



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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20th October 2023

"Jump in with both feet and be brave."

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been great to have seen so many of you in school this week for parent consultations and we've loved hearing so much positive feedback from you – thank you! The teaching staff are so pleased with how well the children have settled into their routines, how well they understand the expectations and with how enthusiastic they are with their learning. They have enjoyed sharing this with you. You will see from the 'Shobnall Showcase' further on in the newsletter that the children have been getting very busy with lots of art and design and technology in preparation for our 'Museum of Wonder' at our **Open Evening on Wednesday 15 November 2023, 4.30pm – 6.00pm**. We look forward to seeing you there!



The PFA would like to express a HUGE "thank you" to everyone who was able to support our first disco of the year last week! A total profit of **£319.49** was raised, which is remarkable considering the context of the times in which we're currently living. The team are already working hard on the planning of the next event – the Christmas Market!

You will see from the diary dates at the end of the newsletter that we have many events planned over the course of the next half-term. Please make a note of these on your own calendars as we would love to see as many of you as possible!

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. Enjoy!

Shobnall PFA Christmas Market – Friday 1 December 2023, 3.30 – 5.30pm

I can't believe that we are starting to talk about Christmas already! The PFA are busy behind the scenes, sorting out the organisation of this year's Christmas Market. A separate letter will be issued in due course outlining the plans and requests in more detail but in the interim, the PFA wish to outline a few requests for help in preparation for the event.

- 🌿 The PFA will be running a 'street food' stall at the Christmas Market. If you can donate any cakes or Asian food, the PFA would be very grateful if this could be labelled with ingredients to support those with allergies. Also, if possible, please could you indicate if it is suitable for vegetarians or not? They ask that these are donated on the morning of the Market, so that all food products are as fresh as possible and will ensure that any containers are returned to you the following week via your child.

Also, you are more than welcome to bring your own containers along to the event should you wish to have a 'takeaway' option!

- 🌲 If you have any unwanted items for the bric-a-brac stall (i.e. toys, books, games etc.) that are in good condition, the PFA are happy to start accepting these donations in school from next week, beginning 6 November 2023.

The PFA would like to thank you in advance for your support with all their requests and for your attendance at the Market! More information will follow in the forthcoming weeks.



Staffordshire Police Halloween Advice

Halloween has become an increasingly popular celebration over the past few years for children, families and young people especially, but it is important not to have fun at the expense of others.



**Staffordshire
Police**

To make it easy to see who's welcoming of trick and treaters and who doesn't wish to be disturbed, Staffordshire Police have produced a ['No trick or treaters' poster](#). If you don't want trick or treaters, please print and display the poster in your window. If you see someone displaying a no trick or treat poster, please be considerate and do not call at those homes.

If you see anti-social behaviour please [report it](#) to the police.



Learning Support Assistant Vacancy

As well as having a Lunchtime Supervisor vacancy, we are also looking for a part-time Learning Support Assistant to join our small school team!

As a partner academy in JTMAT, we are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, caring and committed Lunchtime Supervisor to join our evolving organisation.

The successful candidate will:

- Demonstrate high standards of teamwork, collaboration, and respect.
- Be flexible, adaptable, and dependable.
- Have excellent communication skills with children and staff.
- Be kind, compassionate and caring with our pupils.



If you want to discuss either role, please contact Mr Adams, by emailing shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk or telephoning 01283 247410. Completed application forms should be emailed to shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk. Only fully completed application forms will be submitted for shortlisting. CVs will not be accepted. The closing date for Learning Support Assistant applications is 12 noon on **Wednesday 8 November 2023** and for Lunchtime Supervisor Applications, until the position is filled.



Reception Application Process

The application process for a reception place for September 2024 will open on 1 November 2023.

The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Further information can be found on [Staffordshire County Council Website](https://www.staffordshirecc.gov.uk/). The closing date is 15 January 2024.

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.

If you are interested in applying for a place in our own reception class for September 2024, we are holding an **Open Evening** on **Wednesday 15 November 2023, 4.30pm to 6.00pm**. This is a great opportunity to meet the staff and see for yourselves all that our setting has to offer! We would also like to encourage existing parents to visit too and see some of the wonderful things that are happening! We look forward to seeing you there!



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

PROUDLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR

OPEN EVENING



WEDNESDAY 15th NOVEMBER
4.30pm – 6.00pm

Please join us as we showcase our school, our vision, our values, our philosophy and our approaches. You will meet our staff and our children and get to see first-hand our incredible Museum of Wonder. We look forward to seeing you there!

Kate Kniveton Christmas Card Competition!

Kate Kniveton, the MP for Burton & Uttoxeter, is holding a competition for primary and pre-school school children to design her official Christmas Card for 2023.

The winning design will be used to send Christmas wishes by Kate across Burton and Uttoxeter, with the winner's name and school printed at the bottom.

As many pictures as possible from all entries received will be published on Kate's website and social media for all her constituents to enjoy. You may remember that one of our pupils was selected as a runner-up last year, so it would be fabulous if one of our pupils were chosen as the winner this year!



In order to enter, Kate has outlined a few rules that entries must comply with:

- Entries must be A4 and coloured in pencil, pen or paint (no glitter!)
- Entrants must live in or attend school in the Burton and Uttoxeter constituency and have been born on or after 1 September 2012.
- Please send your design to Kate Kniveton MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA with your name, address, school year and school clearly marked.
- Please also provide an email address for your school or parent/carer.
- All entries must arrive by 17 November 2023.

Please email kate.kniveton.mp@parliament.uk for any further details and please note that no taxpayer's money will be used in the production of this Christmas card. We hope that many of our pupils are able to enter!



Year 7 Secondary School Applications

The application window for a September 2024 start at secondary or high school is still open. Parents can apply online at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions. As in previous years, the local authority is no longer providing paper copies of the 'Information to Parents' booklet. Parents are able to access this booklet on their [website](#). Deadline for applications is **31 October 2023**.



Online Safety Tips

For 20 years, FIFA dominated the football video gaming arena, attracting legions of devoted fans and scooping up accolades like a digital Real Madrid. After parting ways with the sport's governing body, however, renowned developers Electronic Arts (EA) have now launched their own individual bid for the title. It's called EA Sports FC 24, and it's effectively FIFA 2.0.

Familiar action delivered by the same team, of course, points to a comparable level of popularity – especially among those young gamers raised on the FIFA franchise. As our #WakeUpWednesday guide highlights, however, EA Sports FC 24 also carries many similar risks to its predecessor, including addictive gameplay, abusive voice chats and expensive in-game purchases.

FREE Uniform!

Please don't forget that we have free uniform available! There is a box situated outside the school office for any parents who have items 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 and collating this. As previously stated, if you wish to contact Amy to ask what is available that you might be in need of, please contact the school office via shb-office@shb.itmat.co.uk and we will ensure this is forwarded to her.



Hot Lunch Options – 23 to 27 October 2023

A new menu has been launched! Please visit our dedicated school website page [here](#) for further information.

WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Petrifying Pasta with Blood Curdling Bolognese	Roast turkey with potato of the day & gravy	Pork meatballs with wholemeal pasta	Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Vegetarian burger with chips	Petrifying Pasta with Vampires Vegan Bolognese	Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegetarian meatballs with pasta	Cheese pinwheels with diced potatoes
Accompaniments	Corn on the cob & broccoli Salad bar	Vegetables straight from the Witches Cauldron	Carrots & green beans Salad bar	Cauliflower & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Fresh fruit & whip	Spooky Sponge Cup Cakes	Chocolate & orange muffins	Fruit sponge & custard	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

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

Nursery

Our adventures in nursery this week....

We have been continuing with 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', investigating 'what makes a bed comfy.' In groups we tested out different materials and discussed which material is best to make Baby Bear's bed. We learnt that beds that are soft are more comfortable than beds that are hard.

We also looked at the book 'Jungle Mouth' and discussed the importance of why brushing our teeth is important and what will happen if we do not. The children did an excellent job with ensuring 'Jungle Mouth's' teeth were all clean and had lots of fun putting this into action using the toothbrushes and pictures in the classroom.



Reception

Our adventures in reception this week....

This week we have been completing some phonics quizzes and have shown how fantastic we are at recognising phonemes, sounding out and blending words! We have also been segmenting words to write labels for different objects in our classroom.

We have been learning about our local area and had a wonderful time on our walk this week (luckily Miss Alexander didn't choose Friday for this!) We used our word of the week

'follow' to walk sensibly and were very excited to spot lots of different types of homes. We talked about the different features of flats, bungalows, terraced and detached houses and were just in time to see a houseboat pass by! This was even more exciting because it was purple and had flowers on!

When we got back to school, we continued to discuss and make some great comparisons about the homes in our local area. Sadly, we didn't find any lighthouses this time, "It's because they are at the beach in the water, they have lights to help the ships. They are my favourite home!" (Ava. T)

"We won't see an igloo in our town because it will melt. They are in cold places" (Jensen)

"This is Burton on Trent with lots of different houses big and small ones and maybe lots of flats." (Jacob)

"It's like the town mouse and his home. It has lots of houses and the big flats that go up higher." (Adam)

Year 1

We have had a lovely week in Year 1. The children have continued their learning with regards to adding, using the part whole method. They are also really good at remembering their number bonds to 5 and 10 - keep up the hard work! In English, we have been learning all about adjectives and the children have loved being able to describe different autumn items. In Mastering Number, we have been looking at doubles using 'Numberblocks'. In Computing, we have continued to develop our mouse skills to select and create different pictures on paint.

Year 2

Year 2 have enjoyed planning their fantasy story that is set in space. They have drawn story maps to help them write their own story. They have come up with some exciting characters and new worlds that they can travel to. In maths we have been looking at addition and subtraction. The children have been working hard on recalling their number bonds and writing fact families for part-whole models. Lots of practical apparatus has been used. This week in DT the children have been designing and exploring how to make their own Ferris wheel. The children have used different materials to build and experiment with their mechanisms. Year 2 have enjoyed their last session of Forest School. They have enjoyed writing reflections onto wooden slices which will be displayed on our class Ferris wheel. Well done Year 2.



Year 3

Year 3 have had a great week! They have been learning about Heron of Alexandria to support their upcoming DT project. They have enjoyed researching him and writing a fact file about him. In maths they have worked exceptionally hard on the column method using subtraction and addition. They have been locating different mountains in the UK in Geography. Well done Year 3!



Year 4

Year 4 have had another wonderful week this week. In maths, the children have been continuing with their addition and subtraction unit, and we have been focusing on column subtraction. The children have shown great mathematical understanding when it comes to exchanging numbers and representing their answers in a variety of different ways. In English, the

children have written their story to re-tell the story of Hannibal and the second Punic war and I have been blown away with the quality of their writing! Elsewhere in the curriculum, the children have been completing their final piece of artwork for this half term. They have created a portrait in the style of L.S Lowry and I have been so impressed with the drawing of the pictures and also with their watercolour skills! Another brilliant week Year 4, keep it up!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a really good week! In maths, they have continued their work on number, with a focus on reasoning and multi-step problems. The children have also continued with their RE curriculum this week and have been considering the enquiry question, 'How do Hindus show their commitment to God?' through learning about Vedas, Dharma and pilgrimage to the River Ganges. What a great week!

Year 6

We have been busy in Year 6 this week completing a plethora of activities. In reading, at the start of the week, we worked in groups to summarise six different chapters of Hana's Suitcase in two or three points. We then came together to summarise each chapter as a class. This enabled us to work on our VIPERS skill and helped us to see where we are up to in the story. In English, we began writing our narrative set

in the Amazon Rainforest. We decided to spread this task out over the week so that we did not rush it. This has proved to deliver some fantastic writing. We can't wait to edit and improve at the beginning of next week before publishing our pieces of writing. We are hoping to read some of our narratives to the younger children in our school. We were also lucky enough to have Mrs Barnes visit us, from John Taylor High School, to deliver a maths transition lesson with an introduction to algebra. A great week from all areas in Year 6 this week! I am really proud of how hard you are all working. Keep it up Year 6!

Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Amelia M	Harvey K
Year 1	Mustafa A	Aminah K
Year 2	Fynn M	Rupert C
Year 3	Maksym B	Sophia W
Year 4	Aminah A	Fatima S
Year 5	EVERYONE!	
Year 6	Mohammed A	Darcey G

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Elliot T
Year 1	Ava E
Year 2	Inaaya A
Year 3	Aiza L
Year 4	Charlie W
Year 5	Jibreel Q
Year 6	Amelia A

Attendance

This week's Attendance Champions are **Year 6!** Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Reception	96.0%	Target
Year 1	96.0%	97%
Year 2	96.7%	
Year 3	94.7%	
Year 4	96.2%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	94.1%	96.3%
Year 6	97.2%	
Overall	95.8%	

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 20.10.23)	27	34	17	43
Position	3rd – 2 points	2nd – 3 points	4th – 1 point	1st – 4 points
Running Total	17	17	20	23

Reading Corner

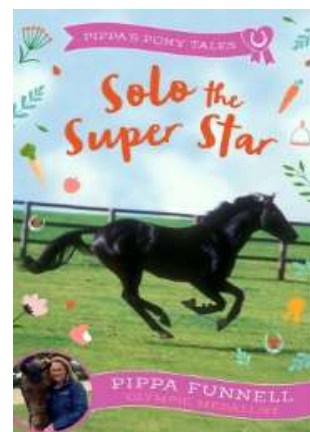
This week's recommended read is for children aged 7+...

Solo the Super Star

by Pippa Funnell

Book 6 in the *Pippa's Pony Tales* series of heart-warming pony tales packed with expert advice from three-times Olympic Medallist and Grand Slam winner, Pippa Funnell, on everything you ever wanted to know about horses.

Tilly's riding has improved by the day and now she's ready for her first Pony Club competition, riding Rosie. She's nervous, and so is Brook who is competing with his horse, Solo. He's lost his lucky talisman, but the huge surprise that he and Tilly uncover makes up for everything.



Collect all 18 titles in this series of irresistible, uplifting pony adventures, packed with expert, up-to-date advice from the author as well as a helpful glossary and black and white illustrations.

Includes Pippa's Top Tips and Expert Advice sections on horse training, horse care and riding. Perfect for aspiring riders and those lucky enough to have a horse.

Diary Dates 2023-2024

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 27 th October 2023
INSET Day	Monday 6 th November 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 7 th November 2023
Open Evening	Wednesday 15 th November 2023
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 29 th November to Friday 1 st December 2023
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 1 st December 2023
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Beauty and the Beast, Lichfield Garrick	Thursday 21 st December 2023, 10.00am
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 22 nd December 2023, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 8 th January 2024
Year 6 Laches Wood Meeting for Parents	Wednesday 10 th January 2024, Year 6 Classroom
Young Voices 2023	Thursday 11 th January 2024
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

Autumn Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 27 th October 2023
INSET Day	Monday 6 th November 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 7 th November 2023
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes Meeting for Parents	Thursday 9 th November 2023, Year 5 Classroom
Odd Socks Day	Monday 13 th November 2023
Open Evening	Wednesday 15 th November 2023, 4.30-6.00pm
Children in Need	Friday 17 th November 2023
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 29 th November 2023 to Friday 1 st December 2023 inclusive
Year 6 Class Assembly	Thursday 30 th November 2023, 9.00am

PFA Christmas Market	Friday 1 st December 2023
Christingle	Monday 4 th December 2023
Choir Winter Wonderland Concert	Tuesday 5 th December 2023, Hill Street Church, Swadlincote, 7.00-8.00pm
EYFS Nativity	Wednesday 6 th December 2023, 9.15am
EYFS Nativity	Thursday 7 th December 2023, 9.15am
KS1 Nativity	Tuesday 12 th December 2023, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Year 3 Cosy Christmas Celebration	Thursday 14 th December 2023, 9.15am
JTMAT Christmas Concert	Tuesday 19 th December 2023
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 20 th December 2023
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Beauty and the Beast, Lichfield Garrick	Thursday 21 st December 2023, 10.00am
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 22 nd December 2023, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 8 th January 2024



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you – EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?



RECURRING RELEASES

EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template – meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT

FIFA 23 introduced cross-platform play, and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for youngsters who love to play with friends online – but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and far older online gamers.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time – so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.

ULTIMATE TEAM SCAMMERS

Since the mode was introduced, Ultimate Team has been a target of scammers who attempt to coax players into buying or selling outside the terms of service from EA and console manufacturers. This shady practice can lead to accounts being banned and in-game items being lost. In some cases, young gamers have also been hoodwinked into handing over their payment details to the fraudsters.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

Just like real-life football, EA Sports FC 24 offers a thrilling, dynamic blend of tactical awareness and skill that fans find absolutely engrossing. Among younger players in particular, this could lead to identifiers of a gaming disorder as they plead for "just one more game" before bedtime or spend practically all weekend playing more matches to earn additional Ultimate Team packs.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS

EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that scam tactic), but never through the game itself – so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites: it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

AVOID EXTRA TIME

Many parents of young football-oriented gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play – or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD

Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers: voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

CELEBRATE THE VARIETY

Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 – including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation: an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.windowcentral.com/youngster-spends-over-8000-fifa-xbox-highlighting-predatory-game-design-ea> | <https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item/addictive-behaviours-gaming-disorder> | <https://www.eurogamer.net/18-european-countries-call-for-better-regulation-of-loot-boxes-following-new-report>



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



DID YOU KNOW...
EVERY SINGLE PART OF A
PUMPKIN IS EDIBLE!

TUESDAY 24th OCTOBER, 2023



Main

Petrifying Pasta with
Blood Curdling Bolognaise.

Or

Petrifying Pasta with
Vampires Vegan Bolognaise.

Vegetables straight from the Witches Cauldron

Usual Jacket Potatoes and Sandwiches

Dessert

Spooky Sponge Cup Cakes
Yoghurt or Fruit