

Sherington Newsletter



8th November 2019

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2

Monday 28th October - Thursday 19th
December 2019

School Closes at 1.30pm on 19th December
2019

Dinner Money

£2.60 per day / £13 per week

Autumn Term

Monday 28th October - Thursday 19th
December 2019
£101.40

Payments are made via Sims Pay in advance.

www.simspay.co.uk

Please see the office if you require your login
details.

This Week

Attendance

Congratulations to 4L who win the attendance
cup this week with 100% attendance

Character Strength: Love of Learning

Love of learning means a passion for learning,
a desire to learn just for learning's sake. It
has important motivational consequences
because it helps people persist through
challenges, setbacks and negative feedback.

This week we have been exercising our love of
learning through understanding how history
impacts us today. Assemblies have touched on
the Gunpowder Plot and Armistice Day and
why we mark them still.

Parents who are new to our Positive Education
philosophy are encouraged to take the Character
Strengths survey. For more information, see the
school's website (Curriculum page > Positive Education)
where the link can be found.
www.viacharacter.org

Black History Month

We would like to extend our warmest thanks to the
Friends of Sherington for covering the cost of our
recent visit by Jan Blake. The fund-raising events
organized by the Friends help to support the school's
wider work and are very much appreciated. The
Friends are looking for parents who could help (in any
way) with future events. If you'd like to get involved,
please leave your contact details (including which class
your child is in) with a member of the office staff.

Thank you in advance.

Jan Blake has responded to the pupils' questions.
Please go to the end of this newsletter for answers.

Peer Mediators

Our peer mediators (in years 5 & 6) started their
duties this week. We have been impressed (but not
surprised) by their diligence and commitment to the
role. Younger pupils welcome their presence and
guidance in the playground.

Reception Parents Open Morning

On Wednesday morning, parents (and other family)
attended a session designed to support the teaching of
literacy skills at home. We place great emphasis on our
partnership work with families and thank all who
attended. Adults found it really helpful and feedback
was incredibly positive.

*"The session has been very helpful and I think that it has
given me the correct direction in supporting my daughter
whilst reading. Many thanks!"*

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Next Week

Next Week is Anti-Bullying Week

Pupils have been invited to wear odd socks on Tuesday (along with usual uniform) to celebrate individuality. Odd Sock Day is a national event organized by Anti-Bullying Alliance to raise awareness.

Year 6 Assembly

On Thursday 14th, at 9:00am, **parents of pupils in Y6 and Y5** are invited in to watch the Y6 assembly about School Journey. We'll soon be thinking about next year's trip, so it helps our Y5 pupils and parents to see what a great experience it is. We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday.

Children in Need

Sherington will be celebrating Children in Need on Friday 15th November. We are inviting children to wear something with spots. There will also be a bouncy castle in the hall and all classes are timetabled for a group bounce. A suggested donation of £1 per child towards this cause is welcomed.

Upcoming

School Trips

Monday 18th November Year 2 Royal Naval College

Tuesday 26th November Year 5 Science Museum

Monday 2nd December Year 2 Cutty Sark

School Photos

Individual School Photos will be taken on Wednesday 20th November.

Nasal Flu Vaccine

Nasal Flu Vaccine will be carried out in school on Thursday 21st November. Thank you for all the consent forms that have been returned. Please return the form even if you do not wish your child to be vaccinated.

Poppy Appeal

Thanks to those who have already donated. Pupils learnt about the history of the poppy and its significance through an assembly. This included a brief history of the Royal British Legion and how the money raised is used.

Friends of Sherington

Many children have designed greeting cards and returned them to the School Office. The designs have been amazing. Proofs will be sent home soon and orders will be returned in time for Christmas.

Parking around the School

As a driver you have a responsibility to park in a safe and considerate manner, if you don't you could be endangering a child's life. Please park with care and help make the area near and around our school a safer place for pupils.

If you need to drive your child to school, for the safety of all our families, please remember:

- No parking on single or double yellow lines
 - No double parking
- No stopping, dropping or parking on the School Keep Clear yellow zig zags

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Please consider whether you can take alternative transportation to Sherington; reducing traffic not only makes the outside area safer but also improves the quality of air around our school. Walking to school is an ideal way to reduce pollution and to exercise at the same time.

Important Reminders

Pick Up Times

KS1 children finish at 3.10pm and KS2 children finish at 3.15pm. After School Clubs finish at 4.30pm.

Sherington Extended Day Care finishes at 6:00pm

Please could you ensure your child is collected on time.

School Visits and Adult Helpers

We are grateful to all parents and carers who volunteer to assist on school trips. Parent Helper Guidelines are provided to all who attend in this capacity. Two points included relate to Child Protection and GDPR policies and as such are non-negotiable:

Parent helpers *should not use mobile phones for any reason* during the day unless requested to do so by the class teacher.

No photographs of children will be taken unless asked specifically by a school member of staff using the school camera.

For the safeguarding and privacy of all pupils, adult helpers are bound by these conditions.

Thank you for your co-operation.

School Dinners

To ensure the School Kitchen has sufficient time to order food for lunches, meal patterns should be amended in advance. Please could you advise the School Office, in writing, of any changes to your child's lunch choice before half term for the following half term.

Health Education

We operate a no nut policy to keep our community safe and well.

In line with guidance from DfE, we are reminding pupils, parents and carers who prepare packed lunches of the importance of eating healthily. We are also asking parents to find a creative alternative to sending in cakes for a child's birthday. Suggestions are: donating a book for the book corner in your child's class; sending in fruit portions or another healthy alternative.

Late Arrivals

Children who arrive to school late, via the office, must be signed in using the Entry system by the adult who brings them.

We have an increasing number of children arriving late and unaccompanied. This is a health & safety concern if children are not signed in correctly.

Changes to End of Day Collections

Where possible, any changes should be given in writing to the class teacher at the start of the day.

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Q & A with Jan Blake

Questions on Family

Q: Why did your parents move to England?

In the past, many islands in the Caribbean were ruled by The UK or Great Britain, as it was called then. Jamaica was one of them, so my parents came in the 1960's, when quite a few people came over from the Caribbean, at the invitation of the British government, to live and work in what they called 'The Motherland'.

Q: Do you have family still in Jamaica?

I have a sister, nieces, nephews, an uncle and lots of cousins

Q: Where in Jamaica are your family from?

My mum is from a place called Clarendon, which is in the county of Middlesex and my dad is from Manchester which is also in the county of Middlesex.

Q: Have you been to Jamaica?

I've been to Jamaica lots of times. I love it!

Questions on Storytelling

Q: Where and when did you first tell a story?

I remember telling a Jamaican version of The Three Little Pigs to my brothers and sisters when I was a teenager, but the first time I told a story professionally, was in 1986, It was at a school in Brixton, when I'd just started working for a group called Common Lore Storytellers & Musicians.

Q: Where do you get your story ideas from?

I only tell traditional myths, fairy tales & folktales, and they come with their own ideas.

Q: Do you make up your own stories?

I do make up my own stories, but I think I'm a better storyteller than a writer, so I'm not ready to share what I've written. I'm getting better though. .

Q: Do you tell stories in different languages?

I've only ever told in French and that gave me a headache, it was so stressful! I think I need to improve my French before I try that again!

Q: Where is the best place you have visited?

Jamaica of course! (Ha-ha)

Q: What is your favourite story to read?

I like to read lots of folktales, but when I was younger I liked reading Pippy Longstocking, about a girl who had super strength and lots of adventures, including rescuing her father who had been kidnapped by pirates.