



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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12th January 2024

"Every year we make a resolution to change ourselves. This year, make a resolution to be yourself."

Dear Parents/Carers,



Happy New Year! I hope that you have all had a fantastic break and enjoyed the holiday! It has been great catching up with the children this week and finding out what they have all been up to! They have returned to school happy, relaxed and in a positive mindset, which has been the perfect way to begin our new term.

We were delighted with the publication of our fantastic Ofsted report this week. We are officially an **OUTSTANDING** school. If you have not already read the full report, you can do so [here](#). Some of the highlights from the report include:

"Pupils are proud to attend this exceptional school."

"The school's vision for 'happy children, inspired learners' is being realised to the full."

"The school is a joyful and purposeful place for pupils to learn."

"Subject leaders are experts in the curriculum areas they lead. They draw on research and collaborate within professional networks."

"The school's approach to teaching reading is highly effective."

"Bullying is not tolerated."

"Staff have a deep understanding of the needs of pupils with special educational need and/or disabilities (SEND)."

"Leaders have placed serious emphasis on promoting pupils' personal development."



Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Early years provision	Outstanding

Despite receiving such a glowing Ofsted report, we still have lots of exciting developments and are always looking to improve even further - we never rest on our laurels here at Shobnall Primary & Nursery School!

We hope that you have all had a very positive start to 2024 and that you have a great weekend! As always, we look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!

Reception Applications!



We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the application process for a reception place for September 2024 will **close on 15 January 2024**.

If you or a member of your family or wider social circle has not yet applied, the easiest way for parents is online. Further information can be found on the [Staffordshire County Council website](#).

Please ask at the school office if you would like a copy of the letter informing parents about the process.

Young Voices

We were very proud of our choir who we took to Young Voices at Resorts World Arena in Birmingham last night! It was an exceptionally well organised and amazing event, full of fantastic performances from the children and of course numerous professional singers and dancers! The children were tremendous throughout the whole event and after speaking to Year 2, it appears that we will have many keen Young Voices choir members to pick from once again next year. Well done to everyone involved in making the event so spectacular!



NSPCC Number Day!

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on **Friday 2 February 2024**! Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. We are planning to have a fun day of maths activities and will be taking part in Dress up for Digits. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (i.e. football shirt, cap. Netball shirt or even a onesie!) OR get even more creative by dressing up in a maths or numbers

theme. To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking for a suggested donation of £1, and we'd love everyone in the school to take part in this special event. Unfortunately, Year 6 will be at Laches Wood, but we know they'll be marking the day in their own way and celebrating with us in spirit!

We're really looking forward to all the fun of Number Day, and we really appreciate your support. All the money we raise at Shobnall Primary & Nursery School will make an enormous difference to children today and help the NSPCC be there for children tomorrow.

You can find out more about the NSPCC's work at nspcc.org.uk.



Snow & Extreme Weather Procedures

With an arctic cold snap fast approaching, please could we remind all our families about the school's procedures should we receive substantial snowfall and extreme weathers. The school will endeavour to remain open in the first instance and closing the school will only ever be chosen in the final instance. Please can I ask that you do not contact the school office asking if we are open, as we will always use our main methods of communication in the event of such a decision. You will all receive a text

message, and the school Twitter account will also be used to state that this decision has been made. Please ensure that the school office has up-to-date contact details for you. We hope that we are not required to close but such a decision must take into consideration many factors, not just the amount of snow on the school grounds. For example, the safety of parents and families on their journey to school, the staff and their journey to school (many of whom travel some considerable distances through remote areas) and, of course, the weather forecast, and Met Office advice all play a part. I hope that this clarifies our procedures for you and many thanks for your understanding in this matter.

Punctuality

At Shobnall Primary & Nursery School, we monitor punctuality as well as attendance. The law treats some persistent lateness in the same way as irregular attendance and parents may be prosecuted by the Local Authority if late arrival is not resolved. The school gates open daily at 8:45am

Poor punctuality can lead to your child...

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day



Thank you for your support in ensuring that the children get to school on time every day! Remember, every school day counts!



Online Safety Tips

Freedom of expression is enshrined in international law. Some individuals, however, misunderstand the right to share their opinions as a license to target others with the most horrendous prejudice.

So how do we balance people's prerogative to have their voice heard against everyone's right to live in a respectful, inclusive society?

This conflict frequently unfolds in the digital world. Online posters can be falsely accused of hate speech, while actual hate is often defended as merely being 'free speech'.

To help children and young people learn to identify the boundaries and recognise genuine hate speech when they see it, this guide provides some helpful definitions and guidelines.

New Year, New Top Tips!

It's a new year and the perfect time to make sustainable resolutions to do your bit for the environment! You could start with:

- Reducing your meat and dairy intake can help to reduce your impact on the environment. Why not try a meat free Monday? Choosing local produce is a fantastic way to cut your emissions, as food can be transported from all over the world - local tastes much fresher too!
- Why not make one of your new years resolutions to start composting to cut down on food waste? [Watch our beginners guide here](#). [Get a discounted bin if you have a Staffordshire postcode](#).
- Got lots of unwanted gifts from Christmas? Take them to a charity shop or your [nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre](#).
- If you still have your Christmas tree, make sure you take it to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre.
- Eligible off-gas homes in Staffordshire can get new energy upgrades to keep their homes warmer for less. The upgrades are free of charge and fully funded by the Staffordshire Warmer Homes scheme. [Apply here](#).
- Is your business looking for support on how to reduce your costs and become greener? **Green Solutions** in affiliation with the Business Energy Advice Service is a programme that offers support to businesses in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Visit [our website](#) to get a FREE energy assessment and access FREE Carbon Literacy training.



Hot Lunch Options – 15 to 19 January 2024

W/c 23.10.23, 20.11.23, 11.12.23, 15.1.24

WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Spaghetti Bolognese	Roast turkey with potato of the day & gravy	Beef burger	Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Vegetarian burger with chips	Vegetarian bolognese	Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Veggie burger	Cheese pinwheels with diced potatoes
Accompaniments	Corn on the cob & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & cauliflower Salad bar	Carrots & green beans Salad bar	Chunky chips beans & peas	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Fresh fruit & whip	Lemon biscuit	Chocolate & orange muffins	Ice Cream Sundae station Chocolate Cake	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



FREE Uniform!

We have FREE uniform that is available for anyone who needs it, via our donation service. There is a box situated outside the school office for any parents who have old items that they wish to donate. Please could we ask that these are cleaned and in good condition before placing in the box! Amy Roobottom continues sorting, collating and distributing this. If you wish to contact Amy to ask what is available that you might be in need of, please contact her via amyroobottom@outlook.com.



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 fantastic first week back in Nursery! It has been wonderful hearing all about the children's Christmas fun and they have all had something to share and lots of questions to ask.

Our new topic 'All Aboard!' has begun this week with a story called, 'Zoom Rocket Zoom' and there has been some fantastic story telling going on. The children have also completed a range of space-based activities based on our story and the children have been sharing their fun facts about space and aliens!



On Thursday, the aliens arrived in Nursery and left an explosion of peas! The children used their fine motor skills to carefully pick up the peas with their spoons to put inside the plastic bottles and had lots of fun!

A wonderful start to the spring term – Nursery, you are amazing!

Reception

Reception Adventures this week...

We have had a fantastic start to the spring term! On Monday we returned to school with big smiles and full of wonderful news to share from our holidays! It was fun listening to each other's New Year's Eve celebrations and we discussed the tradition of New Year's resolutions. We all thought carefully about what we would like to try or do better at this year.

We also began exploring the Arctic as part of our new topic, 'On the High Seas!' We have been mesmerised by the beautiful scenes of this very special part of the world and shared our thoughts and questions...

"There are polar bears there and it's very cold." (Olivia)

"Does Santa build the igloos?" (Ava. C)

"People can't live there it's too cold for them." (Ava. T)

"Are the polar bears cuddly?" (Fred)

"Seals eat lots of fish." (Jensen)

"Narwhals live there." (Elliott)

"Ice mountains cover the snow." (Fatima)

We created some exciting paintings of polar bears and wrote messages to the baby cubs to find out more about their homes. We are looking forward to continuing our arctic adventure next week...

Year 1

What a fantastic first week back for Year 1! We have hit the ground running with our learning and the children have thoroughly enjoyed the week. In English, we have started our new unit of writing, which is based on instructions. The children have been exploring the model text as well as looking at the order in which instructions are written. We also had a go at following instructions to make our own rainsticks. In Maths, we have been looking at counting forwards and backwards to 20 as well as understanding the numbers 10, 11, 12 and 13. We have been learning all about tens frames and how 11 is $10 + 1$ and 12 is $10 + 2$, etc. In our afternoon sessions, we have been using Beebots in Computing and looking at our body in Science. We also had our first Forest School session, which was extremely muddy, but we all had a marvellous time and are looking forward to next week already. Well done, Year 1!

Year 2

Year 2 have had a great week back! In English they have been continuing to write their non-chronological report on a member of the Royal Family. The children really enjoyed using the iPads to research their chosen member. In maths this week the children have started their shape unit. They have enjoyed exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. In DT this week the children have enjoyed making delicious, healthy wraps. The children practiced their chopping, snipping, spreading, and grating skills. They also taste tested ingredients before selecting their final design. Well done Year 2 on a great first week back!

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fab week back! They have been working hard in Maths to solve division with remainders. In English they have written a diary entry based on our new text, 'The Cave Challenge!' During guided reading we have started our new text, 'The Iron Man' and we have made predictions. We have also started our new French unit, learning about colours. Well done for a great week!

Year 4

Year 4 have had a wonderful first week back. It has been so lovely to hear about what the children got up to over the Christmas break and I have been so impressed with their attitude to learning this week after two weeks off! In maths, we have continued with our multiplication and division unit and the children have been identifying multiplication and division facts. In our new English unit, we have been researching about Banksy and identifying why some people see him as a vandal and others see him as an artist. The children loved taking part in a debate towards the end of the week to express their own opinions on the matter! In Science, we have been looking at states of matter and we have been identifying the make-up of particles inside a solid, liquid and gas. Finally, I have been blown away by the timetables knowledge that the children are currently showing! Keep it up Year 4. A wonderful first week back!



Year 5

Year 5 have come back from the New Year raring to go! In Maths the children have continued their learning on fractions, which includes adding and subtracting mixed number fractions. In English, Year 5 have started a new unit called 'Visit Yorkshire!', within their learning this week, the children have learnt what constitutes a persuasive text, identified features within the text, learnt new Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary as well as using etymology and morphology to help them spell new words. Miss Hyden (our new student teacher) introduced the children to their new history topic on Thursday afternoon, where the children created a timeline of Burton-Upon-Trent's history.

Year 6

What a great first week back! It was so lovely to see all the children looking refreshed and ready to learn. The children have returned to school with a fantastic attitude to learning ready for all the hard work that this term brings. In Maths, we began our new topic on ratio and proportion and the children have really enjoyed exploring the ratio of scale drawings and seeing how this relates to real life. In English, we have started a new topic, looking at poetry and in particular one poem about a river's journey. We have explored a range of figurative language and cannot wait to start our own poems. In Science, we started our new topic on Evolution and Inheritance and explored how offspring vary and are not identical to their parents. A great week, well done Year 6!

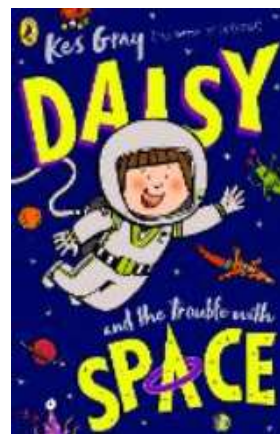
Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children aged 5+ years...

Daisy and the Trouble with Space

Written by Kes Gray

Here comes trouble! Daisy and her class have SPACE FEVER after a talk about stars, moons and faraway planets. THEN their teacher announces they're going to spend a WHOLE WEEK learning all about space. How COSMIC is that?! Trouble is, SPACE FEVER follows Daisy back home too. And turning your bedroom ceiling into the universe isn't that easy. Even with lots of glow-in-the-dark stars, superglue, and your best friend to help.



Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Ava C	Jacob M
Year 1	Shayaani R	Hassan A
Year 2	Penelope T	Hassnain Q
Year 3	Kailen S	Alizah A
Year 4	Alfie H	Alicia F
Year 5	Evalyn W	Nell T
Year 6	Inaya S	Keeghan B

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Fred S
Year 1	Oscar M
Year 2	Angel M
Year 3	Toby N
Year 4	Zaef R
Year 5	Constance L
Year 6	Eric W

Attendance

This week's Attendance Champions are **Year 5!** Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Reception	94.0%	Target
Year 1	90.7%	97%
Year 2	76.0%	
Year 3	95.0%	
Year 4	92.5%	
Year 5	97.2%	Overall (to date)
Year 6	89.4%	94.9%
Overall	90.3%	

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 12.01.24)	65	80	87	107
Position	4 th – 1 point	3 rd – 2 points	2 nd – 3 points	1 st – 4 points
Running Total	1	2	3	4

Diary Dates 2023-2024

Event	Date/Time
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 29 th January to Friday 2 nd February 2024
PFA Valentine's Disco	Thursday 8 th February 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infants: 3.45pm – 5.00pm • Juniors: 5.15pm – 6.30pm
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 9 th February 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 19 th February 2024
PFA Easter Bingo	Friday 15 th March 2024
Year 5 Trip to Hampton Court	Thursday 21 st March 2024
School Closes for Easter	Friday 22 nd March 2024, 2.00pm
INSET Day	Monday 8 th April 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 9 th April 2024
May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed	Monday 6 th May 2024
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 13 th May 2024 to Friday 17 th May 2024
School Closes for Half-Term	Thursday 23 rd May 2024
INSET Day	Friday 24 th May 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 rd June 2024
PFA Summer Fair	Friday 21 st June 2024
JTMAT INSET Day	Friday 5 th July 2024
School Closes for Summer	Friday 19 th July 2024, 2.00pm
INSET Day	Monday 22 nd July 2024

Spring Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 29 th January to Friday 2 nd February 2024
NSPCC Number Day	Friday 2 nd February 2024
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 6 th February 2024
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 9 th February 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 19 th February 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Reception	Monday 29 th February 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 1	Tuesday 1 st March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 2	Monday 4 th March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 3	Tuesday 5 th March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 4	Wednesday 6 th March 2024
World Book Day	Thursday 7 th March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 5	Thursday 7 th March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 6	Friday 8 th March 2024
Comic Relief	Friday 15 th March 2024
Parents' Evening	Monday 18 th March 2024, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 20 th March 2024, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
School Closes for Easter	Friday 22 nd March 2024

Working in partnership with



The John Taylor SCITT

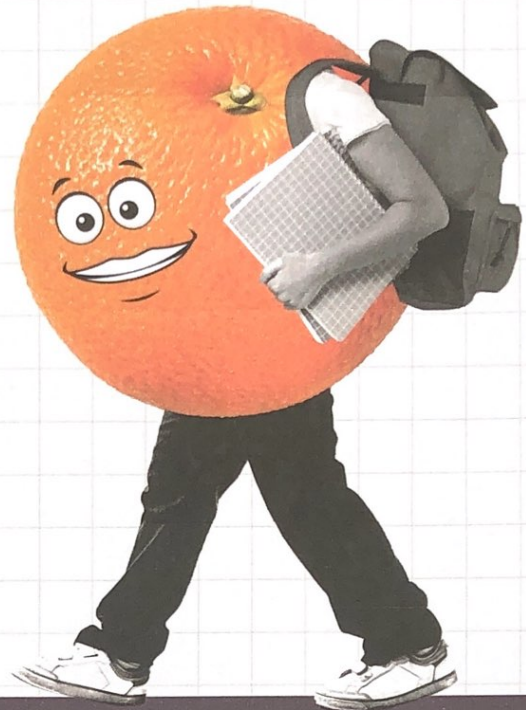




CENSUS DAY

Dine with us...

18th January 2024



Main

Beef burgers
Veggie burgers
Chunky chips
Beans
Peas

Dessert

Ice cream Sundae station
Chocolate Cake
Fruit or yoghurt

What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE SPEECH** VS **HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of “freedom of expression”. That’s the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It’s *not* the right to say whatever you want without regard for others’ feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That’s called ‘hate speech’ and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person’s legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here’s what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It’s important to respect someone’s opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo’s theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others’ views is healthy – while having *ours* challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right *not* to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn’t illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don’t want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn’t have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker’s bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as “different” – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world’s first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents> | <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/schedule/1#:~:text=Everyone%20has%20the%20right%20to%20freedom%20of%20expression>

CALLING ALL COMMUNITY HEROES



SHOBNALL PARISH COUNCIL
NEEDS YOU!

MAKE A CHANGE
BECOME A COUNCILLOR

FOR THIS FORTHCOMING ELECTION
PLEASE CONTACT US AT