



SHEREDES PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher ~ Mary Childs B.A. (Hons.) M.A. Ed.

5th January 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and very warm wishes to all of you. Thank you for all your support for our very special school. You are all much appreciated. We hope that you have enjoyed a happy Christmas break, and we welcome back all our children.

Our School Profile, summarising our successes and plans for the future, has been updated on our website for you to view; www.sheredesprimary.herts.sch.uk.

Here are events planned for this term.

Dates for your diary

Specific details of events to follow, where appropriate

January

11 th	Swimming commences for Year 4
15 th	Clubs start <i>unless otherwise notified for specific activities</i>
16 th	7.30pm Governing Body Meeting
22 nd	8.00pm FOSS meeting

February

5 th	3.30 - 6.00 Open Evening, a chance for you and your child to view his/her work in the classroom and school before Consultations
6 th	5.30 - 8.30 Consultation Evening (Nursery 5:30 – 8:00)
7 th	3.30 - 6.00 Consultation Evening (Nursery 3:45 – 6:00)
8 th	3.30 – 6.00 Consultation Evening Year 4

12th – 16th HALF TERM

19th February – 23rd February Book Week – more details to follow!

15 th March	Year 4 to Year 6 choir take part in Voice in a Million, Wembley
20 th	7.30pm Governing Body Meeting
21 st	3.30pm – 5.00pm FOSS Easter Bake
27 th and 28 th	Spring Concert: 4.30pm. Musical performances for parents; our choir on the 27 th , and our orchestra, flute, recorder players, pianists, and other instrumentalists, on the 28 th . <i>More details to follow.</i>
29 th	End of Term



Class Assemblies Juniors at 10.30am, Lower Hall, Infants at 11.45am, Upper Hall

Jan.	18th	Class LM	Class SR
Jan.	25 th	Class NM	
Feb.	1st	Class AC	Class MA
March	1st	Class AP	
	8 th	Class SBa	Class LA
	14 th	Class CD/RR	
	15th	Class NL	Class KB
	22nd	Class EMa	Class CN
	29 th	Class JS	

Clubs

Clubs start again in the week beginning 15th January.

We will be using existing club lists for participants, unless the age group for the club has changed, or the day has changed, or there is a new club, in which case letters will be sent out to the new year group. Where clubs are oversubscribed, letters will be sent informing you of the dates when your child may attend. If your child would like to join a club ask him or her to see the club leader or Mrs. Childs. There is no netball, football, tag rugby or Greenfingers club when it rains.

We are always looking for new opportunities for our children, so if you have a little free time and would like to run a club, I would love to hear from you. We would provide all the materials you need.

Please see the club list with this letter, and on our website.

Children's studies

Across the school in **English**, all children will be focusing on writing imaginative and thoughtful texts, which are appropriate to task, reader and purpose. In **mathematics**, we continue to focus on improving children's mental arithmetic ability and number fluency, alongside teaching other areas.

The Nursery

Our children are studying the topics of **Fantasy and Fairy Tales**, and **Transport**, over the term. All our Nursery parents receive a copy of each topic web to take home. Do also see our website, under Pupils, Class Work: Nursery.

Classes KB, CN

Children will be studying the topics of **Fantasy and Fairy Tales** in the first half term. As part of this topic children's scientific studies will focus on day and night. This will include **a visit from Mr Star Man of the Astronomy Roadshow** on Wednesday 17th January. In Design and Technology, children will be making finger puppets based on introduced stories and in computing children will be using '2simple' software to create imaginative stories.

In the second half term, children will be studying the topic of **Transport and Journeys**.

Their scientific studies will focus on forces and in Design and Technology they will be making road vehicles. In Geography, the children will also be developing their ability to create simple road maps using symbols. Children will also be introduced to a range of poetry on the theme of transport, for example **John Burlingham's Mr. Gumpy's Outing**.

Over the term in RE children will be identifying special people in their family and community; in History, children will study selected famous people from the past. In personal, social and health education, children will be learning how to help and care for friends, taught the rules on how to keep safe, and be identifying and dealing with feelings positively. In music they will sing familiar songs and be introduced to new ones, as well as playing percussion instruments and exploring sound patterns. In art they will be painting their favourite fairy tale characters and exploring colour mixing.

Classes MA, AP

In English children will be learning from traditional tales and how to write instructions. They will be studying the **poetry of Julia Donaldson**.

In science children will study the topic of **everyday materials**. In design and technology they are exploring building structures. In computing they will use a range of approaches to develop their understanding of algorithms and programming using unplugged approaches, onscreen and physical devices such as BeeBot. In dance children will interpret the story of Sleeping Beauty through movement, based on the music by Tchaikovsky. In religious education children will be focusing on the importance of special places where they can enjoy being part of a community such as club venues and churches. This will include **a visit to a local church to learn about how it works as part of the community and what it stands for**. They will also learn about the religious symbols of the Christian church. In art children will be investigating the qualities of a variety of natural and manmade materials. They will learn skills for weaving and gain sensory experience of materials and an understanding of colour and texture. In geography children will be learning about **countries and capital cities in the UK and comparing Shunyi in Beijing, China with Hoddesdon**. In music children will be exploring pulse and rhythm.

Classes SR, LA

In English children will be focusing on the poems of **Pie Corbett**. In computing children will develop their understanding of digital texts, creating their own digital content (still, moving and animated images and words) using a range of devices and software. In science children will study **animals, learning about life cycles and how offspring grow into adults**. They will also look at what animals need to survive and how to live a healthy lifestyle. In history children will be exploring the lives of famous people, focusing on **Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell**. **On Monday 29th January a workshop on focusing on Florence Nightingale, led by external experts, will support and enhance their learning**. In music children will study Peter and the Wolf by Prokofiev and will compose their own piece of music based on this. In religious education children will be studying beliefs and practices in Buddhism and Judaism, as well as studying Easter in Christianity. In dance children's work will link to the Chinese New Year festivals, which will involve making up dance sequences in pairs and on their own.

Classes EMa, NL

Year 3 English studies will focus on myths and legends, calligrams/'shape' poetry, letters and stories by a particular author and instruction texts. Children will also study the **poetry of Kenn Nesbitt**. In mathematics children are focusing on strategies for addition and subtraction and measuring, data handling and solving problems involving money and fractions. In science they are studying **forces and magnets**. In design and technology children will be creating 3D pop up books. In computing they will be focusing on programming and games with an emphasis on debugging and algorithms. In history children will be studying **Ancient Greece**. They will be investigating the religion, culture and legacy of this civilisation. In music children will continue their study of a stringed instrument. In art they will create their own artefact inspired by their studies in history. The activities for PE are basketball, dance, gymnastics and tennis. In RE the children will continue to study aspects of Sikhism and Christianity, with a particular focus on the Easter story. **As part of their studies in RE, a trip is planned to St. Albans Abbey, St. Albans, on the 9th March**. In geography children will be studying a **Greek locality**.

Classes CD/RR, JS

Children's English studies will focus on stories from different cultures, information and explanation texts. **Children's poetry studies will focus on kennings and clerihevs**. In science, children will be learning about **solids, liquids and gases**, with a particular emphasis on changes in the states of matter and the significance of these processes within the water cycle. Their scientific studies will also include investigations into how **sounds** are made and how volume and pitch can be adapted. Their design and technology project will focus on the structure and mechanisms associated with catapults which will link to their history topic. In history children will be learning about the **Romans**, with particular reference to the Romans' arrival in and **impact on Britain**, Roman home life, religion and comparing their way of life with that of the Celts. Children will be producing class information booklets about these

aspects of Roman times. **A visit to the Celtic Harmony Camp in Hertfordshire** will consolidate their studies. In art children will be designing and creating mosaic patterns. In religious education children will continue their studies on Christianity and Islam. In PSHE and C children will be exploring the themes of friendship and working together. They will also study sustainability and equality in relation to Fair Trade. In computing children will be learning to use safely a variety of online communication tools such as email, blogs and discussion forums to support collaborative learning. In music children will continue to learn how to play a stringed instrument.

Classes SBa, AC

Children's English studies will focus on discussion, film narrative and play scripts. The play script studies will focus on **Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'**. In their studies of film narrative, they will be learning to retell the story of a short film, in the First Person. They will also be reading a range of writing by other significant children's authors and will focus on the **poems of Spike Milligan**. Children's scientific studies are focusing on **forces, and the Earth and Space**. In music children will be appraising and composing music on a space theme. In geography children are studying rivers, in particular those in the local area. **A river walk in Barclay Park** will consolidate their studies. Their art studies will focus on landscapes, and in design and technology they will be investigating mechanical systems in toys. In computing children will be collecting and presenting data using data loggers and data modelling. In religious education children will be continuing their studies of Christianity and Judaism. **A visit to The Jewish Museum, London**, will support their studies.

Classes LM, NM

In English, children will be focusing on writing a persuasive, one sided argument, and then learning how to develop this by writing balanced discussions. They will also explore the use of impersonal language in official documents. Children's fiction writing will cover a range of suspense techniques, enabling them to develop a writer's toolkit of stylistic features and devices. They will also be exploring the **poetry of Maya Angelou**. In science, children will be focusing on **electricity and light**. In geography, children will be studying current **global environmental issues caused by man-made and natural changes**. In design and technology, they will be designing and building a shelter for a specific purpose. In computing, children will be exploring how the internet is used for communication and collaboration. In history, children will be exploring **the impact of the Victorian era on our locality**. In art, they will design and create a sculpture to enhance an environment. In music, children will be constructing and composing chord patterns and in religious education they will be continuing their studies on Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism. Work in PSHE and C will address how we face challenges and make decisions and continue the exploration of the theme of being a good friend and including everyone. A trip to the **Houses of Parliament** is planned for 12th March to support their citizenship studies.

Yours sincerely
Mrs. Mary Childs
Headteacher