



Sherborne Church of England Primary School

SHERBORNE, CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. GL54 3DH.

T: 01451 844277 E: admin@sherborne.gloucs.sch.uk www.sherborneschool.co.uk

8th September, 2023

Dear Parents,

The sun is shining, the rain has vanished and the temperatures are soaring. It can mean only one thing: the children have gone back to school!

During the summer holidays, staff, volunteers and contractors busied away to make sure the school was ready for September. There have been some new additions to the school grounds as well as some exciting developments in our curriculum:

1. New Erasmus+ Project

“But we’re no longer in the EU!” I hear you exclaim. “How can a small, rural, British school possibly have a new Erasmus Project?” The answer is just two words: Mrs Ellis. Her 88-page, 35,000-word application submitted back in March was approved in August and I am delighted to report that the school will be undertaking a three-year project alongside partner schools in Croatia, Latvia, Poland, Portugal and Spain. The core purpose of the project is for children to develop their proficiency and understanding of the Arts, and how this can be used to support mental health. More details to follow.

2. New Bike Shed

The growing number of children who either cycle or scooter to school are now able to park their vehicles in a custom-made bike shed at the rear of the building. A roof and side panel is set to follow in due course. Huge thanks to the band of parental volunteers who organised, planned and installed the shed, which will mean that children will no longer need to lie their bikes down when dismounting and also that their seats remain dry when it rains! Particular thanks go to Mr and Mrs Gainford and Mr and Mrs Little.

3. New Lockers

The cloakroom pegs for all children in Fox Class and Owl Class have been removed and lockers installed in their place. Not only should this help to keep the cloakrooms tidy, it also means that we have been able to create some new display space to celebrate the children’s work.



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4. New Spelling Programme

A new spelling programme has been introduced for all children in Years 2-6. This programme has been carefully selected and will ensure consistency in approach for all children aged 6-11. Children in Reception and Year 1 will continue to be set spellings linked to Little Wandle and the phonics they are learning that week.

Other changes which took place over the summer holidays include part of the outdoor classroom being cleared to provide a covered area for children in Hedgehog Class to use when they are doing outdoor learning; the willow dome being cut back and the paths cleared in the wildlife area (many thanks to Mrs Field, Mrs Gainford and Mr and Mrs Russell); topsoil kindly donated and used to top up the children's flower beds by Mr and Mrs Harries, the original school house door being reinstated so a 'reading café' may be created later in the year; the doors leading into Hedgehog Class being repaired and repainted and; a new telephone system being installed (and is now working!).

A few house-keeping reminders:

The school day - children may arrive from 8:45am and the school bell will be rung at 8:50am promptly. Any child arriving after their class has left the playground will need to enter the school via the office, where they will be marked as 'late' in the register. The school day finishes at 3:20pm and parents should collect children from the main playground.

Parking - like every school in the country, the surrounding roads can get busy around drop-off and pick-up times. Parents are asked not to park on the road leading up to the school, including around the War Memorial, as this space is used as a turning circle. The Parish Council has also requested that parents make use of the car park at the Sherborne Club wherever possible, and to park close to the curb if having to park on the road and not to close to resident's driveways.

Breakfast Club - Miss Denmead runs our Breakfast Club, which takes place from 8:00am to 8:45am. Should you wish for your child to attend Breakfast Club, please contact Carla in the school office. Each session is priced at £2.

After School Clubs - 'official' after school clubs start from Monday, 11th September and are open to all children. Please [click here](#) should you wish for your child to attend one or more of these clubs (please complete one form for each child).

Day	Club	Lead by ...	Further information
Mondays	Tag Rugby	Sports Project	Each session costs £2 and is led by an external provider
Tuesdays	Games and Puzzles	Miss Denmead and Mrs Williams	Free
Wednesdays	Homework	Mr Lambourne	Free
Thursdays	Football	Mr Moore	Free. Children will need football boots and shin guards
Fridays	Choir	Mrs Ellis	Children in Years 4-6 attending the



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			club will be invited to attend Young Voices in January 2024
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Parents should note that these sessions are not ‘childcare’ and children are expected to attend each week and participate fully.

If you wish to sign your child up to Monday afterschool club you will need to use the Sports Project Team booking system, Class4Kids, which can be found on their Website;

<https://the-sports-project.class4kids.co.uk>

Using this link, please can you book your child’s place and pay for their sessions this term. The School will be subsidising the club by 50%, meaning a session cost to the parent will be £2.10 per week. **When booking your child's place, please use the parent's discount code IQR298 to ensure you receive the 50% discount.** Please note, if you have more than one child attending, you will need to book a place for each child, so you can use the discount code multiple times.

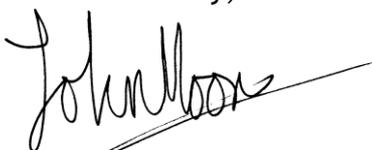
Parent Pay - the school operates a cashless office and all payments should be made via the Parent Pay app. Please contact Mrs Pether in the Office if your child does not yet have a ParentPay account.

Data collection and consent - it is essential that the school office holds correct and up-to-date details for every child. Please complete the form by [clicking here](#).

Finally, I am sure you will join me in congratulating Miss Denmead on becoming engaged over the summer. We are all delighted for her and wish her luck as she adds wedding planning to her list of things to do!

Welcome back one and all. We’re all looking forward to another incredible year at Sherborne!

Yours sincerely,



John Moore
Headteacher



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