

Shillington Lower School

Newsletter

26th March 2021



Our Value this
Month is:

Curiosity &
Imagination

Easter Track and Trace

It has now been 3 weeks since everyone returned to school and what a busy 3 weeks it has been! All of the children seem to have settled in well and we have loved having everyone back. For the children there was definitely that feeling of the start of a new school term! The staff however are ready for a rest! Now we have the Easter break to look forward to, time to refresh and relax. With the ease of restrictions from Monday we can now meet another family outside- let's hope for some good weather!

The Department of Education has asked us to continue with contact tracing over Easter. If your child develops Covid symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (between the evening of Friday 26th up until the night of Sunday 28th March) then please ensure that you contact us via the school email as soon as possible regardless if you have booked or organised a test at this point. This will then assist us in identifying any close contacts, as your child may have been infectious whilst in school. If you do email in please be aware that a staff member may then contact you via telephone and the call could come from a withheld number- please answer this call.

If your child or a member of your household tests positive after the 48 hour window then please do inform us via the school email. Although this may not have a direct impact on anyone else in school we would like to keep informed on the wellbeing of our children and their families.

Have a wonderful break and we will see you back on Tuesday 13th April.

Staffing update

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Wakely who is leaving the school to take on a new challenge working with new Mums. We would like to thank her for her hard work and dedication to her role and wish her lots of luck in her new venture.

This week we welcomed Miss Gradwell back into year 1 as she returned from her maternity leave. She will be sharing the class with Mrs Moore until the end of the summer term.

In May (week beginning 8th) we will also welcome back Mrs Hitchcock into our reception class from her maternity leave. She will be sharing the class with Mrs Read until the end of the summer term.



Pixie News

What a busy month we have had!!

Pixie class have enjoyed celebrating a wide variety of festivals. We have planted shamrocks for St. Patrick's day, baked cakes for Mother's Day and were 'superheroes' for Red Nose Day. This week the children have enjoyed celebrating Easter. We decorated dough Easter eggs with natural treasures found outside on the school grounds and particularly enjoyed decorating our own Easter bonnets with a variety of craft materials. Our maths focus has been number, we hid numbered eggs 1-10 for the children to find and order. The Pixie team would like to wish all our families a fantastic Easter break.



Easter

Rainbows News

Rainbows have had lots of fun this week. We have been learning how to use skipping ropes and have demonstrated determination in trying to master such a difficult skill! We have also been planting seeds and looking after our plants. Most excitingly, we have been watching some caterpillars grow and make cocoons! Unfortunately, the caterpillars don't have the best timing and look like they will become butterflies during the holidays! Fear not though, I will keep you all informed of their progress via Seesaw and we will get some more caterpillars for next half term! Also, we have been very creative with some amazing Easter craft activities; you might get to see them if you're really lucky! Finally, Rainbows would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Wakely, who leaves us this term for pastures new. She has been such an important part of our Rainbows family and we shall really miss her! I'm sure you will all join us in wishing her the best of luck - not that she needs it!

Unicorns News

We have had a busy few weeks in Unicorn class! We witnessed an alien crash landing in the playground and had to investigate to find clues... We discovered a letter from Beegu the alien and wrote a letter back to her. We used adjectives to describe her then used her story as inspiration to write our own stories. We have enjoyed lots of practical maths—consolidating our counting (forwards and backwards!) in 2s, 5s and 10s as well as measuring length, weight and capacity. In PE we have practiced our ball skills—throwing, catching and passing to each other. We have enjoyed lots of craft activities including making cards, printing, painting and making our own wrapping paper using repeating patterns. We explored body percussion by watching videos of Stomp and used this for inspiration.

Dragons News

In year 2 we have been learning about endangered animals, and all feel very passionate about this topic. Save the animals is our new slogan! We have looked at both fiction and non-fiction books about this topic. We have also written our own stories using some of the animals we've learnt about as our main characters. In maths we have been painting Numicon! We created Numicon printed pictures to show how repeated addition can become a multiplication calculation. We have been thoroughly enjoying using the parachute in PE to build our team work skills.



Centaurs News

We have had a busy few weeks at school and we are so happy to be back together. We had a week of money activities, from creating our own images using coins and adding the values to finding how many ways we could make a particular value using a variety of coins. Last week we doubled up the day with Let's count competition day with red nose day. We went out finding and counting mini beasts then collating our data using a tally chart before presenting it in a pictogram. Red nose day ask us to challenge ourselves so we skipped for a minute with a minute rest then tried to improve on our score each time, everyone showed perseverance and determination and did improve each time, it was so lovely to see the children so excited about their achievements.



Phoenix News

In Year 4 we have continued to enjoy our class book 'The Story of Tutankhamun'. We have acted in role as Howard Carter, writing a diary entry from his perspective of discovering the famous tomb. Through our book we have learnt about the mummification process and in science we even got to mummify our own tomatoes! We have enjoyed observing these over time and look forward to evaluating our experiment—discovering if our predictions are correct! In history we have been very interested in what daily life was like for Egyptians and we got to use our lovely new clipboards to retrieve new information. In PE we have been building our team work skills through lots of fun games.

You have worked very hard Phoenix Class and we are very proud of you!





New Menu !

Our new summer term menu is attached to this parentmail and also available to view on our website

Thank you to our wonderful PTFA for their gift of an Easter Egg/Easter sweets to each child in school



STAY ^{POSITIVE} ~~NEGATIVE~~

✓ Get Tested
✓ Get Results
✓ Get Peace of Mind
Get Tests Every Week
FREE

PLAY YOUR PART



All parents and carers of school aged children now have access to free lateral flow tests. You can pick them up from a local test centre or they can be delivered directly to your home. All information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Drop off and Pick Up Times

After Easter we would like to amend the drop off and pick up times as follows:

Pixies	9.00am - 3.15pm
Rainbows	8.55-9.00am - 3.20pm
Year 1 and 2	8.45-8.55am - 3.25pm
Year 3 and 4	8.45-8.55am - 3.30pm

We hope this will alleviate some of the waiting around on the playground at the end of the day and make it easier to socially distance.

Please remember to use the one-way system at home time when leaving the site.

