



Friday 23rd November 2018

Attendance Target: 98%

Actual Attendance: 97.3%

Message from Denise Cottam

We are now half way through the term. We welcomed prospective parents, for the Reception classroom, as they came to visit the class and school. There were a number of our year 6 children who provided the commentary to the tour and shared a bit about life at Shortstown. They were so good and represented the school beautifully. Thank you.

There is a letter, coming to all families, explaining the current situation of the HEART Academies Trust around staff leaving. Teachers have to give half a term notice, so any applications, for new positions, occurred in September, when the outlook was bleak. Staff did not take the decision lightly, but needed to look at their own circumstances and follow what was right for them, at the time. Parents have been vocal about wanting to know who will be going. I would ask you to be patient, for your child's sake, they do not need uncertainty and worry. The staff are all here and doing an amazing job. Please can we continue to support their commitment? I am dealing with recruitment and want to ensure we get the best candidates for January. Once they have been appointed, the staff will carry out a transition time, with the children, to reassure them about their future teachers. We cannot do this, until appointments are made. We appreciate your support, during this challenging time.

There have been amazing changes in the governance structure of HEART Academies Trust, due to support from a number of stakeholders. We now need to work together positively. If our school is to continue to be successful, then the MAT also needs to be a success, as we are one and the same.

Next week, there is an opportunity to come and share your child's learning. We will open the class doors, at 2.30pm—4.30pm. You can come and sit with your child and look through their work with them. We look forward to seeing you then. Well done to Year 4T who has achieved 100% attendance this week. Wear it Stripes was a great success, raising £237 to support work around road safety. The Poppy Appeal raised £145.62. A big thank you from the school and the charities, for your generosity.

Have a Great weekend,
Onwards and Upwards

Workshop for Parents: Help! My child is misbehaving!

Date: Monday 3rd December

Time: 9.30am (90 minute session)

Venue: Cauldwell School

Session Aims: To understand challenges children face and consider how they might impact behaviour, introduce parenting pyramid and key principles of effective parenting, to give an overview of techniques to promote positive behaviour.

If you are interested in attending this workshop then please speak to Mia Howlett as spaces are limited.

Dropping Off and Collecting Children from school

Parking in the No Parking zones, restricts the view of children and parents, making the crossing dangerous. Please do not park outside the school gates, these need to be clear, at all times in case of an emergency. If you have any concerns with parking outside of the school grounds you must contact Bedford Borough on 01234 267422.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 28th November—Parents/Carers invited to share their children's work in the classrooms 2.30pm - 4.00pm Entry through playground and classroom doors

Thursday 29th November—YR - Y5 Flu Immunisation

Friday 30th November—P.C. Roger Williams in school to talk to parents/carers about Online Safety 2.15pm

Monday 3rd December—Last week of staff run after school clubs

Monday 10th December—YR Nativity performance for parents/carers in the main hall 4.45pm - 5.45pm - Entry through Community Entrance

Tuesday 11th December—Y1 & Y2 Christmas production for parents/carers in the main hall 5.00pm - 6.00pm - Entry through Community Entrance

Wednesday 12th December—Y3, Y4 & Y5 Christingle for parents/carers in the main hall 5.00pm - 6.00pm - Entry through Community Entrance

Tuesday 18th December—Y6 Victorian Christmas celebration for parents/carers in the Extension Building 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Friday 21st December—Last day of school

Monday 7th January—Children return to school

Please see the overview for further information

School Mission Statement

Shortstown is an inclusive school which has a positive impact on children's life long learning and achievement, through high expectations, in a creative and motivating environment.

Be Happy, Safe and Learn