

Dear members of the Great and Little Shelford community,

Welcome back! It is so lovely to hear the school full of laughter and enjoyment as we welcome all our children back. This, along with seeing many families at drop off and

collection, makes me feel so grateful to be part of such a wonderful **community**. This theme resonates throughout this week's newsletter as we work together in a slightly more familiar way than in the spring and summer. Thank you for all the preparation you have done in ensuring your children know about the expectations and differences to school. I also really appreciate the effort families have put in to making the arrival and collection timings and procedures work - thank you. We all appreciate the way in which families have been so flexible around the changes to welcome pupils back safely. Overall, the plans have gone very well, however, we continue to review and risk assess – so thank you for your understanding if we do have to adapt measures.

As we focus on gathering together (at an appropriate distance) we strive to continue the strong **community** spirit that the school is renowned for. As we look back at time during lock-down, it was wonderful to appreciate the **community** events that took place to keep us all together. This week we commenced with our first video call collective worship. It was so lovely to feel the school completely together again. We focused on rules – it was interesting to see many hygiene rules coming in as a priority from the children. The theme of rules linked to Moses receiving the ten commandments in the



Newsletter in 60 seconds! The video version of our

Newsletter in 60s can be found here.

Old Testament and in the New Testament, Jesus giving us the New Commandment: Love one another. As you will know, this is a key scripture passage that underpins our vision. Afterwards, we shared <u>Colour Your World with</u> <u>Kindness</u>, noting that many of the examples included physical contact or sharing objects. Classes were then set a challenge to set one way we can spread kindness in a safe way.

We are delighted to welcome several new staff and several new children to the school **community**. We welcome Kayley to Y1 and Daksh to Y5. In addition, Allan joined our Y5 cohort during lockdown in the summer. I know we will all welcome our new children to the school **community**. As you will know from previous newsletters, we also welcome some new staff. In total, we welcome 5 new Teaching Assistants. Mrs. Mulholland and Miss Runham, who work in Reception; Ms Sullivan, who works in Y1 and Y2; Mrs. Smith, who works in Y2 and Mrs. Alcock, who works in Y5. It is wonderful to welcome more people to the school **community**.

I am delighted to say that we have had many works during the summer holidays. In particular, I would like to say a special thank you to Miss Smith for overseeing many different works during the holiday. From the playground resurfacing to new doors and from renovating drawers to enhancing the School Church Garden, there have been a plethora of works. Thank you to Mrs. McCrone for planning and leading the amazing team of families over the summer. A wonderful before and after summary of their superb work can be found <u>here</u>. We are very grateful to have such dedicated people within the **community**.

Finally, we recognise that under the current set-up our **community** cannot quite communicate in the same way. Normally, we commence the year with 'Meet the Teacher'. This year, we will be going on-line with the event. It will be pre-recorded and you will be able to view presentations with voice-overs at a time that suits you. We will also invite you to ask questions and provide a summary of the FAQs afterwards. Presentations will be available on the school website by Friday 25th September. We will alert you when the resources are ready. Of course, we also





Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd

normally circulate dates for the year ahead. However, we are working more tentatively on a half-termly basis - as there will understandably be far fewer events this year.

Each morning, I will still aim to be outside as much as possible. However, please see the summary below for communication expectations. We recognise that the safety measures in-place reduce your contact with the school currently. We are looking forward to a time in the future when we can welcome you back fully.

Communication Type	Communication Method
Urgent or important information, messages or requests.	e-mail to: office@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	telephone: 01223 843107
Non-urgent class-based enquiries	Email your class email address:
	reception@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	year1@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	year2@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	year3@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	year4@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	year5@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	year6@shelford.cambs.sch.uk

Currently, face-to-face meetings are very difficult. However, with enough notice, we may be able to arrange this. If you are in any doubt as to how to get in touch with us, please do contact the office (as above) and we will be glad to help you.

With best wishes, Chris Grey, Headteacher

Announcements

Challis Garden

As part of our renovation works to the School Church Garden, we were pleased to be able to recycle items that we no longer needed. We were able to donate the old water feature to Challis Garden in Sawston. They were very grateful and wanted to encourage us all to visit.

At the moment, they are running a competition to name the carved owls that are within their gardens. You can find further details here: http://challistrust.org.uk/





<u>Bees</u>

As per the previous email, please be careful around the churchyard as there are bees that reside there that become very active at this time of year. These Plasterer Bees live in the banks either side of the churchyard path. So please be careful and keep to the path.

School meals for Year 3 children

Please can we remind parents that meals will now need to be paid for if your child is now in Year 3. If you feel that you may be eligible for free school meals, please contact the office.

School Wishlist – Run by the PTA

The PTA has an <u>Amazon Wishlist</u> full of book ideas suggested by the teachers. It's a low effort, great way to support the school. If you buy from the list the book will be sent straight to the school. All books very gratefully received! No obligation to buy from Amazon - If you'd rather buy a book from the list elsewhere and have it posted/delivered to the school it would be equally welcome.

<u> PTA</u>

New appointments needed for Shelford PTA

Do you fancy getting a bit more involved? Do you want to help fundraise for additional resources and activities for the school?

The Shelford School PTA will need a new Chair and Secretary when Sarah and I step down at the October AGM.

Being on the PTA committee is a lot of fun, very rewarding and for a fantastic cause! If you're interested in finding out more about joining the PTA, or think you could be the person for the Chair or Secretary jobs please see here - http://www.shelfordschool.org.uk/website/pta_roles/302472 - and contact Hannah Mohamad or Sarah Hallebro via Classlist for any further info.

You will be well supported by the members of the PTA, including no less than three former Chairs and two former Secretaries!

This year's fundraising is likely to have an 'online' focus but the school still needs all the support we can give so the more the merrier!

Details of the PTA's October AGM will be posted on Classlist soon.

PTA Fundraisers

With Coronavirus restrictions still in place and the ongoing uncertainty about what sort of fundraising events and activity we will be able to deliver this year, the PTA will continue to focus on online fundraising for now.

The idea is to focus specifically on the key things that the school needs additional funds for - namely LAPTOPS and BOOKS. Without your generosity it just isn't possible for the PTA to support the school with buying these items.

So many of you have already been so generous in donating to the laptop fundraiser and buying books from the Amazon wishlist, with books and donations coming in throughout the summer holidays. If you haven't already donated please do consider chipping in - the school urgently needs new laptops and new books for the classrooms and the library.

You can donate to the laptop fundraiser here - every little really helps and we're now over halfway to raising what we need. https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/shelford-pta-laptops?utm_term=VQ5DZp7PJ

And you can buy books direct from Amazon (or elsewhere if you prefer) and have them shipped straight to the school - the school's wishlist is here -<u>https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2WSDF7L9G47UW?ref_=wl_share</u> Thank you!

