



## Newsletter 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## Shute Primary School

Attendance Up to this week 95%

Target 95%

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe that the first lockdown was over a year ago! I wanted to say thank you to everyone during this past year. The staff have been amazing throughout this past year as have you by supporting your children at home during lockdowns and supporting them when they have returned to school. The children who have thrived during this challenging time are the children who have had the best that home and school have offered together. I certainly know it has been hard on all of us but I remain optimistic about the future. Children are resilient and adaptable. They learn in so many different ways and it is our role as adults to be encouraging, patient and positive.

I wanted to mention the wonderful job the PTFA has been doing to help raise valuable funds for the children at Shute. There are a lot of fund raisers being planned along with many members giving support over the Easter holiday to improve our outside spaces. Please continue to support them in any way you can, whether it is helping out or continuing to contribute to their fund raising schemes.

I would like to welcome Miss Kim Headley who is working with children in Squirrel classroom each morning as a TA. Miss Headley has a lot of experience, having previously worked in pre-school settings. She started at Shute last week and will be with us throughout the summer term.

The children in Key stage 2 enjoyed an orienteering afternoon on Tuesday as Anne Harris from Colyton Grammar School led orienteering activities on the school site. The children love being outside, being active and learning new skills.

Thank you for observing our staggered drop off and pick up times and for following the social distance guidelines. Please continue to wear face coverings and leave the school grounds quickly on an evening. Morning drop offs are going well with the children going into the school on their own. Up to this point we haven't had to close down a bubble and by everyone following the rules we hope this continues.

Have a nice weekend.

Kind regards,  
Mr Germscheid

### Parent evening

We have decided to hold another parent evening like we did in the autumn term the second week back (Week of April 26<sup>th</sup>) after the Easter holidays. Normally we would have had one in the spring term but because of lockdown weren't able. I think it is important to catch up with you to talk about how the children have settled back into school life and what together we can do to help them. Further

information will be sent out on the first day back after the Easter holiday which is Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Lateral Flow Tests**

As sent out previously by Parentmail, "Whole families and households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, will be able to test themselves twice every week from home as schools return from 8 March."

For more information on this, please follow the links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

### **Non-Uniform for Red Nose Day**

Well done everyone, we raised £97.60 for Comic Relief.

### **NEWS FROM THE PTFA**

#### **Easter Raffle continues until Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>**



*Thanks to your generous donations of edible Easter gifts today there are some very delicious Easter gifts to win:*

*2 large chocolate hampers*

*8 medium chocolate baskets*

*18 chocolate bags*

*2x "Free From" hampers*

*1x Ganesha chocolate hamper for the teachers*

*Many thanks to Ganesha for their kind donation of a hamper for the teachers.*

There'll be just three more days next week to buy your lucky squares for the Easter raffle, before we announce the winners on the last day of term Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Thanks to your generous donations of edible Easter gifts today there are some very delicious Easter gift bags to win!

**1 square costs £2, 3 for £5 and 7 for £10.**

Squares are sold in the school field at pick up time every afternoon. Please bring the correct change or notes.

Here are the bank details if you would prefer to make a transfer:

Account name: Shute C.P School P.T.F.A

Sort code: 30-90-37

Account no: 00120391

The money raised will go towards funding outdoor equipment for the school.

### **Free end of term chocolate for every child**

Each child will receive a small chocolate gift on the last day of term. "Moo Free" chocolate will be given to those with allergies. Big thanks to Tasha Morgan, Ella and Olivia's Mum and manager at Tesco Honiton, for kindly arranging this with Tesco.

### **Freezer & Pressure Washer: sorted**

We've now found both a spare freezer and a pressure washer. Many thanks to you amazing parents for offering these.

### **Bag2School**

Bag2School will be collecting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, with some changes. Please collect any good quality clothes, shoes, bags, hats, jewellery and belts in your own bin bags and leave outside school at drop-off and pick-up times on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May; Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May; and at drop off on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

This is so that the school won't have to keep the bags indoors due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Thank you for supporting this brilliant fundraising project, with money raised going back into our school.

### **Uniform Orders**

Uniform orders can be placed using ParentPay. We have a new supplier, with much quicker turnaround times, so if we do not have items in stock, it won't take too long.

### **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. [Absence-request-form.pdf \(shute-primary.org.uk\)](https://shute-primary.org.uk/Absence-request-form.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:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Last day of Spring Term
20 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of Summer term
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bank holiday
31 <sup>st</sup> May - 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half term
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last day of Summer term