



SHEREDES PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Nursery Newsletter

9th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

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

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 9 th | Swimming commences for Year 4 |
| 20 th | Clubs start <i>unless otherwise notified for specific activities</i>
8.00pm FOSS meeting |
| 21 st | 7:30pm: Full Governing Body Meeting |

February

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 10 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 |
| 11 th | 5.30 - 8.30 Consultation Evening (Nursery 5:30 – 8:00) |
| 12 th | 3.30 - 6.00 Consultation Evening (Nursery 3:45 – 6:00) |

17th – 21st

HALF TERM

24th February – 28th

Book Week – more details to follow!

24th March

7.30pm Governing Body Meeting

25th

3.30pm – 5.00pm FOSS Easter Bake

31st March, 1st April

Spring Concert: 4.30pm. Musical performances for parents; our choir on the 31st, and our orchestra, flute, recorder players, pianists, and other instrumentalists, on the 1st.

More details to follow.

3rd

End of Term

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

Jan.	23rd	Class LM	
Jan.	30 th	Class AC	
Feb.	6 th	Class SBa	Class JS
	13 th	Class NL	Class AP

March

5 th	Class EMa	Class LA
12 th	Class AM	Class MA
19 th	Class LMa	Class KB
26 th	Class JSc	Class CN

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 see Mrs. Kearns if you would like another copy.

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 Thursday 30th 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 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 Shunyi in Beijing, China, with Hoddesdon**. In music children will be exploring pulse and rhythm.

Classes JS, 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 how to live a healthy lifestyle, and what plants need to grow healthily. In history children will be exploring the lives of famous people, focusing on **Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell**. **On Monday 9th March a workshop 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 LMa, JSc

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 multiplication and division 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 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 27th March**. In geography children will be studying a **Greek locality**.

Classes EMa, AM

Children's English studies will focus on stories from different 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**, 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 on Tuesday 10th March** 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 introduced to coding, and in music children will continue to learn how to play a stringed instrument.

Classes SBa, NL

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, on 9th March**, will support their studies.

Classes LM, AC

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, and the circulatory and respiratory systems**. 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 27th April to support their citizenship studies.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Mary Childs
Headteacher