



SHEREDES PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and very warm wishes to all of you. We welcome back all our children, and advise that everyone brings in their winter coats, with this beautiful, but chilly, weather.

We will continue to use Schoolcomms as our regular means of communication.

Here are events planned for this term.

Dates for your diary

Specific details of events to follow, where appropriate

January

13 th	Swimming commences for Year 5, Class TW 8:00pm FOSS meeting; <i>Teams</i>
16 th	Swimming commences for Year 5, Class KW
w/b 20 th	Clubs commence, unless otherwise detailed
21 st	7:30pm: Full Governing Body Meeting; <i>Teams</i>

February

10 th	Open Evening 3:30pm – 6:00pm; an opportunity for you to see your children's work with them.
11 th – 13 th	Parent Consultations for Years 1 to 6 <i>Telephone/Teams or face to face</i>

17th – 21st

HALF TERM

24th – 28th

Book Week – more details to follow!

25th – 27th

Parent Consultations for Nursery and Reception

Telephone/Teams or face to face

March

18 th	7.30pm Governing Body Meeting
26 th	FOSS Easter Bake

April

2 nd	4:00pm – 5:00pm Spring Concert ; KS1 choir, recorders
3 rd	4:00pm – 5:00pm Spring Concert ; KS1 choir, instrumentalists
4 th	End of Term

Class Assemblies

Thursday 23 rd January	Class NM/LS	11:05am Lower Hall
	Class MA	10:35am Upper Hall
Thursday 30 th January	Class EMc	10:35am Upper Hall
	Class EMa	11:05am Lower Hall
Thursday 6 th February	Class AJ	10:35am Upper Hall
	Class KW	11:05am Lower Hall
Thursday 6 th March	Class AM	10:50am Lower Hall
Thursday 13 th March	Class TW	11:05am Lower Hall
	Class LO	11:15am Upper Hall
Thursday 20 th March	Class CD/SR	10:50am Lower Hall
	Class CN	11:15am Upper Hall
Thursday 27 th March	Class GT	10:50am Lower Hall
	Class NH	10:35am Upper Hall
Thursday 3 rd April	Class EJ	10:50am Lower Hall

Clubs

Clubs start again in the week beginning 20th January, unless otherwise stated.

We will be using existing club lists for participants, unless the age group for the club 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 email admin@sheredesprimary.herts.sch.uk

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 club list on our website.

Children's studies

Activities will be adapted for home/remote learning.

The Nursery

Our children are studying the topics of **Toys**, and **Wonderful World**, over the term. **Please see the copies available to open on Tapestry.**

Classes CN, LO

Children will be studying the topic **Toys** in the first half term. In history children will study the similarities and differences between toys in the present day compared to the past. Their studies will be enriched by **handling toys and learning to play traditional games, including a range of traditional playground chants**. In English, children will be writing factual sentences and learning a range of **traditional playground chants and poems**. In science children will use toys to investigate forces. In design and technology they will make a simple toy with a pop up mechanism.

In the second half of the term, children will be learning about our **Wonderful World**. They will be introduced to different countries, their cultures, and special places. In English children will be writing their own imaginative stories based on the traditional tales '**The Three Little Pigs**' and '**The Three Billy Goats Gruff**' and learning **a range of poems from around world**. In music children will be singing familiar songs as well as **cultural songs from the book Tam Tam Tambalay by Helen MacGregor**. They will also play percussion instruments and explore sound patterns. In science children will be learning about environmental changes and how this impacts wild animals in their habitats. Whilst studying the world children will also learn how to create simple maps and how to care for the world we live in. Over the term in religious education children will be identifying special people in our family and the community, and learning about special books, including the Bible and they will be listening to a range of bible stories. In personal, social and emotional education

children will be learning about how to help and care for friends, how to keep safe, and they will be identifying and dealing with feelings positively, as well as finding solutions and working towards aspirational goals. In art they will be exploring a range of techniques and skills which will aid creative work in the classroom.

Classes NH, EM

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 will be 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. They will also learn about the religious symbols of the Christian church. Their studies will be enriched by **a visit to a local church, St. Catherines and St. Pauls**. In art children will be investigating the qualities of a variety of natural and man-made 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 Malindi, in Kenya, with Hoddesdon**. In music children will be exploring pitch. In Personal, Social, Health Education and Citizenship (PSHE&C) children will further their learning about how to keep healthy and safe, including road safety.

Classes MA, AJ

In English children will be focusing on the poems of **Allan Ahlberg**. 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 how to live a healthy lifestyle, and what plants need to grow healthily. In history children will be exploring the lives of famous nurses, focusing on **Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell**. To enrich their studies, they will be taking part in a **History Off the Page Day, on the 31st January**. In music children will study ways music can be presented, by exploring graphic scores. They will also 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. In PSHE&C children will be focusing on how to build and maintain healthy relationships with friends and family members.

Classes EJ, GT

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 will be further developing their written addition and subtraction methods, and focus on decimals. 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 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. **Their studies will be enriched by a visit by History Off the Page on 26th March**. 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. In geography children will be studying **a Greek locality**. In PSHE&C, children will continue to develop their knowledge of building positive relationships and how democracy works in the United Kingdom.

Classes CD/SR, AM

Children's English studies will focus on stories from a range of cultures, information and explanation texts. **Children's poetry studies will focus on kennings and clerihews.** 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 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**. These studies will be enriched by a **visit to the Verulamium Museum, St. Albans, on the 26th March**. Children will be producing class information booklets about aspects of Roman times. In art children will be designing and creating mosaic patterns. In religious education children will continue their studies on Christianity and Islam. In PSHE&C children's learning will relate to the themes of friendship and emotions, and they will further their understanding of celebrating difference. In computing children will be introduced to coding, and in music children will continue to learn how to play a stringed instrument.

Classes TW, KW

Children's English studies will focus on discussion, narrative which creates suspense and play scripts. The play script studies will focus on **Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'**. They will also focus on the **poems of Benjamin Zephaniah**. Children's scientific studies are focusing on **forces, and the Earth and Space**. In music, children will be studying 'The Planets' by Gustav Holst. They will appraise his work and create their own compositions. In geography children will be studying rivers, including those in the local area. As part of their studies, a visit is planned on the 10th March to **Epping Forest** with the Field Studies Council, to investigate local rivers, including the River Lea. Their art studies will focus on landscapes, including the landscape art works of L. S. Lowry and David Hockney 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. Work in PSHE&C will continue to focus on the British Values of Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect.

Classes NM/LS, EMa

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 construct non-chronological reports and explanation texts, linked to their scientific studies. Children's fiction studies will cover writing from alternative perspectives, and developing character depth and atmosphere, including the use of 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, and the circulatory system**. In geography, children will be studying **biomes and current global environmental issues caused by man-made and natural changes**. In computing, children will be exploring how the internet is used for communication and collaboration. In art, they will design and create a sculpture to enhance an environment. In design and technology children will be making cushions. In music, children will be continuing their learning of music notation, and constructing and composing chord patterns. In religious education they will be continuing their studies on Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism and Humanism. Work in PSHE&C will relate to the themes of celebrating differences, and dreams and goals for the future. A visit to the **Houses of Parliament** on 20th March will further children's understanding of democracy. This trip will also include a visit to the London Eye and a river cruise, to enrich their geographical studies.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Mary Childs
Headteacher