

Shere CE Infant School & Fox Cubs Nursery

Roots to grow...Wings to fly

Our Vision: A first class education in a small village school.

Friday 23rd March 2018

Gomshall Lane, Shere, Guildford, Surrey, GU59HB

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March

26th

Princesses with Attitude Theme

27th

Year 2 Sats Evening
5.30pm Owls Classroom

29th

Church 9.30
End of term @1.30

Summer Term

April

16th

First day of term (all)

19th

Blue Reef Aquarium Trip
(Reception, 1 and 2)

20th

Spring Sing (Y2)

23rd

Earth Day (all)

24th

SPAG Test (Y2)

May

8th

River Field Trip (all)

10th

Spectrum Athletics (Y1)

16th

Bedtime Story (all)
5pm – 6pm.

21st

River Catastrophe (all)

Dear Families,

I don't want to speak too soon but there are definite signs of Spring in the air, the sun is even putting in an appearance today. I am hoping that the predicted white Easter doesn't become a reality and that we can all enjoy some warming sunshine. The children are already making the most of the weather with great outdoor learning including a wonderful café in Foxes class, serving some rather delicious looking sticks, leaves and mud. Yummy!

New Writing Philosophy:

Each year in our School Development Plan we aim to focus on a different area of our curriculum, this year we have selected writing as our priority and as staff we have worked together to implement a new writing philosophy from Nursery to Year 2.

It has been great to watch the nursery become such an established part of the school and it was great fun to work as part of a much bigger team on our first formal collaboration.

We are basing this project on the importance of story as, time and time again, research indicates that children who hear and later read and engage with narrative do better in all aspects of the curriculum. The use of oral storytelling in particular seems to instil in children a love of language and patterning that will serve them well throughout their time at school and into adulthood.

Each unit of literacy planning will now last three weeks to give children a real chance to get to grips with new books and genres. Each unit will include the following elements:

Imitation – the chance to get immersed in story, by heart, to re-tell it, to act it out, to ask and answer questions, play at it in role play areas and to map it out using story maps.

Invention – the opportunity to play with a story, to re-tell it in your own words, to repeat it and embellish it and to write or tell your own version of it.

Innovation – writing your own stories based on all you have learnt.

Alongside this new method run our already established spelling, punctuation and grammar inputs and daily phonics.

Year Two have trialled one unit, which began last week, and we have already seen the impact on their writing. Year One, Reception and the Nursery will begin their first unit after Easter.

Further information, including medium term planning for each age group, can be found on the school website.

RED TED:

I am now seeing RED TEDs everywhere – he is fast becoming a firm favourite with the children and many of our volunteer reading helpers have commented on the how enthusiastic the children are about him. Thank you for your support with this.

28th

Half Term

June

8th

World Oceans Day (all)

11th

Phonics Screening Week
(Y1)

Children's Art Day (all)

15th

Cobwebs Sports Day
(Reception, Y1 & Y2)

21st & 22nd

Holy Trinity Move-up
days

Sunday 24th

Shere Open Gardens

29th

INSET (Nursery Closed)

July

2ND

INSET (Nursery Open)

5th

Grandparents Assembly
2pm
(Reception, Year 1 & 2)

Grandparents Morning
(Nursery)

12th

Sports Day
(All)

19th

Y2 Leavers Service

22st & 22nd

Holy Trinity Move Up
Days
(Y2)

23rd

End of Term
Church 9.30am

One issue that has come up is the very different rates that children are completing the challenges. The aim of RED TED is to improve the reading and talking experience whilst leaving families more quality time to spend with one another. It is not supposed to be a race. At the moment some children are completing a book within a fortnight and others continue to not read at all. With this in mind we have decided to produce one RED TED book each half term so that there will be six in total. We will present the awards in Friday assembly when there is a group of children who have completed their book.

If you do finish all the tasks before the end of term then I would really encourage you to keep reading and talking; maybe a school reading book, a library book or something more imaginative. We would love to hear what you get up to so write each activity in your school reading diary.

Diary Dates:

Please take a few minutes to read the diary dates in the left hand column. This has been updated with the dates for next term. Reception, Year One and Two have a trip to The Blue Reef Aquarium on the first Thursday back after Easter so please look out for consent forms in book bags next week.

Water Topic:

Next term's topic is called Blue Planet and as the name suggests it is all about water. This term the Nursery will be joining the school and working on the same topic, which should prove a great learning experience for everyone!

The following units of work will be covered:

16th, 23rd, 30th April – Blue Planet

This unit focuses on our oceans and the amazing variety of sea life within them. We will be visiting The Blue Reef Aquarium to experience the deep blue sea for ourselves and will celebrate Earth Day by thinking how we can look after our oceans in the future.

7th, 14th, 21st May – Messing about in boats!

In this unit we will find out about the river, we will take part in field trips to the river that runs right behind our school learning about the animals and plants who live just next door. In literacy, we will hear the children's classic The Wind in the Willows and meet mole, rat and friends. During this unit, we will be inviting everyone back to share a bedtime story with us – look out for your invitation.

4th, 11th, 18th June – Pirates

We couldn't study the oceans without discovering more about the children's favourite topic – Pirates! During this unit, we will celebrate World Oceans Day and Children's Art Day.

25th, 2nd, 9th, 16th July – The Seaside

We will complete this unit with a celebration of the seaside. We will study its geographical features and find out what seaside holidays were like long ago. Of course we will take our annual trip to Littlehampton to celebrate the end of the summer term and what we hope will be a wonderful topic!

I hope your children will be looking forward to this topic as much as we are. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate – get in touch. We are here to help so please come and chat.

Best Wishes
Vicky Voller