



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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5<sup>th</sup> December 2025

*"It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air."*

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are feeling very Christmassy here in school, and the festive spirit seems to be growing by the day! Our beautiful Christmas tree is now standing proudly in the hall, which looks magical adorned with the stunning Christingles the children created for our special assembly earlier this week, where we were delighted to welcome Reverend Simon to share in the celebration. The nursery children truly shone during their charming Nursery Noel performance – such confidence and joy from our youngest pupils!



As we speak, the PFA Christmas Market is in full swing, filling the school with excitement, music and the smell of mince pies! I would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all members of the PFA for organising what promises to be a fantastic, Christmas extravaganza! They have worked so hard, giving up much of their own time to contact local businesses for raffle prizes, set up for the market, organise stalls etc. What a dedicated team we have, thank you so very much!

There are so many people we need to thank, starting with all of our parents, friends and school staff on behalf of the PFA who have donated unwanted items, whether that be books, toys or games, clothing, food or their time to making this event a success. It is very much appreciated and humbles us when celebrating and thinking about the true meaning of Christmas. We also wish to thank all the local businesses who have very kindly donated raffle prizes – maybe you were one of the lucky ones! Thank you also to other external stallholders for attending as well as Santa, who flew in especially on his sleigh! We are also extremely grateful to Mr Wilson, who provided us with the beautiful Christmas tree that you can see! We will, of course, let you know the final amount that you have helped raise through supporting this event on next week's newsletter. Thank you once again for coming and supporting the Market!



There's even more to look forward to next week: the Reception and Year 1 nativity, followed by the Year 2 and 3 nativity, as well as our much-anticipated whole school pantomime trip to Lichfield Garrick Theatre to see Cinderella. Our choir will also be spreading Christmas cheer at Charlotte James Care Home, sharing festive songs with the residents. Wishing you all a very festive weekend and we look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!

### Christmas Performances for Parents

We look forward to welcoming you into school next week for more of our Christmas performances, which the children are very excited about! These are summarised as follows:

Date	Time	Year Group(s)
Monday 8 December 2025	9.15am <b>AND</b> 2:15pm	Reception and Year 1
Thursday 11 December 2025	9.15am <b>AND</b> 2:15pm	Year 2 and Year 3

As teachers and parents, we realise that parents do like to take photographs and videos of their child during performances as a personal memento. However, this can only be allowed if parents follow the guidelines which have been agreed by our school community, and we thank you for your co-operation with this:

- Photographs must not appear on the internet or social media.
- Photographs/videos are used as a personal memento only and cannot be reproduced or shared elsewhere publicly.
- Parents wishing to take videos/photographs are asked to stand in a position which does not detract from the children's performances and does not restrict the view of other audience members.
  - We look forward to seeing you there! Whilst there has been no charge for admission to our performances, we will be having a collection at the end of each performance in support of our designated charity for this season, which is St. Giles's Hospice – a charity close to all our hearts.



### Reception Application Process

The application process for a reception place for September 2026 opened on **1 November 2025**. The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Further information can be found on [Staffordshire County Council Website](#). The closing date is 15 January 2026. The school office has a letter informing parents about the process, which we are happy to distribute to prospective families. If you would like a copy of this, please contact us.

### 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.



# CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



# BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



# KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.



**NHS**

## 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.



### Tree-mendous Tips!

Christmas is slowly creeping in on us, and a lot of us will be starting to decorate the house. Here's some festive, sustainable top tips:

- Choose LED lights or go for solar powered
- Don't buy new decorations every year
- If you do need decorations, look for second hand
- Make your own decorations such as dried orange slices baubles or wine cork Christmas trees - [get inspired here](#)
- **Make a Christmas wreath** using the fallout or extra pieces from your tree



### Safety Tip!

AI isn't just transforming the way we learn and work, it's also reshaping the tactics scammers use online. From generating convincing phishing emails to fabricating influencer videos, criminals are using AI to make their scams more convincing than ever. Young people, who often embrace new tech quickly, can be especially vulnerable.

This guide highlights several AI-enabled dangers – including romance scams, deepfake audio and video impersonations, and fake job offers – and explains how to spot and report them. With clear tips for verifying content, thinking critically, and using trusted platforms, it's essential reading for parents and educators to help young people stay one step ahead of the scammers.



### Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children aged 11+...

#### **The Secret History of Christmas** *Written by Catherine Saunders*

Take a festive journey through time and uncover the incredible historical events, amazing scientific discoveries and unique true stories that all happened on December 25th. From William the Conqueror's dramatic coronation in 1066 and the World War One truce in 1914, to the incredible launch of the James Webb telescope in 2021 and daring Christmas Day heists - a lot has happened on Christmas Days down the years!

## 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. **Children can come to school with mild respiratory illnesses.** 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!** Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Nursery	89.6%	Target
Reception	88.8%	
Year 1	71.6%	Whole School –
Year 2	96.1%	97%
Year 3	79.7%	
Year 4	87.5%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	80.1%	
Year 6	94.8%	95.4%
Overall	85.3%	

## Head Teacher's Awards

Nursery	EVERYONE!	
Reception	Barnaby C	Thuyahvan S
Year 1	Simeon B-C	Gianna R
Year 2	Abia L	Rayyan S
Year 3	Alfie T	Shasta S
Year 4	Evie T	Obeydullah H
Year 5	EVERYONE!	
Year 6	Oliver M	Fatiha N-M

## OPAL Play Awards

Nursery	
Reception	Nathaniel L
Year 1	Darcey-Mai C
Year 2	Elliott T
Year 3	Daisy J
Year 4	Noah H
Year 5	Daniel L
Year 6	Elliot M

## Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 05.12.25)	151	93	236	137
Position	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 points	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2 points
Running Total	15	4	12	10

## Hot Lunch Options 08.12.25 – 12.12.25

WEEK 3	MEAT FREE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish		Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	SPECIAL MENU – PANTO PACK UP	Roast turkey with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	5 Mexican chilli with 50/50 rice	Fish cake served with chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Pb	Vegetarian burger with chunky chips		Pb Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegan meatballs with 50/50 rice	Vegetable fingers with chips
Accompaniments		Peas & broccoli ***** Salad bar		Green beans & cabbage ***** Salad bar	Corn on the cob & carrots ***** Salad bar	Peas & baked beans ***** Salad bar
Desserts		Chocolate sponge		Pb Fruit flapjack	Pb Ginger biscuit	Ice cream
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



TO EAT MORE FRUIT

**KEY**

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

**A WORLD OF FUN WITH FOOD**

*Mellors*

**'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

Nursery have had a wonderful and exciting week, proudly performing their very first *Nursery Noel*, which has kicked off the nativity season in style. The children shone on stage, singing beautifully and filling the hall with festive cheer. They also kept everyone smiling with the funny jokes they had carefully prepared. We are incredibly proud of their confidence and enthusiasm – well done, Nursery!



## Reception

This week in Reception, the children have been busy getting creative and curious! They have been exploring the playful portrait style of Hanoch Piven and have even begun drawing and colouring their own portraits inspired by his work. In maths, the children circles and triangles. One of the highlights was taking turns on Miss Brewin's *spinnny chair* to help draw a giant circle on the floor! Our topic work has taken us to colder climates as the children learned about Arctic animals and sorted different creatures into Arctic and non-Arctic groups. In Concept Cat, they have been exploring the idea of *around* through a range of hands-on activities. A big thank-you to the parents who were able to attend the workshop yesterday. The children loved showing you the many ways we explore and learn new concepts.

## Year 1

Year 1 have had a wonderfully busy week! We've been rehearsing our nativity with Reception and are full of excitement for our big performance on Monday. In English, the children have started drafting and editing their own sets of instructions, thinking carefully about clear steps and detail. In Maths, we've been exploring 3D shapes – learning to recognise and name them and spotting them in the world around us. Our Geography lessons have been all about playgrounds: we discussed the features we enjoy in our own playground and even designed imaginative new playgrounds with creative ideas. In RE, we reflected on the special gifts Jesus received and their meaning, while in PSHE we celebrated our unique character strengths and talked about what makes each of us special. It's been a week full of learning, creativity, and festive cheer!



## Year 2

We've had a truly wonderful week in Year 2! The children have made an excellent start on drafting their non-chronological reports and have already produced some amazing writing that I'm really pleased with. In Maths, we've been exploring shape, which has been a big hit with the class, and we enjoyed a Geography walk around our community to spot different human and physical features. Our Nativity rehearsals are now in full swing, and the children are absolutely loving every



moment. To finish off the week, we joined a live Newsround assembly all the way from Antarctica, where the children were fascinated to learn about life there and the effects of climate change. We also celebrated our 7th attendance award of the year – we are absolutely smashing it! Let's see if we can get the next two and fill our cupboards completely... although that might mean I'll need to find a new wall to cover in certificates! What a fantastic week!

### Year 3

What an excellent week it has been in Year 3! Nativity rehearsals are going brilliantly - the children are trying so hard, and we cannot wait for them to perform for you all. In Science, we learned about the human skeleton and the names of different bones. The children created fantastic skeleton diagrams in their books and did a super job labelling each part accurately. In English, the class has been busy planning their reports all about South American football. I'm not sure who's more excited about these – the children or Mr Attwood! In PE, the children played netball for the first time. They were very impressive, showing brilliant teamwork and picking up the new skills quickly. Well done on a wonderful week, Year 3!



### Year 4

We've had a wonderfully festive and busy week in Year 4! On Monday in Forest School, we enjoyed a range of Christmas crafts. The children created Christmas trees from twigs, made ribbon Christmas trees, and some



even worked together to build a life-size sleigh using natural materials – an amazing team effort! In science, we learned all about food chains. Working in groups, we created our own, carefully labelling the prey, predator, and primary/secondary consumers, and remembering to include arrows to show the direction of energy. In PE, we continued to develop our skills in netball, focusing on teamwork and accurate passing. In maths, we worked on the 11 and 12 times tables and explored how to multiply

by 1 and 0. In English, we finished our diary entries, showcasing excellent vocabulary and writing stamina. We also enjoyed our geography lessons, where we investigated food packaging, explored where our food comes from, and discussed food miles using maps. A fantastic week – well done, Year 4!

### Year 5

Year 5 have worked incredibly hard this week during our assessment week. The children completed tests in English, Reading and Maths, showing great focus and resilience throughout.

In Computing, the children have been exploring the world of video production. They learned how to plan, film and edit short clips, developing their understanding of camera angles, sequencing and storytelling through digital media.





We ended the week on a creative high in Design and Technology, where the children have been making their own stuffed toys inspired by the Pop Art movement. Using running stitch, cross stitch, and blanket stitch, they carefully designed and created colourful and unique soft toys. Well done, Year 5, for your fantastic effort, creativity and determination this week!



## Year 6

Year 6 have had a great week. It has been assessment week, and it has been lovely to see the progress each child has made since the start of the year. The children completed their individual assessments with focus and resilience, and we are very proud of how well they approached them. Another highlight was the Christmas Fair. The children really enjoyed planning and running their own games, showing great teamwork and enthusiasm throughout. They took responsibility for setting up, explaining how their games worked, and encouraging others to take part. In Science, we

have been exploring traffic lights as part of our circuits unit. The children were fascinated by how the different components work together to create a controlled sequence, and they asked some excellent questions during our investigations. A great week, Year 6!

## Diary Dates 2025-2026

Event	Date/Time
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
Year 3 Class Assembly	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2026, 9.00am
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
Reception / Year 1 Nativity	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Cinderella,	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 10.00am

Lichfield Garrick	
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
Year 6 Laches Wood Meeting for Parents	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026, 3.30pm, Year 6 Classroom



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