



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TELEPHONE: 01283 247410    INSTAGRAM: @shobnallprimary    E-MAIL: [shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk](mailto:shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk)

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

*"It is never too late to be what you might have been."*

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had another busy and exciting week at Shobnall, and it's been wonderful to see so much fantastic learning happening across our classrooms. Take a look at the Shobnall Showcase at the end of the newsletter to hear all about the creativity, hard work and achievements from our children this week.

On Thursday, our pupils enjoyed taking part in National Poetry Day, sharing their creativity and voices through poems and performances centred around the theme of 'play' that truly captured the spirit of the occasion.



Are you following us on Instagram [@shobnallprimary](https://www.instagram.com/shobnallprimary)? It's the perfect way to keep up with school life and see even more of what's happening day to day. Don't miss out – join our growing community and share in the celebration of our children's successes!

As the ink dries on this week's newsletter, we will be just finishing our 'Quiggy Cup' football tournament that we hold annually in memory of our former pupil Hussein Quig-Diop, who sadly passed away in 2023. The children have had a great afternoon, and we were once again very grateful to Hussein's mum for joining us and presenting the cup to the winners!

As of 4.00pm today, you should have all now received a letter outlining the arrangements for parent consultations, scheduled for Monday 20 October and Wednesday 22 October 2025, 4.00 – 7.00pm. If you have not yet booked your appointment, click on the link that has been sent to your phone to get your preferred slot/s.

Please remember that on **Tuesday 7 October**, the children will be celebrating harvest in our special Harvest Assembly. Please could we ask that you send your child in to school on the day with a tin or packet of food (non-perishable items only), as we are once again supporting the YMCA charity who will come and collect the donations later during that day for the food bank. Thank you!



Thank you once again 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.**

We hope that you have a great weekend and, as always, we look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!



# HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Shobnall Primary School PFA

**HALLOWEEN DISCO**

**FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

KS1 3:45-5pm


KS2 5:15-6:30pm

**Tickets £4 each**

**(includes a drink & bag of sweets)**

Additional drinks, sweets & crisps  
will be available to buy at the disco

*Glow sticks will also be available  
30p each*



*Tickets will be on sale each day  
from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October  
(before & after school from the PFA  
at front gate)  
cash only*

## Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes Meeting for Parents

There will be a meeting for children and parents on **Thursday 16 October 2025** at **3.30pm** in the Year 5 classroom about the forthcoming residential trip to Whitemoor Lakes. This is a great opportunity to discover more about the itinerary, essential information and to ask any burning questions that you may have. For parents who are unable to attend, a copy of the presentation and kit list will be uploaded to the class website page.



## Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are a significant feature of our school calendar, and we have some dates for you to add to your diaries. All assemblies will start at 9.00am and will be held in the school hall:

- Year 6 – 13 November 2025
- Year 2 – 27 November 2025
- Year 5 – 22 January 2026
- Year 1 – 26 March 2026

We do hope you are able to join us. These dates have been added to the list at the end of the newsletter.

## World Mental Health Day – Friday 10 October 2025

The [World Health Organisation](#) recognises World Mental Health Day on 10 October every year.

The theme of 2025's World Mental Health Day, set by the [World Federation for Mental Health](#), is: Overwhelm: when global events and relentless bad news become too much. The world is going through a tough time right now and even if you're not directly affected by events, it can still feel like a lot to cope with.

World Mental Health Day is also a chance to talk about mental health in general, how we need to look after it, and how important it is to talk about things and get help if you are struggling. Click on the links above if you would like to access any of the resources available or would like further information.



## 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](http://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**.

## Open Evening – Thursday 6 November 2025, 4.30pm – 6.00pm

Don't forget about 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. Our theme this year is 'Once Upon an Open Evening' and much of the work on display will be based around the joy of reading!

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!

### 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 PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL  
Happy Children, Inspired Learners

SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL  
PROUDLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR

**OPEN EVENING**

**THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
**4.30pm – 6.00pm**

*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 incredible work. We look forward to seeing you there!*



### Shobnall Stars – After School Club Closure, Thursday 9 October 2025



It is with regret that **After School Club** will not be open on **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!

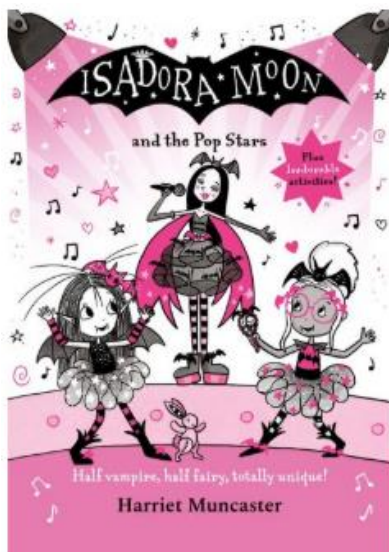
It's kick-off time again! EA FC 26 is out now!

With updated teams and familiar gameplay, it's sure to be top of the wish list for many football fans, but beneath the slick presentation are some pitfalls that parents and educators should know about – especially in the game's online and spending features.

The guide this week gives you the latest on EA FC 26's Ultimate Team feature, how scammers can target young players, and what tools and settings can help keep children safe. Whether you're a seasoned gamer or a complete novice, it's worth a read!

### 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+...

#### Isadora Moon and the Pop Stars

Written by Harriet Muncaster

Half vampire, half fairy, totally unique! Isadora is special because she is different. Her mum is a fairy and her dad is a vampire and she's a bit of both.

Isadora is so excited. She has been invited to go to a pop concert with her friend, Araminta. She has never seen a band like Glitterbat before. The music is gothic and vampire-y and ELECTRIC. She can't wait to show the dance moves to her friends at school. But will they understand, or will they think her vampire music is a bit strange?

With irresistible pink and black artwork throughout by author/illustrator Harriet Muncaster and a totally unique heroine with an out-of-this-world family, this is a beautiful, charming and funny series of first chapter books.

## 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, Year 5 and Year 6!** Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Reception	88.5%	Target
Year 1	98.3%	
Year 2	98.9%	97%
Year 3	98.5%	
Year 4	94.8%	
Year 5	98.9%	Overall (to date)
Year 6	98.9%	
Overall	98.0%	97.2%

## Head Teacher's Awards

Nursery	Theodore B	Archie W
Reception	Barnaby C	Ariana I
Year 1	Mohammed-S	Ava M
Year 2	Millie G	Fatima A
Year 3	Rupert M	Daisy J
Year 4	Ume H	Saifullah M
Year 5	Meerab N	Toby N
Year 6	Finlay B	Kristers K

## OPAL Play Awards








Nursery	Lara B
Reception	Bella A
Year 1	Dawoud A
Year 2	Fatima A
Year 3	Teigan W
Year 4	Safia A
Year 5	Gordon Z
Year 6	Aleena A


## Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 03.10.25)	90	75	63	62

Position	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2 points	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point
Running Total	13	11	8	10





### Hot Lunch Options 06.10.25 – 10.10.25


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



**TO EAT MORE FRUIT**

**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

We have had a great week continuing our theme, 'The Story of Me.' This week we have been exploring different types of homes. We shared some wonderful stories including the traditional tale of 'The Three Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf' and 'Two Homes,' by Claire Masurel.

It was great learning about all the different homes our friends live in, and we spotted lots of types of houses on our way to and from school.

*"I saw a flat they stick and have lots of windows. We were looking at homes."* (Cody)

*"My house has stairs and dining table and kitchen and a sofa and everything. It is next to the shop."* (Adheera)



*"I spotted a brick house when I was driving in the car and a brick roof too."* (Kylan)

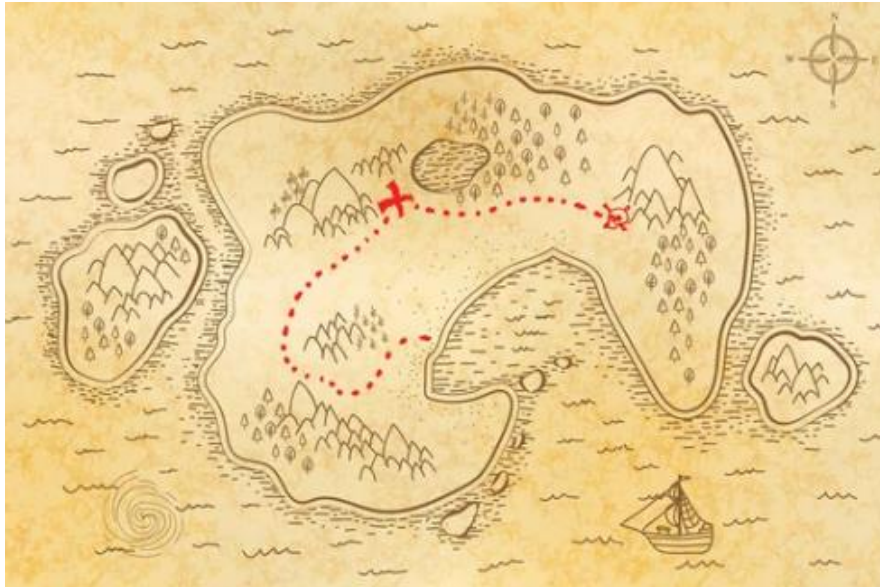
*"The houses are made of blocks and painting. The houses are big."* (Alyia)

*"A bungalow has no stairs. My house is together with the next-door neighbours."* (Theo)

We had fun representing homes in different ways. We added all sorts of designs to our scene using a variety of collaging materials. We also used some wonderful vocabulary to describe our choices.

During our outdoor adventures we used our imagination to design homes using a range of wooden blocks, we even added a houseboat!

Another fantastic week in Nursery!



## Reception

This week in Reception, the children have been busy little explorers! We've been learning all about our local area through a range of creative and hands-on activities. The children loved making pirate maps and building their own 3D maps using junk modelling. We even created a large collage of our school and the surrounding area! A highlight of the week was our local walk, where the children collected natural treasures to make journey sticks. A wonderful way to reflect on what we saw along the way. In handwriting, we've been

exploring "wiggles and zigzags" using lots of exciting materials like balls and paint, cars and paint, paintbrushes in flour, and even soap with our fingers to make patterns. In maths, we've been focusing on comparing amounts, learning about bigger and smaller, and understanding greater than and less than. It's been a fantastic week full of learning, creativity, and discovery!

## Year 1

This week in English, we have been learning about vowels and consonants, identifying syllables in words, and recognising proper nouns. The children have been practising their phonics and word skills with great enthusiasm. In Maths, we have been learning to compare and order numbers using a number line, building our confidence in understanding number size and position. In Science, we explored the topic of floating and sinking. The children enjoyed investigating which objects float or sink and thinking about why that happens. In RE, we learned about the Creation Story. The children created their own beautiful collages to help retell the story in a creative and personal way. In Art, we have been exploring different types of lines, experimenting with shape, direction, and texture in our drawings. Well done, Year 1! You've had a fantastic week of learning!



## Year 2

What a lovely week we've had in Year 2! In English, we've been exploring noun phrases, learning to make our writing more exciting with descriptions like "the fluffy cat" or "the sparkling river." In Maths, we've been

busy with addition and exploring fact families to see how numbers are connected. Forest School was a real highlight: we were blindfolded and guided along a rope, imagining what it might have been like during the Great Fire of London when people couldn't see where they were going, and we made dens to think about how people found shelter. We also learned how to make a clove hitch knot and tied ribbons to the trees to make them look like they were on fire! Back in class, we finished our clay houses in art, which look fantastic. And to top it all off, for the third week in a row, Year 2 won the attendance award—our class cupboard is starting to look like a gallery with all our certificates on display!

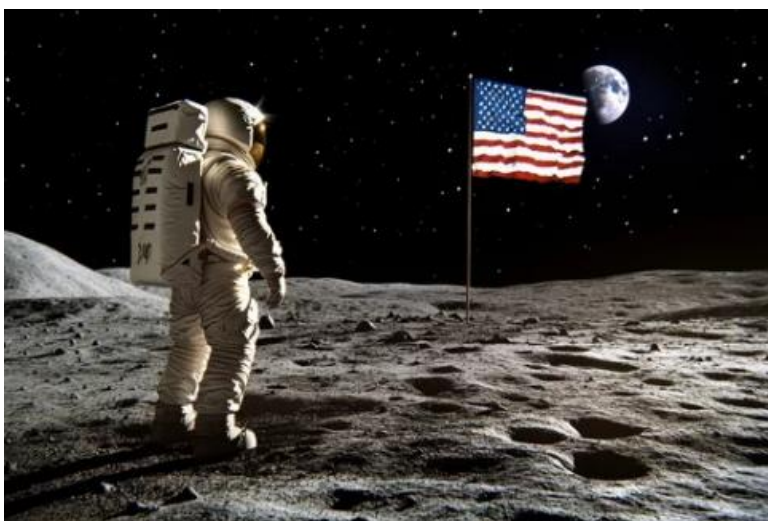
### **Year 3**

Year 3 has had a fantastic week full of creativity and discovery! In English, the students wrote acrostic poems around the theme of play, celebrating the joy of outdoor activities and the values of OPAL. It was inspiring to see their creativity flow through their words. In Geography, we explored how mountains are created and learned about the four layers of the Earth. The students showed great interest in understanding the natural world beneath our feet. In Science, we conducted a hands-on experiment to test how different soil types retain water, and the results were fascinating! Well done, Year 3 – your hard work and enthusiasm are truly shining through. Keep it up!



### **Year 4**

What another great week the children have had in Year 4! In maths, the children have been looking at adding 2 four-digit numbers together and I have been so impressed with how well the children have done with this and the presentation of their work has been exceptional! Another wonderful week Year 4! Well done!



### **Year 5**

We have had a fantastic week in Year 5! In Maths, the children have been practising column addition and subtraction, making sure their digits are lined up correctly. We've also been using rounding to check answers, which helps us to spot and fix our mistakes. In English, the children have begun planning their first big write: a diary entry about the first moon landing. They are thinking carefully about how the experience might have felt for different people, both in space and back on Earth. In Science, we carried out an investigation to discover materials that are soluble in water. In

French, we have been learning about masculine and feminine words, singular and plural forms, and how to put them together into simple sentences. It's been a busy and exciting week of learning!

### **Year 6**

Year 6 have had another fantastic week of learning! In maths, we have been working hard on multiplying numbers by both 1-digit and 2-digit numbers, showing great perseverance and accuracy. In English, the

children have impressed us with their persuasive adverts for their own shoe designs – their creativity and persuasive techniques have been amazing to read! In science, we carried out an exciting experiment to explore how shadows change depending on the distance of the light source. The children showed excellent curiosity and teamwork while investigating and recording their findings. To end the week, Year 6 represented themselves and their houses brilliantly during the Quiggy Cup football tournament on Friday. Their teamwork, sportsmanship and enthusiasm were a credit to the school. Well done, Year 6 – another brilliant week!

### Diary Dates 2025-2026

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
Year 6 Class Assembly	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9.00am
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
Year 2 Class Assembly	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9.00am
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Cinderella, Lichfield Garrick	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 10.00am
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Young Voices 2026	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Year 5 Class Assembly	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2026, 9.00am
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
PFA Valentine's Disco	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026
PFA Easter Bingo	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026, 9.00am
Year 5 Hampton Court Palace	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
School Closes for Easter	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
PFA Midsummer Cinema Night	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026
Year 4 Multiplication Check	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026 to Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
<b>JTMAT INSET Day</b>	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026
School Closes for Summer	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

### Autumn Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Harvest	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
<b>Shobnall Stars Night Owls (After School Club) CLOSED for staff training</b>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
PFA Halloween Discos	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reception, Y1, Y2 – 3.45pm – 5.00pm</li> <li>• Y3, 4, 5 &amp; 6 – 5.15pm – 6.30pm</li> </ul>
Parents' Evening	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
Open Evening	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 4.30-6.00pm

Odd Socks Day	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
Year 6 Class Assembly	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9.00am
Parent Coffee Morning	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9.00am – 10.00am
Children in Need	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2025
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 inclusive
Christingle	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025
A Nursery Noel	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 9.15am
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Reception / Year 1 Nativity	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Cinderella, Lichfield Garrick	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 10.00am
Year 2 / Year 3 Nativity	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> 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