



The Sherwood Newsletter

Resilience Equality Self-confidence Positivity Empathy Co-operation Tolerance

Friday 5th December 2025

Article 13: You have the right to find out things and say what you think, through making art, speaking and writing, unless it breaks the rights of others.

Article 14: You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs.



- Resilience
- Equality
- Self-confidence
- Positivity
- Empathy
- Co-operation
- Tolerance

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have some exciting news to share!

The Sherwood School in Mitcham receives prestigious UNICEF UK Gold Award for the third time!

The Sherwood School in Mitcham is to be awarded Gold by [UNICEF UK's Rights Respecting School](#) programme once again!

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Gold is the highest accolade given by UNICEF UK and shows a deep and thorough commitment to children's rights at all levels of school life. There are over 600 schools across England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales that have received Gold.



The school has been working with UNICEF UK since April 2014. We received our Silver certificate on 21st June 2017. We were awarded the Gold certificate for the first time in July 2019, then again in June 2022 and now, for the third time in October 2025.

We are incredibly proud of this achievement. The rights of the child are thoroughly embedded within our school ethos, which supports children to achieve their full potential within a supportive and inclusive community. Children's rights sit firmly at the heart of our school and I would like to thank all our staff for their commitment and our pupils and families for their dedication and support.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined me last week for our first Headteacher Forum. It was great to see you there and I hope you found it useful. Children's regular attendance at school directly correlates with their attainment and academic achievement and also reflects on our school's reputation and standing.



Do look out for the next Forum in the spring term, which will be about our keeping safe online.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Samouel



Mrs A Samouel
Headteacher



Miss K Matharu
Assistant Head

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Friday 21st November 2025

Autumn Term Calendar Dates

Event	Date	Time
Focus Week: 'The Fish Who Could Wish'	3-5 September	All day
Meet the Teacher Years 1-3	Monday 15 th September	9.00 – 9.30 a.m.
Meet the Teacher Years 4-6	Tuesday 16 th September	9.00 – 9.30 a.m.
Year 6 PGL Meeting for Parents / Carers	Tuesday 16 th September	3.30 – 4.00p.m.
Genes for Jeans MUFTI Day	19 th September	All day
Growing Against Violence Workshops for Year 5 & 6 – So Social Media & Friend vs Friendly	19 th September	All Day
Year 6 Transition to High School Meetings	Thursday 18 th September	9a.m. & 5.00p.m.
Coffee Morning for Parents & Carers	Thursday 25 th September	9.00a.m. Main Hall
Focus Week: Harvest Festival	22-26 September	All week
European Day of Languages	Friday 26 th September	All day
Focus: Black History Month	1st – 31st October	All October
Focus Week: Art & Black History	6 - 10 October	All week
4 Birch Swimming	6 – 17 October	2 Weeks
Year 2 (a.m.) and Year 5 (p.m.) Author Visit - New Wimbledon Theatre	7th October	a.m. and p.m.
Phonics & Early Reading Parent/Carer Workshop (EYFS & KS1)	Wednesday 8 th October	3.30p.m. Main Hall
Year 6 Author Visit New Wimbledon Theatre	Friday 10th October	p.m.
Focus Week: Democracy & The Rule of Law	13 - 17 October	All week
Year 6 Bikeability Training	13-17 October	All week
Year 5 & 6 Football Competition	17th October	All day
Half Term: 27 - 31 October		
Focus Week: Kindness & Anti-bullying 'Choose Respect'	10-13 November	All week
4 Maple Swimming	3 – 14 November	2 Weeks
Year 6 PGL Residential	5 – 7 November	3 Days
'Children in Need' MUFTI Day	Friday 14 th November	All day
EYFS Christmas Performance	Tuesday 2nd December	9.30a.m.
Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2) Christmas Show	Tuesday 9th December	9.15a.m.
LKS2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Singalong Christmas Lunch Day	Wednesday 10th December	9.30a.m.
UKS2 (Year 5 & 6) Carol Concert	Friday 12th December	2.15p.m.
Open Afternoon	Monday 15 th December	3.20 - 4.00p.m.
End of Term	Friday 19 th December	2.15p.m.



Star of the Week!

Friday 5th December 2025

Week Beginning 24th November 2025

1 Rose	Aleeza	She has been chosen for being such a hardworking member of Year One. She is always ready to learn and comes into the classroom with a positive attitude. Well done!
2 Sunflower	Halleluyah	She is always first to start her work and puts in lots of effort to do her best. This week she has used lots of emotive language in English. She has settled into school nicely!
3 Fir	Chidera	She always does the right thing, even when no one is watching. She looks out for her friends, shows kindness every day & makes sure everyone feels included. Well done!
3 Willow	Sarah	She could be the star of the week every week because she is always kind and polite to others and always tries her best. She asks questions and shares her ideas confidently.
4 Birch	Adrian	He wrote a great recount on his river dipping trip to Beddington Park. I can really tell he enjoyed himself. This week he also worked hard on his adventure story. Well done!
4 Maple	Mojisola	For always, consistently, persistently, routinely, without fail, putting in 100 per cent into her work. She has, since September, been producing some wonderful pieces of work.
5 Beech	Lyla	She is an amazing, hardworking and kind-hearted member of our class. She shows growing confidence & has been making fantastic progress, especially in maths.
5 Elm	Lacey-May	She has worked hard in all subjects. She always tries her best and listens to ways she can improve her work. She is a role model for good behaviour & a kind friend.
6 Chestnut	Alicia	For her fantastic attitude towards learning. She always tries really hard in every subject and never gives up, no matter how challenging the task may be. Keep up the effort!
6 Oak	Serafin	It is a pleasure to teach Serafin as he is always striving to improve. In maths, he has gone from strength to strength & nearly scored full marks in our latest arithmetic paper!

Week Beginning 1st December 2025

1 Rose	Eshaan	He has been chosen for working extremely hard & making the right choices consistently. He has come in every day ready to learn, has helped others challenged himself.
2 Sunflower	Darren	He is a great class ambassador, follows The Class Charter and is always ready, by showing good sitting, thinking and listening. He lines up quietly and quickly every day.
3 Fir	Ali	He is always thoughtful, listens carefully & treats everyone with fairness. He goes out of his way to help his classmates & makes our classroom a happier, welcoming place.
3 Willow	Ayoub	He puts in a great effort to learn his spellings & gets them all right every single week. He enjoys learning & loves learning new facts, which he shares confidently. Well done!
4 Birch	Alanya-Li	Because of her brilliant attitude during assessment week. I was particularly impressed with her reading Testbase score. She is also kind & respectful to others. Well done!
4 Maple	Ionatan	He has embraced the Christmas spirit during rehearsals for our Christmas singalong, especially with his actions to the '12 Days of Christmas'. What a great positive attitude!
5 Beech	Ethan	During our Sports Leadership training, Ethan was exceptional, supporting others, explaining activities clearly & demonstrating all the key qualities of a great sports leader.
5 Elm	Saqib	For his improved attitude, effort and focus in class. Recently, he has been trying his best to work more independently to complete tasks, listening carefully to instructions.
6 Chestnut	Sahana	For her hard-working approach, tackling every task with care, focus and an impressive eye for detail, ensuring that every piece of work she does is of a high standard.
6 Oak	Philip	He has been a positive role model in class: he has focused on his tasks, completed work and followed instructions. He is making a great effort & making excellent progress



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Year 4 Trip- Beddington Park

On ,Friday 21st November and Friday 28th 2025, year 4 went on a trip to Beddington park to identify the physical and human features of rivers. We were also very fortunate to enjoy some river dipping. Children then wrote a recount.



Thursday 21st November 2024
WALT: Identify physical and human features of rivers
(River dipping Trip- Beddington Park)

Today we all got dressed and went to Beddington Park. We took the 46 bus from Ashby Road to Washington County Grammar School. I had a teacher called Miss Jones and there were only 10 of us in the year. The river we went to is a chalk river. The river is called the River Trent. As you can see she showed us what a river always has, the physical features and human features.

After that we went on a scavenger hunt, we got a sheet and in partners we were going to make a tally chart and to see what features we saw. My partner was Abdullah. It was soooooo fun! Jim was a very kind teacher.

As you can see we use on a scavenger hunt on the picture we were writing the tally chart down that were what of our scavenger hunt.

You can see what about all river trip!

Time we all had... This is one of the reasons that we used to work in the river... we got a sheet, got our net and were getting in... we got a lot of things... we found an... we put in a pot, then I'll send our then sort it out at the top you can see.

One of the groups caught a fish that means that there is a bridge... it was very cold today. We used our heads. And then if we got a very good teacher and thanks to her I will write this trip on 10.

near water ending

Foot bridge tree

Headle

Woods

Grass

Water

After house

river bank



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Year 3 & 4 Science club

This term children in Lower Key stage two took part in Science club after school. They were able to use their predictions skills and then write up their investigations after completing an experiment. Look at the pictures below to see their fascinating scientific experiments:



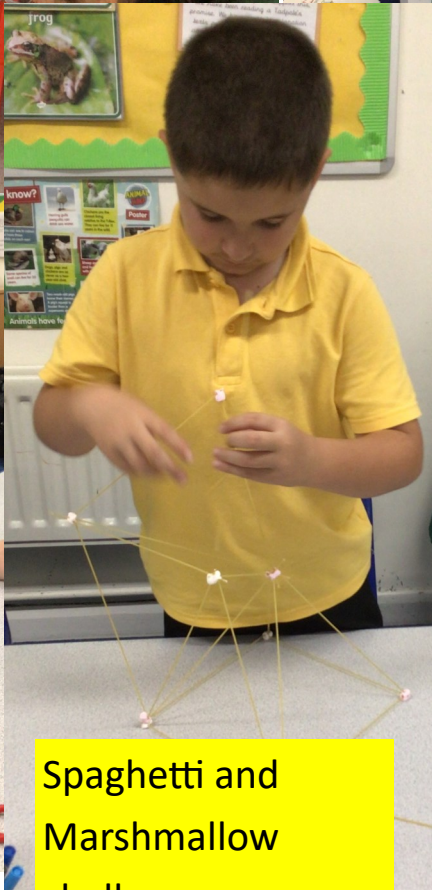
Flowers Blooming



Static Electricity



Lava Lamps



Spaghetti and Marshmallow challenge



Walking Rainbows



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KS1 Farm trip:

This term children in KS1 had some lovely visitors from Dean City farm spend the afternoon with them! They met a hedgehog, tortoise, rabbits ferrets and guinea pigs. They got to stroke all of the animals, figure out their classification and asked lots of questions about their life at the farm! They had so much fun and couldn't wait to learn more about animals in their science lessons!





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This term, Year 4 and 5 Art Club have been busy creating some amazing art work! Below are some examples. We have been inspired by famous artists to create our own versions of portraits and landscapes. We have also been looking at the work of Andy Warhol and Paul Klee to make pop art and shape pictures. We have used a range of media including water colours and crayon, experimenting with colour and texture. Well done Year 4 and 5!





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Year 6 enjoyed a local walk around the surrounding area, giving them the chance to observe key physical and human features.



Along the way, pupils identified different types of land use and noted how these have changed over time.



They were also able to plot different points of interest on a map, helping them strengthen their mapping and geographical skills while deepening their understanding of their own





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For our homework project in Year 3, we researched volcanoes. We drew famous volcanoes and made our own 3D model volcanoes.

Immanuel



Rakshan



Max



Zoya





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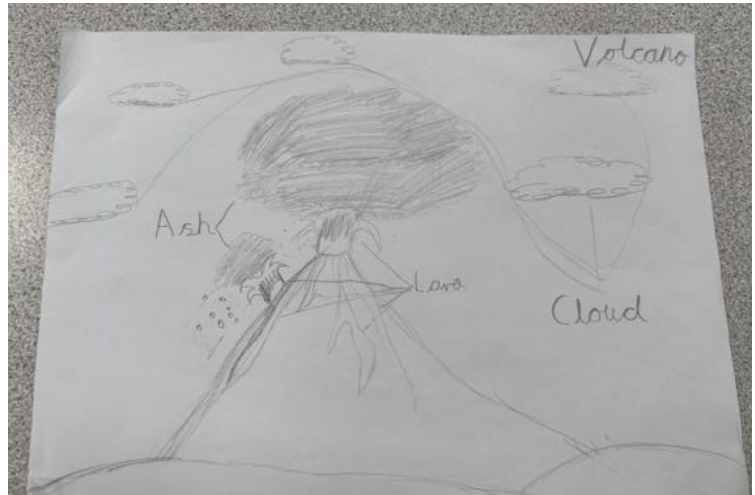
Friday 5th December 2025

For our homework project in Year 3, we researched volcanoes. We drew famous volcanoes and made our own 3D model volcanoes.

Sarah



Jon-Michael



Eisa



Ayoub



Ariel



The Stripy Fish and The Octopus

By Catalina Loureiro

One day, swimming in the deep blue sea, there was a stripy fish named Olivia. She was on her way to meet her best friends at the park – a turtle named Henry, a jellyfish named Lila, and a seahorse named Andre.

They were already playing on the slide as she arrived.

“Shall we play on the swings?” Olivia asked.

“Sure, that sounds fun,” said Andre.

The four friends were laughing and joking when suddenly, a dark shadow appeared above them.

“Hey, who turned off the sun?” shouted Henry.

As the shadow grew closer, they noticed two enormous, creepy eyes. And for some reason, this shadow also had eight purple, slimy tentacles.

“Oh no! It’s Victor, the Coral Shore troublemaker!” exclaimed Lila.

“Quick! Everyone, swim away!” shouted Andre.

The group of friends swam as fast as they could, but with Olivia being the smallest, she fell behind. She was too slow for a gruesome monster like Victor.

He cornered her in an anemone and swooped her up in one of his tentacles in a flash.

“Hey! You put me down, you big bully!” screamed Olivia.

“You’re coming with me now, little fishy,” roared Victor.

Lila, Henry, and Andre turned back and noticed their friend was missing.

“Wait, where’s Olivia?” asked Henry.

“We need to go back and find her. Immediately!” exclaimed Andre.

“Victor must have taken Olivia back to his shipwrecked lair,” said Lila.

The three besties were now on a mission to rescue their little stripy pal and stand up to the cruel octopus, Victor, once and for all.

The Stripy Fish and The Octopus

By Catalina Loureiro

Meanwhile, deep inside the shipwrecked lair, Olivia was locked up in a dark cage. She was pleading with Victor to let her go.

“You and everyone in Coral Shore need to learn who’s the boss around here!” shouted Victor.

Olivia noticed her three friends slowly creeping up behind the gigantic octopus. Quick as anything, Lila rushed over and, in one zap, stung Victor. This made him drop the keys to the cage.

Andre grabbed the keys off the seabed and released Olivia. While Victor was still in shock, the four friends worked as a team to push Victor into his own prison cell and lock him inside.

“You fools! You will pay for this!” bellowed Victor.

“Now you listen to us, Victor,” said Olivia firmly. “We’re in charge now. We’ll never let you out of this cage until you learn to be kind, then we can all live in peace.”

Victor’s voice softened. “I just wanted everyone to listen to me.”

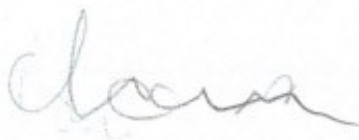
Olivia swam closer. “Being kind works better than being the boss,” she said gently.

The best friends decided to unlock the cage and let him out, hoping he would change.

Victor slowly sulked out of the cage and said, “Maybe I’ll try being nice... maybe.”

Coral Shore twinkled again, peaceful and bright, as the four friends swam home.

The End.



BBC
500
WORDS
2025

Catalina Loureiro

Official storywriter

CONGRATULATIONS!

You're part of something special



EVERY word is used for research
into children's language!



Christmas Lunch Menu



Festive Roast Turkey

Chicken Chipolata , Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy

~

Christmas Tagine with a Puff Pastry Crust

Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy

~

Jacket Potatoes served with Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayonnaise

~

Roast Potatoes

Peas

Carrots

Cranberry Bread

Desserts

Chocolate, Orange & Cranberry Brownie served with Ice Cream





WORRIED ABOUT THEM?

Our trained advisers can offer tailored support if you're worried about a change in your child's behaviour or emotions.

Contact YoungMinds Parents Helpline on
0808 802 5544.

🌟 This free and confidential service is open to all parents and carers.

YOUNGMINDS
Fighting for young people's mental health

@YoungMindsUK

youngminds.org.uk

Scan QR code
to find out how.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What age range do you offer advice for?

We provide free, confidential advice to all parents and carers of young people aged 0-25.

What kind of issues do you support with?

Our advisers are equipped to support you with anything that your child is going through. Including school avoidance, behavioural challenges, worry, ADHD, low mood and much more.

Is there a long wait time on the calls?

We aim to answer our calls as quickly as possible. But if there is a queue you can select the option for a call back within two working days or chat with us online.

What can you support me with?

Our service provides free, practical advice on how you can support your child's mental health. No matter what your child is going through, we are here to guide you when they need you the most.

How can I access the helpline?

You can call our Parents Helpline for free on 0808 802 5544, speak to us online by scanning the QR code on the back of this leaflet or learn more by visiting: www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline

What happens when I contact you?

However you contact us, you will receive specific guidance from one of our expert advisers that will help you to understand your child's behaviour and give you practical advice on what to do next. All conversations are confidential.

Please note that we cannot advise on medication, counselling / therapy treatments or diagnose mental health conditions.



IS YOUR CHILD GOING THROUGH A TOUGH TIME?

Call our Parents Helpline on
0808 802 5544

or visit youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline

Free language translation and interpretation services are available.

YOUNGMINDS



15,000+ parents and carers supported last year

89% of helpline users felt more confident after a call

"The person I spoke to was so helpful. She listened and signposted me to a wealth of other resources at a time when I was so distressed I had no idea which way to turn. For the first time, I felt as though there was someone out there for me – who could help me through all this." – Helpline caller

No matter what your child is going through, we're with you.

Learn more



HEDGEHOG DISCOVERY AFTERNOON

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FOR AN ENGAGING MIX OF:

ARTS &
CRAFTS

SHOWINGS OF THE
AWARD-WINNING FILM
'THE LITTLEST HOGLET'

INTERACTIVE
LEARNING



JOIN US ON
SUNDAY 26TH
OCTOBER

BETWEEN
1.30PM TO
4.30PM



AT
SHERWOOD
PARK HALL,
CR4 1JP



Mitcham
Hedgehog
Project



Find us on social media



mitchamhedgehogproject@gmail.com

This event is funded by our SpaceHive Crowdfund campaign
www.spacehive.com/help-the-hedgehogs-in-mitcham

Helping Children Feel Confident, Calm & Happy

Support For Parents/Carers

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Friendly, practical **1:1 advice and support** for parents
- **6-8 week parent sessions** with proven strategies
- **Free online webinars** on children's wellbeing
- Resources and **recorded workshops** to use anytime

- **Calmer routines** and **fewer conflicts** at home
- Children feel **more confident** in new or social situations
- Children **learn to cope with worries** and **build resilience**
- **Parents feel supported**, reassured, and not alone

HOW IT HELPS:

WHAT PARENTS SAY:

*"The **support was fantastic** - I **felt listened** to and encouraged."*

*"We now **have calmer routines** at home and my **child is happier** at school."*

*"I'd **recommend this service** to any parent."*

Scan the QR code to find out more and sign up
speak to your child's school for more information

We also have an Eventbrite page where parents and carers can **book upcoming workshops and webinars** and a youtube channel with recorded resources, available through the QR code



SCAN ME

For more information, please go to:
<https://swlstg.nhs.uk/education-wellbeing-service>,
or email the team at EWSinfo@swlstg.nhs.uk



The Sherwood School Term and Holiday Dates 2025-26

AUTUMN TERM Monday 1st September - Friday 19th December

INSET Days Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Children Begin Wednesday 3rd September

Half Term Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October

Term Ends Friday 19th December

SPRING TERM Monday 5th January – Friday 27th March

INSET Day Monday 5th January

Children Begin Tuesday 6th January

Half Term Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Term ends Friday 27th March

SUMMER TERM Monday 13th April – Monday 20th July

(May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 4th May)

INSET Days Monday 13th April

Monday 20th July

Children Begin Tuesday 14th April

Half term Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

(Spring Bank Holiday on Monday 25th May)

Term Ends Friday 17th July

INSET Days 2025-26

1 - Monday 1st September 2025

2 - Tuesday 2nd September 2025

3 - Monday 5th January 2026

4 - Monday 13th April 2026

5 - Monday 20th July 2026



The Sherwood School



Breakfast Club

7.30am drop off, breakfast served before 8am

£8 per session
(£6.66 with tax-free childcare)

After school Club

3.45pm—4.30pm pick up

HALF session

£6 per session

(£4 with tax-free childcare)

4.30pm- 5.30pm pick up

FULL session including food

£12 per session

(£10 with tax-free childcare)

For more information and to book please contact us on

Finance@sherwood.merton.sch.uk

Or visit our website

www.thesherwoodschool.co.uk/breakfast-and-afterschool-clubs