Newsletter 35

Dear Parents and Carers

This week our children will have a day in their new classes, an exciting time for all, from the new Reception children right up to our Year 6 children who will spend the day in their new schools. We also have the Summer Fair on Friday after school. Please do come along with family and friends to this joyful event on our school field. Children should be picked up as normal at the end of the day and be taken down to the fair by their parents and carers.

**Transition Day - Tuesday 1st July**

This is the day when all the children move up a class for the day to meet their new teacher and spend time getting used to their new classroom before the summer break. All the children should go straight to their new classroom for this special day, we will be on hand to guide them in the right direction and help you pick them up from the right places! To help with this process, here’s a reminder of the drop off and pick up points for each year group:

Year 1 (Mrs Stone) – They go in through the door at the back of the Hall and come out from their door, just to the left of the door at the back of the Hall at 3.10pm.

Year 2 (Mrs Marshall) – They go in through the door at the back of the Hall and come out of the same door at 3.10pm.

Year 3 (Mrs A Saunders) – As above, coming out at 3.15-3.20pm

Year 4 (Mrs Bastable/Ms W Saunders) – They go in through their door (up the little ramp down the side path) and come out of the door at the top of the school at 3.20pm

Year 5 (Mrs Ferre and Ms W Saunders) and 6 (Ms Wonnacott) – In and out of the top door, finishing at 3.20pm.

We will also welcome the new Reception children in small groups during the day, and have most of our Year 6 children at their new secondary schools that day.

**Year 5 and 6 Summer Performance – The SchoolOvision Song Contest**

The Summer Performance, showcasing the talents of our Year 6 children, supported by our Year 5 class, will take place on Tuesday 8th July at 2pm and Wednesday 9th July at 6pm. Tickets are on sale from the school office at £1 a ticket. It’s a highly entertaining show, you don’t have to have a child in it to come along!

**Late Arrivals at school and late pick ups**

Everyone gets delayed from time to time, but we do have a group of children who are late into school too often, missing learning and needing to catch up before they’ve even started the day! We also ask that if you have a child who likes you to take them right down to the door at the start of the day, you get here early enough to get in and out of the top gate by 8.50am so that it can be closed on time.

At the end of the day, we know people can get held up, but again, we have some regular children waiting by the office to be picked up a bit too often.

**Coffee Morning – Speech and Language – Tuesday 15th July – School Hall**

Please come into school for a drink and biscuit and a chat with our lovely, link Speech and Language Therapists. If you have any questions at all about Speech and Language, whether or not your child has been seen by this service, please feel free to join us.

Please could you let Mrs Howard know if you think you might be able to come – either by email [showard@shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:showard@shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk) or have a word – thank you.

**PTFA**

The PTFA have arranged for our school to be in the Tesco Tokens scheme from the first week of July until September. We hope to get some money to improve the Reception class outdoor area with a new artificial grass surface and play equipment. Please put your blue tokens into our slot and encourage others to do the same.

Please come to these two events and help with them if you can, the money raised is all used to improve the environment and experiences for all the children in our school.

**Summer Fair – Friday 4th July at 3.20pm**

Please sign up to help with the Summer Fair this Friday.  It will need your help to set up, run stalls and clear up at the end.

**Our new Behaviour and Relationships Policy**

We have been working with staff and governors to produce our new Behaviour Policy. Last week it was adopted by the Governors, where we decided to share it with all families. We all know that positive relationships are the key to good behaviour, they go hand in hand. Parents/carers and school both have a vital and central role in developing prosocial behaviour and positive relationships for all the children in our community.

There’s a section in the policy on the role of parents and carers, please have a look.

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Year 1 have two weeks of Forest School on 25th June and 2nd July, followed by Year 5 on 9th and 16th July.

Children need to have trousers and long-sleeved tops, wellies and a waterproof coat (with over-trousers if they have them). The Forest School philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

**Shaftesbury Fringe – 18th - 20th July**

A message from the organisers of this fantastic local event:

The biggest, open-access arts festival in Dorset, with over 300 performances, takes place from 18th to 20th July. With music of all genres, childrens’ theatre, a bubbleologist, magicians, a comedy game-show and a Punch and Judy, there’s more for families at this year’s Fringe than ever before.  
After a show, there’s the Abbey Gardens open as the perfect space to chill out, the recently revamped St James’s park to burn off some excess energy and our food and drink hub on Park Walk, so you can make the day as busy or relaxed as you like.  
Head to [www.shaftesburyfringe.co.uk](http://www.shaftesburyfringe.co.uk/) or download the app on Google and Apple to plan your visit!

**Summer Activity Camps**

See the attached flier for details

**Term Dates**

Please see next year’s term dates below for your info.

TERM DATES 2024 – 2025

Summer Term ends                                     Tuesday 22nd July 2025

INSET DAY                                                       Wednesday 23rd July 2025

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TERM DATES 2025 – 2026

**Autumn Term**

INSET DAY                                                       Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Children start back                                      Thursday 4th September 2025

Autumn Half Term                                        Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025

Autumn Term ends                                      Friday 19th December 2025

Christmas Holidays                                     Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

**Spring Term**

INSET DAY                                                      Monday 5th January 2026

Children start back                                    Tuesday 6th January 2026

Spring half term                                            Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Spring Term ends                                         Friday 27th March 2026

Easter holidays                                             Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026

**Summer Term**

INSET DAY                                                      Monday 13th April 2026

Children start back                                    Tuesday 14th April 2026

MAY DAY Bank Holiday                             Monday 4th May 2026

INSET DAY                                                      Friday 22nd May 2026

Summer half term                                      Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

Summer Term ends                                    Tuesday 21st July 2026

INSET DAY                                                      Wednesday 22nd July 2026