



Shirle Hill

Parents' Newsletter Spring 08

Welcome to the Spring edition of our Newsletter. As usual it has been a very busy term with staff and pupils working extremely hard throughout the school. We have had lots of pupils moving back to their school's after working hard at Shirle Hill school and lots of new pupils into the school. A warm welcome to parents of all our new children. This is my second term in the school and I have been extremely proud of the dedicated staff team who are very skilled at meeting the needs of pupils with wide ranging needs.

I am on site in the school on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings and would welcome any parent who would like to discuss any issues that may be concerning them. I am also always available by phone either on 2261691 or 2716877



Wendy Dudley

Do you know the staff in school?

- ☺ Acting Deputy Head Teacher
- ☺ Mrs. L Davies **Key stage 2/ 3 and outreach**
- ☺ **Class teachers**
- ☺ Mrs. S Davies **Key stage 1/2 and outreach**
- ☺ Mrs. K Sterling **Key stage 2 and 3 and outreach**
- ☺ Mr. M Hall **Supports both key stage groups**
- ☺ **Teaching Assistants**
- ☺ Sarah
- ☺ Sophie
- ☺ Jayne



Shirle Hill Parent Governors Do you know who the Governors are?

Parent Governors are parents of children who have been admitted to Shirle Hill. Usually their child will have left but they have a wish to put something back into the school and to represent the views of parents at termly meetings. We have recently recruited Mrs Pep Livingstone onto the Governing Body, her son left Shirle Hill last term. Other parent Governors have supported the school over the years and as their children have left education have continued to work for the school as Community Governors. All our Governors would be pleased to have feedback from parents/carers and a full list of members can be found in the school prospectus which is sent out to all families on admission. Our Chair of Governors, Councillor, Mike Pye, has worked for the school for many years and with the board of governors endeavours to support and challenge the school to meet the needs of your child.. If you wish to raise issues for discussion please contact Wendy Dudley, the head teacher, who will pass on you contact details immediately.

If you would like to be nominated as a parent Governor please contact Wendy for details. On Tel 0114 2716877 or email enquires@shirlehillhospital.sheffield.sch.uk

Would you like to be active on the Governing Body?

OFSTED INSPECTION

It is with enormous pleasure that I can share with parents and Carers that the school was recently inspected by Ofsted. We were delighted that they judged the school to be 'outstanding' in all aspects of it's provision for pupils and their families. It is extremely rare that a school achieves grade 1 in all areas of the inspection, and we are rightly, delighted with the outcome.

The Inspector wrote:

'This is an outstanding school. It provides extremely well for the vulnerable pupils on its roll, and is a very valuable service for the city and neighbouring Local authorities. It is very successful

in meeting it's aim to provide a balanced programme of education, therapy and family work. Despite attending only two days a week, pupils make remarkable gains academically and in their personal development. This is because of excellent teaching, an outstanding curriculum and exceptional care, support and guidance".



Ofsted Grades

- Achievement and Standards :1
- Personal development :1
- Teaching and learning:1
- Curriculum and other activities:1
- Care, guidance and support:1
- Leadership and Management :1

For the full report visit:
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports>

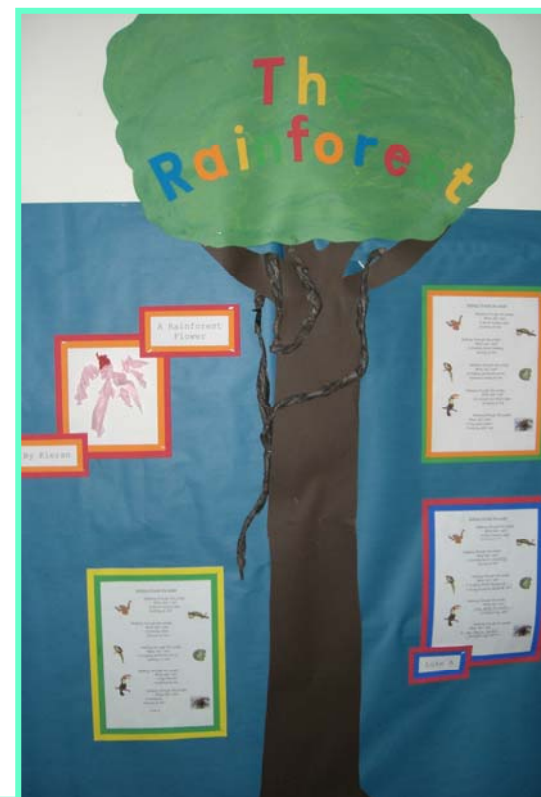
The Curriculum

The teaching staff will probably have observed your child in their mainstream schools prior to them attending Shirle Hill for assessment and/or treatment. We will have gained information from that visit and talked to the school about problems your child may be experiencing.

Because of the part time nature of our intervention we endeavour to concentrate on basic literacy and numeracy, through a topic based approach.

We also work hard to get pupils to work together to improve their relationships with others. Many of our activities focus around this very important skill.

This term our topic is 'Homes through the ages.'



This is some of the work the pupils did last half term
Our topic was 'Food and festivals'

What are we Learning about this half term?

Over this half term we are using this topic to deliver a range of curriculum activities. We hope that you will be able to find out more from your child by talking to them about what they have been doing in Shirle Hill school!



The Topic for this half term is **Homes** through the ages. We are using a history based theme to deliver aspects of the curriculum.

We are exploring Stone Age man who used caves as shelters. As part of the experiential element of these lessons we have visited Creswell Crags near Worksop, Nottingham.

Pupils discovered what Creswell Crags was like during the last Ice Age. Who was here? What was here? What were they doing? And how do we know?

Stone tools and remains of animals found in the caves by archaeologists provide evidence for a fascinating story of life during the last Ice Age between 50,000 and 10,000 years ago. Pupils visited the caves and explored how they may have been used for shelter.



We shall also be exploring the Elizabethan period and looking at houses in the local area to illustrate how people lived during these times.

We are planning a trip to Bishop's House in Meersbrook park to help our pupils understand the life of that period.



In food technology we will be exploring foods that the Tudors enjoyed eating. They particularly liked desserts such as, pastries, tarts, cakes, cream, custard, and crystallized fruit and syrup. We are hoping to prepare some of their favourite goodies over this half term.

Curricular areas covered by topic, Maths, Science, Literacy, Food Technology, Design and Technology, Art, .

Theatre visit - The Ugly Duckling Crucible Theatre

Class 1 Our Visit

Class 1 went to the theatre to see the Ugly Duckling. This new musical play follows Dudley the duckling as he travels from the safety of the farmyard and into the perils of the wild forest. Guided by his friend Kha the raven, he must learn to survive the freezing winter and overcome the trickery of the others before he can discover his own real identity.

Neil Duffield's enchanting play, based on the classic tale, promises to be a wonderful theatre treat. The production includes storytelling, puppets, songs and dance to create a truly magical production for the very young and the young at heart! We all enjoyed the outing and are looking forward to another trip soon.



New Food Technology Area

As part of the feedback parents and pupils gave us last year we have re-vamped the food Technology area. The pupils asked that they could spend more time cooking whilst at the school. We agree that the benefit of this activity, educationally and socially are tremendous. We have been delighted with the new resource area and it is getting well used this term.

We have used the facility to teach about healthier food choices, food preparation, manual dexterity, weighing, measuring and food hygiene.

Working along side the staff the

pupils are socializing and practicing working together as a group. Last term we baked bread, biscuits, and fruit crumble. Pupils also prepare the morning break snack of fresh fruit, which they peel and slice for others in their class.



Last term pupils baked :

- Bread
- Fruit Crumble
- Mince pies
- Scones
- Cookies

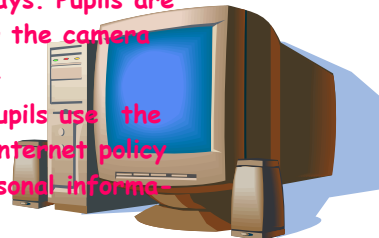


Information and Communication Technology

At Shirle Hill we have invested in providing high quality computer stations and ICT is integrated into much of the work we deliver. Pupils are encouraged to become competent at key board skills, filing systems and using Micro soft software.

We use digital cameras to record the pupils on school outings, and to display their experiences in school displays. Pupils are also encouraged to take responsibility for using the camera and use graphic software to manipulate images.

We also use teaching opportunities to ensure pupils use the internet responsibly. As a school we have an internet policy which ensures that the pupils do not share personal information or visit inappropriate sites



Sheffield Ice Show 'Wishing on a Star'

Christmas came early for some of our pupils this term with a trip to the ice rink to see 'wishing on a star'. Parents/carers and grandparents were invited to accompany their child to the live performance.

The children were delighted with the dancing and the beautiful costumes and their delighted expressions said it all.

Cyrystal, Ryan and Megan are enjoying the interval.

