



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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27th June 2025

"Gossip is the Devil's radio."

Dear Parents/Carers,

I think we can definitively say that the summer has well and truly arrived! It has been a bit of a scorcher, so we have been pleased to see the children coming to school with their sunhats and suncream on. In addition to this, please could we ask that the children bring a suitable container for water so that they have plenty to drink in these warm conditions. Thank you for supporting the school with this. The information on sun safety that was published in last week's newsletter has been included again this week as a reminder for everyone in our community, as we are due another heatwave next week!



Last week, a few members of our team represented the school at the Tes Schools Awards as we were shortlisted for Primary School of the Year. We were incredibly proud to have been shortlisted to the final 8 schools for this award from over 800 schools that were considered! While we didn't take home the top prize, being recognised among the best primary schools in the country is a tremendous honour and a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion of our entire school community – staff, children, and families alike. This achievement inspires us to continue striving for excellence in everything we do.

Please remember that **Friday 4 July** is an INSET day, so school will be closed for *all* pupils. A slightly shorter newsletter will be published on Thursday of next week for you. We would like to wish you all a very relaxing and restful weekend and we look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!

Oliver With a Twist – Tuesday 15 July 2025

Parents will have received a letter this week informing them of how to obtain tickets for the Year 4, 5 and 6 performances of **Oliver With a Twist**. The children and staff are working tirelessly in rehearsals, and their collective effort is a testament to their passion for creating such a magical experience for the audience. We can't wait to see this beloved classic come to life in a truly unforgettable way!

Oliver With a Twist is a stage adaptation of Oliver Twist that maintains the core plot but introduces some changes to make it more suitable for younger performers. The story follows Oliver, an orphan who is kicked out of the workhouse for asking for more food, and his journey to London where he meets the Artful Dodger

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT



Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES



While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 4 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION



GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS



The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS



Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS



Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS



Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS



Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College

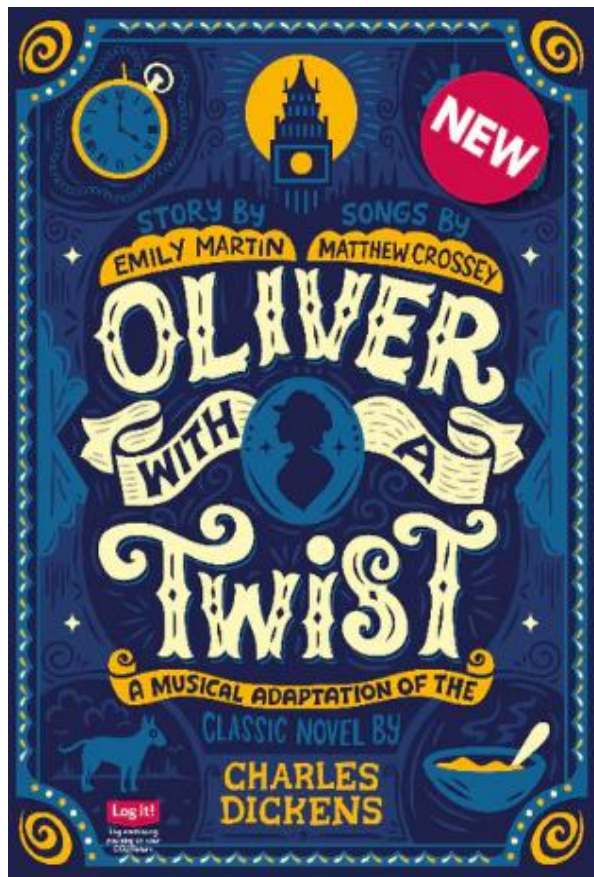
and joins Fagin's gang of pickpockets. Oliver is then caught up in a series of events, including being framed for theft, befriending Mr. Brownlow, and being kidnapped by Fagin's gang. Featuring an array of unique and catchy songs, this version of this classic tale by Charles Dickens will have the audience transfixed and captivated for the entire performance.

Tickets for the production are now on sale via the box office at the Brewhouse Arts Centre. Tickets are not available from school. Please call 01283 508100 or click the link [Oliver with a Twist | Brewhouse Arts Centre](#) to book your seats.

Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis but we would ask that you try and limit your purchase initially to four tickets per family. This should ensure that everyone who wishes to see their child perform has the opportunity to do so. We thank you for your support with this.

There are two productions 1.30pm and 6.00pm. Tickets for the 1.30pm performance will cost £7.00 each and tickets for the 6pm performance will cost £8.00 each.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Mrs Sangster

After six wonderful years as a much-loved member of our school office team, we are saying a fond farewell to Mrs Sangster as she begins her well-earned retirement. Known for her dry wit, incredible efficiency, and impeccable organisation, she has truly been a huge part of the backbone of our school – keeping everything running smoothly with her professionalism and quiet sense of humour.

While we will miss her deeply, we are delighted that she is looking forward to new adventures, with plans to travel more and spend precious time with her family, especially her grandson who is due to start school in September.

Thank you, Mrs Sangster, for everything you have given to our school community – it will feel very strange without you! We will be recruiting for her replacement very soon.

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!



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](#).





FREE SUMMER KIDS CLUB

AGES
5-12

*FOR CHILDREN FROM FAMILIES IN RECEIPT OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS

IF YOUR CHILD IS ELIGIBLE, YOU'LL RECEIVE A HAF CODE. TO ENROL, JUST
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR YOUR PREFERRED LOCATION BELOW AND
COMPLETE A QUICK REGISTRATION FORM.

EACH CHILD WILL
RECEIVE A HALAL HOT
LUNCH, ALONG WITH
NUTRITIOUS SNACKS
& BEVERAGES

22ND JULY - 14TH AUGUST
MONDAY - THURSDAY
10.AM TILL 2.PM

ACTIVITIES

FUN SPORTS
ADVENTURES
OUTDOOR GAMES
AND MORE



ETON PARK JUNIOR
SCHOOL

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CALL OR EMAIL:
07958 958 551
INFO@BURTONUNITY.ORG.UK



SAMUEL ALLSOPP
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Department
for Education



Staffordshire
County Council

HAF
BURTON
UNITY
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES
STUDS PROGRAMME

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 sunscreen 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.

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.



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

New name, new features... same concerns?

The Nintendo Switch 2 is the Japanese gaming giant's latest console, and while it boasts impressive updates, it also brings a few new features for parents and educators to be aware of.

From the arrival of real-time GameChat and a plug-in camera to an easier path to mature content and in-app spending, there's a lot to consider.

This guide sets out what adults need to know, and how they can keep gaming fun and safe for the children in their care.

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 9+...

Netta Becker and the Timeline Crime

Written by Jennifer Claessen

A mysterious labyrinth. A desperate king. A rebellious princess. Being stuck in a crumbling old villa in Crete with her annoying, history-obsessed little brother Remy isn't exactly Netta's idea of a fun summer holiday. But before she can even get bored, Netta starts having very real dreams where she is dragged back thousands of years to Ancient Greece. Here, King Minos is preparing for the opening of his precious labyrinth, and there are rumours that a monster lurks inside...

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	95.0%	Target
Year 1	99.7%	97%
Year 2	96.7%	
Year 3	91.9%	
Year 4	98.1%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	88.7%	95.7%
Year 6	97.8%	
Overall	95.5%	

Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Anaiah H	Aishani D
Year 1	Ayaat A	Elliott T
Year 2	Haseeb M	Ava E
Year 3	Saifullah M	Evie J
Year 4	EVERYONE!	
Year 5	Elliot M	Lewis L
Year 6	Nell T	Fatima A

OPAL Play Awards

Reception	Gracie D
Year 1	Kadeem H
Year 2	Miley M
Year 3	Rupert C
Year 4	Aiza L
Year 5	Oliver M
Year 6	Anaya A

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 27.06.25)	105	71	51	31
Position	1st – 4 Points	2nd – 3 Points	3rd – 2 Points	4th – 1 point
Running Total	16	11	5	8

Hot Lunch Options 30.06.25 – 03.07.25

WEEK 3	MEAT FREE MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	JTMAT INSET DAY!
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Chicken tikka masala served with rice	Roast beef, with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	5 Chicken & tomato pasta bake	
Vegetarian Main dish	Roasted vegetable pizza	5 Vegetable tikka masala with 50/50 rice	Pb Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Macaroni cheese	
Accompaniments	Peas & baked beans Salad bar	Sweetcorn & carrots Salad bar	Carrots & cauliflower Salad bar	Broccoli & green beans Salad bar	
Desserts	Fruit flapjack	Marble sponge & custard	Lemon cake	Shortbread	
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	

KEY
 1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY
 MEAT FREE MONDAY
 CHEF'S CHOICE
 PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)

"Allergens and Intolerances"
 All of our food is lovingly hand crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergens/ your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes 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...

We have had a wonderful week talking about real life superhero's who work in the Emergency Services to help us. The children have enjoyed learning all about the police and the fire service. They have loved taking part in a range of adventures being firemen and policemen/lady.

Later on in the week the children continued to take on the role of police and used their imaginations to create wanted posters for the bad guys who were stealing sweets, people's wallets and not following the law. There were some super discussions by the children using wonderful vocabulary!

Another lovely week in Nursery!

Reception

We have had lots of fun searching for minibeasts this week as we completed the last week of our 30 days wild challenge! The most popular was the ladybird, Dawoud even found a 'poisonous' black and orange one.



During maths we have practiced our grouping skills using gingerbread men and animals. We have used our vocabulary brilliantly to discuss our adventures including, 'share,' 'unfair,' 'equal,' 'double,' and 'groups.'

We completed some super I spy challenges finding hidden objects and using our phonics knowledge to write about them.

It has been great carrying out our learning outdoors, making the most of the glorious weather and showing our gratitude to nature.

"The sun for making the plants grow." (Ali)

"Bees make honey for us." (Mustafa)

"Laying on the grass because it is soft." (Zaynab)

"Lots of different leaves on the trees." (Gianna)

"I love all of the flowers that are so many different colours." (Lakhsmi)

Year 1

What a fantastic week we've had! In maths, we've been busy recognising different coins and notes, and practising how to count money accurately. The children have enjoyed using real coins to help develop their understanding of value and making totals. In English, we've been exploring adjectives to describe the gingerbread man. The children came up with some wonderfully imaginative words and wrote lovely descriptive sentences. Our music lessons have focused on the song *Nautilus*. We've been listening carefully and learning about tone and pitch, discovering how music can make us feel and how sounds can change. In computing, we have been learning how to type and explore different fonts. The children are becoming more confident in using the keyboard and expressing their creativity through text formatting. In science, we have been learning all about the lifecycle of plants. From seed to flower, the children enjoyed exploring each stage and making their own plant life-cycle diagrams! A great week – well done, Year 1!

Year 2

We've had a brilliant week in Year 2! In English, the children have been busy writing up their final pieces, and we're so impressed with the creativity, focus, and pride they've shown in their work. In Maths, we've started looking at Statistics, including tally charts, bar charts, and pictograms. The children have really enjoyed this practical learning and are doing so well with it.

We've also been getting ready for our SATS next week by practising in a calm and supportive way, learning useful techniques to help us feel confident and do our best. The children have approached this with such a positive attitude, and we're so proud of their effort and resilience. We know they're going to absolutely smash it next week! Thank you for your continued support and encouragement at home.



Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been busy with a fantastic range of learning activities! In English, the children have been planning and drafting the beginnings of their diary entries in role as Mary Anning, bringing the famous fossil hunter's story to life through imaginative writing. In Maths, they've been recapping key learning from across the year, strengthening their understanding and celebrating how much they've grown. Music has been especially lively! The class has been learning to play

the glockenspiel using the notes C, D, and E, focusing on playing with different durations. They've also taken a musical trip to Brazil, exploring the rhythms of the Rio de Janeiro carnival and having great fun using drums to recreate some of the exciting beats.

Year 4

This week, Year 4 has been full of exciting activities and incredible achievements! In Maths and Reading, we conducted our termly assessments, and it has been so rewarding to see the progress the children have made. Their hard work and dedication throughout the term are shining through! In Art, the children have been busy tracing their aqua and oil pastel drawings, creating some



stunning pieces. Their creativity and attention to detail have been fantastic to see. On Thursday, we held our fantastic class assembly, where the children showcased their learning about the Ancient Egyptians. It was wonderful to see them confidently share their knowledge and enthusiasm with parents. The highlight for many was the chance to view the incredible extended projects that the children had created, it was clear that a lot of thought and effort had gone into them. A huge well done to Year 4 for a great week of learning and creativity!

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have had a busy and thought-provoking time of learning. In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of measurement by converting between different units, including grams and kilograms, millilitres and litres. In Science, they explored the fascinating structure of eggs, learning about the



different parts inside and their functions. On Wednesday afternoon, we welcomed PCSO Leon Worden, who led an important session on respect, the criminal age of responsibility, and the dangers of bladed articles. He gave strong advice about staying safe – emphasising the importance of walking away from dangerous situations rather than trying to deal with them alone. On Thursday, the Mental Health Support Team visited to deliver an insightful workshop on social media. The children learned how to stay safe online, identify potential dangers, and reflect on how social media can affect our mental health. It's been a week full of valuable life lessons alongside our academic learning.

Year 6

What a fantastic week we've had in Year 6! On Monday, we were introduced to micro:bits in computing. These are tiny computers we can program ourselves. We explored their components, tested our code using an emulator, and successfully transferred our programs to the devices. On Tuesday, we had a brilliant day at Forest School, including a nature walk up to Sinai House. Mrs Johnston led a detailed session on identifying trees, which we compared to those in our Forest School area. We also made elder jewellery and practised whittling using sheath knives. On Wednesday, we had a visit from the PCSO, who gave an informative talk on how to stay safe in the community. We ended the week working hard on our Brewhouse production and Leavers' Assembly rehearsals. Well done, Year 6!

Bikeability

If you are interested in your child taking part in FREE cycle sessions over the summer holiday, please click on the link [here](#) to book your place! Alternatively, you may wish to try this link [here](#). Hurry, places are going fast!



Diary Dates 2024-2025

Event	Date/Time
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 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 2025, 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

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The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS



Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS



Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS



Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS



Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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