**SHAWLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**SHAW STREET**

**BARNSLEY**

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**Newsletter Friday 31st January 2025**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week has been a busy week for our year 5 children with many taking part in bikeability. We have had a few children complete the programme and they will receive their certificates today. We have also had a focus on writing over the past few weeks and the leadership team are really pleased with some of the writing the children are producing. It was lovely to see how hard the children have worked and how proud they are of their writing.

**School Grounds**

We still have families and parents using vapes on the school grounds and we are still having complaints around the language that parents are using on the school premises. Please can we ask that this doesn’t happen as it is causing upset to others.

**Attendance**

Some families will have received letters about attendance this week. As discussed previously the government’s agenda this year is to improve attendance in all schools. We understand that all children become ill and at times things happen that are out of our control. These letters are to offer support and not to cause worry. If there is any reason why your child is finding it difficult to attend school, please don’t hesitate to contact us and we will put support in where required.

We have attached the current guidance for holidays during term time. This was sent out previously but we have had a few questions in the past few weeks as holidays are been requested. The school’s target for attendance is 96%. We are currently at 94.37%.

**Fundraising**

We are pleased to announce that work on the new sensory room will be starting over the half term. This is thanks to our families who have supported us by either attending events, buying tickets and contributing donations and raffle prizes. We would like to give a special thanks to those who have supported school organising fundraising events.

Moving forward we would like to once again invite parents to join our fundraising team. Eventually we would like this group to become a parent led group who will be a voice for all our families in looking at how fundraising can improve opportunities for all.

We have kindly had a company offer to revamp our pond area. This is in addition to the current fundraising group and is a one off opportunity. We still have many other plans to continue to develop our outside area for those that would like to get involved. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 25th February at 3.30pm, it would be lovely if you could join us.

**Pick up**

Please look out for an email that will be arriving soon. You will need to complete school gateway with the names of all adults that are able to collect children after school. If anybody who isn’t a named person is planning to pick your child up from school please call school as we will not be able to allow them to take them without your permission.

**Mental health**

Next week is mental health week. We will be taking part in activities that can support children’s mental health. We are looking forward to working with compass B later in the year who will be working with some children to become Wellbeing Champions

Future dates

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| **February**  |
| Friday 7th  | NSPC maths day |
| Thursday 13th  | School closes to children |
| Friday 14th | Inset Day |
| **March** |
| Thursday 6th  | World Book Day |
| Monday 10th  | Mock SATs week year 6 |
| Friday 21st  | Comic Relief |
| April |
| Friday 4th  | School closes for Easter |
| Tuesday 22nd  | School opens |

**Payments for Y5/Y6 residential trip and London trip**

Payments for the above trips are due to be paid in full on the School Gateway App by Friday 28th of February 2025, we please ask you adhere to these deadlines due to the school financial year end. If you can foresee any difficulty in meeting this deadline Mrs Athorn or Miss Barradell.

Mrs C Athorn and the Shawlands Team