



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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20th June 2025

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step."

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week marked National Thank a Teacher Day, so I would like to say a personal "thank you" to all the teachers and support staff in school, who work so tirelessly to ensure that our children receive such an amazing, unique, exciting, and engaging learning experience each and every day. Whether they are in the classroom teaching, or working hard behind the scenes, every extra mile they go makes a real difference beyond what can always be seen. They are an amazing team and are well and truly appreciated and valued.

This week's 'Shobnall Showcase' at the end of the newsletter will highlight just how busy the children, and staff, have been in school this week! The children had an amazing time at Sports Day on Monday, and we would like to say "thank you" once again for joining us and for supporting the children so well during the event! You can read more about this further on in the newsletter but given that the weather has been getting hotter and hotter as the week has gone on, I think we definitely chose the right day!

The PFA also did a great job on the barbeque all day and raised a total of **£62.28**, which will be going towards the enhancing of our outdoor provision! Thank you so much to the team for giving up their time to organise this for us!

This week has also seen our Father's Day lunches come to an end. We have really enjoyed seeing so many of our parents in school for these and have had so much positive feedback about them. Huge thanks to the kitchen staff and the play team who have gone above and beyond again to make this a really special event.

Whatever it is that you are doing this weekend, we hope that you have a great and relaxing one and look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy the sunshine!



PEARSON
NATIONAL
TEACHING
AWARDS



CONGRATULATIONS

CERTIFICATE
OF EXCELLENCE

Celebrating
excellence in
education
across the UK

The Shobnall Primary Academy Whole School Team

Thank you
for making
a difference

Shobnall Primary Academy

**'The work of
teachers has unique
outcomes for the
health, wealth and
welfare of every
single person in
this country. As a
nation, we should be
fantastically proud
of them'**

The Award for Making a Difference - Primary School of the
Year

Lord David Puttnam CBE
Founder
The Teaching Awards Trust

Michael Morpurgo
President

Sharon Hague
Chair of judging panel

Story Garden – Summer Reading Challenge 2025

It's that time of year again when we are approaching the start of the **Summer Reading Challenge**. This year's Summer Reading Challenge produced by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with libraries is **Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors**. This exciting new theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.



The aim of the Challenge is to help encourage children to read during the summer holidays so that they maintain and improve their reading levels and interest in reading for pleasure. The Summer Reading Challenge can:

- Help to prevent the summer reading 'dip' for pupils.
- Ensure pupils are ready for their return to school in the autumn.
- Support the transition between year groups and key stages.
- Improve language skills, especially for those for whom English is a second language.

The Challenge starts on **Saturday 5 July** and ends on **Monday 15 September**.

Children can visit the library to sign up to the Challenge and receive their starter pack. Taking part in the Challenge is completely free. If children cannot visit the library, they can also take part online here www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk and collect virtual badges and prizes. There is a Mini Challenge for 0-4s and the main Challenge for children aged 5-12. Older children are welcome to take part too!

The aim of the Challenge is that children borrow and read 6 books (or as many as they are comfortable to read even if this is less than 6) during the summer holidays. Children will receive stickers and other incentives when they visit the library and, when they complete the Challenge, they will receive a medal and a certificate. Children can borrow any fiction and non-fiction as books or audio books and can also make use of the e-library to borrow ebooks, e-audio books and e-comics . . .all of which count! Here is the link to the e-library [eLibrary - Staffordshire County Council](#)

Activities will be running in libraries linked to the Challenge during the summer holidays. The majority of these will be free to attend although booking through the library may be required. If children do not have a library card, joining the library is free and they can do it by visiting a library with a parent or carer or their parent / carer can join online [here](#).





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: 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!

Sun Safety Advice

As we approach some very high temperatures over the weekend, which are set to continue into the beginning of next week, we would strongly encourage our families to read the NHS advice on sunscreen and sun safety that can be accessed [here](#) to ensure everyone stays safe in the sun. In addition to this, please note additional provisions we have put in place in school which we wanted to make you aware of:



- Children **MUST** have a suitable container with them in school for water, which is cold and can be freely accessed – children are able to refill their containers at any point during the school day.
- Children **MUST** come to school with a sunhat.
- Children **MUST** have sunscreen applied prior to the start of the school day (ideally sunscreen that lasts for 8 hours) and throughout, if required – please ensure any suncream is labelled with your child's name and in a suitable carrier/container. The NHS recommends the use of a sunscreen with at least a sun protection factor of 30 or above and at least 4-star UVA (ultraviolet A) protection.
- Children do not have to wear their ties in very hot weather but should be dressed appropriately in accordance with summer uniform expectations - loose, light coloured, and comfortable clothing is ideal, i.e. shorts, plain white polo shirts, blue and white checked summer dress etc.
- Teachers and staff will be mindful of extended time outside in unshaded areas or 'hotspots.'
- There will a reduction in physical activity if necessary.
- Classrooms will be kept as cool as possible with blinds down and fans.
- The timings of the school day will be as is the usual timetable, but some break times may be shortened dependent on the heat or will be staggered to ensure children have access to shaded areas.

We hope you find this information useful and that you are able to enjoy this unusually warm weather in a safe way.



Tes Schools Awards 2025 – Primary School of the Year

A few members of the team are very proud to be representing our school at the Tes Schools Awards tonight, which recognises and rewards schools and individuals who work so tirelessly for the greater good of the sector.

We have been nominated for Primary School of the Year and are keeping everything crossed that we return with some good news for the children, staff and community!

Sports Day Results

We were incredibly fortunate on Monday to have had amazing weather for our annual Sports Day! It was wonderful seeing the field so full during both sessions, and seeing the children look so smart in their PE kit! We really hope you enjoyed it, as we know the children definitely did!

The eventual winners of the Sports Day shield were **Rosliston**, but for reference we have provided the final 'scores on the doors' for you below.

As well as thanking Mrs Welch and Mr Attwood for taking on the lion's share for organisation of this event, I would also like to express my thanks to our merry band of PFA members for organising the refreshments. A total of **£62.28** was raised, so thank you for your kindness.

EYFS / Key Stage 1

1 st	184 points	Trent
2 nd	183 points	Rosliston
3 rd	182 points	Claymills
4 th	162 points	Sinai

Key Stage 2

1 st	308 points	Rosliston
2 nd	306 points	Trent
3 rd	295 points	Claymills
4 th	278 points	Sinai



Overall Winners!

1 st	491 points	Rosliston
2 nd	490 points	Trent
3 rd	477 points	Claymills
4 th	440 points	Sinai



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?

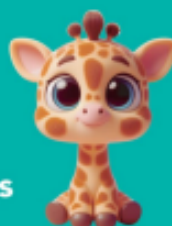
Have your say on childcare in Staffordshire

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

Eco Tips to Beat the Heat!

As the temperature rises, let's ensure we stay cool while being kind to the planet. Here are some quick sustainability tips for the scorching summer days:

- Harness the power of the sun by drying your clothes outside instead of using a dryer.
- Conserve water by taking shorter showers and watering plants during cooler hours. You can even reuse water from paddling pools for your garden plants.
- Save energy by switching off fans or cooling devices when not in use or when going to sleep. Close curtains to keep the house cooler.
- Keep hydrated with a reusable water bottle, minimizing single-use plastic waste.



Together, we can enjoy the summer while making sustainable choices.



Online Safety Tips

YouTube Kids is designed to be the safer cousin of the regular YouTube app; however, built-in risks continue to pose concerns.

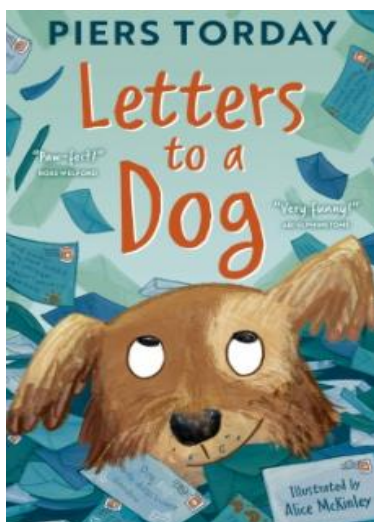
From targeted advertising to addictive design, there's more going on behind the scenes than many realise. This week's guide breaks it all down.

Whether its inappropriate content slipping past filters or tech-savvy kids bypassing parental settings, YouTube Kids still needs careful oversight.

This guide provides clear, easy-to-follow tips to help adults keep young users protected while still enjoying their favourite videos.

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 7+...

Letters to a Dog

Written by Piers Torday

Jamie is in hospital waiting for the operation he needs on his heart. A difficult enough situation for any young boy, but he's also fallen out with his dad, who is struggling to communicate with him following the death of Jamie's mum. At his nurse's suggestion, Jamie writes a letter to the little brown-and-white terrier he saw in the dog's home, and longs to take home. At first, he's embarrassed – what would his friends think – but it turns out to be easy to pour your heart out to a dog. When Dog writes back, their letters fill with all the things Jamie wants to tell his dad but can't, and maybe Dog is speaking for Dad too ...

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 1! Here are the latest figures...**

Reception	92.0%	Target
Year 1	100%	97%
Year 2	98.7%	
Year 3	94.4%	
Year 4	99.1%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	95.8%	95.7%
Year 6	96.9%	
Overall	96.2%	

Head Teacher's Awards

OPAL Play Awards

Reception	EVERYONE!	
Year 1	EVERYONE!	
Year 2	Daisy J	Hudhayfah M
Year 3	Obeydullah H	Mohammed-Y
Year 4	Azaan M	Zayn S
Year 5	Rosie T	Alicia F
Year 6	Halima L	Dexter J

Reception	Azaan K
Year 1	Ava C
Year 2	Jack P
Year 3	Ava O-R
Year 4	Olivia K
Year 5	Aleena A
Year 6	Tabitha B

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 20.06.25)	121	63	29	32
Position	1 st – 4 Points	2 nd – 3 Points	4 th – 1 point	3 rd – 2 Points
Running Total	12	8	3	7

Hot Lunch Options 23.06.25 – 27.06.25

WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Italian pasta bolognese	Roast turkey with potato of the day & gravy	Chicken goujons With sweet pepper sauce and rice	Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Vegetarian burger with chunky chips	Vegetarian Pasta bolognese	Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegan goujons With sweet pepper sauce and rice.	Cheese & bean bake with chunky chips
Accompaniments	Peas & baked beans Salad bar	Peas & sweetcorn Salad bar	Broccoli & cauliflower Salad bar	Sweetcorn & carrots Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Fresh fruit & whip	Lemon biscuit	Chocolate sponge	Fruit sponge & custard	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

Allergens and resources
 All of our food is carefully hand crafted and prepared on the day. We have an allergen procedure in place. All people at work you have as catering team aware of your child's/your child's allergens prior to taking the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above stated are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.

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 Nursery children have been exposed to so many different resources this week, starting with Sports Day on Monday, where they showed great resilience and determination whilst taking part in their physical activities.

Later in the week, they worked together in groups to set up their own obstacle courses, giving instructions to others on how to navigate them. During this task they demonstrated great teamwork and pulled on all of their experiential knowledge of using PE equipment and resources in the outdoor learning environment.

Inside the classroom, further collaborative learning took place as the children chose a wide range of resources to create and make junk model emergency vehicles. It was fantastic to see so many unique vehicles created, we certainly have great creativity in Nursery!





Reception

It has been another sunny, exciting week in Reception full of smiles and laughter!

We have been working hard in our EYFS garden planting more flowers and checking the plants have enough water. Our grass heads are looking very funny now as we have long green hair. We were all very excited when we spotted the sunflowers blooming in the KS1 area, we can't wait to see how tall they get.

Throughout the week we have completed some super activities for our 30 days wild challenge. It was very relaxing laying in the shade on the school field, feeling the gentle breeze and listening to the birds singing.

There have been some great adventures happening out of school too...

Azaan brought in a snail to share he was shy at first but then he popped his head out and we all laughed!

Sim has been busy planting rocket seeds – we are looking forward to seeing them grow.

Maya has been exploring the outdoors and spotted a huge tree!

Amal discovered some beautiful white clover flowers and created some fantastic artwork.

Dawoud created a wonderful picture using some leaf rubbings!

Wow, we have been super impressed with the efforts everyone is taking to be successful in this challenge – well done Reception!

Year 1

We've had a fantastic week in Year 1! In English, we introduced our new writing unit based on *The Gingerbread Man*. The children enjoyed listening to the story and have begun exploring key vocabulary, helping them build a deeper understanding of the characters and events. We're looking forward to retelling and eventually writing our own versions of this classic tale! In Maths, we've been learning all about numbers up to 100. The children have been practising counting forwards and backwards, identifying one more and one less, and placing numbers accurately on a number line. We've begun exploring the life of the famous explorer Christopher Columbus. The children enjoyed creating a timeline of key events and learning about his voyages and discoveries. This has sparked some brilliant questions and discussions! In Geography, we have been learning to use maps. The children successfully located Burton on a map of the UK and began thinking about where we live in relation to other places. Keep up the hard work Year 1 - well done!





Year 2

We've had a fun and busy week in Year 2! Sports Day on Monday was definitely a highlight – the children had a great time taking part in all the events, showing fantastic teamwork and enthusiasm throughout. In English, we've been working hard to write up the neat versions of our postcards, and in Maths we've been practising problem solving using efficient methods to help us feel more confident for our upcoming SATs.

In Computing, the children really enjoyed combining music and tech by creating their own tunes on the computer,

exploring pitch and sounds. We've also had some great discussions in Geography about why some people leave their countries as refugees and why certain continents are more inhabited. In PSHE, we've been thinking about where money comes from and how we use it – lots of brilliant questions and ideas shared. Well done to everyone for another fantastic week!

Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been busy exploring exciting topics across the curriculum! In English, the children have been writing descriptive pieces about the famous fossil hunter Mary Anning, using vivid vocabulary to bring her incredible story to life. In Maths, we've been diving into statistics, learning how to read and interpret pictograms and bar charts. Ask your child to show you what they've discovered! Our history lessons have taken us back to the Iron Age, where we investigated farming tools and weapons, comparing how life has changed over time. A highlight of the week was Sports Day. The children showed fantastic teamwork, enthusiasm, and true sportsmanship. A huge thank you to all the parents who came along to cheer and support; your encouragement made the afternoon even more special! Keep up the great work, Year 3!



Year 4

This week in Year 4, we've been diving into statistics during our maths lessons. The children have been learning how to interpret and create pictograms and bar charts, developing their ability to analyse and present data effectively. In English, we've started an exciting new topic on information reports. The children have been exploring how to structure these texts, focusing on organising facts and details clearly and concisely. Our Brewhouse production rehearsals are in full swing!



Collaborating with Year 5 and Year 6 has been a fantastic opportunity, and we are so proud of the enthusiasm and effort our Year 4's are showing during practices. Finally, we had a brilliant time on Sports Day this Monday. The children demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship, teamwork, and determination, representing themselves and our school wonderfully. Well done, Year 4, for another week of hard work and success!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic week full of energy, effort, and enthusiasm! Monday's Sports Day was a real highlight – the children showed brilliant sportsmanship, working together as a team and cheering each other on throughout the afternoon. Miss Martin-Mills was incredibly proud of their positive attitudes and support for one another. In maths, the children have started a new topic on converting between units of measure. Although it's been a bit tricky at times, they've shown great perseverance, using their knowledge of multiplication and division

to tackle the challenge. In English, they've continued working on their life cycle information pages, learning to self-assess and make thoughtful improvements to their writing. In science, they explored the life cycles of different animals, comparing those with three-stage and four-stage metamorphosis. To top it all off, Thursday's Brewhouse rehearsal was another great success – their singing is going from strength to strength!

Year 6

What a fantastic week we've had in Year 6! We kicked things off with a brilliant Sports Day on Monday – everyone showed amazing team spirit and enthusiasm. Tuesday was action-packed with Forest School and our final Father's Day lunch. We had a great time cooking toast, making s'mores, den building, crafting with clay, and even trying out fire striking! On Wednesday, we began preparing our short stories by brainstorming creative ideas using pictures and videos for inspiration. Later in the week, we focused on rehearsing Oliver with a Twist, bringing lots of energy and excitement. In History, we explored Ancient Greek religion, learning all about the gods and goddesses and their fascinating myths. It's been a very busy and enjoyable week full of creativity, teamwork, and learning. Well done, Year 6!



Diary Dates 2024-2025

Event	Date/Time
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
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

