



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Even though it has been a shorter week in school, due to the bank holiday, we have still managed to squeeze in so many different activities! A particular highlight has been the animal art morning which our nursery children really enjoyed! Thank you to all the parents who came along to help, it was lovely to see you! I hope that you enjoy reading about what all the other classes have been up to in the 'Shobnall Showcase' further on in the newsletter!

Next week also promises to be very busy, especially for our Year 6 children, who will be completing their SATs. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the children the very best for next week as they sit these tests. Not only have the children been working very hard to get themselves prepared so that they are equipped to try their hardest, but the teaching team have also worked exceptionally hard to get them ready. As we build up to next week, I am positive that the children will shine as they always do, and I hope that they use this weekend to relax so that they are fresh and energised to give them their absolute best on Monday.

Don't forget that school meals for KS2 pupils are still priced at just **£2.00**. Please keep taking advantage of this offer and support its continuation. The children are loving the new menu! Whatever it is that you are doing this weekend, we hope that you have a great and relaxing one and look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!



# Shobnall Primary & Nursery School



**Nursery Bookings Are Now Open**

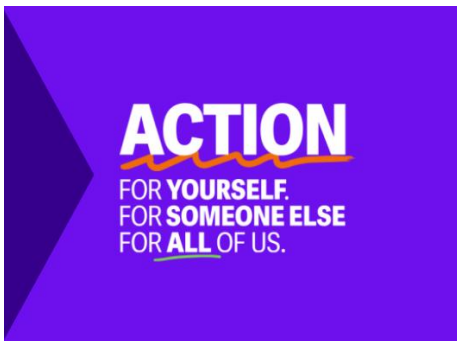


- Nursery sessions run every morning Mon-Fri 8.45-11.45am, term time only.
- Each Nursery place is for 15hrs over 5 days, to use your universal funding (childcare vouchers are accepted).
- Pick up from Nursery by other local providers if needed.
- Nursery is led by a qualified teacher, following the Early Years curriculum. All children access Forest School.
- Attending a school based Nursery provides a great opportunity to be "school ready" for Reception.



To register your child or book a Nursery tour,  
call **01283 247410** or email **[shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk](mailto:shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk)**

## Mental Health Awareness Week – 11 to 17 May 2026



Since 2001, the Mental Health Foundation has been leading Mental Health Awareness Week - bringing the UK together to focus on getting good mental health. This year, the week takes place from **11 to 17 May 2026** and the theme is 'action'.

We want to use this Mental Health Awareness Week to help people take action to support good mental health.

While awareness is vital, real change comes when we take action too. Together, we've come a long way on mental health, but we can't risk going backwards. There's still much we can do to prevent people becoming unwell in the first place. [Learn more about the theme for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week.](#)

The [Mental Health Foundation](#) have provided a series of resources to promote this theme if you are interested in exploring further and the children and staff will be exploring this theme in school next week.

To raise awareness of this ourselves in school, on Friday 15 May we are holding a **Wear it Green Day**. Children are allowed to come into school in non-uniform, preferably green, for a donation of between 50p and £1, which will go towards vital research and delivering community programmes.

Thank you for your support with this!



## Suncream and Sunhats

As the warmer weather now approaches, please don't forget to send your child to school with suncream on and sunhats when we are due to have a particularly hot day. Many thanks for your support with this and let's keep our fingers crossed that warmer weather is very much on its way!



## PFA Midsummer Film Night – Tuesday 19 May 2025, 3.30 – 5.30pm

The PFA are intending to host a Midsummer Film Night on Tuesday 19 May 2025, 3.30pm – 5.30pm for children in Reception to Year 6. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be in the hall (collection from the junior playground) and Key Stage 2 will be split across our Year 3 and 4 classrooms. Shobnall Stars Night Owls will be held in the Year 2 classroom on this night. The films that have been selected for the children are:

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – Finding Nemo

Year 3 and Year 4 – Baby's Day Out

Year 5 and Year 6 – Baby's Day Out

Tickets will be available from next week, either to pay for at the school gates or by bank transfer. **If you pay by bank transfer, please include your child's name and year group as the reference.** The bank details are:

Miss Rhadeka Simpson

Acc No. 03558088

Sort Code 30-91-47

Tickets are priced at £4, which includes a drink, popcorn and a slice of pizza. Please can parents make school aware of any allergies and please note that for any films rated PG, the purchase of a ticket also acts as consent for your child to watch the film. Additional drinks and snacks will also be available so children in attendance may wish to bring a small amount of change on the night if they wish to purchase any. We do hope that you are able to support this event!



## **PFA MIDSUMMER CINEMA NIGHT**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 3:30–5:30pm**

**£4 INCLUDES SLICE OF PIZZA, DRINK & POPCORN**

**Extra drinks, crisps & snacks available to buy on the day**

**RAISING MONEY FOR SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL**

**\*You can now also PAY ONLINE\***

**ACCOUNT NAME:  
MISS RHADEKA  
SIMPSON**

**ACCOUNT NO.  
03558088**

**SORT CODE  
30-91-47**



## 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.




## 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.



## NEW Trial Hot Lunch Options 11.05.26 – 15.05.26

WEEK 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main dish	Pizza bar Selection of toppings	Chicken Burger served with Herby Potatoes	Roast beef, with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	New recipe Chicken Tikka Masala 50/50 Rice	Fish cake served with chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Pizza bar Selection of toppings	Samosa Pie served with Bombay Potatoes	 Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegetarian all day breakfast	Quorn Nuggets With Chips
Halal	As above	As Above	Roast chicken	Chicken tikka	As above
Pasta Bar	Selection of toppings	Selection of toppings	Selection of toppings	Selection of toppings	Selection of toppings
Accompaniments	Peas & broccoli ..... Salad bar	Roasted vegetables ..... Salad bar	Carrots & cauliflower ..... Salad bar	Green beans & sweetcorn ..... Salad bar	Peas & baked beans ..... Salad bar
Desserts	Chefs Choice Homemade Cookie	Chocolate rice crispy cake	Golden syrup sponge & custard	Strawberry whip	Ice-Cream & fresh fruit
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



**eat WELL**



**GROW STRONG**

**KEY**

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



**Mellors**  
A WORLD OF FUN WITH FOOD

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.

## Safety Tip!

Children and young people are microwaving squishy silicone toys after seeing online videos claiming this makes the toys softer and more pliable. When the toy is squeezed afterwards, it bursts and sprays boiling material, which reportedly has left children's hands and faces seriously burned.

The toys are widely available in UK shops, and online stores including Amazon and TikTok Shop and are immensely popular for both children and young people.

Often, the packaging for these toys provides a warning not to heat, freeze or microwave. Children are ignoring it because the online videos they watch encourage them to do the opposite. The child may no longer have the original packaging to even see the warning. The silicone casing insulates heat yet the outside stays cool to the touch, all while the inside reaches boiling temperatures. In most reported cases, the child was unsupervised. There was no adult present to intervene before the injury occurred.

Click on the link [here](#) for further information.

# Viral Trend Risks Causing Severe Burns to Children



Microwaving NEEDOH Toys and Squishies

Parents and Carers Guide

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

A viral trend is encouraging children to microwave squishy silicone toys, known as NEEDOH toys or squishies, among other names (Jelly Cubes, Nice Cubes) in order to make them softer and more pliable. Often, the packaging warns against this, but children are ignoring it because online videos and trends on TikTok, Instagram and YouTube encourage them to do the opposite. The toy feels cool to the touch after microwaving, but bursts when squeezed, spraying boiling material on hands, neck and face. A child in Bristol was seriously hurt on 4th May 2026 and children in America have experienced significant burns and injuries. This has happened to children as young as seven.

*Please note - Your child does not need to have searched for this. The algorithm shows it to children based on other content they have watched.*

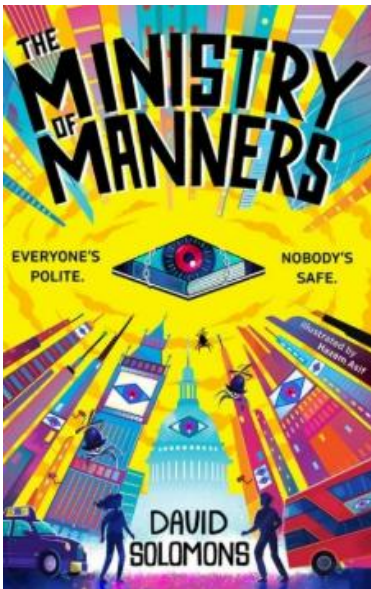


## IF YOUR CHILD HAS ONE OF THESE TOYS

It is natural to feel concerned, but the most important thing is to remain calm. Children are far more likely to talk to you, now and in the future, if they know they will be met with a steady response rather than alarm.

This is also a valuable opportunity. What your child sees online, from friends or from trends, does not always show the full picture or the consequences. Safety conversations are not about restricting their fun, they are about making sure they understand how to protect themselves and others.





## Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children aged 9+...

### The Ministry of Manners

Written by David Solomons

Alfie and Margot Hawthorne have grown up under the Ministry of Manners, where politeness isn't a choice - it's the law. And one wrong word can change your life. He knows how to stay out of trouble, but she has never been one for quiet obedience.

When the Ministry takes Margot, everything changes. Inside the Manners Retreat, she fights to stay herself in a place built to erase her. Meanwhile, Alfie falls in with the Unsilenced - those who still dare to speak. But the Ministry has plans of its own. And if they succeed, rebellion won't just be punished. It'll be impossible.

## 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 **Reception!** Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Nursery	92.3%	Target
Reception	100%	
Year 1	91.7%	Whole School – 97%
Year 2	95.0%	
Year 3	99.2%	
Year 4	98.4%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	95.3%	
Year 6	97.5%	95.9%
Overall	96.5%	

## Head Teacher's Awards

Nursery	Mohammed A	Isla D
Reception	Dorothy C	Kiana N
Year 1	Aidan B	Zaynab A
Year 2	Jacob M	Kinza M
Year 3	Hudhayfah M	Zakaria B
Year 4	Arham A	Esme E
Year 5	Thea K	Harry K
Year 6	Sughra F	Lewis L

## OPAL Play Awards

Nursery	
Reception	Sophie L
Year 1	Yusuf S
Year 2	Sada C
Year 3	Jakub K
Year 4	Aria A
Year 5	Alizah A
Year 6	Zaef R

## Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 08.05.26)	83	107	171	140
Position	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2 points	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 points
Running Total	7	7	16	12

# SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

### Nursery

Wow what an exciting week we have had in nursery!

Earlier in the week we had an amazing time at our art morning where our grown-ups joined us to get creative. There was lots of painting, glueing, cutting, fun and laughter as we all got busy creating wild animals using junk modelling materials. The results were fantastic and we now have a variety of brightly decorated wild animals in our nursery role play area!

We have continued learning about Sir David Attenborough and shared

some very impressive home learning. On Friday we celebrated Sir David Attenborough's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with our munch, crunch, wild brunch party! It was a roaring success and we all arrived dressed for the occasion. It was lots of fun joining in with so many themed activities we especially loved our imagination island even the dolls mansion had been transformed into a jungle. We have also found animal prints interesting and have looked more closely at the different patterns found amongst the wonderful animals of the jungle.

### Reception

This week in Reception, the children have been busy exploring the life and work of David Attenborough. They have enjoyed learning about his incredible contributions to understanding the natural world, as well as his early interests and dreams. Inspired by this, the children created their own clay insects, carefully shaping and painting them, and made salt-dough fossils to link to his early discoveries. They also showed their creativity





by designing special birthday cards to celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday. To connect with our own classroom nature experiences, the children have been making beautiful butterfly crafts as we prepare to welcome our butterflies emerging from their cocoons. It has been a wonderfully creative and inspiring week of learning!

### Year 1

Year 1 have had a very topsy-turvy week, with some of our lessons taking place in the hall and the children needing to use the toilets in the main part of the school due to the leak in our corridor. Despite all the disruption, they have shown incredible resilience. They have been brilliant role models for Reception and Nursery while sharing the hall space, demonstrating maturity, patience and kindness throughout.

In Science, we have been exploring the weather during winter and spring, comparing the seasons and discussing the changes we can observe. In Maths, we have been learning about arrays and doubling, using practical resources to build our understanding. We have also continued to make great progress in our phonics learning.

In English, the children have been drafting and editing their own versions of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, showing fantastic creativity and growing confidence in their writing.

### Year 2

Year 2 have had a lovely week full of learning and discovery!

In English, we have been finishing our draft writing all about a postcard from the seaside. The children have worked hard to include exciting descriptions and thoughtful ideas in their writing, and we are so proud of the effort they have shown.

In Maths, we have been exploring time. We have discovered that telling the time can be quite tricky, but Year 2 are showing great resilience and determination. We may not all be time experts just yet, but we certainly are not giving up! As we have been saying in class, "Time flies when you're learning!" and with plenty more practise, we know the children's confidence will continue to grow.



In Science, we have been exploring our local area and learning about habitats and how changes can affect them. The children took part in a litter hunt to investigate what rubbish we could find and discussed how litter can impact the habitats and living things around us. We finished the week by celebrating Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday as part of our science learning, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. It was a wonderful way to end a fantastic week!

### Year 3

Another brilliant week is completed and well done to all of Year 3 for their super hard work. In Maths, the children have been getting to grips with money. They have been practising making different amounts using coins and adding amounts together. In English, the children have been publishing their persuasive reports encouraging prospective parents to enrol their child at Shobnall. They have used some fantastic expanded noun phrases which show off their rich vocabulary, and they should be very proud. In Computing, the children have been polishing up their digital skills by making posters for a birthday party. Finally, in History, we looked at tools and weapons from the Iron Age. The children drew a tool or weapon and described its uses, as well

as discussing why Iron Age tools were better than those from earlier prehistoric periods. Well done, Year 3! Keep up the good work!



#### Year 4

A four-day week certainly hasn't slowed us down – we've crammed in lots of learning! In Maths, we have been comparing amounts of money and estimating and solving a range of problem-solving questions involving money. In English, we finished our informal email recounts. The children have worked incredibly hard on these and we can't wait to publish them next week! In Science, we created our own classification keys, thinking carefully about how to group and identify different animals. In Art, we explored the process of batik and used this to create repeating

patterns linked to fabric design. We took inspiration from the colours and patterns of the rainforest, producing some beautiful work. In RE, we discussed why it might be difficult for Buddhists to follow the Noble Eightfold Path consistently all of the time, leading to some thoughtful conversations. A great week in Year 4, well done everyone!

#### Year 5

In Maths, the children have finished their work on angles and have now started a new topic on grids and coordinates. They have been learning how to plot and read coordinates accurately. In English, the children have begun writing and editing the introduction and first section of their explanation texts based on the life cycle of a chosen animal. They have been working hard to include the correct features and ensure their writing is clear and informative.

It has also been another busy week at Forest School! The children enjoyed building dens, bases and restaurants using tarps and ropes. Some children created beautiful nature weaving pictures using wool and weaving frames, while others took part in stone art and mud painting. A group of children also made fantastic mud faces on trees using natural materials for the features. It has been wonderful to see such creativity, teamwork and imagination outdoors.



#### Year 6

What a fantastic week it has been for Year 6! In maths, we have been focusing on developing our arithmetic and reasoning techniques, particularly how to approach 2-mark questions involving long division and long multiplication with confidence and accuracy. In reading, we have been working on retrieving information and making inferences using evidence from the text, ensuring that answers are clearly explained and supported. The children have worked incredibly hard all year, showing great determination and resilience, and I am confident they will do amazingly well in their SATs next week. Have a restful and relaxing weekend, Year 6 – you are going to smash it!

## Diary Dates 2025-2026

Event	Date/Time
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
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026, 9.00am
<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

## Summer Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
PFA Midsummer Film 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 Tables Check	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026 – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
New Parents Meeting for Nursery & Reception Parents	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2026, 5.00pm
Year 1 Phonics Screening	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Father's Day Lunches – Reception	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Father's Day Lunches – Year 1	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Father's Day Lunches – Year 2	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Reserve Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Father's Day Lunches – Year 3	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Father's Day Lunches – Year 4	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Father's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026
Father's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026
<b>JTMAT INSET Day – School Closed</b>	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026
Year 6 Leavers' Disco	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2026, 6.00pm – 7.30pm
Year 4, 5 & 6 Brewhouse Performance – Aladdin	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2026, 1.30pm and 6.00pm
Nursery Graduation	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2026, 9.00am
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2026, 9.00am
School Closes for Summer	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

# CELEBRATE **THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK** WITH ARTWORK

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE GREENWEEK 2026 IS ALL ABOUT CELEBRATING COMMUNITY ACTION TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROTECT NATURE

AGE GROUPS:	THEME:
2 - 4 YRS	FLOWERS
4 - 6 YRS	NATURE
7 - 11 YRS	RECYCLING
12 - 14 YRS	GREENER LIVING
15 - 18 YRS	GREENWEEK

## ARTWORK RULES

IT HAS TO BE ON A4 PAPER/CARD  
IT CAN BE 2D OR 3D  
ONLY RECYCLED MATERIALS CAN BE  
USED

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED INTO  
SCHOOLS BY FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 26

ONE ENTRY PER PUPIL

WINNING DESIGNS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON SATURDAY  
6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE AT THE GREENWEEK EVENT AT BURTON  
MARKET PLACE

CONTACT [HANNAHGILLESPIE@CIRCULARITY.ORG](mailto:HANNAHGILLESPIE@CIRCULARITY.ORG) FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

# Walking Warriors



Are you ready to join  
the Walking Warriors?

# Shobnall Primary and Nursery School

## Our debt collection procedure



Log onto your Parent pay account at the end of each week. Please make sure that you have added enough funds, on each account, to ensure that there is enough credit to cover the week.

1

Office staff will check Parentpay balances on a Monday. If your account is in debt, then the office staff will send you a text reminder to pay by the end of the day.

2

If your account still remains in debt, on the Tuesday, then office staff will make a phone call. If no contact is made, then a voicemail will be left.

3

On Wednesday, if the debt still remains unpaid, then a reminder letter will be issued.

4

If the debt is still unpaid by Thursday morning, then the school can restrict access to chargeable services such as Shobnall Stars - before and after school club, break sales. The office will call/text you if your child has been affected by this.

# FIREFIGHTERS

CHARITY

# CARWASH!



In aid of  
**Fire  
Fighters  
Charity**



**BURTON ON TRENT  
COMMUNITY FIRE STATION**

**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**10:00 – 16:00**



**GET YOUR CAR SPARKLING  
& SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!**



#HER  
GAME  
TOO



# SHE KIXX

FREE GIRLS FOOTBALL  
FOR UP TO 4 WEEKS

5-8y



8-11y

MAURICE LEA PARK, DE11 9NW  
GRESLEY OLD HALL, DE11 9QW



[KOSPORTSFC.CO.UK](http://KOSPORTSFC.CO.UK)

07378 369 121

[FACEBOOK.COM/SHEKIXX](https://FACEBOOK.COM/SHEKIXX)

# John Taylor MAT

CEO: Mike Donoghue OBE MA (Hons), MBA, NPQH, NLE



Dear Parents/ Carers & Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that we announce that nominations are now open for the JTMAT Exceptional Achievement Award, which all John Taylor Multi Academy Trust pupils are eligible to be nominated for.

The award, which is open to all year groups in all JT MAT schools, is an opportunity for children to gain recognition for their achievements. Pupils may be nominated for the Exceptional Achievement Award at any point in the academic year, based on the following criteria:

Primary Aged Pupils (Early Years, KS1 & KS2)	Secondary Aged Pupils (KS3, KS4 & KS5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• County, National or International status in any given activity in the last 18 months</li><li>• Grade 1 or above at KS1, or Grade 3 or above in music or singing at KS2</li><li>• Performing in televised programme/ film or National stage production</li><li>• Fundraising for a charity over £2000</li><li>• Success in overcoming adversity</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National or International status in any given activity in the last 18 months</li><li>• Grade 8 or above/ Diploma in music or singing</li><li>• Performing in televised programme/ film.</li><li>• Fundraising for a charity over £5000</li><li>• Success in overcoming adversity</li></ul>

Parents, carers, staff, or peers can make a nomination using the above criteria.

Please complete the online form via this link:

[John Taylor MAT- Exceptional Achievement Award Nomination Form \(Spring & Summer 2026\) – Fill in form](#)

The form will ask you to complete a short paragraph (please work to a minimum of 100 and a maximum of 250 words) in order for the nomination to be fully considered.

Once you have made your nomination, please be advised that we will be in contact with you in the weeks leading up to the ceremony to request supporting evidence, which you should provide to the student's headteacher. Please be advised that you will be notified shortly after this process has taken place to let you know whether your nomination has been successful.

Please provide as many specific details about the achievement as possible, ensuring that you provide full details of which sport/ instrument for example, the achievement involves.

If successful, students will be invited to meet with their headteacher for a ceremony which will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 9:00am, via a Teams call with Mike Donoghue OBE, CEO of John Taylor MAT, in which they will receive their very special gold pin badge award and certificate of exceptional achievement.

We very much look forward to seeing our school community embrace this opportunity and celebrate those who achieve the award. The deadline for nominations is 4pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026 and winners will be announced shortly after that date.

If you have any enquiries, please email [jtmat-subjectexcellence@jtmat.co.uk](mailto:jtmat-subjectexcellence@jtmat.co.uk)

With Kind Regards,

Mrs G Martin  
Director of School Improvement (secondary)

Mrs L Farmer  
Director of School Improvement (primary)