



## **Newsletter – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

It's been a fairly quiet and steady week this week at Shawlands, with Miss Hartley's Y5 class visiting Horizon to take part in a skipping festival on Wednesday, and a team of Y5 and Y6s off to the Reds in the Community today for a Tag Rugby event. Other than that, the children have been hard at work in the classroom, with lots of children from different year groups visiting my room throughout the week to show me some very impressive pieces of writing - from descriptions of new villains for Supertato to battle, to first-hand accounts of trench warfare.

Next week in contrast will be a really busy one, with our first SEND week of the year, a girls football match against Holy Rood and a Y5 Lacrosse event at Reds! We are also holding a Phonics Parents meeting on Thursday from 2.30pm where Y1 parents can find out about how they can help their child progress in phonics, and prepare for the Phonics Screening Check in June next year.

### **Attendance**

Over the last few newsletters, we've been highlighting the importance of good attendance and punctuality, so I thought this week I'd share some attendance data comparing attendance in each year group this year compared with the same period last year. Every year group has higher attendance than last year, with Y2 and Y3 up by 0.4%, Y4 up by 0.9%, Y5 and Y6 up by 2.7% and Y1 up by an amazing 3.3%. Our target as a school is 97%, above the national attendance figure, which last year was 94%. Last year our attendance was 94%, but this year, so far, we are on 95.5% (compared to 94.2% last year). Obviously, we would still ask that where children are not well enough to attend school they are kept at home, and we are always available to talk about any other issues which might be affecting attendance, but we would like to say a big thank you for helping us continue to keep moving attendance back to pre-Covid levels.

### **Halloween Disco – 26<sup>th</sup> October**

On Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> October (our last day of term) we will be holding a Halloween disco in school for all children. Children can come to school in their costumes (if they wish) and will have a disco during the school day. We will send more information out about this event next week but wanted to give parents advance warning in case they wanted to start making or buying any costumes. Children do not have to come to school in costume and can wear non uniform that day instead.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October is an inset day and children will be back in school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.



### **Flu vaccine – Reception to Year 6 – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

The Immunisation Team are in school on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to deliver the nasal spray flu vaccine to children in Reception to Year 6.

Please follow the link below to complete a consent form for your child. **Please also complete the form to let the team know if your child is not having the vaccine.**

[www.barnsleysais.co.uk/Forms/Flu](http://www.barnsleysais.co.uk/Forms/Flu)

Shawlands school code: **BN106564**

### **SEND Raffle tickets**

Despite the Gulliver's event being cancelled we are still going ahead with our SEND raffle and have many prizes available including a Stan plus Stan Boudoir Gift Experience, free tickets for Gulliver's, a luxury hamper from Tesco along with many other exciting prizes.

Tickets are available able to purchase (£1 per strip of 5 tickets) at the Tuck Shop or via the School Gateway app - where you can pay £1 for each strip of tickets you would like to buy and then we will send the raffle tickets home over the next half-term. The raffle will be drawn at the next Coffee Afternoon event being run by our SEND PTA parents on 24th November at 2pm. If you would like to send any cakes/buns in for this event as well we always appreciate any contributions. We will remind you of this event nearer the time as well.

Finally, please come to talk to us on the gate, or get in touch if there is anything we can help with.