



Our amazing school!

R

Run, Run as fast as you can.....



We've had an amazing time so far visiting the 'Land of the Dinosaurs' when the Astrodome came to school. One of our favourite facts was learning about the largest dinosaur alive.

Did you know that the largest dinosaur was called the Argentinosaurus?

1



2

Realistic and abstract portraits in the style of Picasso

School Improvement Update

- Fantastic news— we are delighted to announce that following our QES submittal we have been awarded the advanced award. This is the top award for Quality in Extended Services. We are now able to proudly display the QES advanced logo on our headed paper. Well done to all of those involved.
- Mrs Khan, our Year 1 Leader, is working hard to create an amazing outdoor learning area. We are currently waiting for quotes to change the outdoor area surface to wet pour which we hope we will be able to put in place during the summer months.
- On Monday 5th February we will be externally verified for our LPPA award which we have been working on over the last year. Thank you to all parents who have contributed to this by completing our parent questionnaires, attending workshops, events and meetings and making suggestions on how to improve our school. Through your contributions we are able to promote our parent / school relationship. We are always open to more suggestions to improve yours and your child's time whilst at Shears Green Infants. We will let you know in our next newsletter how we have done!



Our staff are busy working on their projects as part of the school improvement development plan:

- Mrs Williams has been leading the work on the GROW (Gravesham reading for outstanding writing) project. She has worked with an external advisor Rosie Taylor—to explore introducing toolkits for reading which help and prompt children to explore reading texts in greater depth, she has explored lesson study skills to analyse the impact of teaching and learning for different groups of children and has started to embed this practice into Year 2. A poetry unit was planned resulting in class presentations to parents during a reading afternoon. The children explored and enriched their vocabulary using practical activities (involving jelly and spaghetti) and were inspired to write knowing they were going to perform. Clear progression was seen in their use of vocabulary and parent feedback was they enjoyed the performance! Inspiration was also gained from Michael Rosen's poetry performance and led to children writing their own poems at home, during golden time and during lunchtimes. Classes 12 and 10 will engage in the lesson study skills this term. Mrs Williams is working with Year R and 1 to explore their current reading strategies and introduce tool kits to enhance independence and greater depth reading for our children.

School Improvement update continued.....

- Mrs Khan has introduced the continuous provision activities to enhance independence and greater depth learning into the outside area—due to start next week. The impact in the classroom has been great—the children are confident to explore new tasks and are persevering with tasks when they find them a challenge—Well done Year 1!
- Mrs Holder and Mrs Sangha have led on the well being project and have introduced a new programme around resilience and learning powers. The children have been introduced to their first character—Spider. Ask them what they have learnt so far!
- Mrs Perry has been leading on enhancing the learning through play opportunities the Year R children have. She has extended this out to all four classes to explore and learn together in the afternoons. This is still in its early stages but so far the children are enjoying this time.

Community news

- As you are aware we are part of the Northfleet Co-operative Learning Trust—7 schools and 1 nursery working together to offer different opportunities for our children and parents. If you are part of an organisation which can offer different experiences and are interested in becoming a trustee—we would love to hear from you. Please contact Hayley Kotze, Headteacher, via the school office email or telephone.
- Mrs Higgins is searching for parents who have a musical, creative, singing, dancing, talent to support our creative week—19th—23rd February. Please contact the school office by Friday 9th February if you would be willing to share your talent with our children.



Day to Day

- Thank you to all of those parents who attended our Reading afternoon yesterday. We hope you enjoyed quality time reading with your child.
- Please remember to keep your contact numbers up to date with us. If you move address or change telephone numbers please pop in to the school office and complete a form.
- A reminder—please walk alongside scooters and bikes once you have entered the school playground or car park for the safety of all.
- Dogs are not allowed on the school site please. Many thanks for your co-operation.
- Please could we remind parents not to park on the yellow lines and paths around the school to ensure the safety of all of our community.



Diary Dates



Date	Event
*7th February	Parents Evening 3.30pm—8.30pm
*8th February	Parents Evening 3.30pm—8.30pm
9th February	Last day of term 3
19th February	Children return to school—start of Term 4
1st March	World Book Day—dress up as your favourite character

* Your child's class teacher will block times not available on these two dates—please ensure if you have a child in a different class you check both teachers availability if you would like to see them on the same day. If you have any issues booking please contact your child's class teacher so they can support you.

The winter season is still upon us and it is that time of the year when we are all getting colds etc. The school is encouraging the children to wash their hands and use tissues to stop the spread of colds. Unfortunately some children need to take antibiotics to speed their recovery so please could we remind you that the school will only administer antibiotics if it is prescribed four times a day. Thank you.



Many congratulations to our class winners for the last two weeks:

Week beginning : 12.01.18
Attendance: Class 8 - 99.17%
Walk on Wednesday: Class 10
Disney Points: Nemo
Buster Book Club: Class 2
Week beginning: 19.01.18
Attendance: Class 5 —99.44%
Walk on Wednesday: Class 7
Disney Points: Simba
Buster Book Club: Class 6

Whole School attendance: 94.72%
Whole school target: 97%

