



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 23rd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached to the school website the following letters;

- Year R Reading Letter (reminder)
- Year 1 Reading Letter (reminder)
- Year 2 Reading Letter (reminder)

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

[Infant School Letter link](#)

[Junior School Letter link](#)

Dates for your Diary

Shirley Infant School

SEPT

Tuesday 27th Year 1 Curriculum Evening 6-7pm
Wednesday 28th Year R Workshop Life long ago on school site

OCT

Monday 3rd Portrait & Sibling photos
Tuesday 4th 8.30am Infant & Junior sibling photos
Friday 7th Harvest Festival
Monday 10th Open Day Year R 23/24 intake
9.30am-10.30am & 1.30pm-2.30pm
Tuesday 11th Open Day Year R 23/24 intake
9.30am-10.30am & 1.30pm-2.30pm (SEND Focused)
Wednesday 12th Open Day Year R 23/24 intake
1.30pm-2.30pm
Thursday 13th Open Day Year R 23/24 intake
9.30am-10.30am & 1.30pm-2.30pm & 5pm - 6pm
Friday 14th Open Day Year R 23/24 intake
9.45am-10.45am & 1.15pm-2.15pm
Monday 17th INSET DAY - School closed to pupils
Tuesday 18th Year R Health Checks
Monday 24th HALF TERM 1 week

Shirley Junior School

SEPT

Monday 26th Year 6 Little Canada Residential - 1 week
Monday 26th Harvest Festival
Wednesday 28th Year 5 Porchester Castle Visit

OCT

Tuesday 4th Portrait & Sibling photos
Tuesday 4th 8.30am Infant & Junior sibling photos
Thursday 6th Share my Learning 8.45am and 3.20pm
Monday 17th INSET DAY - School closed to pupils
Friday 21st Year 6 Health Checks
Monday 24th HALF TERM 1 week

Coming soon

Juniors Virtual Parents Evening Monday 7th November and Wednesday 9th November

Infants Face to Face Parents Evening Tuesday 8th November and Thursday 10th November

Infants Christmas Performance Tuesday 6th December (PM performance)

Infants Christmas Performance Wednesday 7th December (AM performance)

Year 3 Xmas Play Wednesday 14th December (AM & PM performance)

FREE SCHOOL MEAL FUNDING

Any families that are entitled to free school meal funding at Shirley Schools are also eligible for Pupil Premium funding - this is additional funding given to schools by the local authority, partly to make sure that there is no worry about the financial cost of school activities.

For families who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, the school will pay for all day trips and events that occur in school that have a monetary cost. We will also pay fully for one residential that your child might attend whilst at SJS, because we believe residential experiences are so valuable. Currently, children in Year 5 spend 3 days at Minstead which links closely with their project learning, and Year 6 spend a week at Little Canada PGL centre on the Isle of Wight doing team-building type activities like climbing and go-karting.

To make sure that they can access extra-curricular activities, we offer children eligible for the Pupil Premium one after school club per term, and are happy to pay for peripatetic music lessons for one instrument.

If you would like to take advantage of any of these opportunities, all you need to do is come and speak to somebody in the office. You can rest assured that children will not be treated any differently in school, and will not need to be aware of any of this.

If you think you might be entitled to free school meal funding, please make an application via the link. <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/southampton/>

Infants Harvest Festival

If you would like to bring food donations into school for the Harvest Festival which is on Friday 7th October, we will accept donations up until 9am on this date.

Donations are going to Southampton City Mission Basics Bank this year

YEAR 2 RECORDER LESSONS STARTING

This half term our Year 2 children will be starting their recorder lessons every other week with Mrs. Clark. These lessons will continue throughout the year.

We will be playing descant recorders and we do have enough of these instruments in school for children to use in their lessons. However, if you would like to purchase a recorder for your child it means that they can practise at home and have their own instrument to play during lessons in school. A descant recorder for beginners costs approximately £8.

We will be following a book called 'Recorder From The Beginning Book 1' by John Pitts. Both the book and decant recorders are available from 'Becketts Music Limited' in Southampton. Becketts is on Commercial Road between The Mayflower theatre and Southampton Central Station.

The book is also available to purchase through Amazon.

It would be an advantage for your child to have the edition of the book that includes the C.D. so that they can play along to the tracks.

It is not, however, essential for your child to have a copy of the book.

Year R Curriculum Workshop Presentation

Please use the link below to view the our Year R Curriculum Workshop Presentation.

https://www.shirleyinfantschool.org.uk/_site/data/filesC7A22EA1FB253E6B058736D7253AF066.pdf

JUNIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM SLIDES

The curriculum slides from the curriculum evenings have now been uploaded to the school website; these can be found in the year group specific pages (under the curriculum tab).

Junior Choir

There is no choir next week due to Mr Richards and Mrs Booth being on the Y6 residential to Little Canada.



Junior Harvest Festival

If you would like to bring food donations into school for the Harvest Festival which is on Monday 23rd September, we will accept donations up until 9am on this date.

Donations are going to Southampton City Mission Basics Bank this year

PORTRAIT & SIBLING SCHOOL POTO DAY— Both schools

If you have children in both schools and wish to for them to be photographed together, you can come to school from 8.30am in the Junior School hall on Tuesday 4th October.



Guidance for Absence and Lateness

Firstly, may we thank Parents and Carers who regularly ensure that their children attend school at all times. We understand that absence is sometimes inevitable and hope that you see this letter in the spirit of partnership and support that it is intended.

At Shirley Infant and Junior schools, we believe that children who have a high attendance at school have a better chance of achieving their academic potential, as well as developing good emotional health and positive relationships. School want to work in partnership with you to give your child/ren the best possible start in life.

As your child/ren are registered at our schools, it is our responsibility to work with you and your family to ensure that your child comes to school regularly.

In our schools we have a member of senior leadership who leads on attendance as well as your child's class teacher and our family support worker/attendance officer who are always happy to talk.

In the event of your child being absent, to support attendance we may:

- make daily contact with you to seek information on your child's well-being and reason for absence
- visit you at home as part of our safeguarding responsibility
- meet with you and your child to find agreed solutions to any barriers in attending
- make reasonable adjustments to help your child attend
- work with you to make a plan to include your child's voice in helping them attend
- seek outside agency help as needed
- keep records of any absence and reasons for absence
- inform the local authority if needed
- missing school can mean missing out.

Please come and talk to us if your child is having difficulties coming to school.

Research shows that absence from school, for whatever reason, can disadvantage a child by creating gaps in learning, which affect a child's ability to succeed. For example, it can be seen that at A-levels, there is a fall in grade for every 5% that attendance falls below 95%. As such, we monitor all absence and all attendance data is shared with the Local Authority. We will contact you if we have any concerns regarding your child's attendance.

Please make sure that you phone school by 9 am on the first morning that your child is absent from school and each morning after that.



Safeguarding

Please be aware of an incident that occurred last Friday 16th September in St.James' Park after school hours.

A man was noticed on the exercise equipment videoing children on his phone. The man quickly put his phone away when he noticed a parent watching him and very quickly walked to the other side of that area. He was followed and challenged, and asked if he had just taken video of these children on the exercise equipment. He admitted he had and had two videos of them on his phone which he then deleted.

He claimed that he had videoed them as they "looked like lovely little girls". The man's wife arrived and reported that he didn't understand and was new to the country. Both were Chinese. She claimed she was a teacher and he worked for the government. They had a couple of children with them.

The incident has been reported to the police and they would urge anyone else to report any similar incidents to the police if they happen again.

Child on child abuse

In line with Keeping children safe in education 2022 Child on child abuse includes, but is not limited to:

- Bullying (including cyberbullying)
- Abuse in intimate personal relationships between peers
- Physical abuse such as hitting, shaking, biting, hair pulling
- Online abuse, including facilitation, threats and/or encouragement of physical harm or sexual violence
- Sexual harassment, including sexual comments and jokes
- Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi nudes images and or videos
- Upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without their permission

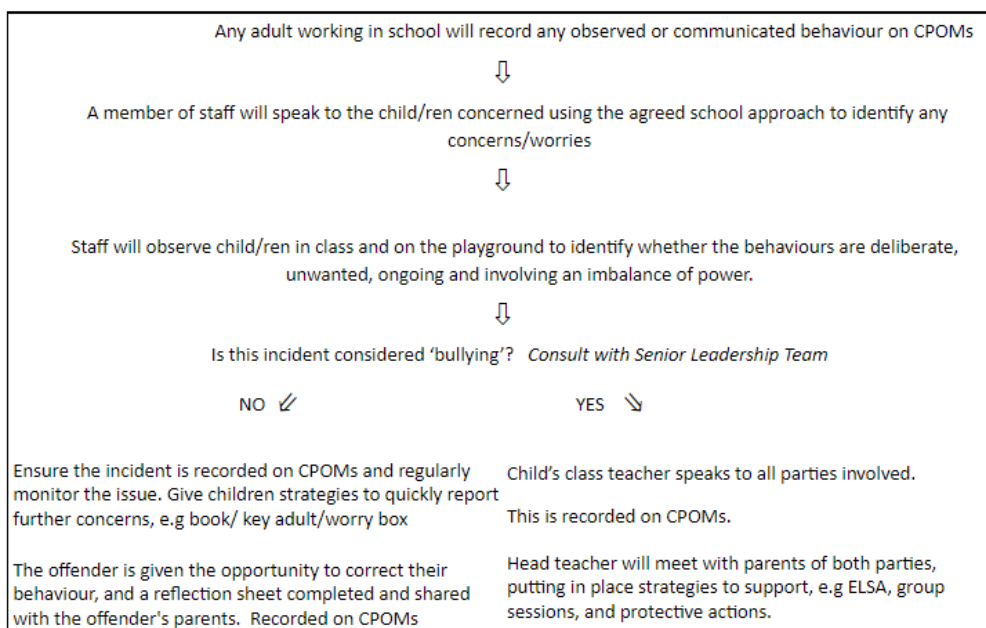
In 2022 the NSPCC reported a 29% increase in children seeking help with child on child abuse. We understand as a school:

- it often goes unseen in schools.
- it may take place online or away from school.
- It is frequently seen as 'banter' or 'kids being kids' in some settings.

At Shirley Infant and Junior School we ensure we train staff to notice the signs and understand the seriousness of child on child abuse. This is in our yearly training and refreshed training throughout the year. We uphold that dealing successfully with child on child abuse is a whole-school responsibility, starting with the headteacher. Our approach and view of 'it can happen here' is fundamental in all of our record keeping. We take all individual incidents seriously.

Tool kit for responding to allegations of child on child abuse

Any inappropriate behaviours that could be considered (as) 'bullying', will be taken seriously at all times. When written or verbal communications are received from a child/parent, whether for incidents occurring in school or offsite (such as via social media), these will be responded to in the following ways:



Themed Menu Day

We have a themed menu day on
Thursday 6th October

Don't forget to check your pre order on your
School Grid account

INTO THE WILD!
Thursday 6th October
IN SUPPORT OF
WORLD
SAFARI
DAY

MAINS

BEAR GRYLLS CHICKEN WITH GAME KEEPER CHIPS
CRUNCHY COATED CHICKEN FILLET, TOPPED WITH
CHEDDAR & BBQ SAUCE, SERVED WITH CHIPS

SAVANNAH SUNSHINE PASTA (VG)
DELICIOUS PASTA DISH WITH SUNNY SWEETCORN,
GARDEN PEARS, MIXED PEPPERS, TOMATOES & ONIONS

JUNGLE JUMBLE CURRY & RICE (GF) (VG)
MILD AND AROMATIC VEGETABLE CURRY, WITH POTATO, CAULIFLOWER,
PEPPERS AND CHICKPEAS. SERVED WITH WHOLEGRAIN RICE

JAGUAR JACKETS CHOICE OF FILLINGS
OVEN BAKED JACKET POTATO WITH A SELECTION OF FILLINGS

SIDES

LEOPARD SPOTTED VEGETABLES (VG) (GF)
A MEDLEY OF SWEETCORN, PEARS AND CARROTS

SERENGETI SALAD BAR (VG) (GF)

LION'S PRIDE HOME BAKED BREAD

DESSERTS

SAFARI TRAIL ROCKY ROAD CAKE (V)

SUNSET FRUIT SORBET (VG) (GF)

FRESH FRUIT (VG) (GF)

DAIRY YOGURT (V) (GF)

FOSIS/PTFA

THANK YOU!



To everyone who donated to Bags2School, we collected 600kg of items which translates into **£240** to be shared across both schools!

NEW...

****Preloved school uniform shop open Wednesdays & Fridays****

We're delighted to share that our preloved school uniform shop will now be open twice a week, every **Wednesday & Friday** during term time, between **8.30am – 8.55am (once the gates are shut)**.

Located in the Community Room, just up the ramp on your right as you go through the first gate of the junior school. Payments can be made in cash or via PayPal.

All proceeds go back into the school through the work of the PTFA / FOSIS, so why not buy preloved, help the environment and support the school, we call that a win, win, win!

Donations of uniform in good/wearable condition can be dropped off on Wednesdays & Fridays too or via the school office (all week), please no grey items over 8yrs.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

PTFA / FOSIS AGM Meetings

FOSIS - Tuesday 11 October @ 7.30pm in the Infant School Hall

PTFA – Wednesday 12 October @ 7.30pm in the Junior School Hall

Come and join us, meet fellow parents and find out more about Friends of Shirley Infants School (FOSIS) and the Junior PTFA. We'll share all the good stuff we did last year to raise much needed funds for the schools and what we have planned for this year.

There is no commitment to sign up, just come and find out a bit more! Oh did we mention coffee / tea and sweet baked treats will be available....if you needed a little extra persuasion!



FIREWORKS! EARLY BIRD TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR VOLUNTEERS ONLY



We're running our fantastic and incredibly popular fireworks event again on **Friday 4 November, 5pm – 7pm**.

Fireworks at **6.30pm** but lots to do, see and eat beforehand so come early for hotdogs, dancing in the 'let it glow' tent and firework crafts in the hall.

BUT we need your help to make it happen, and for volunteering your time at the event we'll give you **early access** to book your tickets for you and your immediate family. Simply complete this form to let us know you can volunteer and if you have a preference in what you do:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjEO7wVJ-ss_9SYV78M2h0uQrMvG3ixrcMuL-RB7qcnrqHVg/viewform

You will then receive a link to book and pay for your tickets. **Tickets are £4 per adult, £2.50 per child (3-18yrs) and Under 3's go free but will still need a ticket for entry so we can keep track numbers.**

Tickets will go on general sale on **Sunday 23 October at 9am**, and we expect the event to sell out quickly so don't hang around, **VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

WE NEED YOU...

🎃 🧛 **VOLUNTEER HOUSES NEEDED FOR OUR SPOOKY HALLOWEEN TRAIL** 🎃 🧛



Back by popular demand, PTFA and FOSIS will be putting on the spookiest of all trails for Halloween (**28 – 30 October**) but we need some volunteer houses to put on our map!

All we ask is that you display a poster (we'll provide the poster) in a place that can be easily seen from the pavement. Decorating your house is completely optional. Our plan is to have two trails, a shorter one for little legs and a longer one to challenge the older children.

If you can help us, please complete this form as soon as you can and we'll be in touch:

<https://forms.gle/AyowoZ3Kctqor7wZ8>

Trail maps will go on sale in due course, so keep an eye out.

VOLUNTEER GARDNERS TO HELP OUT AT SCHOOL



Do you have a love of gardening and some spare time during the week? We're looking for more volunteers to help with the upkeep of the school grounds.

We're a small group of volunteers who meet most weeks during school hours - often Wednesday afternoons but can vary this according to who's free and when. Projects include gardening, weeding, construction, painting, managing the pond, moving compost and everything in between!

If you would like to help we'd love to hear from you. You would need to get a school DBS check, so a reasonable commitment would be needed (but by no means every week!). Please email pta@shirleyschools.co.uk or contact Jen Bleeck via Facebook.

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>

Extra special prize this October....



This October, one lucky family will win an amazing Harry Potter double prize – a family ticket for the Warner Brothers Studio Tour, AND a theatre voucher for Harry Potter and the Cursed Child!

This will be a dream trip for any fans of the Wizarding World, so is the perfect incentive for your new school families to sign up and support the school through the lottery!



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...

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/77436866506974>
- 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

Oasis

Academy
Lord's Hill

*Exceptional education at the
heart of the community.*



Year 5 & 6

Open Evening

Monday 26th September, 5 - 7.30pm

**We warmly invite you to meet our exceptional staff
and students, and tour our fantastic facilities.**



Oasis Academy Lord's Hill, Romsey Road, Southampton SO16 8FA
t: 023 80393660 e: info@oasislordshill.org w: www.oasisacademylordshill.org

The Gregg School

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS 11 TO 16 YRS

OPEN EVENING

*Thursday 13th October
4pm-7pm*

98% of our students achieved 5 or more GCSE passes at Grade 4 or above.

100% of our students achieved Grade 4 and above in Maths, Further Maths, Physics, Biology and Chemistry.

100% of students achieved Grade 4 and above in Art, 3D Design, Child Development, Drama, Food Preparation and Nutrition, German, Photography and Spanish

Please call or book online [here](#)

Year 6 Entrance Assessment Day Saturday 28th January 2023

www.thegreggschool.org • registrar@thegreggschools.org • 02380 472133

Family Learning

Frightened of phonics? Maths methods make your brain ache? Family Learning can help!

Our free short course helps parents and other adult family members feel more confident about supporting children with early reading and maths learning. Join us at Sure Start Thornhill for free tea/coffee, cakes/biscuits, plenty of informal discussion and hands on practical activities to build your confidence.

10th October 1-3pm: Fun with phonics - games to help with reading and spelling

17th October 1-3pm: Reading together - Tips for reluctant readers

31st October 1-3pm: Hope for maths haters (You're not alone!)

7th November: Planning for progression - Want to keep learning more? English, maths, employability, digital skills or something else? Reflect on what you need to achieve your goals and help us plan further free workshops or courses in your area.

Contact familyhub@southampton.gov.uk for more info or to book your place!