



SHERDLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER



## A note from Mr Gawne ...



### Welcome Back To Summer Term!



We are delighted to welcome everyone back for the Summer term. It's hard to believe we've only been back for two weeks—school life is already in full swing and there has been so much happening across Sherdley. As we return for Summer, please know that children can now start to wear their Summer uniform but we politely request that families support children in wearing the correct uniform items to school, particularly on PE Days.

Earlier this week, we were pleased to welcome the families of 2F into school for their class assembly. The children shared their learning about the Great Fire of London with such confidence and enthusiasm. It was clear just how much they have enjoyed exploring this topic, and we are incredibly proud of them.

Yesterday, we were joined by Lancashire Cricket, who delivered exciting cricket workshops for children across KS1 and KS2, following a whole-school assembly in the morning. With the sunshine finally making an appearance, it was wonderful to see the children outdoors, active, and enjoying sport together.

Since returning, we have also welcomed several new families who have joined us across different year groups. We are delighted to have you as part of our Sherdley Family and hope you enjoy many happy moments with us throughout your children's educational journey.

**CONTINUED...**

**Sherdley's Whole School Attendance Target for this Academic Year:**

**96%**

**Sherdley's Whole School Attendance since returning in September:**

**95%**

**ATTENDANCE HERO**  
Here, Every day, Ready,  
On time

Family

## A note from Mr Gawne ... Continued

On the theme of new beginnings, last week was also Primary Offer Day, and we are thrilled to be welcoming our new Reception families for September. We received a large number of applications this year—from both our pre-school setting and the wider community—which is a testament to the strong reputation Sherdley continues to build. We can't wait to welcome you all officially later in the year and look forward to starting this exciting journey with you in September.



### Year 6 Practice SATs and Upcoming Key Dates

This week has also seen our Year 6 children completing their final round of practice SATs assessments before the statutory tests in May. As a school, we are incredibly proud of their resilience, commitment, and positive attitudes. They have worked so hard and are well prepared for the real thing next month. Well done, Year 6—you should be very proud of yourselves.

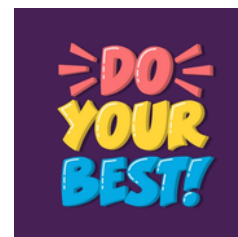
You should also have received your Parents' Evening invitations for next Wednesday, 29th April, along with the opportunity to sign up for an appointment. In addition, your children's curriculum maps for this final term have been sent home so you can see the learning ahead.

Attached to this newsletter, you will find a list of key dates, including the upcoming statutory assessments taking place across May and June:

#### KS2 SATs

#### Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

#### Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check



We kindly ask for your support in ensuring strong attendance during these weeks as we continue our journey towards our whole-school target of 96%.

We must also advise that we have noticed a rise in term-time holiday requests. Wherever possible, please ensure holidays are taken outside of school time. Schools are unable to authorise holidays except in truly exceptional circumstances, and unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

We look forward to welcoming you into Sherdley next week for Parents' Evening.

Best wishes, Mr Gawne



# COLOUR RUN 2026



£3 per child - deadline 23rd May. Sponsorship forms will be with you by Wednesday 14th May. Forms and any raised money to be returned by Friday 6th June.

## Order of the day:

- 1:30pm - gates open to visitors - max of 2 spectators per child
- 1:45pm - Children will start to enter the field - all children, including those who do not want to take part, should sit with their class. This supports our risk assessment to keep everyone safe
- **1:40pm - Gates will be closed AND LOCKED with no further entry. This will ensure children are safe and secure in the grounds.**
- 2:50pm - Estimated time the event will end, but please be patient with us!
- After the event, parents should make their way to their child's playground to collect them
- Children can go home after the event. Children will be dismissed from their playgrounds. **CHILDREN WILL NOT BE DISMISSED FROM THE FIELD**
- No children / parents can re-enter school after the event.
- The school office will be closed between 1:15-3pm



## The event:

- Children will sit with their classes and staff - they will not be allowed to go to parents.
- We are aiming for all children to run the course at least once. If there is time, KS2 will run again. KS1 and Reception will be invited to run a second time, but little legs may be tired. We will review this as we go.
- There will be a dedicated space and member of staff for children who are overwhelmed during the event
- Remaining paint will be used to cover Y6 at the very end! Have your cameras ready





## COLOUR RUN 2026



# Colour Run 2026

Thursday 21st May from 1.30pm

## Things to consider:

- Getting home – will you walk? Go in the car or cycle? Children will be wet and have wet paint on them – covers for car seats may be needed or a dressing gown to put over them. I say this from experience!!!
- Consider bringing a towel or baby wipes for the end of the event.
- No Jelly shoes. No Crocs. Children must have shoes on that can be secured, tied or laced. This reduces trips or falls when completing the run.
- Please take photos but do not post on social media if other children are present.
- Children can wear sunglasses / swimming goggles and / or shower caps.



## Spotlight on Year 1

**Year 1 have been very busy since returning from the Easter Holidays!  
Take a look at what we have been up to.**



Y1 loved using the Atlas to find continents and oceans. Our new unit looks at the different hot and cold places in our world.

Our new text in English is Meerkat Mail. So far, we have made predictions, described Sunny and expored writing in the first person. Our outcome is to produce and write our own post card



Independent reading for pleasure in 1W

In art, we have started looking at iurnew artist Anthony Gormely. We looked at his sculptures and chose our favourites based on how they made us feel. We also looked at the different materials he uses and his inspiration.

# Spotlight on Year 1



In Science, we began our new topic about plants. We retrieved knowledge from our topic about seasons and went to explore the field to find different wild plants and tree types. We found lots of daisies and deciduous trees but only one buttercup. We love learning in the sunshine!



In PE, we have started learning about Net and Wall games. We have been throwing and catching and even using rackets to hit the balls. We were even lucky enough to have a cricket session with Darren from Lancashire Cricket. Darren has delivered sessions with Sherdley in the past, he was excited to share some information about girls cricket in area. Keep an eye out for cricket information shared!



## Parent / Carer Questionnaire



Thank you for completing our recent behaviour questionnaire for parents and carers. Below you will see a breakdown of your responses. Thank you for your honesty. Clearly there are elements that are very strong and it is important that we continue with those, but we recognise there are areas to improve too.

I am now in the process of gathering the views of the staff across school and the children. This will take some time.

We expect this review to take several months. and with the Summer holidays rapidly approaching, it is unlikely to be complete before September. We don't want to rush into changing things, or changing the wrong things. I will reach out with further questions and views, and hope to gather more views about specific areas that have been scored lower than others.

It is crucial that the children and staff also share their views and are able to contribute to the bigger picture.





## Parent / Carer Questionnaire

### Parent / Carer Questionnaire – April 2026


1. How confident are you that your child understands the <u>Sherdley's</u> behaviour expectations?	Very confident 68%	Confident 26%	Somewhat confident 5%	Not Confident 2%
2. Our behaviour expectations are clearly communicated to your child / children across different school settings, for example in the classrooms, playground, dinner hall, corridors.	Strongly agree 53%	Agree 43%	Disagree 4%	Strongly agree 0
3. Your child understands what is expected of them AND how to meet our behaviour expectations.	Strongly agree 8%	Agree 87%	Disagree 3%	Strongly agree 2%
4. Behaviour management procedures are applied consistently across the <u>school</u> ?	Strongly Agree 43%	Agree 44%	Disagree 11%	Strongly Disagree 2%
5.The 'Track-it-light' system is an effective strategy for <u>the majority of</u> pupils?		Agree 89%	Disagree 11%	
6.Sherdley's reward systems effectively promote positive behaviour?		Agree 91%	Disagree 9%	
7.Our rewards motivate a wide range of pupils, including those with additional needs?	Always 54%	Frequently 30%	Occasionally 15%	Never 1%
8.Behaviour consequences are proportionate and appropriate?	Strongly agree 38%	Agree 47%	Disagree 13%	Strongly disagree 2%
9.The consequences we apply, support children to reflect on their behaviour and make better choices?		Agree 87%	Disagree 13%	
10.Our behaviour policy supports positive relationships between pupils and <u>staff</u> ?		Agree 94%	Disagree 6%	
11.In my opinion, pupils feel safe, respected and listened to <u>as a result of</u> the policy.		Yes 87%	No 13%	
12.Communication with parents regarding your child's unacceptable behaviour is shared in good <u>time</u> ?		Yes 87%	No 13%	
13.At Sherdley, parents are effectively involved as partners in supporting positive behaviour.	Strongly agree 14%	Agree 55%	Disagree 6%	Strongly disagree 25%
14.Overall, how effective is Sherdley Primary School's behaviour policy?	Very effective 53%	Somewhat effective 42%	Somewhat ineffective 3%	Very ineffective 2%

## Safeguarding


# Safety around dogs


**The bond between your child and dog can bring fun and happiness to family life. We don't expect our own dog to bite, but any dog can bite if they feel they have no other option.**


**Children are most likely to be bitten at home, by a familiar dog. Luckily most bites are preventable and close supervision is key.**


-  **A calm, happy dog** is less likely to react unsafely to children's natural exuberance.
- Give your dog a safe space of their own where they can go if they need time out. Have a rule to leave them alone when they're there.
  - Keep them occupied – physical exercise and mental activity help keep your dog happy.
  - Teach your child to be calm and kind with your dog. Avoid shouting, teasing or restrictive cuddles.



-  **Close supervision** is the most important thing to keep children safe.
- Watch, listen and remain close when your child and dog are together.
  - If either your dog or child seems unhappy, positively and calmly separate them. You can throw your dog a treat or toy, or lead your child away.
  - **Understand your dog's body language** so you can spot signs they feel uncomfortable or stressed.
  - When you know you'll be distracted during busier times, use safety gates to keep children and dogs separate. Or, take your child or dog with you.

-  **Your growing child** – as your child changes, the risks can change too.
- Teach the rules to your child from an early age and keep explaining them as your child understands more.
  - As your child becomes more mobile, review changes needed, like adding safety gates.
  - Think ahead about your changing family life and new risks that can emerge. Read our fact sheet on bringing baby home.

-  **Trigger times** – teach your child to leave your dog alone when they are:
- Sleeping – no-one likes to be woken up suddenly.
  - Eating or having a treat – they might think you're going to take their food.
  - Have a toy or something else they really like – they might not want to share!

-  **Still worried?**
- If you're worried by the way your dog is with your child, talk to your vet. They'll check your dog's health and can refer you to a qualified animal behaviourist.
  - Visit the **Animal Behaviour and Training Council** website to find a qualified behaviourist near you.



## Safeguarding

The Safeguarding team at Sherdley are frequently reviewing our safeguarding systems and practices to ensure they remain effective. I am writing to inform you of a change which we believe will tighten up the safeguarding of visitors into our school for events such as celebration assemblies, class assemblies and other school events.

We will continue to invite you to these events via the school app. Going forwards, you will receive an image which will be your 'ticket' to gain entry. This will be attached to the app message. We ask that you take a screenshot of this image and bring it with you on the day. You will be asked to show this image to gain access to school.

We understand that at times, you may not be able to attend yourself and may send a family member. Again, we ask that you give them the image so that they can attend on your behalf.

If you have any questions, please speak to the office or any senior staff.

Mrs Bennett

## Oral Health

# ORAL HEALTH FOR CHILDREN

ST HELENS WELLBEING



### TOOTHBRUSHING

- Teeth should be brushed as soon as they appear in the mouth.
- An ideal toothbrush should have a small head with soft/medium textured bristles.
- There is no fluoride in the local water supply.
- For children under 3, use a smear of ordinary family fluoride toothpaste (1350-1500 ppm). Fluoride helps to make teeth stronger.



- For children over 3, use a pea-sized blob.

PEA-SIZED



- Brush teeth and gums last thing at night before bed and one other time during the day – ideally for 2 minutes.
- Children need help with toothbrushing up to the age of 7.
- Your child should spit out after brushing and not rinse. This helps the fluoride to work for longer on the teeth.

### SUGAR FREE MEDICINES

- Always ask for sugar free medicines for your child and check with the doctor if they need a prescription.
- If they contain sugar, they can cause tooth decay.
- Medicines are often given at intervals during the day and may be given at night.

### VISITING THE DENTIST

- Your child should visit the dentist to have regular check ups.
- Take your child as often as the dentist recommends.
- In agreement with national guidelines, dentists offer fluoride varnish applications 2 – 3 time per year to every child and young person aged 3 – 16 years.
- A list of local dental practices is available from <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist>



## Recycle and Raise Money

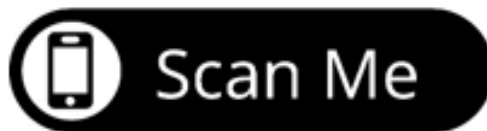


The 'Sherdley Blue' Clothing Bin positioned near to KS1 playground has arrived. Help us to fill the bin and raise money for school every month. The company accepts lots of clothes, however they do not accept badged uniform.

## 0-19 School Nurse Support



Download our School Nurse  
Service information leaflet



**Support children from Reception to 19<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday (25 for young people with SEND)**