



# Shorefields Parent Newsletter

## 22nd October 2021

<https://www.shorefields.essex.sch.uk>

A quick reminder to all secondary aged students, please remember to continue with the twice weekly lateral flow testing. If you require any more testing kits, please let us know.

Also should any primary aged children/families wish to have some testing kits, they are available, please pop a note in the home school book if you would like some.

### Dates for the diary

**Harvest Festival 22nd October (see note below)**

**Friday 22nd Last day of term finish at 1.30**

Half term 25th Oct to 29th Oct

**Polite reminder, please be mindful of the speed limit of 5mph when entering and leaving the school grounds, including the rear playground, this is for the safety of our parents, staff and pupils.**

**Thank you for your understanding.**

### **Good news stories**

Below is an email we received from the parents of one our children which we thought would be lovely to share with you all:

*"We would like to thank you all for your updates during this term, it is always good for us to have contact with you and to know the ongoing situation at school. We understand how difficult it has been and the issues that are ahead of us all will be very challenging.*

*We would like to congratulate you all on the hard work and dedication you have showed to help keep everybody safe and to continue offering the vital schooling and respite care that we all need despite the extremely challenging situation. We look forward to seeing you again soon and our best wishes to his class teacher and all in his class buddies, Debbie and every member of staff, pupils and families. Enjoy the break and keep up the good work. Thanks again".*

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**Essex County Council made an error on their school holiday calendar and forgot about the Queens Platinum Jubilee bank holiday, therefore, there is a slight change to the holiday dates in July; this means that we now break up on Thursday 21st July and not Friday 22nd July, we will finish at 1.30 on that Thursday.**

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The beach hut is available to hire, please contact the office for a form should you wish to hire it. The cost is £15 per day with a maximum consecutive rental of 3 days for £40



### Harvest Festival

We are holding our Harvest Festival on 22nd October at St Pauls Church, Clacton On Sea

10-10.30 for Sunshine classes

11-11.30 for Beach and Pier classes

Up to 2 members of immediate family are welcome to attend.

**As we are finishing school at 1.30 on that Friday, if you would like to take your child home with you after the festival then please let us know as soon as possible and write a note in their home school book.**

### Free school meals vouchers

Essex County Council are providing free school meal vouchers again for half term for those families entitled to free school meals - £15 per child. They will be issued from Wednesday 20th October.



Dear families,

As we end our first half term of this school year I wanted to write and thank you for your continued support and understanding. As the term has progressed, we have seen the amount of covid cases increase, alongside staff absence.

For 2 days last week we had more than 30 members of staff absent each day (most absences were not Covid related), and I know that this places huge strain on the staff present and that sometimes, regrettably, and as an absolute last resort, we must make a partial class closure for safety reasons.

We will always use every resource available to us before taking this decision as we know how disruptive it is for all concerned.

9% of our pupils and 7% of our staff have tested positive for Covid this half term and have been/ are isolating.

We are doing everything we can to keep 'Covid safe' whilst adhering to the current guidance, which is more relaxed than previous versions. We recognise the importance of school for our pupils, and do not want disrupted education, but it seems Covid has other ideas. We believe that this winter will continue in a similar fashion, and we ask that you continue to be patient with us as we try to do our best for our pupils, families, and staff.

We hope you have a lovely half term – please can you ensure you are well stocked with Lateral Flow tests, and that these are completed on the Sunday evening before we return to school on November 1st .

Please contact me if you have any queries or questions about this letter.

Jen

Head Teacher



School Dinners – w/b 1/11/21 we will be on week 3 of the Autumn Menu.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal Option 1	Sausage roll served with mash potato	Spaghetti bolognaise served with garlic bread	Roast chicken, sage & onion stuffing, yorkshire pudding & roast potatoes	Sweet & sour pork noodles	Harry Ramsdon fillet of fish served with chips
Main Meal Option 2	Carbonara pasta bake	Fishcake served with new potatoes	Cheesy beans in a Yorkshire pudding, parsnips & roast potatoes	Quorn dippers served with seasoned cubed potatoes	Hot dog in a roll served with chips
Vegetables	Broccoli & sweetcorn	Mixed vegetables	Peas & carrots	Cabbage & mixed vegetables	Baked beans
	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar
Dessert/ Pudding	Homemade Jam sponge & custard	Fresh fruit pots or angel delight	Homemade apple slice & custard	Meringue nests filled with strawberries & cream	Mousse & homemade biscuit