



October 2020 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents & Carers

All of us in school have been delighted with all the parental support as we have been settling the children back into school this term. Despite the new rules around social distancing and having to stay in our bubbles, the children have amazed us with their understanding and adherence to these safety measures.

This first half term, we have been focussing on 'Citizenship' as our character value. There are three aspects to Citizenship: Empathy, Compassion and Drive. On the playground and in class, we have been seeing so many examples of where children have shown real progress in their understanding of what it means to be a caring citizen. Each week, children have been earning their Class Teacher Certificates and Headteacher Awards for demonstrating Citizenship.

New this year has also been the 'Character Cup' as a whole class reward for their collective efforts. Well done to Year 3 who have won this cup more frequently than any other class. I have been particularly impressed by the way in which Year 3 have looked after each other, by carrying each other's coats and bags, giving out books and resources to each other and showing genuine care for each other's feelings. In our twice weekly assemblies, now taking place via Zoom, I have been talking to the children about what it means to be a caring citizen and have been impressed at how the children can reflect honestly about how they interact with others.

There are so many examples of citizenship across our school – from fundraising for GOSH and FOSS, to creating artwork that demonstrates empathy - and not forgetting the anti-bullying campaign spearheaded by our newly elected School Council!

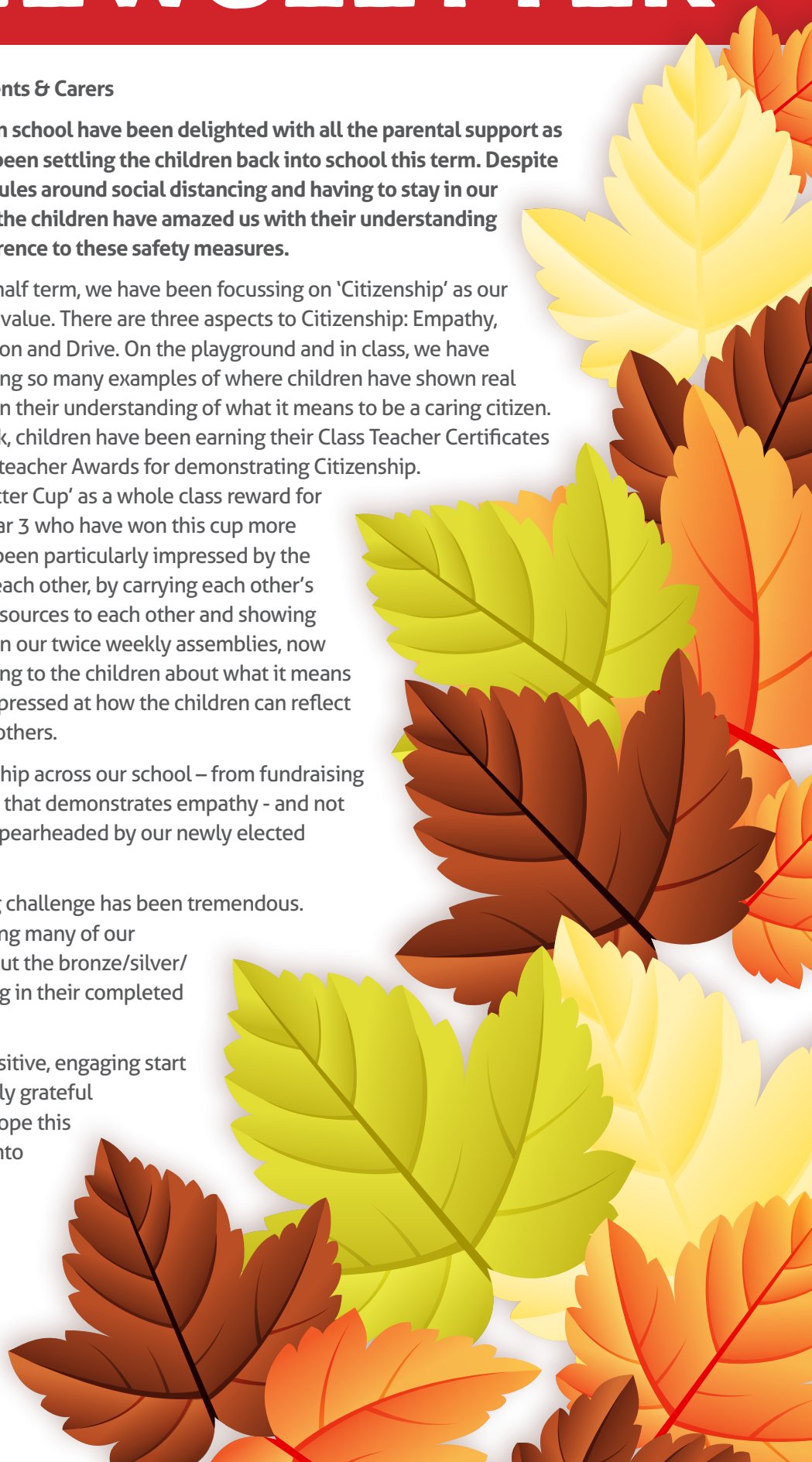
The response to our October Wellbeing challenge has been tremendous. We have created a display board showing many of our children's achievements. We will give out the bronze/silver/gold awards to children when they bring in their completed challenge sheets after half term.

We couldn't have wished for a more positive, engaging start to the school year and we are immensely grateful for the ways you have supported us. I hope this newsletter gives you a further insight into what the children have been getting up to so far!

Best wishes,

Jenny Stewart

Headteacher



Farewell Mrs Brooks

We said congratulations and farewell to Mrs Brooks at the very end of the summer holidays. She has fulfilled her long-term dream of becoming a teacher and we wish her the very best of luck!

Congratulations

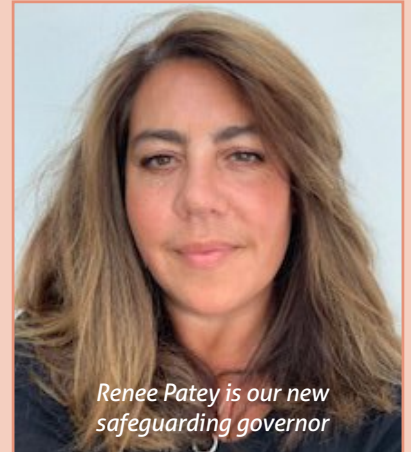
Congratulations go to Mrs Geeves, who had her baby Lottie during the summer holidays. Mum and baby are doing well and we look forward to seeing them soon!



Welcome to our new School Governors



Rev'd Annie Church will join our Ethos & Distinctiveness portfolio



Renee Patey is our new safeguarding governor



Tim Mole is a community partnerships governor



Karl Fonseca will join the Curriculum & Standards portfolio

What an amazing start our new reception children have made to their new and exciting journey at Shaldon school. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them as they have settled into their new environment with its rules and routines.

We have had a busy start thinking about our question, 'What makes Autumn special?'

We have had hours of fun in our farm shop which the children have thoroughly enjoyed with their daily discussions about the produce of the day and what will be going into their shopping baskets to buy with their pennies. We have had the opportunity to use the outdoor area to create silly Autumn soup to help with our phonics and leaf and pine cone pie in our very popular mud kitchen.

We have even had our very own campfire where children have been enjoying drinking hot chocolate and best of all –toasting marshmallows under the night sky.

Our Autumn display shows off some creative art work of autumn leaves on trees and our investigation table is covered with objects that they have found on their autumn scavenger hunts busily trying to identify.

Alongside this, we have continuously been thinking hard about how we can be the best learners that we can be at Shaldon and the expectations that this brings. We have decided that we need to listen well, be inquisitive, be curious and ask questions.

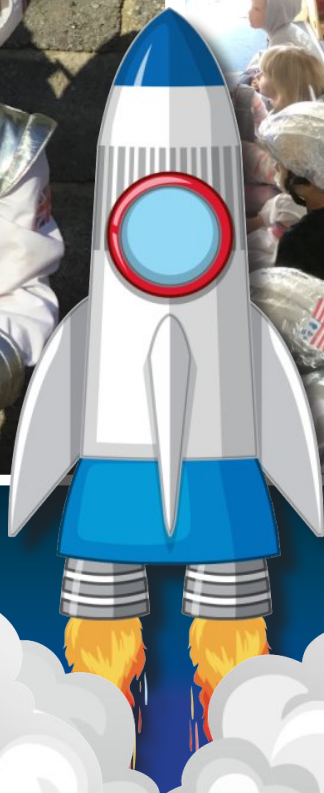
Be great explorers! And that we are certainly proving to be!



Reception

Year
1

Dressing up for Space Day



GOSH, what an effort!

On Friday 16th October, every child, from Reception to Year 6, took part in our charity Race For The Kids 5km fundraiser, for Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH). What an inspired team of runners they were!

Not only did they enter into the run with smiles and enthusiasm, their drive and determination to do their very best really shone through. In class bubbles, the children ran, with their lap cards in tow, around the school field as many times as they could in their 45-minute slot. The aim was to complete 33 laps, the equivalent of running 5km or just over 3 miles.

So many children achieved this, some went further, and some did all they possibly could in the time they had. They all supported each other so well and carried those struggling over the finish line time and time again. All of the children should feel extremely proud of themselves for such a remarkable effort. And in these difficult times, coming together in this way, as a whole-school community, was just fabulous. Thank you for all your support with the run and for your incredibly generous donations – at the time of writing we're almost at £5000! Team Shaldon you really are an awesome team!



Inspirational Art

Years 1 and 2 were incredibly lucky to have a zoom chat with mouth and foot painting artist Tom Yendell. He spoke with the children and answered their questions about what it takes to be a successful artist.

Tom inspired us to try extra hard with our art skills and become artists ourselves. He showed us that, with hard work and dedication, you can achieve anything you set your mind to.

Years 4 5 and 6 took part in an 'impact day' where a PE specialist from the South Dartmoor Sports partnership taught them gymnastics. Everyone was really grateful for their expertise and the extra session definitely helped the children and the teachers in improving their gym skills.



Year
2

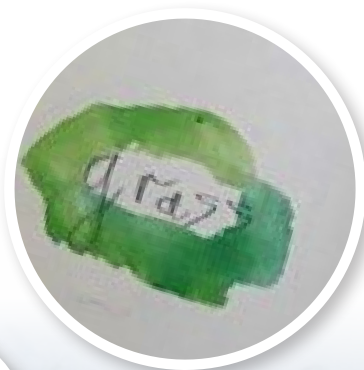


Landscape Painting with

Year 3

Year 3 has been learning lots of new artistic techniques to help them to paint their own landscape watercolour paintings.

From mixing and blending their own colours and tones, to practising drawing shapes and lines, the children have shown tremendous drive and determination to improve. One highlight was our short field trip to the river, where pupils tried to mix the colours that they could see in the beautiful landscape in front of them. This was an exceptional first trip of the year, and the children showed great attention to detail in picking out all of the different tones that they could see. This was great practise for the children to experiment with the colours that they eventually used for their final masterpieces.



A World of Colour

This week we took part on a workshop hosted by Parliament's trained education staff, covering topics across the UK curricula.

The session was broadcast live and we were able to ask questions. The children found out more about our local Member of Parliament (MP), how they represent all of us in the House of Commons and the kind of issues they can help with.

Our Art Enquiry has also been going very well. This week, the children have been learning how to mix and blend colours, as well as some basic watercolour techniques. We have some fantastic examples of gradients depicting sunsets, mountains and oceans. The colours were carefully to convey different emotions. Next week, the children will be planning and painting different drafts of their portraits, evaluating them and reflecting about what they have learnt. We will have a virtual gallery to show all grown-ups the amazing artwork that has been produced!

Year
4



Year 5

Saving the Beaches

Last year, classes 5 and 6 spent time learning about our local area. In the process, we found out about the save Teignmouth beach campaign.

To make the coastal railway line safer, Network Rail has proposed to move the line further out to sea. As a consequence, a large swathe of Teignmouth's beach would be built on. Many children in the school were naturally worried about losing a part of the beach that they had all played on. We were visited by both the 'Save our Beach' campaigners and Network rail representatives

who were able to tell the children both sides of the story. Children were interviewed on BBC Devon radio and were inspired to write letters to Prince Charles (who owns the land), David Attenborough and Network rail to try and stop the proposed works. Yesterday, it has been reported that Network rail will now be changing the plans to avoid losing so much of Teignmouth's beach. Along with the community, it just shows what determined people can achieve!

The image shows the refined plans that are now in place.

After School Sports Clubs



Back to School! Stay Active!

Supporting children with a safe return to school, and getting them back into a routine.

With Premier Education, children will be safe, active and together, with the aim to build confidence, self-esteem & stamina through fun and engaging games & activities in our sessions.

premier-education.com



**Safe.
Active.
Together.**

Every session promotes teamwork, togetherness, problem solving and the importance of being active.

Sessions will be delivered outside so that children can get lots of fresh air which provides vital vitamin D!

We have wet weather contingency plans for any days that the weather won't allow us to be outdoors.



Sessions Information...

Shaldon Primary School After-School Clubs

Tuesdays: Year 4-6 Dodgeball

Wednesdays: Year 1-3 Multi-Skills

Dates: 3rd November-8th December 2020 (6 Sessions)

Time: 15:30-16:30

Price: £24.00 per course

How to Book...

Go to www.premier-education.com/parents and search for your child's school using our handy school activities finder.

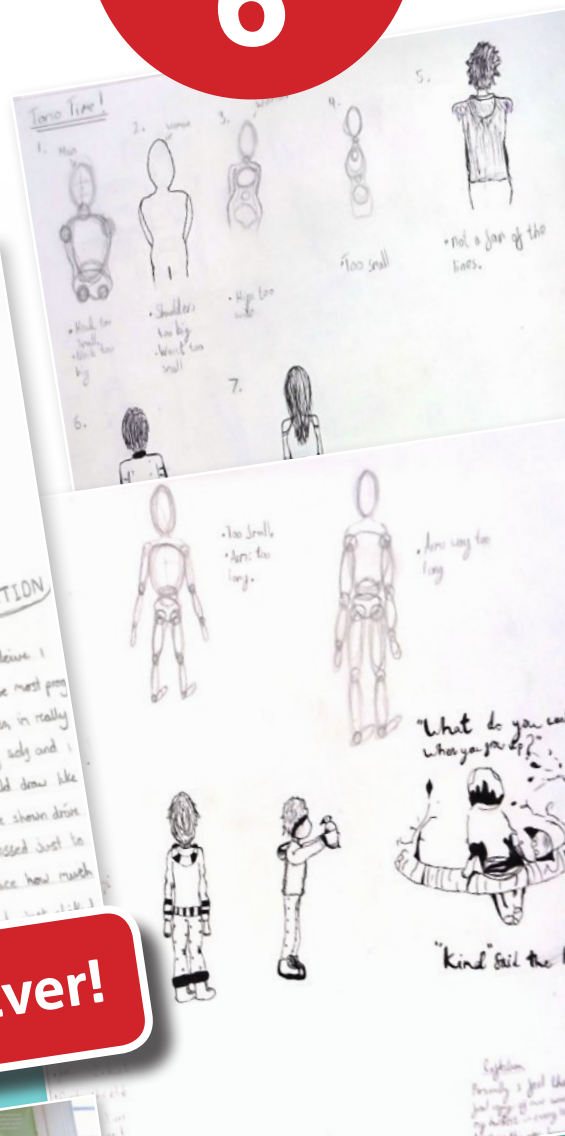
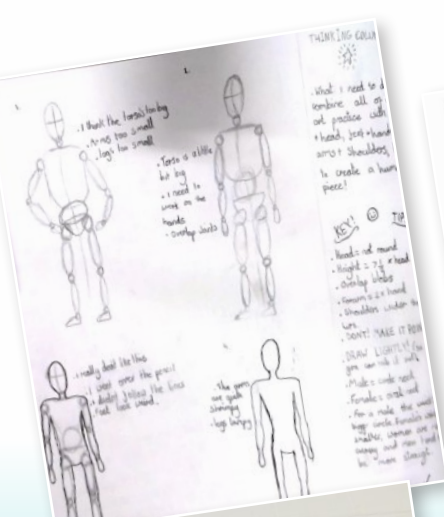


Drawing & Moving

Year
6

Over the course of the last 2 weeks, Year 6 have been learning how to accurately draw the human figure using artistic mannequins.

In class, we are continuing to use The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse to inspire our incredible learning. At the start of the term, children used the book as a hook for creating their own narrative pieces and we are now using Charlie Mackesy's art as a model to create our own pieces. The progress that has been made by the children in such a short time is incredible and we are looking forward to being able to bring all of our final pieces together into a virtual gallery at the end of term.



Best Gym Lesson Ever!



DIARY DATES

Friday 23rd October

Last day of term

Monday 2nd November

Return to school

Monday 9th November

Flu vaccinations

Tuesday 10th November

Virtual Parents Evening via zoom Yrs R-5
Full details about booking places will be sent out at the beginning of next term

Wednesday 11th November

Virtual Parents Evening via zoom Yrs R-5
Full details about booking places will be sent out at the beginning of next term

Monday 16th November

FOSS Sponsored Walk To Lapland – details to follow next term

Thursday 10th December

Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 14th December

FOSS Bag2School Collection

Thursday 17th December

Christmas Lunch

Friday 18th December

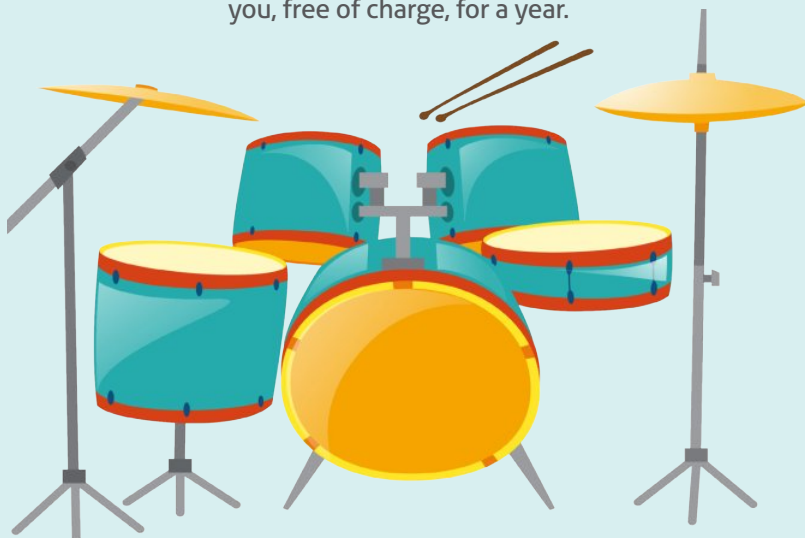
Last day of term

Monday 4th January

Return to school

Drum kit for hire (free of charge)

A drum kit has been donated to our school and it would be great to lend it out to one of our pupils, who have drum lessons and do not have their own drum kit. If you are interested in borrowing it from us, please contact the school office. We would be happy to hire it out to you, free of charge, for a year.



Click Here to



Follow us
on Twitter

We have a new Social Media team, comprising a group of tech-savvy super keen Year 6 children, who regularly upload photos and content under the watchful eye of Mr Claridge.

Many thanks go to Charlie, Tilly, Felix and Grace for their brilliant work and dedication!