



School Update

As you know, our school has been in the process of designing and building a new extension. The plans for the new building have been on our website for a few months. The new block has been designed to include provision for a pre-school room along with two new classroom spaces.

We have recently received the positive news that planning permission has been granted. Currently the local authority are in the final stages of signing contracts with their preferred developer and with Mitie who manage our school through a PFI contract.

Tomorrow may see the first steps of physical change towards the project as two trees and a hedgerow are scheduled to be removed. We have welcomed a wildlife expert in today to study the habitat to ensure that the work will not cause any harm to any creatures living around the area.

We will, of course, keep you fully informed as the project progresses.

For now, it is very exciting to think that our long-held goal for more teaching space to expand our numbers and a linked pre-school will happen in the very near future – which will be a real positive for our children and for the whole community of Shortlanesend.

Parents Evening

Thank you to everyone for your patience with the booking system for parents' evening next week. Your child's teacher is looking forward to discussing the welfare and progress of your child and agreeing some short-term goals for the remainder of the year.

Mrs Holroyd will be emailing parents the required link and information today ahead of next week.

Finally, if you wish to receive a phone call rather than an online meeting, please inform your child's class teacher.

Miss Oxenham's Big Idea

Many of you knew and remember Miss Oxenham, a much loved and respected teacher and SENDCo at our school. For our new parents and families, Miss Oxenham was diagnosed with cancer in December 2018 and sadly died on 26th December 2019, leaving a huge hole in the lives of so many.

When Miss Oxenham was first diagnosed, her immediate thought was for the children in her class and how best to explain the situation. She discovered there were very few resources—and those available were difficult to source and co-ordinate, so she set



up a task force to research and ultimately produce a box of practical and purposeful resources to help children understand what cancer is, and how it may affect the people they care for and love, and love and care for those in return. Included in the box would also be a copy of her book—which she wrote in conjunction with her class during her illness, entitled—What is this word Cancer?

By March 2020 the slightly remodelled task force had successfully organised a wish list of resources and were finalising the contents of the box plus a date for an Aspire wide fundraising day. All the momentum was positive and then... COVID-19. Now the task force, which now includes Miss Oxenham's husband, wish to complete the project that Miss Oxenham started and has asked for all Aspire academies' support to raise (and maintain) the finances needed to fulfil her wishes.

The goal is initially for each Aspire academy to have one box each and hopefully one box per Cornwall MAT, plus annual, or possibly every other year, funding activities (school/local communities) to ensure the programme flourishes and grows year-on-year. To complement the materials, externally provided training sessions will ensure staff feel confident and properly equipped to talk about cancer with children.

Part of Miss Oxenham's enduring legacy will be age-appropriate, sensitive and meaningful support for children dealing with their understanding of cancer and the effects it has emotionally and physically on the people around them.

We are currently working to finalise a logo and name for this incredible project and dates are being looked at later in the summer term to kickstart some fundraising activities in our school and every Aspire school to get the project off the ground. There will be a centralised funding platform set up and we will of course keep you posted with further details in due course.

Parking

Following conversations with some parents and residents of our village, we would like to ask parents to be more mindful where they park during drop-off and collection. People with pushchairs and young children can be put at increased risk when cars are parked on pavements, as they need to enter the road to continue their journey.

A reminder that Mark and Ian from The Old Plough very kindly allow parents use of the pub carpark during these times to allow for improved safety. Thank you.

Mental Health Awareness Week

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week. Please follow the link below for a good introduction to '5 Ways to Wellbeing.'

[Five ways to wellbeing : StartNow Cornwall](#)



Height and Weight Measures - Reminder

On 10th and 11th May Reception and Year 6 children will have the opportunity to be measured by the local health authority as part of their height and weight monitoring.

Mrs Holroyd has sent out an online form for parents to say yes or no to having their child measured. Please ensure that you let the school know your wishes before these dates.

Summer Term Dates:

We break for half term on **Friday 28th May**. We return to school on **Tuesday 8th June**. The final day of the term and the year will be **Friday 23rd July** (this day will finish at **1:30**).

Non Pupil Days/Term Dates 2021-22

We have set our INSET (Non pupil) Days for the next academic year as:

Monday 6th September 2021
Tuesday 4th January 2022
Friday 18th February 2022
Monday 25th July 2022
Tuesday 26th July 2022

Platinum Jubilee

Due to the extra bank holiday being added next June for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, all schools must add an additional closure day within the 2021/22 academic calendar. We have decided on **Monday 6th June 2022** as our additional closure date. Therefore, our school will reopen on Tuesday 7th June following the summer bank holiday.

Our Term Dates for 2021-22 are:

Autumn Term:

Tuesday 7th September 2021 – Friday 17th December 2022
(Half-term: 25th – 29th October)

Spring Term:

Wednesday 5th January 2022 – Friday 8th April 2022
(Half-term: 21st – 25th February)

Summer Term:

Monday 25th April 2022 – Friday 22nd July 2022
(Half-term: 30th May – 6th June – return to school on **Tuesday 7th June**)



Sun Protection - Reminder

Please remember that children will need to protect themselves from the effects of the sun and dehydration during the summer term. So, remember to send your child into school with:

- Hat
- Sun protection cream
- Water Bottle
- Sunglasses – if they have them

FOSS (Friends Of Shortlanesend School) - Reminder

FOSS are planning on holding a raffle next term to raise funds for our school. Obviously, the Covid situation has hampered our usual fundraising opportunities. We have unfortunately not been able to hold any discos, the popular bingo night, or a Christmas Fair.

We are asking for any kind donations of raffle prizes from parents and families, perhaps linked with businesses. Thank you to everyone who has already donated a prize.

If you can help in any way, please contact Mrs Holroyd.

Drop-off and collection arrangements – Reminder

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>	<u>Departure Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>
5 – Mr Easter	8:30-8:40	Corridor – Door nearest classroom	3:00	Corridor – Door nearest classroom
4 – Miss Eddison	8:30-8:40	Classroom - Side door	3:00	Classroom - Side door
3 – Mrs Ashley	8:40-8:50	Class Door	3:10	Class Door
2 – Miss Adler	8:40-8:50	Class Door	3:10	Class Door
1 – Mrs Lewis/Mrs Stanhope	8:50	Through outside area	3:10	Playground

- Staggered drop off and collection times based on class
- 1-way directional system



- An adult will be at the main gate entrance welcoming the children and supporting with the direction of movement.
- **One adult per family** will accompany their child – unfortunately, no parent or carer will be able to enter the building
- **No child or adult should gather on the school site at any time**
- Children will enter their classrooms via their external classroom door and will immediately wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
- For collection, the gates will be open at 14:55. Do not to arrive before 14:55 as this would result in congestion
- Siblings to be dropped off/collected at earliest time
- To support the safe environment, **parents must adhere to the collection and drop off times**

NHS Advice – A reminder

The NHS reports that the three main symptoms of Corona Virus to be watchful for are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus, get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.

Have a restful weekend.