



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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"Science may set limits to knowledge but should not set limits to the imagination."

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have really enjoyed seeing so many parents in school this week for our Mother's Day lunches. We have had a lot of positive feedback about them and are delighted that they have been so well received! I would personally like to thank the kitchen staff and lunchtime supervisors who have gone above and beyond to make this a really special event for everyone involved. We hope that your children spoil you rotten on Sunday too!



As you will also be aware, this week we have been celebrating British Science Week! The theme this year has been 'Connections' and I know from dropping into classrooms that the children have really enjoyed exploring all the wonderful things around them and 'connected' with this topic. They have also loved conducting their own investigations, which has given them a greater insight into how a scientist works! We were also lucky to have had Mrs Wood come in and talk to the children in assembly about her career in science – thank you, Mrs Wood! We were also treated to a very special assembly all about British Science Week, which was led by a very enthusiastic group of children. Well done to all

involved and thank you for all your hard work! You may wish to continue with some of this learning at home. Please visit the website at <https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/> for further information and ideas.

Today, we've certainly seen a little more than simply 'a flash of red' in school as all of the children and staff joined in with the spirit of Comic Relief by wearing non-uniform today! Thank you to everyone who has made donations so far. We know that your contributions will help make a huge difference to people living incredibly tough lives and will let you know the final total raised by the school once this has been totalled up.

Whatever it is you have planned for the weekend, we hope that you are able to rest, relax and spend quality time together as families. As always, we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday. Enjoy!



Shobnall Road - Works Update

From Wednesday 15 March 2023 onwards, work will continue along Forest Road between the hours of 8am to 5pm, with all traffic needing to enter and exit via the Burton town centre direction until this phase of the works is completed in April 2023.



Outside of the working hours of 8am and 5pm the route will continue to be open to residents and businesses that require access, and the provision allowing for the school bus services to safely pass in the morning and afternoon will continue.

The Highways Agency apologise for the continued inconvenience that these works may be causing, for all future enquiries relating to progress and completion, please refer to the scheme webpage for the most up to date advice.

St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day takes place today! The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. Here are some interesting facts about this historic event:

- ✚ St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on 17 March, the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.
- ✚ Saint Patrick, who lived during the fifth century, is the patron saint of Ireland and its national apostle. Born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave at 16. He later escaped, but returned to Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to its people.
- ✚ In the centuries following Patrick's death (believed to have been on March 17, 461), the mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture: Perhaps the most well-known legend of St. Patrick is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock.
- ✚ The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place not in Ireland but in America. Records show that a St. Patrick's Day parade was held on 17 March 17 1601 in a Spanish colony in what is now St. Augustine, Florida. The parade, and a St. Patrick's Day celebration a year earlier were organised by the Spanish Colony's Irish vicar Ricardo Artur.
- ✚ The red-haired, green-clothed Leprechaun is commonly associated with St. Patrick's Day. The original Irish name for these figures of folklore is "lobaircin," meaning "small-bodied fellow." Belief in leprechauns likely stems from Celtic belief in fairies— tiny men and women who could use their magical powers to serve good or evil. In Celtic folktales, leprechauns were cranky souls, responsible for mending the shoes of the other fairies.
- ✚ The shamrock, a three-leaf clover, has been associated with Ireland for centuries. It was called the "seamroy" by the Celts and was considered a sacred plant that symbolized the arrival of spring. According to legend, St. Patrick used the plant as a visual guide when explaining the Holy Trinity. By the 17th century, the shamrock had become a symbol of emerging Irish nationalism.





PFA Easter Eggstravaganza!

We would love to see as many of you as possible to attend our Easter Bingo as there is a chance you could win chocolate eggs and other Easter themed prizes! This will be held on **Wednesday 29 March** in the school hall. Doors open from 5.30pm with 'eyes-down' at 6.00pm. Mr Adams has been nominated as bingo caller and has promised to practice the rhymes and sayings to make it a memorable event! Tea, coffee, cold drinks, hotdogs, samosas, and other snacks will be on sale and during the 'break', there are Easter

themed games planned. The bingo books will be available to purchase on arrival. The PFA do need chocolate prizes to award on the night and would like your help! **On Friday 24 March**, the children (and staff) are allowed to come to school in **non-uniform!** The charge for this is for all pupils to bring in a chocolate item to be given as a prize at the bingo – an Easter egg would be great. We do hope that you are able to come and support this event, which is always tremendous fun!

Raring2go!

Please click on the link below to access the latest magazine from Raring2go...

[Click here to view](#)

We hope that you enjoy!

Nursery Places Available for September!



Mrs Farrington and Mrs Lukman are absolutely delighted with how well our nursery children have progressed over the course of the year so far and with how well they respond to their learning environment! There's always lots of chatter, laughter, exploration and friendship making. What a great start to their education! We do still have a few places left in our setting for September, so please enquire if you or someone else you know within the community, would like a place in our outstanding school. Further information can be found on our school website [Admissions](#) page on how to apply for a place.

Easter Holiday Sports Camp - provided by Active Learning Sports

Children will be able to take part in a massive variety of sports provided by our fully qualified coaches. Whether it's having a go on our new laser guns, dancing away with virtual dance-offs, Easter egg hunts, archery, Lego building, colouring competitions, limbo, football, tag rugby or scooting around with their friends, your child will most definitely have fun! There are over 20 different activities available, provided by qualified coaches who are all DBS cleared and first aid trained.

Week 1 – 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th April 2023

Week 2 – 11th, 12th and 13th April 2023

Drop off time: 8.45am – 9.00am
Collection time: 2.45pm – 3.00pm
Cost £17.00 per day



If you would like to book your child onto one of our courses, please click on to the link below

<https://activelearningsports.com/product/holiday-sports-camp/>

FREE Uniform!

Remember, 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.



Online Safety Tips



Every year, Comic Relief goes all out to help people, both in the UK and internationally, who are going through a tough time. In our area of specialism, we at National Online Safety are acutely aware that – for children and young people in particular – many of those difficult moments increasingly originate from and unfold in the digital world.

From inappropriate content to the toxic behaviour of others, online harms can do long-lasting damage. That's why we're passionate about helping this new generation to build their digital resilience – equipping them to deal with digital dangers. This week's guide has a selection of tips for encouraging safe and healthy online habits.

In this guide we've compiled a list of useful suggestions which could help you and your family strike the right balance and build digital resilience.

It's Compost Week!

What is composting?

Composting is nature's own way of recycling, breaking down household organic waste to produce a valuable resource which can be used on the vegetable garden or flower beds.

Why should we compost?

In Staffordshire, approximately 30% of everything thrown into the general waste bin is food. That is over half a tonne of food every year per household. A lot of this waste could have been avoided and shockingly, the average family of four could save £60 a month by reducing their food waste.

Adding compost to the soil helps to improve the soil structure and add nutrients to help the growth of stronger, healthy plants. Healthier plants are more resistant to damage from pests and diseases.



Don't have a compost bin?

You can get a discounted compost bin with a Staffordshire postcode – [get yours here.](#)

Not sure where to start?

There is an easy step by step video for beginners - [watch here.](#)

Hot Lunch Options – 20 to 24 March 2023

W/c 20.3.2023

WEEK 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Margherita Pizza Potato Wedges	Pork sausage with creamy mash potato & gravy	Roast turkey with mashed potato & gravy	Spanish Chicken in a tomato sauce with 50 / 50 rice	Crispy fish fingers with chunky chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Vegetable Frittata Potato Wedges	Quorn Sausage With Creamy Mash Potato & Gravy	Quorn fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Tomato & roasted vegetable pasta	Crispy vegetable fingers with chunky chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS 	Cauliflower & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & carrots Salad bar	Green beans & cabbage Salad bar	Sweetcorn & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
DESSERTS	Chocolate & pear sponge with custard	Apple crumble & custard	Flapjack	Carrot cake	Chocolate & orange cookie
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	No jacket potatoes or sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection

MENU Fuel your afternoon with a healthy school lunch from Meillors

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

SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

Nursery

This week in Nursery, the children have continued with their 'Sunflower Challenge' and have been removing a seed from its pot to look at any changes. We have been amazed by what has happened in the compost, and the size of some of the roots, when nothing actually appears to be growing! The children are learning and using



lots of new vocabulary daily by carrying out this challenge. We have also begun reading our new class focus book 'The Enormous Turnip' and have been comparing the weights of objects, using our hands and a balance scale and have been learning about healthy and not so healthy foods. Forest School continued to be a cold, muddy one, which always adds to the excitement of the session! This week, the

children were brilliant at handling hammers, to transfer dye from flowers onto cloth, a Japanese art form called 'Hapa Zo me'. Well done children, another fun packed week of learning!



Reception

This week in reception we have continued our learning on boats, with a focus on healthy and not so healthy foods. The children enjoyed creating a boat from apple slices and orange segments and shared examples of foods that were healthy and not healthy. As a treat they then had the opportunity to eat their healthy boats whilst listening to the story 'Mr Grumpy's Outings.' The boat theme continued as the children enjoyed listening to the story, 'Who Sank the Boat?' and explored the words heavy and light. They then had lots of fun investigating how many animals they

could fit onto their boat before it tipped or sank. It was also a lovely day for a Spring walk on Wednesday and that is exactly what we did! The children impressed us again with their sensible behaviour as we headed over to Shobnall Fields to search for signs of Spring. The children were very interested to spot the many changes the season has brought compared to our Autumn walk.

Year 1

Year 1 have had a lovely week. This week they have been writing instructions to make a maraca. In maths they are working hard to measure the length of objects with a ruler. They have also enjoyed identifying hot and cold areas of the world and human and physical features in Geography. Well done year 1!



Year 2

Year 2 have started a new unit of learning in their English. This unit focuses on the aboriginal tale 'How the Kangaroo got it's pouch'. The children have enjoyed learning the meaning behind this story, as well as discovering what the new words meant (like billabong, wombat and emu).

In Maths, Year 2 have completed their unit of learning on multiplication and division. They are rockstars at this now and have been able to use bar models to support their understanding of grouping and sharing equally.

In Science the children started their new unit of learning on Habitats and in PSHE the children have been looking at how they can keep their bodies and minds healthy.





Year 3

Year 3 have been practising the skills of persevering this week, especially at Forest School when they were learning to use fire strikers. The children also used this skill in their maths lesson when they were learning to measure and calculate perimeters of polygons. In English, the children have completed their unit of writing on letters and Miss Barker cannot wait to read the final pieces over the weekend. Year 3 have also celebrated British Science Week, where

they have taken part in a live science lesson with Developing Experts, researched different connections in Science and created posters as well as looking at how our fingerprints connect us. A fabulous week - well done Year 3!

Year 4

Year 4 have had another fantastic week this week. In maths, we have continued to look at fractions, in particular looking at equivalent fractions and simplifying fractions where the children have been using their times table knowledge to answer these. In English, the children have written their Viking myth and I have been blown away with how good these have been! Earlier in the week, the children conducted a science experiment to investigate how the height of an object dropped changes the volume that it produces. This tied in nicely as part of British Science Week, where the children created a poster of scientists and labelled all the core skills a scientist must have to do their job. Furthermore, the children have been learning about Jesus, his sacrifice and forgiveness in RE this week, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. Another brilliant week Year 4! Keep it up!



Year 5

Year 5 had a fantastic start to the week with British Science Week – the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about different connections including, how the Earth is tilted and how this relates to the seasons we have each year. The children have also been learning about the phases of the Moon.



The children have started their new local history topic and to help their understanding of the area around school, Mrs Taylor kindly volunteered to lead our local history walk on Thursday morning. The children learnt so much about Burton from who used the Trent and Mersey canal to why the bricks are blue in the bridges over the canals; what Almshouses are and who they were built for to which houses were bombed on Wellington Street in World War I. The children have also been exploring in our Geography topic how hurricanes are formed and where they are most likely to occur.

In Maths, we have reached the end of our third Fractions topic and the children have successfully demonstrated their understanding of the different strategies they can use to find a fraction of a number. We will be moving onto decimals and percentages next week.

There have been some impressive legend stories produced in year 5 this week, following the important research and planning lessons. The children showed great imagination in their writing and loved creating their own stories with a morale lesson.

Year 6

This week in Year 6 we have been writing our report on reducing the carbon footprint within our school community. Look out, you may find some of our reports on the newsletter in the coming weeks. In maths, we have started revising our knowledge of decimals. In reading, we wrote our dragon's den style speech on persuading people to buy our newly invented gadgets. For British Science Week we investigated our fingerprints and considered the different patterns we had - either a loop, arch or whorl. Many of us were interested in this and subsequently we researched the job of a forensic scientist by watching a short video of what the job entails. Who knows, we could have some forensic scientists in the making.

Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children aged 3+

To The Other Side

Written by Erika Meza



In this powerful tale two siblings set off with only backpacks. The older sister tries to make it into a game – you only need to avoid the monsters and keep moving. They wear brightly coloured carnival masks as the masks will help to hide them, but if they are caught then they are out.... The strange progress of a journey like this is shown in the words and pictures – the longueurs of waiting, the playing on the way, the different means of movement – and all the different dreams of the characters. As the awfully long journey progresses the younger boy becomes overwhelmed by it, whilst the sister urges him on as realisation dawns on him it is not a game at all.

Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Mia L	Rupert M
Year 1	Arham A	Theodosia D
Year 2	Kailen S	Aliz K
Year 3	Jonah M-Y	Aleena A
Year 4	Tabitha B	Euan W
Year 5	Freddy C	Amira H
Year 6	Luke W	Rosie E

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Khalia R
Year 1	Theodosia D
Year 2	Jackson B
Year 3	Alicia F
Year 4	Angelo M
Year 5	Mohammed A
Year 6	Bethan P

Attendance

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

Reception	91.1%	Target
Year 1	96.7%	
Year 2	96.0%	96%
Year 3	95.3%	
Year 4	96.9%	
Year 5	98.7%	Overall (to date)
Year 6	90.0%	
Overall	95.3%	95.0%

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (<i>Week Ending 17.03.23</i>)	120	113	133	125
Position	3 rd – 2 points	4 th – 1 point	1 st – 4 points	2 nd – 3 points
Running Total	10	3	9	8

Spring Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 20 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 21 st March 2023
Non-Uniform Day	Friday 24 th March 2023
KS1 SATs Meeting for Parents	Tuesday 28 th March 2023, 3.30pm, Year 2 Classroom
KS2 SATs Meeting for Parents	Wednesday 29 th March 2023, 3.30pm, Year 6 Classroom
PFA Easter Bingo	Wednesday 29 th March 2023
School Closes for Easter	Friday 31 st March 2023

Diary Dates 2022-2023

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Easter	Friday 31 st March 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 17 th April 2023
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1 st May 2023
Borough and Parish Elections – School Closed	Thursday 4 th May 2023
Bank Holiday – King's Coronation	Monday 8 th May 2023
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Tuesday 9 th May 2023 to Friday 12 th May 2023
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 26 th May 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 th June 2023
JTMAT INSET Day	Friday 7 th July 2023
School Closes for Summer	Friday 21 st July 2023
INSET Day	Monday 24 th July 2023
INSET Day	Tuesday 25 th July 2023

**Working in
partnership**
with



The John Taylor SCITT



**The
Children's
Society**

Coffee Morning

Shobnall Community

Centre

Saturday 25th

March

10.00 am – 11.30 am

**In aid of the Children's
Society**