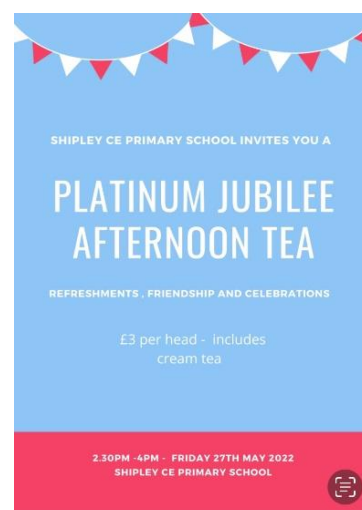# Platinum Jubilee events in Shipley 2022

Jubilee Tea Party at Shipley School 27th May 2022

On a beautiful sunny afternoon we sat at tables in the grounds of Shipley School to celebrate the 70 year reign of Queen Elizabeth II. We'd been invited to join a Platinum Jubilee Afternoon tea.

The children, wearing their paper crowns, served us with a cream tea and then assembled to sing the National Anthem. Many past pupils were present, recalling no doubt, their own time at the school. We enjoyed watching the children running around so enthusiastically, ensuring that we had all received our scones, cakes and tea while learning about hospitality.

Friends of Shipley School had provided a delicious selection of scones with cream and jam, cakes and even sausage rolls. The school field was decorated with colourful bunting, giving the event a real party atmosphere. Staff and pupils had evidently worked hard to ensure the success of the afternoon.

Mrs Jen Harvey, Head Teacher, gave us a tour of the school pointing out the original uneven flagstones lining the corridor of this Victorian building. Along this corridor are photographs of children from the 1890s and 1900s with their teachers, Mr Bacon, Miss Penn and Miss Folly. She showed us the washroom facilities, now indoors but until 1952, outside. We walked through to what was once School House where the head teacher lived, now used as offices, leaving us to wonder how 100 years ago when there were only three classrooms, how they managed with such limited space, especially after 1939 when up to a hundred children arrived as evacuees from London. Bob Phillips, one of those children, was educated at this school and has never left Shipley, apart from completing his National Service. Here he is, on the left of the photograph above with his wife Jose beside him.

Today new classrooms and facilities have been added to this delightfully friendly and community focussed school, making it a much sought after school in the district.

Jean Wright, Shipley History Society. June 2022