Newsletter 18

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Parents’ Evening Dates – 6th and 10th February, 3.30-6pm**

Parents evenings are on Thursday 6th and Monday 10th February. You can book your slot from **1pm** today (Monday 20th January).

To book, log in to the school website or the eSchools App which you can download onto your phone. The link to the school website is:  [https://shaftesburyabbeycofe.eschools.co.uk](https://shaftesburyabbeycofe.eschools.co.uk/)

If you are struggling to book slots yourself, please ring the school office.

Our SENDco (Mrs Howard), will be available during the parents’ evening on Monday 20th January if you would like to chat to her at that time.

**PTFA Meeting – Wednesday 22nd January at 7pm in The Two Brewers**

Please go along to support our brilliant PTFA in their work for the children this term. Everyone is welcome.

**Mental Heath**

We had outstanding support for the last mental health session we held for parents in our school Hall. Please come to this one.

As you will know from previous newsletters, we are taking part in a pilot project in Dorset for the national PINS (Partnership for the Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) programme. As part of this we are holding a coffee morning **from 9-10am on Wednesday 12th February**, hosting Tamsin Pike, the project worker from the Dorset Parent Carer Council. She is looking to speak with parents about the support they feel their children need in school and how best our school can offer this. Please feel welcome to join us at this time for a chat.

Children’s mental health week 2025 will take place from**3-9 February.**The theme for 2025 is **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**, with the aim to equip and empower children and young people across the UK to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. You can find more details here [Children's Mental Health Week - Place2Be](https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/childrens-mental-health-week/) .

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Staff have asked that all children wear really warm clothes (including thick socks) when the weather is cold during Forest School sessions.

It will be the last week for Year 6 this Wednesday, followed by Year 2 from 29th January and Year 1 from 26th February.

Children need to have trousers and long-sleeved tops, wellies and a **waterproof coat** (with overtrousers if they have them). The Forest School philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

**Shaftesbury in Bloom flowerbed**

The team from the wonderful Shaftesbury in Bloom have asked whether our school community could take responsibility for one of the flowerbeds in the town. We wonder if there is a keen parent or two who would like to take this on. Perhaps they would gather a group of keen children and adults to work on the flowerbed from time to time. Please let us know if this is something you’d like to take on.

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**TERM DATES 2024 – 2025**

**Autumn Term**

**INSET DAY                                                   Tuesday 3rd September 2024**

Children start back                                       Wednesday 4th September 2024

Autumn Half Term                                        Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November 2024

**INSET DAY                                                  Monday 4th November 2024**

Autumn Term ends                                      Thursday 19th December 2024

**INSET DAY                                                  Friday 20th December 2024**

Christmas Holidays                                       Monday 23rd December 2024 – Friday 3rd January 2025

**Spring Term**

Children  start back                                      Monday 6th January 2025

Spring half term                                            Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

Spring Term ends                                         Friday 4th April 2025

Easter holidays                                             Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025

**Summer Term**

Schools due to start back                            Tuesday 22nd April 2025

MAY DAY Bank Holiday                              Monday 5th May 2025

Summer half term                                        Monday 26th May to Friday 30st May 2025

**INSET DAY                                                  Monday 2nd June 2025**

Summer Term ends                                      Tuesday 22nd July 2025

**INSET DAY                                                  Wednesday 23rd July 2025**