

The Federation of Gedney Hill CoE and Shepeau Stow Primary Schools



Gedney Hill & Shepeau Stow Primary School

Our vision is to foster a community of lifelong learners who are confident, resilient, and equipped with the necessary skills to thrive in an ever-changing world. We believe in the importance of inclusivity, respect, and mutual understanding, ensuring that our whole community feel a sense of belonging.

Respect—Responsibility—Service—Wisdom—Perseverance

Wednesday 22nd July Catch-up

Dear Parents and Carers

As the academic year comes to an end I want to express my thanks to all of our school community for your support over the year and during the final term. It has been particularly busy!

School Fete

A big thank you to our school PTFA who organised a really successful afternoon where fun was had by all.

School Productions

The children all enjoyed coming together to perform this popular event. The children were magnificent.

Year 6 children

Year 6 had fun at Play2Day and made lots of magical memories. They will also say goodbye to Gedney Hill School during a special assembly today.

A year 6 picnic last week meant they spent some quality time together to help them reflect on their primary school experience and talk about the exciting times to come.

Sports Day

Thank you for supporting our sports day. The children had a great time and most parents enjoyed their racing too!

I look forward to welcoming you all back to school in September and wish each and everyone of you a safe and enjoyable summer holiday.

Term dates next year and beyond.

These are all on our website and the local authority website. Term time holidays will not be authorised. It should be noted that these are now on an increasing scale. Requests for authorised absences must be made in advance. Please see the link to the school attendance policy for both schools on the federation tab. [Attendance Policy \(shepeaustow-school.co.uk\)](https://shepeaustow-school.co.uk/attendance-policy) If your child is absent, please contact the school office or email the enquiries email address. If we don't hear from you we will do safe and well checks. These checks take up lots of time and take staff away from what they should be doing in school with the pupils.

Dear Parents & Carers

Mrs Norbury, Mrs Pickering, other colleagues from Market Deeping Community Primary School, and I have been working with the pupils and staff at Gedney Hill and Shepeau Stow over the past month.

I am sorry that our communication has not been as frequent as we would have liked. It has been a busy time, and much of the work we have been undertaking has involved individual pupils and colleagues, so has needed to remain confidential.

It has been a pleasure to meet your children and work alongside the staff at both schools. They have been incredibly welcoming, and we are grateful for their support during the short time we have been involved. Although we do not have the capacity to continue in an official leadership role, we are keen to maintain our links with the schools during the coming term.

We have worked closely with the Local Authority to begin putting key changes in place and continue the journey of school improvement. We wish Mrs Buddle and the whole team every success in the months ahead. We have shared our curriculum with the schools, including long-term, medium-term and lesson plans, and we are happy to continue supporting teachers with these resources as they move forward. The Local Authority are closely involved in key decisions that affect the development of the schools and this will continue in the new school year.

There will be further developments, particularly around behaviour, routines and expectations, which will remain priorities for the schools' future leadership. I am sorry that we have not been able to share more details about the work that has taken place, but much of our role has been focused on creating a secure foundation for future development. We hope that the work completed over the past month will provide a strong starting point for the next stage of the schools' journeys.

Thank you for making us feel so welcome, and thank you to the staff at both schools for the care, dedication and hard work they show every day in supporting the children. We look forward to hearing how the schools continue to progress and wish you all the very best for the future.

Yours sincerely

Mark Ratchford

Headteacher

Market Deeping Community Primary School

Friday 4 th September 2026	Start Term 1
Friday 23 October 2026	End Term 1
Monday 2 November 2026	Start Term 2
Tuesday 10 th November 2026	Individual & sibling photographs
Friday 18 December 2026	End Term 2

Yours sincerely

Jenny Beale
Head of School
Shepeau Stow Primary School