

# SHIPHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL

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A Member of the Cheddar Valley Group of Schools



24<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Dear Parents

The end of term seems to be approaching with great speed. There are some events between now and then to tell you more about.

- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July      The Cheddar Valley Voices choir are doing a tour of the local First Schools, including Shipham.
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July      Transfer Day  
On this day the Year 4s will spend the day at Fairlands and all the rest of the children will move into their next class for the morning. The Pre-School children who are joining Reception in September will also come into school.
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July      Year 4 Activity Days
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July      Dance Mats in school
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July Annual Reports will come home  
Leavers' Barbecue – details from FOSS
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July      Class 3 are going to the Big Green Day at Blackrock Country Park
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July      Governors will be in school meeting staff and children
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July SCHOOL WALK AND PICNIC  
Children should come to school wearing comfortable clothes which can get dirty and are weather-appropriate, including a lightweight waterproof jacket, if possible. Wellies are recommended. It is also a good idea to have a change of clothes in school! Children will have to carry their own lunches so please make sure they have a suitable small rucksack. Their lunch should be in a plastic bag, not a box, so please do not put in anything that will split (ie yogurt in pots), or squash, or requires scissors. They should also have a small drink. This year we will walk first to Rowberrow Church for a short service at 11.30 am.
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July      3.20      Concert performed by Mrs Spanning and her pupils
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July      2.30      Leavers' Assembly at the Church

## OTHER MATTERS

### LOST PROPERTY

We have a large collection of belongings, particularly sweatshirts. If we can read the name we can return the garment. However, on most of them the name is no longer legible or has disappeared completely, so we cannot reunite them with their owners.

Our status as a 'Healthy School' was re-validated in May.

As there was a Parent Questionnaire in September for Ofsted, we have decided not to send another out this term but to leave it until next year. Nevertheless, if you have any comments or suggestions, please do write them down and give them to us. We cannot know what you are thinking unless you tell us!

We are still looking for someone who could become a reserve Crossing Patrol person. Do please talk to Mrs Masny to find out what is involved.

As part of the development of the outdoor environment I am looking for bits of fallen/chopped trees to create a minibeast environment; and logs to use for seating. Does anyone know where these might be available, preferably for free?

I'm sure you will all know that Honey Hill broke her arm on Wednesday after a fall from the climbing equipment. After many years with no accidents, there have been several similar ones over the last couple of years. Obviously we investigate each incident to see how we might change our procedures. As a school we encourage children to be independent and to extend themselves in all areas of school life, and this approach also applies to outdoor play as far as possible. Nevertheless, children are always supervised and given advice on the equipment, and the equipment is regularly checked by the local authority and meets all legal requirements. The only alternatives seem to be to stop children using the equipment or investigate making some changes to it, in particular making it lower. It is a dilemma, as we know that many children and parents appreciate the large equipment and we certainly do not want to stop children from using it, if they want to. I know there will be a huge range of opinions and, in the end, the decision rests with the staff and governors, but we would be interested to know what you think.

Yours,

A. Gwynn