SHERSTON C OF E
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning, Caring & Achieving Together

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09/26

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to the start of another exciting school year at Sherston CE Primary School. We hope you have all enjoyed a relaxing and happy summer break. It has been wonderful to see the school come alive again, and we are delighted to welcome back our returning families as well as those who are joining our community for the first time.

There is quite a bit of information to share in this newsletter, so thank you in advance for taking the time to read it carefully. The updates below will help ensure that the new term gets off to a smooth and successful start for everyone.

Our School Community Continues to Grow

We are delighted to begin the year with 151 children on roll, reflecting the continued growth and success of our school. This is something we are incredibly proud of and is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our children and the support of our families.

This term, we are also pleased to welcome Miss Newman and Mrs Howitt to the Sherston team as the new teachers of Oak and Rowan classes. Both bring a wealth of experience, energy and creativity, and we know they will quickly become valued members of our school family.

Equipment and Mobile Phones

To help keep classrooms organised and ensure consistency across the school, children should not bring their own pencil cases or stationery into school. All the equipment children need for their learning is provided by the school.

As a reminder, children in Years 5 and 6 may bring a mobile phone to school if it is needed for travelling to and from school independently. However, in line with our smartphone-free approach, only basic mobile phones (non-smartphones) are permitted. Phones must be handed in to the school office on arrival and collected at the end of the school day. Smart phones, smart watches and other internet-enabled devices should not be brought into school by children.

New Safeguarding Contact Email

Keeping children safe is at the heart of everything we do at Sherston. In line with the updated Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) 2026 guidance, which places an increased emphasis on responding swiftly to concerns, information sharing and maintaining a strong safeguarding culture across schools, we have introduced a dedicated safeguarding email address: safeguarding@sherston.wilts.sch.uk.

Parents and carers can use this address to share any safeguarding concerns relating to a child, including concerns about a child's welfare, online safety, behaviour outside school, emotional wellbeing or any situation where you feel a child may be at risk of harm. While urgent concerns

should always be reported directly to the school office or relevant emergency services where appropriate, this inbox provides an additional secure way for families to contact our safeguarding team and ensure important information is passed on promptly.

Outdoor PSHE Lessons

Following feedback from parents about increasing opportunities for outdoor learning, we are delighted to be introducing outdoor PSHE lessons this year. These sessions will be led by Miss Linda, who many children will already know through our popular Muddy Hands club, and will make use of our outdoor classroom and nature trail. Learning outside will give children valuable opportunities to explore important PSHE themes while engaging with the natural environment. As lessons will take place outdoors, please ensure children have suitable clothing and footwear on the relevant days. Further details can be found on class pages on the school website.

PE Days and School Uniform

Physical education remains an important part of school life, and children should continue to arrive at school wearing their PE kit on the following days:

- Oak – Monday and Thursday
- Rowan – Tuesday and Thursday
- Maple – Wednesday and Friday
- Chestnut – Monday and Thursday
- Willow – Monday and Wednesday
- Sycamore – Tuesday and Friday

Uniform Reminders

- From 3rd September, children should wear the new navy polo shirt or a plain navy alternative.
- Old white polo shirts can be donated via the clothing bank in the school car park.
- White socks should be worn on PE days only.
- Sherston-branded trucker hats and bucket hats are now available to purchase through Bateman Sports.

Thank you for your continued support with our uniform expectations. These small details help foster a strong sense of pride and belonging across the school.

Apple Day Bottle Label Competition

A reminder that this year's Apple Day Bottle Label Design Competition is well underway.

All completed entries should be returned to class teachers by Friday 4th September. Please ensure your child's name and class are clearly marked on the reverse.

Mrs Howitt will join Eleanor Lines from Sustainable Sherston in judging the entries on Friday. We are looking forward to seeing the creative ideas our children produce and wish everyone the very best of luck.

Meet the Teacher Sessions

Our Meet the Teacher sessions provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about the year ahead, classroom routines and curriculum expectations, as well as giving parents the chance to ask any questions.

All sessions will take place in The Nest (formerly the Library) at 9.00am:

- Monday 7th – Maple
- Tuesday 8th – Oak
- Wednesday 9th – Rowan
- Thursday 10th – Chestnut
- Friday 11th – Willow
- Monday 14th – Sycamore

We hope as many parents and carers as possible can attend and look forward to seeing you there.

Healthy Snack Reminder

As a reminder, Sherston remains a nut-free school.

Suitable breaktime snacks include:

- Fresh fruit
- Chopped fruit
- Vegetable sticks (such as carrot, cucumber, celery or pepper)
- Cheese cubes or Babybel
- Hard-boiled eggs
- Wholegrain crackers, oatcakes, breadsticks or pitta bread

Thank you for helping us promote healthy eating habits across the school.

Collective Worship

Please see below the timetable for Collective Worship in school. More details can be found on the Policies section of the school website.

Day	Worship	Focus	Lead
Monday	Togetherness	Elements of the school vision linking to particular theme	Headteacher
Tuesday	Caring	Golden Book linked to termly value	SLT
Wednesday	Learning	Termly value & Bible story	Gauzebrook Ministry team
Thursday	Singing	Whole school hymm practice	Music Lead
Friday	Achievement	Celebrating the achievements of children in the week	Headteacher

Following the recent parent forum, we wanted to clarify why your child might come home with a certificate. Children added to the Golden Book on Tuesdays will have demonstrated our current value through their actions and attitudes. Friday Star of the Week certificates recognise children who have shown exceptional effort, achievement or contribution during the week.

Termly Values	
Term 1	Friendship
Term 2	Courage
Term 3	Curiosity
Term 4	Respect
Term 5	Kindness
Term 6	Ambition

Summer Improvements Around School

The summer break has provided an opportunity to invest further in our school environment and facilities. We are pleased to share some of the key improvements that have taken place over the holidays:

- New hall floor and redecoration of the school hall.
- Brand-new interactive whiteboards in every classroom.
- Servicing and maintenance of kitchen equipment.
- Migration of school IT systems to the cloud, improving both security and performance.
- New laptops for pupils and staff.

These enhancements will further support teaching, learning and the day-to-day experiences of everyone in school.

Parking Reminder

A polite reminder that the school car park is not available for parent use during busy drop-off and collection times (8:45am to 9:00am and 3:10pm onwards). Restricting access during these periods helps to keep everyone safe.

Parents are welcome to use the car park when dropping children off at Early Birds or when collecting children following an after-school club. We appreciate your cooperation and support in helping to keep our school site safe for all members of the community.

Key Dates

Please find the latest Key Dates document attached.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. We are incredibly excited about the year ahead and look forward to working together to ensure every child thrives, enjoys their learning and achieves their very best.

Here's to a fantastic year at Sherston CE Primary School.

Kind regards,

Mr Towers