

Shotley Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. Melanie Newman



6th September 2007



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year. The children have settled into their new classes well and many have already made an impressive start with their work. We are looking forward to another great year!

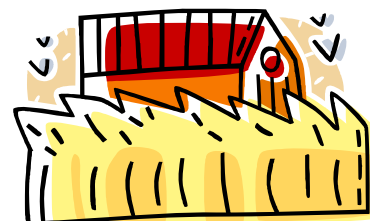
The staff worked very hard over the holidays to make their classrooms, and the school, look fantastic and welcoming for their new classes.

Over the holidays, we have had our dining room redecorated and the ceiling lowered. The room looks great and has already had a huge positive impact on the lunchtime experience, as the ceiling tiles have dramatically reduced the noise level. The entrance hall to the school has also been improved and a new study for staff created in the 'old' KS1 Activity Area.

All staff are due to send out their termly curriculum letters shortly, so you should be well informed as to what the children will be learning this Autumn. If you would like to meet staff informally, please do make an appointment.

Viking View Shelter

We were disappointed that the shelter was unable to be erected for the children's return, as the company responsible for building it had to postpone their start date. However, they are due to send *two* teams on Monday, and the shelter should be completed by the end of the day. We will arrange an opening ceremony in the next couple of weeks.



Photographs

On Wednesday 31st October, the school photographer will be in school to take the individual and sibling photographs. Proof photographs will be sent home along with an order form.



Sick Children

If your child is away from school, please let school know before 10am. Thank you.

Asthma

We have, for many years, ensured that children with asthma have access to their inhalers at all times, and that the children take responsibility for administering their medication as and when needed. Although this will remain the same, we now require written information about the level of medication, i.e., how many 'puffs' of which inhaler and when, and at what point we need to contact you. You also need to ensure that your children's equipment is clearly labelled and that all inhalers are in date.



School Dinners

As I mentioned earlier, the dining room has had a 'make over'. Lisa Peters, our school cook, invited the children into the dining room at break time to celebrate the new look with balloons, drinks and biscuits. Feedback from the children and staff has been very positive - and do feel free to have a peek when you come into school!

School dinners are £1.80 per day, and there remains a selection of the hot lunch of the day, baguettes or jacket potatoes with cheese/ham/tuna. There is always a selection of salads, fruit and yoghurts, in addition to a pudding. You can decide each week when and if you wish your child to have a hot dinner, but please inform school and send in the money each Monday morning in a named envelope, as this helps with the banking.

Bees and Wasps

After being alerted to the large number of wasps on the pathway up to school, we have had the nest treated by the pest controller. He has told us that the majority of the insects were, however, bees, and as their nest can be up to one mile away from their feeding site, he was unable to do anything about them.



Dates for your Diary

	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER
Term starts	05 - 09 - 07	07 - 01 - 08	08 - 04 - 08
Half Term last day	19 - 10 - 07	08 - 02 - 08	23 - 05 - 08
Term starts	29 - 10 - 07	18 - 02 - 08	02 - 06 - 08
Term ends	19 - 12 - 07	20 - 04 - 08	22 - 07 - 08
10 th September	Swimming starts for Year 6		
20 th September	Proposed trip - Year 4/5		
28 th September	9.30am - Proposed Harvest Festival at Church		
2 nd October	Proposed Y2 visit to Foxburrow Farm		
5 th October	Jeans for Genes Day		
19 th October	END OF HALF TERM		

Yours sincerely,

Melanie Newman
Headteacher

