



## Newsletter 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Shute Primary  
School

Attendance Up to this week 97%

Target 95%

**Dear Parents,**

We are now only two weeks away from the Christmas holiday and the children continue to adapt well in their bubbles. We have been fortunate not to have any positive Covid cases with the children or adults at school. Letters are being sent home today with the children in Hedgehog and Badger classes (Fox class have already had) that are about 'Tapestry' which previously has been used as a way for Pre-school/Reception parents and teachers to communicate with each other but now all classes will be using it. In KS2 we will be using it to send out homework, as well as using the system as our online platform for sending out home learning **if** our class bubbles had to shut. Please can KS2 parents sign the permission slip that has gone home today and return it with your child next week so we can link you with the 'Tapestry' account.

I wanted to mention that we are keeping fresh air flowing through all classrooms and that the heating is on higher to make the classrooms warmer. If your child is cold they can wear an extra layer or layers under their school clothes. Also please send your children in with warm coats, hats and gloves as the weather turns colder for when they are outside.

We will be having interviews next week for an Early Years teacher to job share with Mrs Gafney in Squirrel class and in Badger class we will be interviewing for a teacher for three afternoons, both positions will be starting in January.

Please see the message below from the PTFA as there are events planned over the next two weeks. I am really pleased that the PTFA is up and running again and thank you to everyone who has joined and with the work that has already begun to take place. A huge thank you to all involved in past PTFA events since I have been at Shute and to the former committee members. I look forward to working with the new committee members and all events and the money raised is much appreciated by the school.

### **Forest School**

Next week we will be having outside forest school lessons with each of the classes in the afternoon. We ask that the children come to school in old clothes on the day of their session ready for wet weather. Please send your child in with water proof coats, wellies and hats and gloves if it is cold. **Long hair must be tied back.**

**If on your strolls this weekend you find any forest treasures like pine cones, please send them in on your child's forest school session.**

The days are as follows for the forest school activities:

**Monday- Squirrels**

**Tuesday- Foxes**

**Wednesday- Hedgehogs**

**Thursday- Badgers**

**Have a nice weekend.**

**Kind regards,**

**Mr Germscheid**

### **A message from the new PTFA**

As the old PTFA have disbanded after many tireless years of service, a group of parents have set up a new PTFA. We plan to raise funds for several targets, including the outside space of the school.

There are plenty of ways to raise money for the school during this pandemic, and we would love it if you joined us, either to take a role on the board, or as a member to help out as and when you can.

PTFA meetings will be mostly held by Zoom in the evenings. We have started a PTFA WhatsApp group, so please email the membership manager Flora at: [floracruft@southwesttherapy.co.uk](mailto:floracruft@southwesttherapy.co.uk) if you would like to get involved and join the group.

We've arranged the following fundraising events to take place before the end of term:

#### **1. Lucky Square Raffle**

Next week we'll start a lucky square raffle to win a large food hamper, and a small kids' chocolate hamper. Both have been kindly donated to us from Ganesha Wholefoods store by Aurelia's parents Annette Burrough and Richard Easton.

The raffle starts this coming Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, and ends on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Like the Guess the Pumpkin event, numbers will be sold in squares in the school field at pick up time.

Lucky numbers cost £2 each, 3 numbers for £5 and 7 numbers for £10. Please bring the correct change or notes. Winners will be announced on the last day of term.

#### **2. Christmas Jumper Day**

This year the Christmas Jumper day will be held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, at the cost of a £1 per child, and all funds will go to the PTFA.

#### **3. Second Hand Book Sale**

There will be a children's book sale in the last week of term. The children will each be able to buy age appropriate books within their bubble.

Please bring in any unwanted old children's books next week, starting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. We will have four labelled and lidded plastic boxes available at the top gate for you to put the books in. When all books are gathered, we will quarantine them for 72 hours before making them available for the children to buy in their class bubbles in the last week of term. The price will be 50p for a paperback book and £1 for a large hardcover one, and the children will pay

their teachers directly.

4. Thanks to Tasha, Ella and Olivia's mum and manager at Tesco, we are also arranging a **free edible gift** for each child in the school, so we need to hear from parents of any children who have food allergies such as dairy/nut/wheat allergies. Please contact [floracrufft@southwesttherapy.co.uk](mailto:floracrufft@southwesttherapy.co.uk) if your child has a food allergy, so that we can arrange alternatives for them. And don't mention it to the children, as it's going to be a festive surprise!

We would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to Gemma Benson, Kate Henley, Kate Williams and Emma Sweetland for all the hard work and effort they put into running the PTFA over the past few years. We are really grateful for all they've put in place and look forward to building on everything they've achieved to help Shute Primary School thrive and grow.

### **Before School Club**

Mrs Sandman will be running the before school club every morning. If you would like your child to attend for the first time, please contact Mrs Haysom, email [admin@shute-primary.org.uk](mailto:admin@shute-primary.org.uk) for further details.

### **Inhalers and other medication:**

Please ensure that we have a new medical form for the new school year and in date medication in school, should your child need regular or emergency medication in school. Please see Mrs Haysom to fill out a form. We are only able to give prescribed medicine and selected Over the Counter Medicine to children and all prescribed medicine must come in the container/box it was prescribed in. Green medical forms can be requested from Mrs Haysom, please complete and hand in to her with your child's medicine.

### **Free School Meals**

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However, parents and guardians are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school, as this can help their child's school to attract additional '[pupil premium](#)' funding to support learning.

From year 3 onwards, children whose parents are getting any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

### **Pupil Premium**

The pupil premium is additional funding given to state-funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers.

There are 4 elements to pupil premium:

1. Free school meal eligibility
2. service children
3. adopted from care, special guardianship order and residence order
4. children in care

Any qualifying family that registers their eligibility (based on the free school meal criteria) will help raise pupil premium money for the school. For 2020-21, the additional funding will be £1,345 for a primary school, for each registered child.

Do I need to apply for pupil premium? (based on free school meal criteria)

You only need to apply if you have a child in reception, year 1 or year 2 and both of the following apply:

- you do not have an existing free school meal claim
- you are in receipt of any of the qualifying benefits (see [School meals](#) for a list of the qualifying benefits).

How to apply

Through the [Citizen Portal](#) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision.

Parents and carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

### **Sickness**

In line with NHS and Department of Education guidelines, children should not come into school for at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

### **School lunches**

Reminder that the cost of school meals for pupils aged 3-4 (In Squirrels FSU) and in Year 3 and above is £2.50 per day. Lunch money should be paid in advance via ParentPay. Orders must be placed the Thursday before the week lunches are required.

### **Illness and Absence**

If your child is absent from school, you are requested to contact the school office before 9.15am. As required by our Safeguarding Policy if the administration team have not heard from you by early morning they will contact you to establish why your child is not in school. If we are unable to establish contact we may have to report this to the School Education Welfare Officer.

If your child needs to attend a medical appointment in school time, please complete the S2 form which can be found on the school website. <https://shuteprimary.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2019/03/S2-October-2018.pdf> or ask Mrs Haysom for one prior to the absence.

If a child is late, he or she must be signed in by a parent or carer, they must follow the instructions in the entrance and use the intercom to alert the office and a member of staff will come and let you in to sign them in.

Persistent lateness has a negative impact on learning and we support families to ensure all children arrive in good time. A letter or email must be sent to school with the child on their return to school and for any planned medical appointments.

**Diary Dates:**

9.12.20	Christmas Lunch Day
11.12.20	Christmas Jumper day for a donation of a £1
18.12.20	Autumn term ends (Normal finish times)

# Schools advice to parents and carers

Keeping our children, schools and communities safe

Currently only people with COVID-19 symptoms need to get tested:

**A high temperature**

**OR new, continuous cough**

**OR loss or change to sense of smell or taste**

Visit the 111 [online symptom checker](#) and [check the government website](#) for changes to testing guidance.

People without COVID-19 symptoms don't need to get tested, unless asked to by a health professional, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive. Close contacts should isolate for 14 days and only get tested if they develop COVID-19 symptoms.

Stay up to date with the latest coronavirus (COVID-19) advice in Devon at [devon.cc/covid-19](https://devon.cc/covid-19) and sign up to receive updates at [devon.cc/connectme](https://devon.cc/connectme)

What if...	You need to...	Return to school...
My child has COVID-19 symptoms?	<p><b>Keep your child at home and tell school they have COVID-19 symptoms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get your child tested and tell school the result.</li> <li>• Self-isolate whole household while waiting for test result (If unable to get a test, child must self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms started and rest of household must self-isolate for 14 days)</li> </ul>	if your child's test result is negative and they feel completely well. They should be without a high temperature for at least 24 hours.
My child tests positive for COVID-19?	<p><b>Keep your child at home and tell school test result</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-isolate your child for 10 days from when their symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms).</li> <li>• Self isolate your whole household for 14 days from when your child's symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) even if someone else in the household tests negative during that time.</li> </ul>	after completing 10 days self-isolation and they feel completely well. They should be without a high temperature for at least 24 hours. They can return to school even with a cough or loss/change of taste or smell as these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone.

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What if...	You need to...	Return to school...
Someone in my household has COVID-19 symptoms?	<p><b>Keep your child at home and tell school a household member has COVID-19 symptoms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household member with symptoms should get tested.</li> <li>Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result (if unable to get a test, household member with symptoms must self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms started and rest of household must self-isolate for 14 days).</li> </ul>	when the household member's test result is negative, and your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms.
Someone in my household tests positive for COVID-19?	<p><b>Keep your child at home and tell school test result</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from when this person's symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) even if someone else in the household tests negative during that time.</li> </ul>	when your child has completed 14 days self-isolation (even if they test negative during that time) and does not have any COVID-19 symptoms.
NHS Test and Trace identifies my child as a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive for COVID-19?	<p><b>Keep your child at home and tell school</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self isolate your child for 14 days (even if they test negative during that time).</li> <li>Rest of household doesn't need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too.</li> </ul>	when your child has completed 14 days self-isolation (even if they test negative during that time) and does not have any COVID-19 symptoms.
We have travelled and must self-isolate due to quarantine rules?	<p><b>Keep your child at home and tell school</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household members that travelled must self-isolate for 14 days, even if someone tests negative in that time.</li> <li>Please do not take unauthorised leave during term, and consider quarantine requirements and government advice when booking travel.</li> </ul>	when your child has completed 14 days self-isolation (even if they test negative during that time) and does not have any COVID-19 symptoms.
We receive advice from a medical/ official source that my child must resume shielding?	<p><b>Keep your child at home and contact school to discuss</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shield your child until you are told that restrictions are lifted, and shielding is paused again.</li> </ul>	when you are told that restrictions are lifted, and shielding is paused again.
My child has a runny/ stuffy nose or sore throat, but does not have COVID-19 symptoms	<p><b>Think about whether your child is well enough to go to school or not</b></p>	If you think your child is well enough, and they do not have any symptoms of COVID-19. Use the NHS111 symptom checker if you're not sure

For a more accessible version of this information please visit [devon.cc/covid19-school-absence](https://devon.cc/covid19-school-absence) and if you require this information in another format or language please email [communications@devon.gov.uk](mailto:communications@devon.gov.uk)

# Symptoms checker

Only people with COVID-19 symptoms need to get tested –

**A high temperature**

**OR new, continuous cough**

**OR loss or change to sense of smell or taste**

Use the NHS 111 [online symptom checker](#) if you're not sure.

Symptoms	COVID-19 Mild to severe	Cold Gradual onset	Flu Rapid onset
Fever/high temperature (37.8°C or above)	Common	Rare	Common
New cough	Common (usually dry and continuous)	Sometimes	Common (usually dry)
Recent loss or change to sense of taste or smell	Common	Rare	No
Fatigue	Sometimes (common in children)	Sometimes	Common
Sneezing	No	Common	No
Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
Diarrhoea	Rare (sometimes for children)	No	Sometimes (for children)
Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

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