



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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6th June 2025

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do."

Dear Parents/Carers,

There has been a lot happening in school as ever this week and the 'Shobnall Showcase' at the end of the newsletter will highlight just how busy the children, and staff, have been! We hope that you enjoy reading this.

The weather forecast is looking good for Monday, so we are anticipating that Sports Day will be going ahead as planned. Please note these few reminders as mentioned in the letter you received earlier this week:

- **EYFS / KS1 Sports Day:** 9:30am – 11:00am
- **KS2 Sports Day:** 1:30pm – 3:00pm
- The PFA are running a barbeque at both events, so please bring some cash if you would like to purchase any drinks or snacks.
- Unfortunately, we are unable to provide a high number of chairs, so you are more than welcome to bring your own to sit on.
- Please could ALL children come appropriately dressed in their **correct** PE kit on the day. Please see <https://shobnallprimaryschool.co.uk/school-uniform/> if you need further guidance.
- Please could ALL children ensure they have their water bottles in school with them on the day. If the weather is especially warm, sunhats are an essential as is coming to school with sun cream on. If the weather is cooler, please could you ensure they have a light jacket/top with them.
- After the KS2 Sports Day has finished, if you have children in any of the EYFS/KS1 classes, you are more than welcome to collect them early via the school office. We look forward to seeing you there!



This week has also seen us open our doors to a significant number of visitors for our Father's Day lunches. We hope that you have enjoyed your lunch and thank you for taking the time to come into school with the children. We hope that a lovely day is had by all on Sunday. Wishing you all a very relaxing and restful weekend! Enjoy!



Ice Lolly Sale

Don't forget about our ice lolly sale to raise money for OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)! Delicious ice lollies will be on sale for £1 or 50p each on the KS1 playground from 3.20pm on: 13 June, 27 June, and 11 July. This is a fantastic way to support our school's outdoor play initiatives while treating the children to a refreshing snack. Cash only, please. We hope to see you there, thank you for your support!

Father's Day

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our dads a very, "*Happy Father's Day!*" Rev. Simon from St. Paul's Church has shared with us some interesting information and facts about this very special day:

- ✚ The first ever Father's Day was celebrated on 19 June 1910. It was originally invented by an American who wanted to celebrate her Father.
- ✚ Father's Day was invented by an American called Mrs Sonora Smart Dodd. Her Father had looked after his 6 children after their Mother sadly passed away. After celebrating Mother's Day, Sonora believed that there should be a Father's Day too!
- ✚ Father's Day is celebrated on the third Sunday in June each year.
- ✚ According to Hallmark, Father's Day is the fifth largest card sending day ever.
- ✚ It is believed that the word Dad dates back to the 1500s. People aren't completely sure where the word comes from, but it's believed it comes from baby talk.
- ✚ Did you know that there is an official flower for Father's Day? The official flower is a rose.



Shobnall Stars Booking Forms

Please don't forget to book your places a week in advance for **Shobnall Stars Early Birds**, or **Shobnall Stars Night Owls** which is our after-school club.

You will need to complete one form per child, on a weekly basis. Forms will need to be submitted by 12noon the Friday before you wish to book. Please also select your breakfast options in advance to assist with catering, specifying dietary requirements if necessary. You can book your place by accessing the information booklets [here](#) or by scanning the QR codes below.



Early Education and Childcare Staffordshire



Have your say

Are you the parent of a child under 5 or a parent to be?

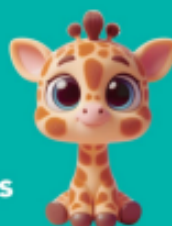
Have your say on childcare in Staffordshire

Please complete our childcare survey for 2025 by visiting the link below
or scan the QR code. Have your say now!

<https://tinyurl.com/yx5pzz6m>



You could be
entitled to help
with childcare costs



Visit staffordshire.gov.uk/fundedchildcare

Will you join us for Clean Air Day 2025?

We are encouraging all parents and pupils to give the car a day off on Thursday 19 June to help improve the air quality around schools. Why not [pledge to switch off when you drop off](#) to help everyone breathe easier.



Did you know...

- Pollution harms us all, but especially children and causes many health issues
- Running the engine whilst parked pumps out about 150 lungs worth of harmful gas every minute!
- Poor air quality is responsible for 500 deaths in Staffordshire every year
- Idling is the single biggest contributor to poor air pollution outside schools
- Air pollution can be 30% worse outside schools because of idling
- Idling is illegal



Online Safety Tips

Generative AI can be a brilliant tool for creativity and learning but it's not without its hazards.

With 3 in 4 pupils now using generative AI (up from just 2 in 5 last year!), it's more important than ever for parents and educators to understand the risks.

This week's free guide breaks down the key safety concerns around generative AI tools and offers expert advice for keeping young users safe.

From encouraging critical thinking to safeguarding their privacy, find out how to help children use AI safely and smartly.

FREE Uniform!

We continue to accept donations of old uniform via the box situated outside the school office for any parents who wish to donate. Please could we ask that these are cleaned and in good condition before placing in the box outside the school office. If you need any uniform, you will need to pop down to the **Family Hub** on Waterloo Street, DE14 2NJ. The Family Hub do not have the capacity to reply to emails but do have uniform on site all year round and are open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.00pm.



Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children aged 5+...

The Day the Crayons Made Friends

Written by Drew Daywalt

The hilarious Crayons from the #1 New York Times bestselling *The Day the Crayons Quit* are back for another adventure – and this time they explore Duncan's playroom. Will they want to leave the crayon box for good after they make new friends?

After convincing one group of crayons to go back to work after they wanted to quit and rescuing another group who got lost in the most inconvenient places, Duncan's crayons have disappeared once more. But this time they've gone into his room to make friends. From Red Crayon, who fulfils his dream of driving a fire engine, to Blue Crayon, who meets a fashion doll desperately in need of a head, to fan favourite Esteban, who is off to tame a teddy bear (or as he would call it, a wild beast), each crayon has an exciting story to share about the new objects they've met and the new adventures they've had.

Attendance

Please read the [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#) which has further information if you are unsure whether to send your child to school or not. We are always happy to advise in line with this guidance, so if you are still in doubt, please contact the school office if your child develops any symptoms and we can discuss this further with you.



Children can come to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This includes general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose, or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above.

Please note, we can only accept and administer **prescribed medicines** that are in-date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include instructions for administration and dosage.

If your child arrives late, it is the responsibility of the adult to report to the school office and sign the "Late Book", giving a reason for lateness. This is important so that the school office knows your child is in school and can mark your child in in the class register. The class registers in the classrooms close at 8.55am when lessons start.

When reporting an absence, please could we ask that parents contact the school office before 9.30am and state clearly reasons for absence. Let's keep working together to ensure attendance is as good as it can be! Remember, every pupil, every day! Thank you for your support. This week's Attendance Champions are **Year 3 and **Year 6**! Here are the latest figures...**

Reception	83.3%	Target
Year 1	87.3%	97%
Year 2	91.0%	
Year 3	91.2%	
Year 4	89.4%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	88.4%	95.7%
Year 6	91.2%	
Overall	88.3%	

Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Aidan B	Ali Q
Year 1	EVERYONE!	
Year 2	Rupert M	Mariam S
Year 3	EVERYONE!	
Year 4	Mason E	Millicent M-B
Year 5	Ibrahim D	Inam U
Year 6	Jibreel Q	Esmee G





OPAL Play Awards

Reception	Yusef S
Year 1	Millie G
Year 2	Jakub K
Year 3	Yahya K
Year 4	Thea K
Year 5	Zain A
Year 6	Constance L

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 13.06.25)	107	98	71	72
Position	1 st – 4 Points	2 nd – 3 Points	4 th – 1 point	3 rd – 2 Points
Running Total	8	5	2	5

Hot Lunch Options 16.06.25 – 20.06.25

WEEK 1	MEAT FREE MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Pork sausage with creamy mash potato & gravy	Roast beef, with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	Chicken burger with crispy diced potato	Crispy fish fingers with chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Roasted vegetable pizza	 Vegan sausage & mash potato with gravy	 Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegetarian burger with crispy diced potato	 Crispy vegetable fingers with chunky chips
Accompaniments	Peas & baked beans Salad bar	Peas & carrots Salad bar	Carrots & cauliflower Salad bar	Green beans & sweetcorn Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Apple & cinnamon muffin	Shortbread	 Flapjack	Jam & coconut sponge	Ice cream
Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection



SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

Let's have a sneaky peek as to what has been going on in our classrooms this week...

Nursery

In Nursery Adventures this week...

The superhero theme continued this week, and the children have continued to immerse themselves in imaginative play, dressing up, making their own props to go with their costumes and re-enacting their own stories as fictional superheroes.

We have also had lots of fun continuing to practice for Sports Day. We cannot wait to welcome the parents on Monday to come and support us for Sports Day!

Finally, to end our brilliant week and to celebrate Father's Day, on Friday the children enjoyed a morning of lovely Father's Day craft and had lots of fun completing a range of activities and sharing what they most like about their superhero daddies!

Reception

It has been a wonderful week with lots of sunshine and smiles in Reception. We have taken part in a variety of exciting activities that have encouraged exploration, creativity, and connection with the natural world. During our Forest School session, we toasted marshmallows and developed our understanding of fire safety. We also transferred our pumpkin plants to a larger area, we are looking forward to seeing how they develop.



We also made dens using natural materials like branches and leaves, it gave us a toasty feeling to create cozy spaces where we could relax and share books.

Monday was extra special as our Father's Day celebrations began and our loved ones joined us for lunch. We had a wonderful time using our imaginations to make some sweet cards to show our appreciation.



Our outdoor garden area is blooming beautifully! We are taking care of the flowers and plants by carefully watering and keeping everything tidy. The grass heads are looking very funny now and we all look great with our new hairstyles.

As part of our 30 days wild challenge, we have taken time to listen to the sounds of nature. This has helped us to feel grateful for our surroundings as well as developing our mindfulness.

"The birds are tweeting, they are getting louder." (Amal)

"Bees buzz near me they are looking for pollen." (Ethan)

"They can whistle it sounds like a gentle sound." (Jaheem)

"The rain is a waterfall falling down." (Anaiah)



Year 1

What a fantastic week we've had in Year 1! In English, we have finished writing our explanation texts about the lifecycle of a sunflower. The children did an amazing job demonstrating everything they've learned. In Maths, the children have been exploring positional language, using terms like "above," "next to," and "underneath" to describe where objects are placed. In Design and Technology the children have begun sewing and decorating their very own hand puppets! In PSHE, we've been discussing the people who are special to us and how they support and care for us. Miss Barker and all the

staff in Year 1 are incredibly proud of how hard everyone has worked with regards to the Phonics Screening Check. Well done, Year 1!

Year 2

What a brilliant week we've had in Year 2!

In maths, we've finished our topic on time. The children have been developing their understanding and making great progress. We've now moved on to problem solving, where they're learning to apply their maths skills in different ways.

In English, we've been exploring the present tense as we prepare to write



our very own postcards from our visit to Peak Wildlife Park. The children have been working hard to describe what they saw and how they felt.

We had an exciting full day of DT, where the children worked in pairs to design a new chair for Baby Bear. Using recyclable materials, they brought their designs to life – and the results were amazing! The chairs were so impressive, we even convinced Miss Walton to try one out...we won't say exactly how that went, but let's just say Baby Bear might want to stick to his own chair for now!

In computing, we explored how music makes us feel. The children listened to different types of rhythms and patterns and had some great discussions about the emotions they experienced – there was lots of toe-tapping and even a few dance moves spotted!

A fun, creative and musical week all round – well done Year 2!

Year 3



This week, Year 3 have been busy exploring a variety of exciting topics! In English, they focused on key vocabulary from *The Diary of a Fossil Hunter*, expanding their understanding of adventurous storytelling. In Maths, the children delved into the world of 2D and 3D shapes, learning about parallel and perpendicular lines through hands-on activities. French lessons brought fun as they learned about animals and their habitats, practicing new words and phrases. Meanwhile, in Geography, Year 3 discovered the fascinating water cycle and even created their own

mini versions using zip-lock bags to see evaporation and condensation in action. What a fantastic week of learning!

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we've been busy with a variety of exciting activities! In Maths, we explored lines of symmetry, practicing how to identify and draw them. In English, we wrapped up our balanced argument on Banksy, with the children fully presenting their own opinions. Our science lessons focused on deforestation and its environmental impact, sparking passionate discussions about protecting our planet. In Computing, we enjoyed creating interactive games using Scratch, showcasing creativity and coding skills. Lastly, a huge well done to our Year 4 dodgeball team, who demonstrated fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship at Thursday's tournament!



Year 5

Year 5 have impressed us all with their fantastic effort in maths this week, confidently completing an entire unit on negative numbers in just five days! The children quickly grasped the concept and were soon tackling more challenging reasoning problems with enthusiasm and success.

In English, the class have continued their work on life-cycle information texts. Using margin planners and boxed success criteria, they thoughtfully mapped out their writing, focusing on key features to ensure their work is clear, informative, and impactful.

A standout moment this week was Forest School on Monday, where Year 5 spent the day immersed in outdoor learning. They built and



cooked over a real fire, making their own roti from scratch – and of course, enjoying their delicious results! The children also got creative with clay, crafting unique pieces that will be proudly displayed during their upcoming class assembly. They even tried their hand at weaving!

To round off an action-packed week, the class had their first rehearsal for the Brewhouse performance on Thursday. Excitement is building as they prepare to sing their hearts out – we can't wait to see them shine on stage!



Year 6

Well, what a busy and exciting week it's been in Year 6! We started the week with sports day practice during our PE lessons. In maths, we've been applying our fluency skills to a range of problem-solving questions, using everything we've learned so far. On Tuesday, some of us had visits from our high schools, where we learned more about what to expect on our upcoming transition days. The highlight of the week was undoubtedly our trip to Blists Hill Victorian Town on Wednesday. The children had a fantastic time exploring the

Victorian streets and truly stepping back in time. We visited the bank to exchange our money into farthings, pennies, and halfpennies, which many of us used to buy sweets or souvenirs. The children were brilliantly behaved and represented the school beautifully – it was a day full of unforgettable memories! Towards the end of the week, we began writing formal letters to the new Year 6 parents, sharing advice about class rules and routines – perfect for practising the subjunctive form. We've also been working hard on our Brewhouse production rehearsals. A great week all round – well done, Year 6!

Diary Dates 2024-2025

Event	Date/Time
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 19 th June 2025, 9.00am
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday 26 th June 2025, 9.00am
Year 5 Class Assembly	Thursday 3 rd July 2025, 9.00am
JTMAT INSET Day	Friday 4 th July 2025
School Closes for Summer	Friday 18 th July 2025, 2.00pm
INSET Day	Monday 21 st July 2025

Diary Dates 2025-2026

Event	Date/Time
INSET Day	Monday 1 st September 2025
INSET Day	Tuesday 2 nd September 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 24 th October 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 rd November 2025
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 26 th November to Friday 28 th November 2025
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Cinderella, Lichfield Garrick	Tuesday 9 th December 2025, 10.00am
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 19 th December 2025, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 th January 2026
Young Voices 2026	Thursday 15 th January 2026
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 26 th January to Friday 30 th January 2026
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 13 th February 2026
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 23 rd February 2026

School Closes for Easter	Friday 27 th March 2026, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 13 th April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed	Monday 4 th May 2026
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 11 th May 2025 to Friday 15 th May 2026
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 22 nd May 2026
INSET Day	Monday 1 st June 2026
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 2 nd June 2026
Year 4 Multiplication Check	Tuesday 2 nd June 2026 to Friday 5 th June 2026
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	Monday 8 th June 2026 to Friday 12 th June 2026
JTMAT INSET Day	Friday 3 rd July 2026
School Closes for Summer	Friday 17 th July 2026, 2.00pm
INSET Day	Monday 20 th July 2026

Summer Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Monday 16 th June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 16 th June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 17 th June 2025
Reserve Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Wednesday 18 th June 2025
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 19 th June 2025, 9.00am
Year 4 Bikeability	Wednesday 25 th June 2025
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday 26 th June 2025, 9.00am
Year 5 Bikeability	Wednesday 2 nd July 2025
Year 5 Class Assembly	Thursday 3 rd July 2025, 9.00am
JTMAT INSET Day – School Closed	Friday 4 th July 2025
Year 6 Leavers' Disco	Friday 11 th July 2025, 6.00pm – 7.30pm
Year 4, 5 & 6 Brewhouse Performance – Oliver with a Twist	Tuesday 15 th July 2025, 1.30pm and 6.00pm
Nursery Graduation	Wednesday 16 th July 2025, 9.00am
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	Thursday 17 th July 2025, 9.00am
School Closes for Summer	Friday 18 th July 2024, 2.00pm
INSET Day	Monday 21 st July 2025

Funding
for Selected
Routes

Full or
Part-Time
Routes

Gain School
Experience

Train to Teach

in Local Schools

Primary (3-7) • Primary (5-11) • Secondary (11-16)



The John Taylor SCITT
jtscitt.co.uk



ATTENDANCE

WHY IT MATTERS



Persistent absence means pupils who miss more than 10% of school every year.

-£750

For each additional day of absence between years 7 to 11, the typical pupil could miss out on an average of **£750** in future lifetime earnings

-£10,000

Persistently absent pupils in year 10 and 11 could earn **£10,000 less** on average at age 28, compared to pupils with near perfect attendance

This rises to almost **£20k less** on average at age 28 for those who are severely absent

-£20k

For employability over a sustained period, people age 28 were around:



Less likely to be employed when persistently absent*



Less likely to be employed when severely absent*

*Compared to their peers with near perfect attendance

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GENERATIVE AI SAFETY

Generative AI tools – such as ChatGPT – are now commonly used by children. In fact, 3 in 4 pupils in the 2024 Annual Literacy Survey reported using generative AI, up from just 2 in 5 the previous year. While these tools can boost learning and creativity, they also raise concerns around misinformation, privacy and overuse. This guide explores the key risks and how to support safe use.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MISINFORMATION AND ACCURACY



Generative AI can sometimes produce false or misleading content. Children – and even adults – may assume the information is accurate and trustworthy. This can affect learning and understanding of important topics. It's vital to teach children to critically assess all information, even when it comes from AI.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Because generative AI is trained on vast datasets from across the internet, there is a chance it may occasionally generate harmful or inappropriate content. Without supervision, children could encounter disturbing or unsuitable material. Active monitoring and clear usage boundaries can help reduce this risk.

PRIVACY AND DATA SECURITY



Some AI tools ask for personal details or store users' interactions. If privacy settings are not correctly configured, children's personal data could be exposed or misused. Teaching good digital hygiene and setting strong privacy controls is essential for protecting children online.

REDUCED CRITICAL THINKING



Relying too heavily on AI-generated responses may reduce children's willingness to think independently. If they consistently use AI to solve problems or complete tasks, it could impact their ability to reason, analyse and form their own ideas. Encouraging thoughtful reflection is key.

DIGITAL DEPENDENCY



Regular use of generative AI can contribute to increased screen time and less real-world interaction. If left unmanaged, it may affect physical activity levels, sleep, and social development. Striking a healthy balance between online and offline activities is important for wellbeing.

UNCLEAR ETHICAL BOUNDARIES



Children may not fully understand the ethical implications of using AI to complete homework or creative tasks. This can lead to unintentional plagiarism or dishonest academic practices. Conversations around responsible use and academic honesty are crucial.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ESTABLISH CLEAR GUIDELINES

Set clear, age-appropriate rules for when and how generative AI can be used. Reinforce these regularly to help children develop a healthy, respectful and informed relationship with the technology.



ENCOURAGE CRITICAL EVALUATION

Help children to question the accuracy of AI-generated information and seek out additional trusted sources. This builds essential digital literacy skills and supports better decision-making.



PROMOTE ACTIVE SUPERVISION

Keep an eye on how the children in your care use AI tools. Check in regularly to ensure they're using them appropriately and be ready to step in if something doesn't feel right.



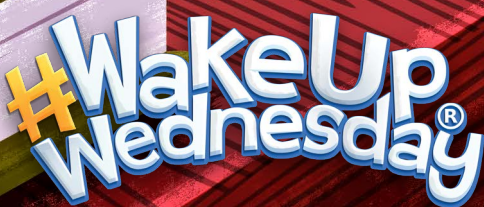
ENHANCE PRIVACY AWARENESS

Talk to children about the importance of keeping personal information private. Make sure privacy settings are in place and explain how data shared with AI tools could be used.



Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe, Deputy Headmaster and Director of Digital Strategy at Eaton House Schools, has extensive expertise in digital safety, safeguarding, and generative AI in education. As an author and speaker on digital literacy and online safety for institutions such as The National College, Brendan guides parents and educators in creating safe digital learning environments.



The National College