

# SHOTTERMILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

Newsletter

No.1 11.09.2020



## START OF A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR!

A BIG welcome back to all of the children and a warm welcome to our new Year 3 children and new families who have joined us across the school. We hope the children are enjoying the start of the new term and academic year, they have settled so incredibly well and we are very proud of them. We appreciate this is an unusual time for everyone but would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation. Attached is a Family Wellbeing booklet, which has some useful activities and conversation starters for you to do with your children.

Please note that Autumn Half-Term is the week commencing **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October** and children will return to school on **Monday 2nd November**.

## INSET DAYS

There will be six Inset Days this academic year. I can confirm these are:

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September** (*already held*)

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

The remaining days will be confirmed later in the year, which we will try to coordinate with the Infant School where possible.

## CORONAVIRUS

It is vitally important that we all work together to ensure that the school remains a safe place for everyone. Therefore we would like to remind you of some key messages, which form part of our infection control policy.

If anyone in your household displays any of the key symptoms associated with Covid-19 below, please **DO NOT** send your children into school or come on to the school premises. Please arrange for a coronavirus test as soon as possible and contact us to inform us of the situation.

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If a child is displaying symptoms similar to a cold / flu or you are unsure in any way of whether they should attend school, please telephone the School Office to discuss your child's symptoms and if necessary, we may direct you to get your child tested. It is important that we limit the spread of colds and flu-like illnesses and whilst we appreciate that these infection control measures are undoubtedly inconvenient, we would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and support to keep the whole school functioning and avoid any further school closures.

**Respect Trust Love of Learning Communication Creativity Excellence**

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## COVID-19 TESTING

To obtain a test for your child, parents will need ring 119 or go online <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

You cannot obtain a test unless you have one of the key symptoms. We understand there are significant difficulties obtaining tests and we have expressed our concerns about this to the local authority. We recommend continually 'refreshing' your web browser, as we understand that new appointment slots become available throughout the day.

## PICKING UP AND DROPPING OFF

Please can we ask that parents leave the School premises swiftly after dropping off and collecting their child, and that children do not play on the playground equipment while they are waiting. We are trying our absolute best to adhere to all the DfE guidelines to protect the children and our staff, and we would like thank you for working with us to maintain social distancing and for ensuring your child has everything they need for the day ahead to avoid visits to the office.

## AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

If your child is going home with someone different after school please send your child in with a note for their form teacher, or email the School Office before morning break. If we are told later than this it causes an additional pressure on the Office team who have to leave the Office to locate the form and teacher.

## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September school photographs will be taken during the day. Due to strict 'bubbles' we will not be able to offer sibling photographs this year. If your child has PE on Wednesday they will need to have their photograph taken in their PE kit.

## PARENT CONSULTATION SESSIONS

Further information will be sent to you next week regarding our Parent Consultation sessions which we have decided to hold via telephone starting the week of 28<sup>th</sup> September. Given the current situation, we cannot hold face to face meetings with all parents so hope this alternative will work. Parents will be given a 10 minute time slot and the teacher will call you to discuss your child and the forthcoming academic year.

## SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER

We would like to advise parents of children in Year 6 that **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020** is the closing date for applications to secondary school. However, as this is during half-term, we strongly recommend you submit the application by **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020**. Please visit [surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://surreycc.gov.uk/admissions) for more information on the application process and admission arrangements for Surrey schools.

On Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 you will receive an email with the outcome of your application, and you will need to accept or decline your offer online by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

If you pay your Council Tax outside Surrey, please contact your Local Authority directly for details about the application process. Alternatively, if you require any help with school applications, please contact the School Office who will be happy to assist.

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## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

We understand that Brigade, who provide our branded items, are experiencing long backlogs. If you have not yet received your order we are happy for your child to wear something else suitable instead. Alternatively, there is a Facebook group for the Juniors selling second hand uniform which we have heard is very good.

Please ensure that you clearly label all items belonging to your child so these can be returned, if lost. We have a lost property box in Reception, if you would like to look here for any lost items please call the School Office.

## **JK COACHING SPORTS CLUBS**

Our very popular JK Clubs are back again this term. There are lunchtime football clubs and after school multi sports clubs. Please see the attached flyer for more information, and how to book your child on to a session. Places are limited!

## **KARATE CLUB**

Karate Club is starting again on a Wednesday evening - please find attached a flyer about this.

## **KOOSA AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

Koosa after school club is back up and running this term. Please see the attached flyer for more details and how to book.

## **FREE COURSES AND WORKSHOPS**

Family Learning are running **free** courses to help parents support their children in school. If English isn't your first language or Maths isn't an area you feel confident in and would like some help understanding what your child is learning at school visit [www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning) to sign up for a free course. This is a really excellent resource!

## **OCTOBER TECHNOLOGY CAMP**

Tech Camp is here for October half-term with all new activities. The Camp is running on 26th – 30th October 2020 at SEND C of E Primary School, GU23 7BS from 9am to 4pm each day. For a full list of activities and more information please there is a flyer attached. Spaces are limited so sign up soon!

## **PARENT CURRICULUM INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Usually at this time of year, we would be welcoming parents in as part of our Parent Curriculum Information Sessions, but due to COVID-19 we are unable to do this at present. The Class Teachers are filming their usual information sessions this week and links to these will be emailed out once these have been edited!

## **FAMILY MAGAZINE**

Sep/Oct issue of Families magazine. It is full of resources and ideas to help you and your family make the most of the Autumn term. You can read the magazine here <https://bit.ly/33eiofk>

## **LION LANE**

We have been asked by residents to please ensure people driving and parking watch out for cats on Lion Lane. Sadly there have been two incidents involving cats recently and we think this may be due to the increased traffic.

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## KEY DATES FOR THE AUTUMN TERM 2020

| September   |  |
|---|--|
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September                      | Photographer in school – pupil photographs. No sibling photographs due to mixing of bubbles          |
| Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September                      | Y3 Haslemere Museum visiting 3G and 3T to teach them about Ancient Egypt – all day                   |
| Week commencing 28 <sup>th</sup> September                | Parent Consultation Sessions to be held via telephone, please see information letter coming out soon |
| October   |  |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October                           | Recommended deadline for Year 6 Secondary School Transfer applications to be submitted               |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October                           | INSET Day  |
| Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October | HALF TERM  |
| Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> October                         | Secondary School transfer deadline application   |
| November  |  |
| Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> November                         | TBC date for optional Nasal Flu Vaccinations   |
| Week commencing 9 <sup>th</sup> November                  | Optional Bikeability Level 2 course – Year 6 only  |
| December  |  |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                          | END OF TERM: 1:30pm finish   |
| January   |  |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January                            | INSET Day  |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January                           | Spring Term begins   |

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