



Our Vision

To provide all members of the school community with the opportunities to engage with 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10) by igniting imagination and curiosity which builds an enduring passion for



December 2022 Newsletter



What a marvellous day to end a marvellous term!

Cooking delicious food for our afternoon tea-party, sharing games and a visit from Father Christmas: an exciting day - a super climax to our events this week that have been such a joyous build up to the celebration of Christmas.

Robins Nativity

Robins gave us a wonderful Nativity this week, reminding us of Jesus' birth and the Christmas Story. They worked so hard to learn all the words and actions. They were brave, confident and smiling giving us a such a happy and celebratory performance.

Generosity and Thinking of Others

Over the term, we have together, raised awareness and much needed funds for many important causes. Thank you for your amazing support with this.

Macmillan Coffee Event - £225.00 (plus £55.00 Gift Aid)

Race for Life: In school - £80.00

The Poppy Appeal: £96.55 (The district total was £880.26)

Children in Need: £76.50

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Visits and Events This Term

Swallows and Kingfishers were wonderful hosts when Christine Spray visited us to talk about her experience of becoming disabled after a riding accident; life as a wheelchair user; and her perspective of how society treats disabled people as she has experienced it. The older children wrote thank you letters to Christine. She messaged back to say how appreciative she was for the letters and impressed with their sincerity.

Christmas Unwrapped

The children in Swallows represented the school brilliantly when they visited the Methodist Church in Spalding on the 1 December. It was a fun afternoon of drama, song and games celebrating the Christmas Story. The children really enjoyed the afternoon and came back clutching delicious biscuits they'd decorated while there.

Aylmerton

I was very sad that I couldn't join the children at Aylmerton, but I thoroughly enjoyed looking at all of the photos. I know, in the words of ABBA, they were all super-troopers and had a brilliant time despite the wet and the cold! The children have said, "It inspired us to focus on nature, the learning outside was great," "It showed us the beauty of nature," "We loved the bowling and high ropes!" Photos will be uploaded to the website over the holiday.

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Victorian Day in School

Queen Victoria's portrait looked on while two very strict teachers presided over the children for the day in Kingfishers on 8 December. The children rose to the occasion and really got into the spirit of being Victorians for the day.

Thank you for your understanding about the late postponement of the Victorian trip to Stibbington. We still had a brilliant day on site, all dressed up, and a new date for the trip has been booked: Monday 23 January. Mrs Belton has sent out permission slips, please have these back in school by Friday 6 January. Thank you.

PTFA update

What an amazing amount raised by the PTFA raffle! A grand total of £1232.03. A big thank you to the PTFA for the organisation of the raffle, the generosity of those who donated prizes and of course, everyone who purchased tickets.

Further updates about the recent successful fundraising and bids can be found at the following link on the school website. Here you will find exciting news about the Little Green Fingers project for the federation.

<https://www.shepeaustowschool.co.uk/ghssptfa>

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Message from Mrs Buddle

What a full term it has been! It was fantastic to spend time with the children at Aylmerton on the residential. They all took part in all the challenges thrown at them in the very wet weather. Robins performed brilliantly in the Nativity this week and I thoroughly enjoyed a day in Kingfishers as a Victorian teacher. Photos will be uploaded to our website from many of these events over the Christmas break.

It is always a pleasure to go through the photos, looking back at what the children have been doing. Thank you all for the ongoing support you give to the school. It just remains for me to say I hope you have a wonderful and peaceful Christmas spent with family and friends.

Dates and Reminders

New dates in the table below have been highlighted in yellow.

4 January	Start of the Spring Term	
26 January	Parent Maths Information Evening	6.30pm
8 February	PTFA Committee Meeting 6pm @ Gedney Hill	
2 March	World Book Day	
6 March	Federation Assessment Week	
10 March	Federation EYFS & KS1 School Disco @ Gedney Hill School Hall	Further information to follow
31 March	School Spring Fayre (children's Enterprise Event)	1.30pm
During May	KS1 SATs	
9 May – 12 May	KS2 SATs	
16 May	Early Learners to start	1.30pm – 2.45pm
5 June – 19 June	Year 4 Multiplication Checks	
12 June	Year 1 Phonics Screening	

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15 June	School Sports Afternoon	
26 June	Federation Assessment Week	

You can also find Term dates and a calendar of events on the website:

Term Dates:

<https://www.shepeaustowschool.co.uk/page/?title=Term+dates&pid=105>

Calendar of Events found in the News and Events tab and under Upcoming Events:

<https://www.shepeaustowschool.co.uk/calendar/?calid=4,5&pid=18&viewid=5>

School emails will not be responded to over the Christmas break. However, any safeguarding concerns or urgent matters should be sent to both myself and Mrs Barmby as safeguarding lead and deputy safeguarding lead for the federation: alison.buddle@shepeaustow.lincs.sch.uk and Julie.barmby@gedney-hill.lincs.sch.uk

Mrs Belton will be in the school office during the Teacher INSET day on Tuesday 3 January should you have any queries, such as questions concerning lunches: enquiries@gedney-hill.lincs.sch.uk

Finally, thank you for your amazing support over this term. We at school all wish you the very best for a happy and safe Christmas break.

See you all again on Wednesday 4 January 2023!

Thank you.
Best Wishes,

Mrs Barmby
Head of School
Gedney Hill C of E Primary School

