



October 2018

# NEWSLETTER

Walmley Ash Road

Sutton Coldfield

B76 1HY

Tel: 0121 351 1582

Fax: 0121 351 1124

Info@shrubbery.bham.sch.co.uk

## Merit Assembly - Friday 26th October 2018

The following children were congratulated on their academic, sporting or social achievement:-

Nursery	Olivia Max	Y4W	Shruti Ikash Nicola
Reception A	Layanne Emily	Y5S/A	Ruby Jude Alfie R
Reception AC	Kasim Ayra	Y5T	Harvey Jaya Lewis
Reception L	Rohan Leyli	Y6F	Ellie Charlotte Nicole
Y1W	Georgina Theo	Y6B	Tade Saad Annabelle
Y1E	Jude Darcey	Mrs Hodgetts	Arham Y2R Jude Y1E Josh Y3F Mwansa Y5T Raahil Y6B
Y1J/P	Asher Yunzhe	Piano	Saira Ali
Y2J/D	Finlay Saphiya	Computing -	Abu Bakr, Omar M, Rayaan R, Edgar
Y2R	Bow Arham	Courtesy Badge	Abdul-Muiz , Alfie F. Tayesha Beau D, Alfie R, Khadija, Ayra, Tade.
Y3F	Zara Deniz Caleb		
Y3R	Oliver Saira Amelia		
Y4H	Alfie Ayan Gabriella		

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### **Staffing**

We welcome back Mrs Aldridge-Cox (Rec) after the birth of Maisie and Mrs Jones (Y2) after the birth of Daisy. We enjoyed meeting the babies.

Mrs Acton joins us as French Teacher in the Junior School and children have been making her welcome.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Pritchett (Y1) who leaves us this half term and welcome her replacement Mrs Basi, who will be a valuable asset for the school.

Our chef, Carol, left us this month and we are joined by a new Chef Manager - Robert Heath, after half term.

Congratulations to Mr Griffin (P.E.) on his hard work organising activities and developing skills that led us to achieving the Gold Games Mark for the third year running.

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### **Independent Schools' Association**

We are pleased to announce that The Shrubbery School is now a member of the Independent Schools' Association. ISA provides professional support to its 506 members. Head teachers and staff will benefit from high quality training opportunities and access to a wide range of membership services, while pupils enjoy an extensive programme of local and national Sporting, Arts and Cultural events. We will keep you informed of the new opportunities available to us.



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### **Parents' Evenings**

Thank you for your support at Parents' Evenings. The online system of booking seems to be a success. If parents want to see members of staff at other times, we are here for you and meetings can be arranged with the office.

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### **Summer Fete**

Organised by our Parents' Association under the leadership of Mrs Bou-Harb (Khail Year 3) the afternoon was a tremendous success.

Inflatables provided great entertainment and turned our school field into a mini-theme park! There were stalls to entertain the children and for parents to browse and the ever popular raffles and tombola proved a huge draw. Parents were able to chat over refreshment and the sun shone over the whole event.

The PA raised £1152.90 and thank everyone for their support.



**Thank you!**

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## Around School.

Nursery had a trip out to a dental practice where they tried sitting in the chair and used disclosing tablets to see where their teeth needed extra cleaning! They met the dentist and hygienists and all had a free examination and a goody bag to take home.

A big thank you to Dr Jain for not only organising the trip but also for paying for the transport and providing an educational and an exciting experience for our youngest children.



**Thank you!**

The experience continued back at school where the role play area is set up as a dental practice!

## Reception

The three classes have settled in well into the Infant School. They have been busy making scare-crows as they looked at the festival of Harvest and have completed a 'Shape Walk' around school looking at shape in natural and man-made items.

Year 1 have been enjoying their topic of 'Bright Lights, Big City' which included a tea party with the 'Queen' and re-enacting the Great Fire of London on the school field with houses they had constructed.

Year 2 were pirates for the day on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October as part of their 'Land Ahoy' topic! They also had fun using co-ordinates to discover buried treasure in a workshop provided by Explore Learning on that day.

Year 3 - in their topic 'Mighty Metals' they have tried their hand at embossed foil art. Year 3 have looked at the festivals of Harvest and Divali and have tried Indian clothes and food.

Year 4 were visited by Blue Watch from Sutton Coldfield Fire Station and heard all about fire safety in the home and were taught practical safety moves like 'drop and roll'.

Year 5 visited Leicester Space Centre early in the term to augment their topic 'Stargazers' this involved interactive workshops as well as examining the interesting exhibits.

Year 6 turned themselves into crime scene investigators as part of their topic on ID (Identity) and used skills to identify who had committed a crime. Year 6 also enjoyed a residential adventure weekend at Whitemoor Lakes in September, where they used their teamwork and resilience to overcome personal challenges and have fun.

## Literacy Workshops

Reception parents are invited into school on Thursday 5th November to look at how we teach reading and phonics and to complete an activity with their child.

Year 1 parents are similarly invited on Friday 9th November to join their children. Both events run from 9.15am - 10.30am. Please let the office know if you can attend if you haven't already.

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**Blue Watch visit The Shrubbery!**





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### Community News

Our local PCSO came into school to introduce himself, he will be visiting the children to talk about various issues over the school year and will also keep an eye on our parking situation. We continue to ask that the small minority of parents who park on pavements, block the main Walmley Ash Road and the entrance to the apartments next door park courteously to aid residents and to keep Shrubbery children safe.

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#### *Absence from school*

Most of our children have an excellent school attendance record though at the start of the school year many succumb to coughs and colds.

We would ask that you keep school absence to the minimum necessary as our curriculum now, particularly in literacy and numeracy requires children to undertake independent work to prove progress after a series of modelled activities, discussion, editing and teacher input. Work can not simply be set in many subjects for children to catch up with.

If one child in the family is ill or has a medical appointment we would not expect siblings to be out of school as well.

Dentist and doctor appointments should be made outside school hours  
if possible

Thank you

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## Y2 - Pirates Day

On Thursday 11th October Y2 came to school dressed as pirates as part of their topic 'Land Ahoy'. The children wrote poems and used rhyming words in them. They were excited reading new poems before writing theirs.

Here are two poems by Holly W and Saphiya W

I Wish I Was a pirate

I Wish I Was a pirate  
I Would sail the Seven Seas,  
My Ship would even fly,  
And I Would need some keys.



I wish I Was a pirate  
I would wear ripped dirty clothes,  
And I would wear a ring,  
When I have a rose.



I wish I was a pirate  
My ship would ship wreck,  
And on a desert island,  
I would find an X.



I wish I was a pirate  
I would hoist the sails  
And I would be bossy,  
I would even climb the rails.

By Rosie  
**Pirate**



I wish I was a pirate

I wish I was a pirate

I'll sail the seven seas  
I won't care what I wear  
I will show my nobby knees-

I wish I was a pirate

I'll wear dirty clothes

I'll steal treasure from other ships

I'll find lots of diamonds and gillygowls

I wish I was a pirate

I'll have blue hair like the seven seas

I'll wear a brown strappy dress

With a belt full of keys



By Saphira

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### **European Day of Languages**

Every year at The Shrubbery, we dress up in colours of the European flags and celebrate the rich diversity of language in our school and continent. This year we identified over thirty languages spoken by children in our school! In class, activities were held around the theme of language.

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### **NSPCC and O2 Online Safety Workshop.**

Although not attended as fully as we had hoped, the event hosted by Tracey Hulston from the NSPCC was really informative. Tracey established a good atmosphere for talk and questions and we all realised how quickly technology moves on! Two websites are recommended for parents to gain any information they wish and there is also a helpline for queries about online matters.

In school we teach online safety as part of our curriculum and encourage children to tell adults in a no-blame situation, if they are concerned about any web content they encounter.

O2 also offer help from parents at their stores.

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### **Voting for House Captains and Vice Captains**

On Wednesday October 3<sup>rd</sup> elections were held with private ballots for House Captains and Vice-Captains. Most children had prepared eloquent speeches and the Junior School children from Year 3-6 then voted.

Congratulations to the following children on their election.

Avon House Captain - Ahmed  
Charlotte

Vice Captain - Rayaana  
Holly C

Blythe House Captain - Tade  
Ellie

Vice Captain - Ray  
Samra

Cole House Captain - Thomas  
Lauren

Vice Captain - Moosa  
Annabelle

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### **Harvest**

Our Merit Assembly on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October was also our Harvest assembly. As we have done in recent years our Harvest appeal was for cans to go to local people in need via food banks. In class children had looked at how some food went from the fields in this country or abroad into our shops.

Our Harvest Assembly gave us the chance to think more about the foods grown in this country and to give thanks for the rich harvest we enjoy from here and all over the world. We admired our decorated Harvest boxes and heard how the food would be given out.

Thank you so much for your support for this appeal. The boxes of cans will go, this year, to the food bank at the Pentecostal Church in Erdington.

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### **Admissions**

If parents have children approaching the age of three, please contact the school office if you require an admission form for The Shrubbery Nursery.

We are also taking admissions for Reception in September 2019, again please contact the school office.

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### **Shrubs Club**

Children at our after school care club- Shrubs Club will be designing a new logo for the club which will appear on their newsletters to be emailed out to registered parents and available on our web-site. This newsletter will keep parents up to date with planned activities at the Club.

Further information about the club is available on our website and from the school office.

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# Winter Fair

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November**  
**1.00– 3.30pm**

Please can we have your donations for our Winter Fair.  
We would appreciate any of the following:

Toys and Games  
Tombola Prizes  
Raffle Prizes  
Books  
Cakes (please bring these on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November)

**Odd Sock Day**  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November**  
Wear odd socks, bring a Jingle Jar!

**Mad Hair Day**  
**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**  
Wear your hair as mad as you like if you bring in a wrapped gift  
(costing up to £2.00ish) for the lucky dip (please label Boy or Girl)

Come along to our Winter Fair, visit The Elves Workshop,  
There will be Art and Craft, Santa's Grotto, The Games Room  
and Prizes to Win!!!



## Y6 Trip to Whitemoor Lakes

Here is a letter from Ellie in Year 6, thanking the staff at Whitemoor Lakes.

The Shrubby School,  
Walmley Ash Road,  
Sutton Coldfield  
B76 1HX

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Whitemoor Lakes,  
Barly Green Lane,  
Lichfield  
WS13 8QT

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to show my gratitude to every staff member at Whitemoor Lakes for caring for our school for the weekend (21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> September) when we visited for our yearly residential trip.

Firstly, I would like to praise you for making the weekend a memorable experience that I will never forget, and I'm sure all the children would agree with me. I learnt so much about each activity. It made the activities feel new to me, as if I had never attempted them before. The atmosphere was wonderful as everybody was smiling. I appreciated how you were patient with the children that struggled with some activities and would not force anyone to do what they did not feel comfortable doing. Another thing I was fond of was the breath-taking view from my dorm window which looked out onto the crystal clear lake. In addition to this I was pleased to be accommodated in a spotless room with comfy beds and soft pillows.

I was served generously with appetizing food. The queues for food were quite short with a range of sides too. An important thing to me was how safe I felt participating in activities. The instructors took impeccable responsibility over the safety of the activities.

They are definitely trust worthy. If I were you I would expand the Drying Room so each set of dorms have more space to hang up wet clothes.

I hope you consider my advice and I'm excited to receive a reply from you soon.

Yours faithfully  
Ellie Myers  
The Shrubby School

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## **Sports News**

### **Gold Schools Game Mark**

Over the summer we were notified that we had succeeded in gaining the Gold School Games Mark for the third consecutive year. This is awarded to schools for commitment to school sport and extra curricular activities. Our intentions within The Shrubbery School is to give every child a chance to participate in competitive sport at Level 1 and 2 throughout each year.



### **Cross Country - WSAS - Intra School Games Participation Event**

We have made a really good start to the cross-country season. We have had some excellent individual performances from both the girls and boys. Currently our boys are 10<sup>th</sup> and girls 9<sup>th</sup> in the standings.

### **Football Y3-Y4 Mixed Gender Tournament - WSAS - Intra School Games Participation Event**

Once again we attended the WS Active Society Y3-Y4 Mixed football festival, this is a great event where the boys and girls get to play together. We were put in a tough group with eventual champions Coppice and the bronze medallists Wylde Green. Nevertheless the team did the Shrubbery proud, losing to Coppice 1-0 and drawing to both Wylde Green and Maney Hill.

### **Dodgeball Tournament - WSAS - Intra School Games Participation Event**

This year the Dodgeball festival was for Year 3 and 4. It was another fantastically exciting event organised by WS Active Society and lead by the Bishop Vesey Young Leaders. Overall we finished 4<sup>th</sup> after losing to Hill West in the semi-finals and losing in extra time to New Hall in the 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> playoff.

### **Y5-Y6 Football Team - ISFA Tournament, SCPSFA League and Cup Games**

Our football team have had a jam-packed fixture list this half term. They competed at the Independent Schools Football Association (ISFA) Repton Tournament in Derby where they played independent schools from all over the Midlands. They played some excellent football throughout and showed fantastic determination even when the result was not in their favour. Alongside tournament play we have also played 3 league games and 1 cup match. Once again the boys have been resilient throughout all of the matches even after some tough results.

### **Netball - SCPSNA - Level 2 Competition**

The Sutton Coldfield Primary School Netball Association has been reformed after a year's absence through lack of funding. The girls have only been able to play one game this side of half term because of inclement weather. Their only game finished in a narrow defeat of 5-3 against Four Oaks but Mrs Simpson was really impressed with the attitude and quality of the play. There will be many more games to come in the next half term.

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### **Extra-Curricular Lunch Clubs and After School Clubs**

We have had an incredible level of participation in our clubs this first half term. We have been running Tag Rugby, Hockey, Cross Country and Golden Mile clubs this half term. Alongside all of these we have also had Football and Netball team practices, Dodgeball ran by Evolution Dodgeball and Key Stage 1 Rugby Tots.

### **Play Leaders**

We have now recruited our Play Leaders for this year, we had some brilliant applications which the children had worked really hard on. Congratulations to Avneet, Ellie, Abbie, Ambika, Mwansa, Samra, Annabelle, Millie, Rhea, Ameerah, Nina, Jenson, Rhys, Rohan and Edgar who will be our play leaders for this academic year. Our play leaders will be delivering activities and games on our play grounds at break times and lunch times.

### **Sports Crew**

Our Sports Crew applications will be reviewed over the half term break. Once reviewed the Sports Crew will be formed along with our two Bronze Ambassadors.

### **Shrubbery Shake**

The Shrubbery Shake has been a real hit since Mrs Boughton started it this half term. We have a small group of children who create a new dance / fitness routine each week. They then get the Junior children to take part for ten minutes of exercise as soon as they get to school in the morning.

It is great fun and a good way to wake up ready for school.

Mr M Griffin

Head of P.E

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### Next Term Swimming

Junior Swimming will be for Y6 on Mondays and Y4 on Fridays  
week commencing Monday 5th November.

### Infant Swimming

Y2 swimmers - Monday lunchtimes from Monday 5th November

Year 1 swimmers - Thursday or Friday lunchtimes.

Please ensure children's clothes,  
including towels and clearly named.



### Extra Curricular Activities

All extra curricular activities will begin the first week back - week commencing Monday 5th November. There are places available for Junior dance lessons on Tuesdays, 4pm-5pm. Please call the office if your child is interested.

### Children in Need - Friday 16th November

**Non-Uniform -Wear clothes that do not go together!**

*Children in Need benefits children who need help in the UK.*

*We will be asking children to dress in clothes that do not match  
charging £2 for the day for the charity.*

*There will be other activities planned for the day and letters will follow.*

*Details will follow regarding other activities for the day.*



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*Have an enjoyable half-term.  
School re-opens on Monday 5th November 2018*

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**Dates for Your Diary**

<i>Back to school</i>	<i>Monday 5th November</i>
<i>Y5 Information Meeting (re: secondary schools and residential trip)</i>	<i>Wednesday 7th November</i>
<i>Reading Workshop for Reception Parents</i>	<i>Thursday 8th November 9.15am-10.30am</i>
<i>Reading Workshop for Y1 Parents</i>	<i>Friday 9th November 9.15am-10.30am</i>
<i>Odd Sock Day</i>	<i>Friday 9th November</i>
<i>Children in Need (Miss-Match Day)</i>	<i>Friday 16th November</i>
<i>Mad Hair Day</i>	<i>Friday 23rd November</i>
<i>Winter Fair</i>	<i>Saturday 24th November 1.00pm-3.30pm</i>
<i>Monday 3rd December</i>	<i>Christmas Shopping Day (school closed for 1 day only)</i>
<i>Nursery Christmas Production</i>	<i>Tuesday 11th December 9.30am</i>
<i>Junior Christmas Productions</i>	<i>Tuesday 11th December 7.00pm Wednesday 12th December 2.00pm Thursday 13th December 7.00pm</i>
<i>Infant Christmas Productions</i>	<i>Wednesday 12th December 9.30am Thursday 13th December 2.00pm</i>
<i>Infant Theatre Trip</i>	<i>Friday 14th December am</i>
<i>Infants Christmas Party</i>	<i>Monday 17th December</i>
<i>Junior Christmas Disco</i>	<i>Wednesday 19th December</i>
<i>Christmas Dinner</i>	<i>Thursday 20th December</i>
<i>Break up from school</i>	<i>Thursday 20th December</i>
<i>Back to School</i>	<i>Tuesday 8th January 2018</i>

***Please note NO absence for the purpose of holiday  
can be authorised in term time.***