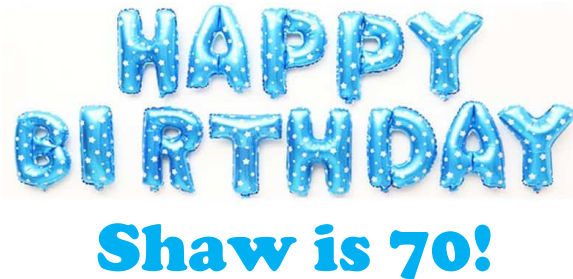


30th April 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

This year marks the 70th birthday of our school and we are planning a number of activities and events to celebrate the occasion.

Shaw started its life as two separate schools in 1954; Shaw County Infant School and Shaw County Junior School. Since then, the two schools have joined together to become a primary school, and in 2012 we became a stand-alone academy.

We have set aside the week beginning 24th June 2024 for our celebrations and they will include a dress up day, a whole school picnic, learning about the fifties and the decades since and many other things; specific details will follow in due course.

Shaw shares its birthday with many other significant events, including:

- Diane Leather becoming the first woman to break the 5-minute mile
- The first British soap, 'The Grove Family', was televised on the BBC
- The first eclipse to be seen in Britain since 1927
- Roy of the Rovers comic strip first appeared on the cover of Tiger comic
- Hancock's Half Hour was aired on the radio for the first time
- JRR Tolkien's The Fellowship of the Ring and The Two Towers were published
- Rationing in place since the second world war ended

I am sure that none of you are old enough to remember any of these events but that does go to show just how long Shaw has been supporting the education of children in South Ockendon.

As said previously, details will follow, but we just wanted to give you a little advanced warning of our celebration week and some time to think about how you might want your children to dress up in 1950's outfits during that week; I know that the staff are really looking forward to it and we are sure that everyone will have a great time celebrating, and learning about the times since our school was built.

Thank you in advance for supporting these activities, we will be in touch again soon.

Regards
Ms Kimpton
Headteacher