additional afternoon (day negotiable)

Grade 4: £21,575 – £22,113 (£13,703 for 23.5 hours/week)

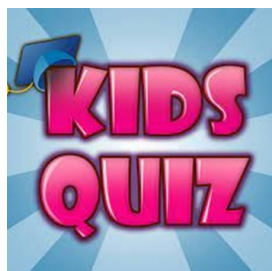
Please email Bree Enemark bree.enemark@shirleyschools.co.uk for an application pack or come into the Shirley school office (Wilton Road, Shirley SO15 5LA) to pick one up.

Safeguarding

FOSIS/PTFA

UPCOMING EVENTS...

JUNIOR QUIZ (KIDS) – TODAY!



FRIDAY 3 FEB @ JUNIOR SCHOOL HALL (16.45 - 18.00)

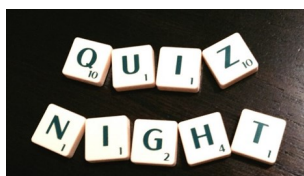
Tickets available on the door

£3.50 per child (years 3-6 only) including a hotdog or slice of pizza, and free water and squash.

We'll also have a tuck shop selling hotdogs, pizza, sweets and snacks.

Parents should drop off and collect their children via the doors in the playground. Parents do not have to stay but if you would like to come and help then please stay and volunteer. Younger siblings are welcome to join in if their parent is helping.

ADULT QUIZ NIGHT – TONIGHT!



FRIDAY 3 FEB @ ATHERLEY BOWLING CLUB (19.30 – 23.00)

Entry only with tickets bought in advance.

Drinks are available from the bar at very reasonable prices.

Please could each team bring a raffle prize (suggested value £5-£10),

JUNIOR CAKE SALE – FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY



Cake cakes and more cakes! Bring your pennies to buy lots of fabulous cakes and raise money for our Junior school – 50p a cake. We'll be selling in the Junior playground after school on Friday 10 February.

Cake donations (bought or baked, no nuts please) very gratefully received and can be taken to the office on the Friday morning or brought straight to the stall after school. Please bring your own containers to take cakes home. Thank you!

COLOUR RUN SAT 25 MARCH - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need lots of volunteers for our colour run event on Saturday 25th March held at the school - we need marshalls, bbq'ers, entrance, shop and more!



Calling All Volunteers!

We'll be setting up from 9am with the event running between 11 & 2pm and then clear up after. We will also need help with some final tidy up on Sunday morning. Many hands make light work right?

Please contact fosis@shirleyschools.co.uk if you can help at all, even if for an hour, every little helps. All are welcome so why not rope in a grandparent too!

DON'T FORGET ...



Our school lottery raises money directly for the **Junior School**. Every week there is a guaranteed cash prize for someone from the school.

This prize money goes up the more tickets we sell.

You are also automatically entered into the national draw where you could win £25,000! The tickets cost just £1 each week.

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



If you are **shopping online**, please click on these links first. They then donate to the school at **NO EXTRA COST TO YOU**. Amazon = <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Infants – choose Friends of Shirley Infant School

Juniors - choose Shirley Junior School PTA

Online shopping from bread to bathrooms, use Easyfundrasing, sign up here:

[Infants – Friends of Shirley Infants – Southampton](#)

[Juniors – Shirley Junior School PTFA – Southampton](#)

STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED...

Our website pages:

FOSIS – [Friends of Shirley Infant School - Shirley Infant School](#)

PTFA – [PTFA - Shirley Junior School](#)

On Facebook through the private year groups – please remember that these groups are managed by parents and not run by the school:

Infants

Year 2 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/849370902208557>

Year 1 Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/774368666506974>

Year R Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1150736922357432>

Juniors

Parents of Year 6 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1716707195249069>

Parents of Year 5 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/649407131910961>

Parents of Year 4 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/137311320449399>

Parents of Year 3 Face book group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/172919936937823>

Community Information



Southbrook Youth Football Club
Established 2011
Tactus Transeat Moventur



Southbrook Challengers Under 7's Girls

Southbrook are expanding their under 7's teams, and have formed Southbrook Challengers; a new under 7's girls' team. We pride ourselves in giving the children an opportunity to not only develop their football skills, but to create a fun, energetic and enjoyable atmosphere.

We are currently looking for a couple more players to join our friendly and fun team!

If your daughter is interested, please contact Vicki on 07599184727.

We train on a Monday 6:30-7:30
(Currently at Goals Millbrook)



LET'S CONNECT



TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Dear parents and carers,

6 - 12 February 2023 is Children's Mental Health Week. The week is run by children's mental health charity Place2Be to raise awareness of the importance of children and young people's mental health. This year's theme is Let's Connect.

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Let's Connect is about making meaningful connections, and for Children's Mental Health Week 2023, Place2Be is encouraging people to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways.

As parents and carers, you are an important role model to your child. How you connect with friends and family will influence your child, and how they develop their own friendships and relationships. For example, how you greet people and maintain friendships, but also how you forgive people or say sorry when you need to.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Here are a few simple ways you can connect with your child and help them to make meaningful connections.

1. Connect with your child in everyday ways

Moments of connection (and re-connection) are really important in child-caregiver relationships. For example, when you pick them up from school, or come in from work, try to give them your full attention and see if this helps you feel better connected as you hug, talk, smile and hear about their day. Watching your child play and joining in is really important to them – so put your phone away and have a bit of fun – being playful is good for adults, too!

With your older child, you may find times such as car journeys a good time to talk, or to re-connect by playing music you both like. It is important to be accessible to a teenager when they need to talk. You may have to be there 'on their terms' and be ready to listen.

2. Talk to your child about important connections

This could include talking about family members, friends, neighbours, childminders, people in the local community and others in your faith group (if you have one). Remember it's ok to talk about people they miss, for example, family members who live in a different country or people who have died.

Children learn a lot from their parents about how to express their feelings, including the joy that comes with feeling connected to others and the sadness that comes with missing others.

3. Talk to your child about their friends

As children become teenagers, their friendship groups become increasingly important to them. Be open to hearing about their friendships and try to listen without judgement.

#ChildrensMentalHealthWeek

LET'S CONNECT

Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

6-12
FEBRUARY
2023

Ask them about their life in real life and online. You may not think online friends are 'real friends', but your child may feel differently. Losing friends, feeling left out or being bullied is very painful and your child needs to know you will support them through these difficult times.

4. Connect by taking an interest in your child's world

As adults we can sometimes be dismissive of the things that our children and teenagers are interested in, e.g. their music, fashion, what they watch etc. If you do take an interest in these things, however, you may feel better connected to your child and the important things in their world. This can lead to other conversations about other things in their lives that matter to them.


5. Find time to connect as a family


Family life can become busy and stressful, so it's important to find some time where you connect together. This could include simple things like cooking, watching a film, playing a game, going to the park or even doing the family shop together.


6. Try to resolve conflict and re-connect after arguments

Arguments and moments of disconnection are bound to happen in families - between your children, between yourself and your children and between yourself and your partner, if you have one. It is important that children learn how to disagree in appropriate ways, how to say sorry and how to make amends when they have done something wrong. They will learn a lot about how to do these things from you - so try to model the behaviour you want to see in your children. Talk to them about how to re-connect with friends after arguments including what they can do to help repair relationships.

Video activities from Place2Be

Puzzle Pieces – aimed at 4-7 year olds, this activity is presented by CBBC's Art Ninja, Ricky Martin, and will show children how we are all connected. Why not take part as a family? childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/puzzlepieces 

Connecting Paperchains – developed by Place2Be's Art Room team for 7-11 year olds, this activity helps children think about the people, things and activities they feel connected to. childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/paperchains 


Exchanging Postcards – developed by Place2Be's Art Room team for 11-14 year olds, this activity encourages young people to explore what connection means to them. childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/postcards 

Looking for free practical advice to help you support your child?

Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour. parentingsmart.org.uk 

Let your child know that if they are worried about something, they should always talk to an adult they trust. It could be you, someone in your family, a teacher or someone else in their school.

If you're worried about your child's mental health you can talk to your GP or someone at your child's school.

You can also find a list of organisations that provide support and advice on our website: place2be.org.uk/help 

LIBRARIES PLUS TUTORING PROGRAMME - FEBRUARY 2023

The Libraries Plus programme will be continuing starting in February 2023. Pupils will be matched up with volunteer tutors for 1-to-1 sessions each week. It is designed to help pupils from Key Stages 1-4 who may find school subjects challenging or confusing. Tutoring is offered for English, Maths and Science. If your child is having a tough time at school, this may be the programme for you!

The sessions available are:

- Online, Wednesdays 4-6pm
- Bitterne Library, Wednesdays 4-6pm
- Portswood Library, Saturdays 11-1pm
- Central Library, Saturdays 1-3pm

To sign up, please visit

<https://tinyurl.com/LibrariesPlus> (or use the QR code below)



If you get benefits based on your income

A new round of Cost-of-Living Payments will be paid direct to bank accounts of low-income households from Spring 2023.

If you receive one of the following benefits, payments of up to £900 will be made in three lump sums:

- Universal Credit
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Pension Credit

Date	Payment	Amount
Spring 2023	First Cost of Living Payment	£301
Summer 2023	Disability Payment	£150
Autumn 2023	Second Cost of Living Payment	£300
Winter 2023/4	Pensioner Payment	£300
Spring 2024	Third Cost of Living Payment	£299

If you get a disability benefit

You'll get £150 paid to you in Summer 2023. Exact payment windows will be announced closer to the time.

Further information on other schemes such as Winter fuel payments, further energy bill support and details on the Household Support Fund can all be [found on our website](#). Please ensure you're claiming all you're entitled to.

Visit our [cost of living online support hub](#) to find out about all of the help, advice and support that's available.

Help with health costs

The cost of living crisis means many people are having to make tough decisions about how and where to spend money at the moment. Heating, eating, bills and rent all must be budgeted for

Although NHS health care is free, there are charges for things like prescriptions, reading glasses and the dentist, so it's worth knowing if you're eligible for financial help with these costs.

If you're on a low income, receive certain benefits or you're over 60 you could receive free or discounted:

- Prescriptions
- Dental costs
- Sight tests, glasses and contact lenses
- Travel costs for NHS treatment
- Wigs and fabric supports

How much financial support can you receive?

If you receive one of the following means-tested **benefits** you may get all your health costs paid in full:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Pension Credit – Guarantee Pension Credit
- Tax Credits [if you have an NHS exemption certificate](#)
- Universal Credit and [meet the criteria](#)

If you are **aged 60 or over**, you are eligible for free prescriptions and free eye tests regardless of your income.

If you are on a **low income**, you could be eligible to receive full or partial help for your healthcare costs, depending on how much you earn.

Find out more about the various [NHS costs and eligibility for financial help to pay these](#).

Do you need a lot of prescriptions?

If you need a lot of prescriptions but cannot get free ones, you can reduce the cost by buying a [pre-payment certificate](#). You can buy a three-month or a 12-month certificate to cover all your prescriptions for that period no matter how many you need.

A three-month certificate costs £30.25 and a 12-month certificate costs £108.10 (this can be paid in 10 monthly instalments of £10.81 by Direct Debit).

Help and advice

If you're struggling to make ends meet or worried about debt, you can [talk to our Welfare Rights & Money Advice Team](#) in confidence.

