



# The Federation of Gedney Hill CoE and Shepeau Stow Primary Schools

March 2020

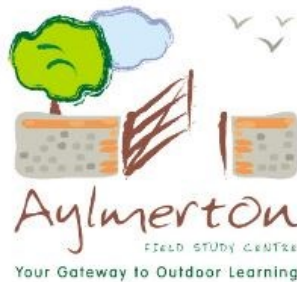
Dear Parents

Welcome back after the half term. We only have five weeks left until we break up for the Easter holidays and what a busy time we have ahead of us.

This week we will all be working on lots of activities linked to our book *Leon and The Place Beyond*. Dressing up day is Thursday, please don't go to lots of expense. Mrs Barmby has organised a surprise for all the children on Thursday at both schools.

## Aylmerton

The residential trip was a huge success. Children and staff had a fantastic time. Many of the children experienced activities new to them and that challenged them, from moonlight walks to clearing tables in the dining hall. I have lots of photos still to go through and they will be uploaded to the school website very soon. I was fortunate enough to have spent most of last week with the children and it was an absolute pleasure to be part of the trip and we are busy planning the next one to give parents more time to pay.



## Reading

Children are very busy writing their book reviews to earn rewards; a big thank you to all parents for supporting us with this. I have had many questions about the reading books children are taking home. The younger pupils in school have one book that is phonically decodable and another that is more challenging to share with an adult. The phonically decodable book will only have words in that the children are able to sound out or recognise from their phonics sessions up to now. The children are in differentiated groups for phonics and therefore your children may have different books to their friends.

Children progress at different speeds and it is important that the books we are sending home match where they are in school. The more advanced readers in school will be free readers and reading books appropriate to them. Mrs Barmby can help with suggested authors for those children who love one type of genre or a particular author but are coming to the end of their books. We really want to encourage and develop the children's love of reading.

This is a link to help with the pure sounds [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5J2Ddf\\_0Om8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5J2Ddf_0Om8). As always we recommend watching through Safetube if you are watching with your children.

## Staffing changes

At Easter we will be saying goodbye to three members of staff across our Federation. Miss Gilbert will be leaving Shepeau Stow. Mr Carr and Mrs Kiock will be leaving Gedney Hill. We are currently in the middle of the recruitment process for replacements and I will update you as soon as appointments have been made. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all three of them for their contribution to our schools during their time with us and wish them every success for the future.

## TT Rockstars

Please continue to encourage your children to use TT Rockstars. Knowing times tables is key to so many maths skills. This is not currently set up for Reception children.



**Our Vision** is to ignite imagination and curiosity which builds an enduring passion for life-long learning

## Gedney Hill Breakfast Club

Parents dropping off at breakfast club should not come back through the school to speak to staff. Please go round and through the front door if it is urgent, this ensures we know who is on site. School staff do not officially start work until 8.30am and are very busy prepping for the day ahead.



Parents should always speak to the **class teacher** in the first instance, but you can leave a message at breakfast club for the class teacher to contact you. If you feel your issue has not been dealt with by the class teacher please contact me directly.

### Reminders

Children need PE kit in school every day, not just on timetabled PE days.

## Statutory Assessments

Below I have listed the key dates for statutory testing and which year groups this applies to. Year 2 pupils will take the tests over the whole of May; we can choose which day to administer the tests. Phonics screening happens in June for our Year 1 pupils and any Year 2s who did not achieve the working at score last year. Our Year 6 pupils have specific dates for their testing. These are also listed below. This year is the first year for the Year 4 multiplication check. This is taken online. All the results from these statutory assessments will be provided with your child's end of year report.

There will be an information evening for parents on **18th March** for all Year 6 parents.

As always I thank you for your continued support this year and look forward to a busy few weeks ahead!

## Key dates

5 March	Dressing up day for World Book Day
11 March	Holi Festival workshop day at Gedney Hill School
12 March	Holi Festival workshop day at Shepeau Stow School
12 March	Parent consultations, Shepeau Stow School
18 March	SATS information evening for Y6 parents, Shepeau Stow School 5.30pm
19 March	Parent consultations, Gedney Hill School
20 March	Dress down day for PTFA
20 March	Film night at Shepeau Stow School
25 March	PTFA Easter Bingo
26 March	'Easter Cracked' for Swallows & Eagles
27 March	Film night at Gedney Hill School
2 April	Easter bonnet/hat competition in school
2 April	Last day of term 4
20 April	First day of term 5
29 & 30 April	Book Fayre hosted by Shepeau Stow School

## Statutory assessment dates

**Key Stage 2** is for Y6 pupils only

Date	Activity
Monday 11 May 2020	English grammar, punctuation and spelling, papers 1 & 2
Tuesday 12 May 2020	English reading
Wednesday 13 May 2020	Mathematics papers 1 & 2
Thursday 14 May 2020	Mathematics paper 3

**Phonics Screening check** is for Year 1 pupils and Year 2 pupils who were not assessed as working at in Year 1 last year. The Key Stage 1 test period is for all Year 2 pupils.

Date	Activity
May 2020	Key Stage1 test period
Week commencing Monday 8 June 2020	Phonics screening check week

The **multiplication check** is for pupils in Year 4.

### **Multiplication tables check**

*Schools should administer the multiplication tables check within the 3 week period from Monday 8 June 2020. Schools are strongly encouraged to administer the check within the first 2 weeks, leaving sufficient time on the final week for pupils who were absent or in case of delays due to unforeseen issues such as technical difficulties.*

Should you have any questions about any of the above please speak to the class teacher in the first instance. They will direct you to either myself or Mrs Barmby if they are unable to answer your questions.

Yours sincerely



Alison Buddle  
Executive Headteacher