



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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12th September 2025

"Every sunset is an opportunity to reset. Every sunrise begins with new eyes."

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a very busy, full week here at Shobnall Primary & Nursery School! The school curriculum is well and truly underway, and the children have been fully immersed in their learning. You can read more about what they have been getting up to in their classrooms in the 'Shobnall Showcase' further on in the newsletter. Keep it up children!

Are you following us on Instagram [@shobnallprimary](https://www.instagram.com/shobnallprimary)? This is where you will get that insight into all the exciting things that are happening in school. Please note that this is now our primary social media platform. Our X.com page will still remain live but won't be used to post any school updates on from now.



Thank you for your continued commitment to ensuring your children are here, ready, and on time every day. The whole school community has really embraced our Little Heroes campaign – **HERE, EVERYDAY, READY, ON TIME** – which re-launched again this week! Let's keep that momentum going!

Whatever it is you are planning on doing this weekend, enjoy! We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday!



Little Heroes Assemble

visit staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes

HERE EVERY DAY READY ON TIME

Find out
more

SCAN
ME



We would like to formally invite you to our forthcoming **Open Evening on Thursday 6 November, 4.30pm to 6.00pm**. The admissions window opens for places in our Reception and Nursery classes in November, so as well as welcoming potential new parents to look round our school, this is also a great opportunity for our existing parents to visit too and see some of the wonderful things that are happening! So, please join us as we showcase our school, our vision, our values, our philosophy and our approaches. You will meet our staff and our children and get to see first-hand our work on the curriculum. We look forward to seeing you there!



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Year 7 Secondary School Applications

The application window for a September 2026 start at secondary or high school is now open. Parents can apply online at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions. As in previous years, the local authority is no longer providing paper copies of the 'Information to Parents' booklet. Parents are able to access this booklet on their [website](#). Deadline for applications is **31 October 2025**.

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.



Shobnall Stars – After School Club Closure, Tuesday 30 September 2025 AND Thursday 9 October 2025

It is with regret that **After School Club** will not be open on **Tuesday 30 September 2025 AND Thursday 9 October 2025**. This is due to staff having to attend essential training that cannot be rescheduled. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but the rest of the sessions run as normal.

How Do You Help Birds Thrive In Your Garden?

Share your secrets for creating a bird-friendly haven in your garden!

Whether it's providing nesting spots, planting native flowers, or setting up feeders, we want to hear from you!

[Comment on this Facebook post](#) to get involved.



Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, we are creating a new strategy to help support nature and help it to thrive. It is called the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The main purpose of the strategy is to identify

locations across an area to create or improve habitats like woodlands, rivers, and meadows. [Find out more here.](#)



Safety Tip!

Is the truth really out there?

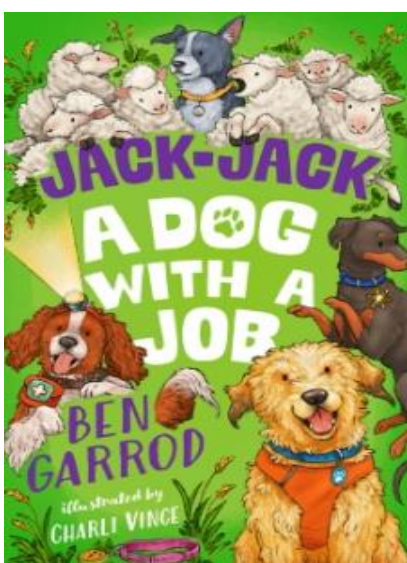
Not when it comes to conspiracy theories, now firmly recognised as safeguarding risks posing potential harm to children in the latest update to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' - unfortunately, young people may struggle to tell fact from fiction, especially online.

This week's guide explains how conspiracies can affect children's mental health, critical thinking, and even make them vulnerable to radicalisation.

With tips on safe conversations, spotting red flags, and promoting reliable sources, our guide is a must-read for any parent or educator keen to support young minds in thinking clearly and confidently

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+...

Jack-Jack: A Dog with a Job

Written by Ben Garrod

Meet Jack-Jack, the world's coolest dog! A funny adventure series with short chapters narrated by Jack-Jack himself, illustrated in black and white.

Super-clever Jack, the coolest dog in the world, gets to try different jobs a dog can do. After having had a pretty special job in Africa looking after orphaned chimps at a sanctuary, Jack-Jack heads for some varied work experience. Is he barking up the wrong tree as he experiments with being a search and rescue dog?

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 2** are **Year 5**! Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Reception	94.8%	Target
Year 1	99.3%	
Year 2	100%	97%
Year 3	92.3%	
Year 4	97.8%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	100%	
Year 6	98.7%	97.2%
Overall	97.2%	

Hot Lunch Options 15.09.25 – 19.09.25

WEEK 3	MEAT FREE MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	All day breakfast	Roast turkey with potato of the day & gravy	 Macaroni cheese	Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	 Vegetable tikka masala with 50/50 rice	Vegetarian all day breakfast	 Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	 Vegetable & bean chilli with 50/50 rice	 Quorn™ nuggets with chunky chips
Accompaniments	Peas & broccoli Salad bar	Roasted vegetables Salad bar	Green beans & cabbage Salad bar	Corn on the cob & carrots Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Chocolate crunch	Apple & cinnamon muffin	Lemon cake	 Apple crumble & 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



Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	EVERYONE!	
Year 1	Yusuf S	Lakshmi L-S
Year 2	Amelia M	Jensen H
Year 3	Lincoln S-B	Sofia K
Year 4	Hani U	Saifullah M
Year 5	Thea K	Alizah A
Year 6	Aminah A	Aleena A

OPAL Play Awards

Reception	Bella A
Year 1	Azaan K
Year 2	Millie G
Year 3	Hassan A
Year 4	Penelope T
Year 5	Thea K
Year 6	Charlie W

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 12.09.25)	42	38	32	21
Position	1 st – 4 points	2 nd – 3 points	3 rd – 2 points	4 th – 1 point
Running Total	4	3	2	1

SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

Nursery

We have had a fabulous time during our first full week in nursery.

It has been lots of fun getting to know our friends and playing exciting games.

We were very lucky to pick some vegetables from our school garden. We all took it in turns to spot the ripe tomatoes and also picked green beans, corn and courgettes. The tomatoes were super juicy and tasty.

We also enjoyed celebrating Kylan and Cody's birthdays. We made playdough cakes and explored lots of birthday themed adventures.



Reception

This week in Reception has been full of fun, learning, and friendship! The children have been busy making new friends and settling beautifully into their routines, showing kindness, teamwork, and lots of smiles along the way. Our days have been filled with joyful singing as the children enthusiastically joined in with a variety of nursery rhymes, growing in confidence and rhythm with each performance. We've also spent plenty of time outdoors, where the children have enjoyed exploring nature, running, climbing, and using their imaginations in creative play. In maths, we've been focusing on

subitising the numbers 1, 2, and 3. The children are becoming brilliant at recognising these small quantities without needing to count, and they've had lots of fun using objects, games, and hands-on activities to build this important skill. It's been a fantastic start to the term, and we are so proud of how well Reception have settled in!

Year 1

What a fantastic start to the year! Year 1 have settled in beautifully and are already getting to grips with the new rules and routines. Miss Barker is delighted to see the children flourishing and showing such enthusiasm for their learning.

In English, the children have been working hard on blending sounds to spell words within their sentences, remembering to use finger spaces and full stops. In Maths, they have been grouping and counting numbers up to 10 and practising writing their numerals. Although this was tricky at first, they persevered brilliantly and showed great determination.



Our wider curriculum has been just as exciting. In History, the children learned about Queen Elizabeth II and created their own timeline. In Geography, they explored aerial photographs and identified local landmarks. In RE, they made their own sculptures to show what they wonder about, and in Art they experimented with different types of lines in their work. The children have also thoroughly enjoyed using our new outdoor area. It has been a busy but wonderful week. Well done, Year 1 – keep up the hard work!

Year 2

What a fantastic start to the new school year it's been in Year Two! The children have come in brilliantly, settling into their new classroom and routines with enthusiasm and big smiles. It's been wonderful to see how quickly they've adapted – we're already working together like a great little team!

In maths, we've started learning about tens and ones. We've been using lots of different resources to help us understand how numbers are made, and the children have done a great job.

In PSHE, we took Sophia the Owl outside for some quiet thinking time (we just about dodged the rain though). But we had a lovely time sharing our thoughts and feelings.

At the end of the week, we had our first science lesson in Year Two. We looked at different materials and talked about how we use them in our classroom.

We're so proud of how well everyone has started the year – well done year 2!

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the term! In art, we've begun exploring cave art, looking closely at line art and discussing why early humans chose to draw animals on cave walls. The children have been fascinated by the history and have enjoyed experimenting with their own cave-style drawings.

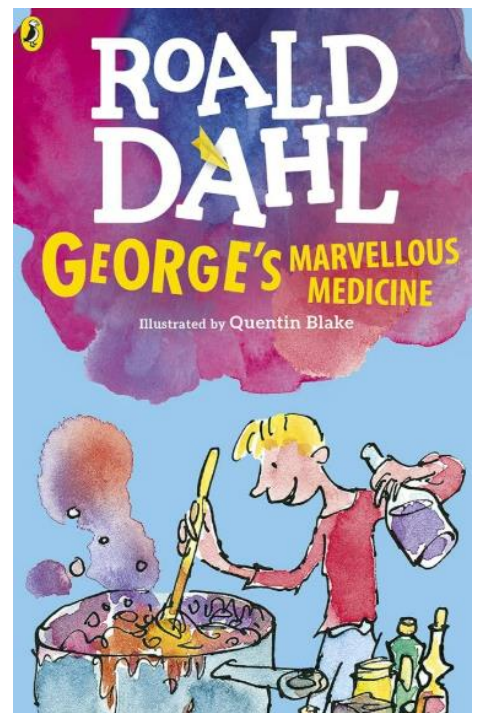
We've started reading George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl focusing on our fluency. The class is already hooked by the story and they're reading with real enthusiasm.

In maths, we've been busy partitioning numbers up to 1000, building a strong understanding of place value and number structure.

Well done, Year 3 – a brilliant start to the year! Keep up the great work!

Year 4

What a brilliant first week in Year 4! In maths, we have been partitioning four-digit numbers, both flexibly and by place value, as well as exploring 1,000 more and less. In English, we revised some key content to get



ready for our Year 4 learning, looking closely at nouns, verbs, and how to form the perfect tense. In science, we began our new topic on electricity, focusing on how to stay safe around electrical items.

In computing, we learned all about the internet and how messages are sent across same and different networks, transferring through a switch or router depending on where they are going.

The children have been fab this week, and it's been lovely getting to know them all. Well done, Year 4 – keep up the great work!

Year 5

Year 5 have started the school year with great enthusiasm and curiosity! In Maths, they have been exploring place value within 100,000, developing their confidence in reading, writing, and comparing larger numbers. In English, the children began their exciting new topic all about Neil Armstrong and the Apollo 11 mission, exploring the achievements of the first moon landing and gathering ideas for their own writing. In Science, they have started to investigate properties of materials and begun to think about how their properties make them suitable for different uses. In Art, the class embarked on their new unit, *Interactive Installation*. They explored the imaginative work of Cai Guo-Qiang before working in groups to design and build model installations, showcasing their creativity and collaboration skills!



Year 6

What a brilliant start to the year we have had in Year 6! The children have settled in quickly and shown great enthusiasm for their learning. In maths, we have begun our first unit by exploring numbers up to 10,000,000. The children have been working hard to read, write and understand these large numbers with growing confidence. In English, we have been recapping on everything that we have already learnt in KS2. This is in preparation for plenty of exciting pieces of text that we will be writing this year! In RE, our focus has been on commitment within the Muslim faith. We have been learning about the importance of Salah (prayer) and how it forms a key part of the Five Pillars of Islam. The children also enjoyed their first PE lesson with Mr Bishop, which was full of energy and fun. Overall, it has been a fantastic first full week back, and I am really proud of how well the children have embraced their learning and routines. We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead! Well done Year 6!

Diary Dates 2025-2026

Event	Date/Time
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

Autumn Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Welcome to Nursery – Workshop for Parents	Tuesday 16 th September 2025, 11.00am
Welcome to Reception – Workshop for Parents	Tuesday 16 th September 2025, 2.30pm
Shobnall Stars Night Owls (After School Club) CLOSED for staff training	Tuesday 30 th September 2025
Harvest	Tuesday 7 th October 2025
Shobnall Stars Night Owls (After School Club) CLOSED for staff training	Thursday 9 th October 2025
PFA Halloween Discos	Friday 17 th October 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reception, Y1, Y2 – 3.45pm – 5.00pm Y3, 4, 5 & 6 – 5.15pm – 6.30pm
Parents' Evening	Monday 20 th October 2025 Wednesday 22 nd October 2025
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 24 th October 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 rd November 2025
Open Evening	Thursday 6 th November 2025, 4.30-6.00pm
Odd Socks Day	Monday 10 th November 2025
Parent Coffee Morning	Friday 14 th November 2025, 9.00am – 10.00am
Children in Need	Friday 21 st November 2025
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 26 th November 2025 to Friday 28 th November 2025 inclusive
Christingle	Tuesday 2 nd December 2025
A Nursery Noel	Thursday 4 th December 2025, 9.15am
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 5 th December 2025
Reception / Year 1 Nativity	Monday 8 th December 2025, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Cinderella, Lichfield Garrick	Tuesday 9 th December 2025, 10.00am
Year 2 / Year 3 Nativity	Thursday 11 th December 2025, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day	Wednesday 17 th December 2025
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 19 th December 2025, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 th January 2026



Train to Teach
in Local Schools

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

Funding for Selected Routes
Full or Part-Time Routes
Gain School Experience

The John Taylor SCITT
jtscitt.co.uk