

Dear members of the Great and Little Shelford community,

I hope you are all well. As we look back over this half term, it is amazing to reflect on what we have achieved in a short space of time! It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school since September, as we find our way through new unchartered territory! On that note, please continue to exercise extreme vigilance around strategies to reduce transmission. All of our hard work in school is only working if families continue to follow restrictions out of school. The Local Authority have shared this helpful summary of symptoms for guidance.

Y3 led their fantastic Harvest Service on Monday. It contained readings, artwork, poetry, signed music and prayer. We were delighted to be able to hold it in St. Mary's with Clare, Curate from St. Andrews, Stapleford. Thank you to the Year 3 team, Clare and the St. Mary's Team for making the service possible. You can view it here. We really missed the annual collection and donation of food gifts to those in need this year. Our Harvest Fundraiser for Jimmy's Cambridge will continue until Monday 19th October. You can also add Gift Aid to help the charity receive even more!

R Harvest Serv

Last week, Mrs. Unwin shared a fantastic video that was shared with us by one of our new partner schools - Secteur Scolaire Annour - in the Atlas Mountains, Morocco. We were delighted to celebrate this new partnership and are busy preparing a Shelford video to reciprocate! (Screenshot pictured above right)

Speaking of videos, I was delighted to work with Jessie and Dougie, our Head Girl and Head Boy in preparing a Virtual Tour of the school for prospective parents. As you will be aware, we are not able to run our usual admissions tours. I think they both did a fantastic job! If you are aware of families that will be applying for Reception 2021-22, then please direct them here, where they can get a snapshot of our school!

Looking towards the other end of the school, we reported on Y6s trip to Grafham last week. Below, you will find a photo taken during their sailing session!

Our Class Teachers and Pupils are busy finalising the Interim Reports, which will come home before half term. These contain a short report from the Class Teacher, each child's individual reflection and a letter from me. We hope you find these useful as an alternative to the usual face-to-face Pupil, Parent, Teacher Consultation – which we are unable to run this year.

Please see the messages below from our former Chair of Governors, Peter Ede and our new Chair of Governors, Anna Caroe. In addition, there are a number of announcements that are important this week, including some dates for the diary, Celebration Worship achievements and some important reminders.





Newsletter in 60s

- Harvest Service and Fundraiser
- New Partner School
- Virtual Tour
- Interim Reports .
- Governor Update •
- Many important
 - announcements!



Updates from our Governors

Last Thursday (8th), Governors held the first full Board meeting of the year. It's always a busy one, but even more so with the need to discuss Covid-19 response and recovery plans. It was clear that the measures put in place by the school and the level of detail in the recovery plan is excellent – in many ways over and above specifications from the national government. We routinely enquire into the wellbeing of the staff, who have done a fantastic job helping the children return to school and we recognise that this rather long half term is exhausting for adults and children alike.

We were extremely pleased to hear that the PTA is operational this year and up for the challenge of fundraising while being unable to run in-person events! Please do offer them your full support this year as the funds they raise make a dramatic difference to the experiences of the children, as school budgets are ever more squeezed. A huge thank you to all those on the committee.

The Communications working party will continue to ask for and analyse feedback to help this work effectively for the whole school community. On that theme, please always feel free to contact us via Laura, our clerk (<u>clerk@shelfordschool.org.uk</u>) or the chair (<u>chair@shelfordschool.org.uk</u>).

The Chair, Vice-chair and Treasurer are always elected at this first meeting of the year, except unlike the 6 years previously, this time we were not re-electing Peter Ede. Peter has taken the decision to step down as chair after 7 years, but will remain on the Board so we will still benefit from his experience and wisdom. He has served the school and led the Board with great generosity, insight and commitment as Chair, and we were pleased to be able to thank him with a gift of gardening gift vouchers.

As the incoming Chair, I have been working alongside Peter this past year to make sure there is a seamless transition and I am grateful for the support of the Board as I take on the role. It is a privilege to lead such a dedicated and skilled team and I look forward to the opportunity to support the school in this way. We also elected Liz Jenkin as Vice-chair and re-elected Polly Stanton as Treasurer – thanks to both of them for serving in these roles. Information about all the Board members is on the school website.

Anna Caroe, Chair of Governors

Message from our Former Chair of Governors:

I have been the Chair of Governors for seven years, so the children just starting Reception when I took on the job have been through all the classes and have now moved on to secondary school. I think it is time for a change, in part for me but more importantly for the school to benefit from someone with a fresh eye. It has been my privilege to serve the school in this way, and to be part of the significant progress that the school has made. Of course it hasn't all been plain sailing, not least the perennial problems of inadequate budgets. When I took over as Chair we were in the process of recovering from a deficit when we had been very close to having to reduce the number of classes, and in line with that the number of staff. Fortunately things are a little better now, but school finances remain something of a tightrope. Through all of this, the strong support from the PTA has been a great comfort.

Financial considerations have been put into perspective this year by the pandemic, which has undoubtedly been the most difficult situation to face the school in a very long time, though perhaps not in terms of what governors had to do because Mr Grey and the rest of the staff have done such a fantastic job, responding rapidly to every twist and turn of the pandemic and the government's guidance to schools. As the Chair of Governors I was probably more exercised in my first year by being faced the triple whammy of the retirement of the clerk, the Headteacher being on an indeterminate period of compassionate leave and the resignation of the Deputy Head! I did wonder if it was something I had said

Throughout the period, I have had excellent support from other governors, the two headteachers and many members of staff, and I am very grateful to them all. I have also appreciated comments and constructive suggestions from parents, and I hope you will do likewise for my successor. I am sure that Anna Caroe will serve the school well, as she has already done as a governor over the past five years and earlier as a teacher. I shall be remaining as a governor and will of course give her my full support.

Peter Ede, Governor



Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School, Tel: 01223 843107

Church Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EL

Fax: 01223 841441 office@shelford.cambs.sch.uk www.shelfordschool.org.uk

N e live and work in harmony with love for one another so we can achieve our potential within a community of life-long learne Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd



Celebration Worship - 9th October 2020

As pupils joined the Teams call, a video prepared by our new link school in Morocco was shared. We were delighted to receive this from Secteur Scolaire Annour

We opened the celebration worship with our signed gathering statement linked to our school vision:

Leader: We live and work in harmony (signed)

Response: With love for one another (signed)

Silver Bins (tidiest classes): Y2; Y5

Star Writers:

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- Emily F and Jack D for excellent Roman newspaper reports;
- **Humphrey W and Bea P** for excellent imaginative vocabulary choices, similes, onomatopoeia and fronted adverbials;

Heateacher's Awards

- Aaron R-G for focus and determination in phonics;
- Theodore D for selecting a variety of vocabulary in writing;
- Jemima M for excellence in Geography in discussions; her map of her route and a model of the Co-op;
- Oliver M for excellent ideas and linking artefacts to during the virtual trip to Ely Museum;
- **Matthew R** for outstanding contributions to computing, including supporting peers;
- Alexander H for demonstrating every one of the Shelford Star Values;
- Charlotte N an outstanding piece of writing about the Theory of Evolution.

Housepoints: this week's winning house is the house of excellence, domus praestantium - the Owls.



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Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd

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Communication

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Please remember that the communication guidelines below:	
Communication Type	Communication Method
Urgent or important information, messages or requests.	e-mail to: office@shelford.cambs.sch.uk
	telephone: 01223 843107
Non-urgent, general class enquiries	Email your class email address

Individual Photos

On Wednesday 4th November, pupils will have individual photographs taken in school. For classes that usually have PE on Wednesday, **please note that all pupils should wear school uniform on this day**.

Handcare

As you will know, pupils, staff and visitors are required to wash hands regularly throughout the day, along with before and after certain parts of the school day. Some children are experiencing dry hands, especially with the more recent colder weather. Please can we encourage you to apply hand cream at home and overnight. A child friendly poster can be found <u>here</u>, along with further resources at: <u>www.handwashinghelp.co.uk</u>. This site has kindly been set up and shared with us by Maria Lazarus.

Secondary Applications

Y6 families – do not forget that you need to apply for a secondary place for your children by 31st October! <u>PTA</u>

DEADLINE FOR LAPTOP FUNDRAISER

Thanks to your incredibly generous donations (and those of the wider Shelford community) we have almost hit our £3,000 target for funding a set of 15 laptops for the school. This is essential equipment for the school so we are keen to get the laptops purchased and into school as soon as possible. The old laptops are no longer fit for purpose and urgently need replacing.

With that in mind the laptop fundraiser will close on <u>Friday 23</u> <u>October</u>. So if you are intending to donate, or know anyone else who is, please don't delay - visit the just giving page today and make that

donation! https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/shelford-

pta-laptops?utm_term=qP6Rm5dvZ It really will make all the difference. We're 84% of the way there and only need another £410 to reach our target of fully funding the 15 laptops. THANK YOU! PTA

House T-shirts

House T-shirts will be available to order soon. Watch this space for further details.

Great Shelford Free Church Event (right)

Great Shelford Free Church are inviting families to the Light Event on 31st October. (*details on right*)



IN THE GROUNDS OF CARA COFFEE

Saturday 31st October

6pm - 8pm

Great Shelford Free Church

Book your half hour family fun craft slot and claim a free goody bag! Places limited

For more information contact diana@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk Or book your place on our website www.shelfordfreechurch.org.uk





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BIDWELLS

Tel: 01223 843107

N e live and work in harmony with love for one another so we can achieve our potential within a community of life-long learner. Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd

Art Competition ENTRY DETAILS: "Cambridge is..."

Draw or paint a picture representing what you love about Cambridge the most. It could be the people, the buildings, the parks, the cows, the bikes, the shops, your school - anything that you love!

Deadline is midnight on 4th December 2020

• Entrants must be 12 years or younger and affiliated to a Cambridgeshire-based school or nursery

Please submit your drawing or painting on A4 size paper

• Accompanying your picture, please submit your full name, age, contact details, and the name of your school

• Please post your entry, along with your contact information, to Bidwells, Marketing Department, Bidwell House, Trumpington Road, Cambridge, CB2 9LD

For further details, head to: www.bidwells.co.uk/artcomp

Art Competition 'Cambridge is...'

What does Cambridge mean to you? What do you love about the city? the people, buildings, the parks?

Drawit!

Send us a drawing or painting of your favourite thing(s) about Cambridge for your chance to win £50 worth of art tools for yourself and £450 for your school.

Deadline 4 December

Entrants must be 12 years or under. Winners will be announced in January 2021.

Send your entries and contact details to: Bidwells, Marketing Department Bidwell House, Trumpington Road Cambridge, CB2 9LD

Entries must be on A4 size paper

#talktobidwells bidwells.co.uk/artcomp



