



## Newsletter – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Another busy week has come to an end at Shawlands, with a typically wide range of opportunities and experiences for the children, from Chance to Shine cricket on Monday, the amazing RockSteady assembly and workshops on Wednesday, the Y3/4 basketball tournament on Thursday and then the Y6 visit to see the 'Camp Phoenix' show at the Civic today, the Y3/4 tour of Oakwell Stadium, and the KS1 Ball skills event at Reds in the community! Truly, something for everyone!

Next week we have our second SEND week of the year, but the main event is World Book Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, where children can wear a costume or any outfit of their choice, along with a label of the word that best suits their outfit (eg football kit could be 'sporty'). Your child will be bringing home a £1 book token today to use at the fair.

You probably won't have missed the coverage on the news this week about the increased drive on attendance coming from the government via the DfE which requires schools to be making every effort to 'drive up' attendance for all children. We recognise this is an emotive subject, with parents being the people best placed to decide when children need to be off school for illness, and also with the increased costs of holidays during the school holidays.

Following our letters out in December, we saw a 2% rise in attendance, and this has been followed up by further letters and some home visits by the Education Welfare Service. Having consulted with governors this week, it is very likely that we will be issuing our first Fixed Penalty Notices for term-time holidays for some time. As you will probably know, at the moment these fines are £60 per child, per parent, per week, but in September this will be increasing to £80.

*Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March**. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk) If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).*



Finally, a reminder that on the 15<sup>th</sup> March we will be taking part in Red Nose Day, including our Talent show, so if your child has a talent they want to enter, they will get a chance to audition in class from the Monday of that week, with each class sending one act into the final on Friday!

<b>This week's questions to chat about at home, ready to discuss in class at the start of the week:</b>			
<b>EYFS</b>	<b>KS1</b>	<b>LKS2</b>	<b>UKS2</b>
What job would you do when you are older and why?	If you had a million pounds, what would you spend it on?	If you find money, is it yours?	Does money make you happy?