



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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21st January 2022

"Keep your face towards the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you."

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is difficult to believe that we are already nearly at the end of January and, as ever, school has been exceptionally busy with a range of different activities taking place over the course of the week. As the temperatures continue to hover just above freezing, I would like to remind all of our parents and families about our school procedures should we receive any substantial snow fall in the coming weeks. 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 has to 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.

Despite some reassuring messages from government regarding a decline in the number of positive cases nationally, Covid-19 still very much remains within our community. We will still need to exercise certain levels of caution and vigilance in line with the latest changes to the guidance this week. Please note the changes below and on the [Covid-19 Info](#) page on the school website.

From all of us here in school, we hope that you have a great weekend! It is promising to be a cold one, so please take care when out and about. We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday! Enjoy!

COVID-19 Update

This week, the Prime Minister announced that all Plan B measures will be removed in England, with a full return to Plan A by Thursday 27 January.

In education and childcare settings, this means:

- From now, face coverings are no longer recommended in classrooms and teaching spaces for staff, and pupils and students in year 7 and above. They were introduced in classrooms at the start of the spring term as a temporary measure.
- From Thursday 27 January, face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas for staff, and pupils and students in year 7 and above.



This decision comes in response to national infection data showing the prevalence of COVID-19 to be on a downward trajectory. Whilst there are some groups where cases are likely to continue rising, it is

likely that the Omicron wave has now peaked nationally. There remains significant pressure on the NHS but hospital admissions have stabilised, and the number of patients in Intensive Care Units (ICU) remain low and are falling. This means it is right the government remove the most stringent restrictions around wearing face coverings from education, but the virus is still with us, and continuing with proportionate protective measures remains vital to protect education.

From Thursday 27 January, venues and events will no longer be required by law to use the NHS COVID Pass. The pass can be used on a voluntary basis as was previously the case in Plan A.

The government is no longer asking people to work from home.

Please also note the changes to the self-isolation that came into effect on Monday 17 January. It applies to all positive cases, regardless of vaccination status.

People who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with an LFD test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.



The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.

Information on the new arrangements can be found in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Parent Consultations – Monday 7 February and Wednesday 9 February 2022

You will be issued with a letter imminently providing you with details of how to book an appointment with your child's class teacher for the forthcoming parent consultations in February. They will be online again and we are keeping everything crossed that this will be the last time we have to conduct them in this way. The class teachers are really looking forward to meeting with you and updating you on your child's progress.



PFA News – Your Disco Needs You, AGAIN!

Thank you to all of those who were able to attend the PFA meeting on Wednesday! The first fundraiser of 2022 will be a valentine themed disco on **Friday 11 February 2022**! The infants disco will be 3.45 – 5.00pm and the junior disco will be 5.15 – 6.30pm. Miss Alexander, Miss Brewin and Miss Martin-Mills have very kindly said that they are more than happy for children who are attending the infant disco to bring in a change of clothes on the day, which they are happy to help them get changed into. Shobnall Stars will be in the Year 2 classroom on that evening.

Tickets will be on sale week commencing 31 January, every morning before school outside the key stage 2 entrance. They will be priced at £2.50.

On the night, children will need a small amount of spending money for drinks, sweets and savoury snacks (should they wish to have one) and, unfortunately, we will not be able to subsidise them if they don't. Water will be readily available if children do not bring spending money. We hope to see as many of the children there as possible!

Your fundraising has ensured work has now begun on our sensory garden, which the PFA hope to have completed by the spring. The next project that quotes are currently being sourced for are the new trim trails for infants and juniors. The children have been choosing the components they would like and it is hoped that work can also begin on these in the spring. The PFA are excited to unveil these projects and wish to express their thanks for all the fundraising you have helped with so far! With future fundraisers, there should be enough in the pot to have these completed by the end of the year!



Please note the dates of the next set of fundraising events due to take place in the spring term:

- Valentines Disco, Friday 11 February 2022, 3.45 – 5.00pm (infants), 5.15 – 6.30pm (juniors).
- Spring Coffee Morning, Friday 25 March 2022, 9.00 – 11.00am
- Easter Bingo, Wednesday 6 April 2022, 5.00pm

These have been added to the diary dates section at the end of the newsletter too.

New Date for Young Voices!



Young Voices have given us a new date for our concert – **Thursday 19 May 2022!** Please pop this in your diary! Choir will begin again after Easter to help the children prepare and Miss Martin-Mills will send out details about this nearer the time.

Young Voices will be contacting us again soon regarding tickets and any changes that need to be made. They will start this process once ALL the concerts for the venue are fully rescheduled and finalised. On their request, please could we ask you not to contact the YV office directly. More information will follow soon. Many thanks!

Online Safety Tips

Horror video games come in a such variety that the genre can be hard to define. The overlapping element is that these games are designed to scare or unsettle the player through gameplay, atmosphere, story, music, setting and 'jump scares'. The most common sub-genres are survival horror, action horror, psychological horror, jump-scare horror and reverse horror. These games originate from a range of developers, including smaller indie studios which release download-only titles (that is, they aren't physically sold in shops) and therefore aren't subject to age ratings.



In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as adult themes, psychological horror and violent content.

Hot Lunch Options – 24 January to 28 January 2022

<div> <div>NUTRITIONIST APPROVED</div> <div>11th Oct, 8th Nov, 29th Nov</div> <div>5</div> </div>					
WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Chicken with a side of BBQ sauce	Pork meatballs in a tomato sauce	Roast turkey and stuffing	All day breakfast	Fish fingers
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Margherita pizza	Vegetarian Bolognese	Quorn fillet and stuffing	Vegetarian all day breakfast	Quorn nuggets
ACCOMPANIMENTS	Herby diced potatoes Garden peas Sweetcorn Salad bar	Pasta Garlic bread Broccoli Carrot batons Salad bar	Roast potatoes Green cabbage Sliced carrots Salad bar	Bread wedge Baked tomatoes Mushrooms Baked beans Salad bar	Chips Sweetcorn Mushy peas Salad bar
DESSERTS	Chocolate sponge and custard	Fruity flapjack	Strawberry jelly and fruit	Shortbread	Fresh fruit and ice cream
FRESH FRUIT & YOGHURT	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt	Fresh fruit and yoghurt
JACKET POTATOES & SANDWICHES	Jacket potato and sandwiches with various fillings	Jacket potato and sandwiches with various fillings	Jacket potato and sandwiches with various fillings	Jacket potato and sandwiches with various fillings	Jacket potato and sandwiches with various fillings

School Uniform Exchange

Please don't forget the *school uniform exchange*, which continues! There is a box situated by the gate on the school car park 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.



SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

Nursery

Our inspiration for this week's learning in Nursery, has come from the story 'The Gingerbread Man'. The children have loved reciting the repetitive vocabulary in the story and have used their imagination to come up with scenarios for helping the Gingerbread Man cross the river safely! We have also listened to the story of Noah's Ark, re-enacted this using small world toys and have explored the concept of floating and sinking. The children got very excited when we experimented with a gingerbread man biscuit, although the highlight of the week was probably enjoying our own gingerbread man biscuit at snack time, as a special treat to end a fantastic week!

Reception

This week the children have had a wonderful time developing their understanding of healthy and unhealthy foods. We shared the story of the hungry caterpillar and they had a wonderful time discussing the variety and amount of foods that were eaten.



They went onto engage in a range of activities focussed on this and have independently used classroom provision to talk about the importance of healthy and unhealthy foods.

"Healthy food makes you big and strong, I have chocolate some mornings but not all the time." - Rupert

"Bananas are healthy they make you grow. The hungry caterpillar had some healthy food apples and plums." - Dahlia

"If you just have chocolate it will make you get a stomach ache; you just need a little bit." - M-Yahya

"You should choose fruits if you have biscuits all the time it will make you sick; they have a lot of sugar in them." - Amaya

The children created some of their own hungry caterpillars and completed some fabulous observational drawings of fruit, we were all impressed by the detail captured in their artwork!

Food also featured in our maths learning as the children explored cardinality and representation to 8. They used the 10 frames fantastically to show different amounts of foods.



Year 1

Year 1 have had a great week! We have been exploring letter writing in English and have written an informal letter from space. The children really engaged with this and we have some fantastic descriptions of Planet Earth from space. In Maths we have been focusing on subtraction within 20. This week we have been practising the crossing out method as one of the ways to help us solve subtraction number sentences. This week in topic we have been taking part in Design and Technology. The children have been designing and making a drum and I must say, there have been so many fantastic designs and creative thinking. We are looking forward to finishing our musical instruments next week! Forest School has been an absolute blast this week and I can't believe we are half way through the sessions already!

Year 2

This week the children have continued their learning of multiplication and division in Maths. Everyone has been very successful in their learning and have a secure understanding of using multiplication and counting in multiples to solve division problems. In English, the children thoroughly enjoyed following the instructions that they had written last week to make Samphire Soup. The Year 2's were excited to make the soup, but relieved that they didn't have to eat it! In Geography, the children went on a mini-field trip to explore the route to Oaks Wood on Reservoir road. The children were able to use compass directions to map their route and where able to then use subject specific vocabulary to write about the journey with precise instructions!

Year 3

This week we have been learning about volcanoes in our Geography lessons, focusing on how a volcano erupts. In English, we have been learning about the different features of an information text. Next week we are going to be combining this learning by writing a fascinating information text all about how a volcano erupts. On Tuesday, we conducted a small science experiment, creating a very messy volcanic eruption! We have had another fantastic week. Well done Year 3.



Year 4



We have had a lovely week in Year 4! In Maths, we have continued our multiplication unit, where the children have been learning to multiply a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number. In English, the children have written an advert for a specific product. The children have thought so carefully about the colours, slogans and alliteration that they have used! In Geography, we have been identifying the primary rivers in Europe and have discussed the process of the water

cycle, which leads in nicely to our next English topic of writing an explanation text on the water cycle! On a side note, I asked the children to create a poster all about the water cycle for their homework this week, and from colourful diagrams, 3D posters and PowerPoint presentations these have been utterly AMAZING! A great week Year 4!

Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed this week as they have completed their final version of their myth. They enjoyed creating their own characters for this and they have marked their own writing using assessment grids. This week the children have completed the geography unit where the children have found out about the Bering Strait and also hurricanes. The children will use this information to create a report all about hurricanes in a few weeks.



Just a little reminder - there have been many children over the past week who have forgotten their reading diary. Please make sure this is brought into school every day so we can continue to monitor reading.

Year 6

This week, our writing has been very exciting in English as we have started writing newspaper reports linked with our current text, Stormbreaker. The children have been ensuring they engage the intended audience, whilst also keeping it formal and using appropriate features. In reading, we have been working on our summarising and some of us have structured our summaries into a Tweet so our characters are limited. In maths, we have continued with our decimals unit, multiplying and dividing decimals by integers. We are all starting to get very excited for Laches Wood!

Children's Mental Health Week – 7 to 13 February 2022

We are approaching Children's Mental Health Week where the staff and pupils will be taking part in many activities in school to promote positivity.

There are many ways parents are able to support their children to maintain a positive wellbeing. Please click on the link below to access the videos and support.



[Parents and Carers - Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

Reading Corner

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

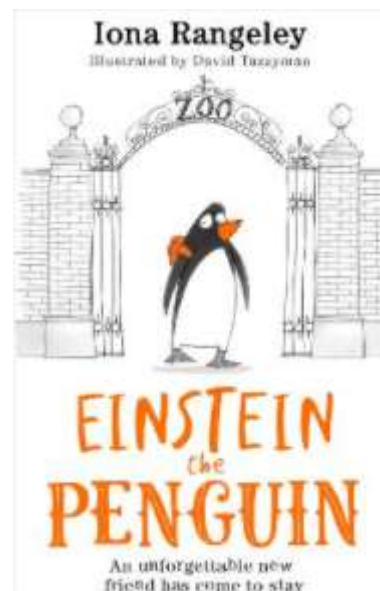
Einstein the Penguin

Written by Iona Rangeley

Richly rewarding for 7-year-olds to enjoy by themselves, and a joy to read aloud to 5+ year-olds, Iona Rangeley's Einstein the Penguin debut is packed with comic capers, compassion and relatable family dynamics as it tells a wonderfully whimsical tale of an attempt to reunite a pair of flightless feathered friends.

The adventure begins when the Stewart family decide to stave off December chills with a visit to London Zoo and find themselves drawn to a little penguin. Later that evening, said penguin (who turns out to be called Einstein) turns up at their front door with a rucksack. Naturally the Stewarts take him in, pending returning him to his rightful home. The question is, where is Einstein's home? The initial investigations of would-be detective Imogen reveal that he wasn't supposed to be in London Zoo at all. As Imogen ups her sleuthing game, her younger brother Arthur finds confidence and friendship through Einstein, and the family embark on an exhilarating quest.

With charming, witty illustrations from **David Tazzyman** (he of Mr Gum fame), this delightful adventure makes a magnificent modern-day alternative to Paddington, and is perfect for sharing as a family.



Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Isla G	Obeydullah H
Year 1	Thea K	Gordon Z
Year 2	Elliot M	Rehaan M
Year 3	Asra Z	Tabatha L
Year 4	Inaya S	Ettie D
Year 5	Jaiden E	Kaden P
Year 6	Harry F	Aseed H

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Rupert C
Year 1	Sophia W
Year 2	Rosie T
Year 3	Ellie W
Year 4	Sophie A
Year 5	Ashton M
Year 6	Cruz A-S

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 21.01.22)	208	105	153	220
Position	2 nd – 3 Points	4 th – 1 Point	3 rd – 2 Points	1 st – 4 Points
Running Total	10	3	6	11

Spring Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 31 st January 2022 to Friday 4 th February 2022 Inclusive
NSPCC Number Day	Friday 4 th February 2022
Parent Consultations	Monday 7 th February 2022 Wednesday 9 th February 2022
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 8 th February 2022
PFA Valentine Disco	Friday 11 th February 2022
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 18 th February 2022

INSET Day	Monday 28 th February 2022
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 1 st March 2022
World Book Day	Thursday 3 rd March 2022
Red Nose Day	Friday 18 th March 2022
Mother's Day Lunches – Reception	Monday 21 st March 2022
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 1	Tuesday 22 nd March 2022
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 2	Wednesday 23 rd March 2022
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 3	Thursday 24 th March 2022
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 24 th March 2022
PFA Spring Coffee Morning	Friday 25 th March 2022
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 4	Friday 25 th March 2022
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 28 th March 2022
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 29 th March 2022
Year 3 Class Assembly	Thursday 31 st March 2022
PFA Easter Bingo	Wednesday 6 th April 2022
School Closes for Easter	Friday 8 th April 2022

Diary Dates 2021-2022

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 18 th February 2022
INSET Day	Monday 28 th February 2022
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 1 st March 2022
School Closes for Easter	Friday 8 th April 2022
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 25 th April 2022
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May 2022
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 9 th May 2022 – Friday 13 th May 2022
Young Voices	Thursday 19 th May 2022
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 27 th May 2022
INSET Day	Monday 6 th June 2022
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 7 th June 2022
JTMAT INSET Day	Friday 8 th July 2022
School Closes for Summer	Wednesday 20 th July 2022



SUN is delighted to offer Parents and Carers of children with SEND in Staffordshire the opportunity to attend this **FREE** workshop delivered by Laura Graham, Occupational Therapist

Sensory Processing for Parents and Carers

A workshop to introduce the subject, bust some common myths, discuss the minefield of terminology and look at some key strategies to support those with sensory processing needs.

Aim:

- During the workshop the 7 senses will be introduced and linked to challenges faced on a daily basis by those with sensory processing differences, at home, school and in the community
- The emerging topic of interoceptive awareness will be discussed and linked to an individual's emotional regulation
 - Sensory Processing Differences and the links to neurodevelopmental conditions will be discussed and the issues around diagnosis of such sensory differences
 - Assessment of sensory needs and intervention options to support sensory needs will also be discussed.
 - Plus opportunity for Q&A

This two-hour workshop is being delivered online via Microsoft Teams and there are three dates to choose from

Tuesday 8 th February 2022	12pm – 2pm
Tuesday 8 th February 2022	7pm – 9pm
Tuesday 1 st March 2022	10am – 12pm

Places are strictly limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis.

If you would like to request a booking form, please email;

sun@staffordshire.gov.uk

When we have received your completed form, we can then confirm if you have been allocated a place

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HORROR GAMES

Horror video games come in a such a variety that the genre can hard to define. The overlapping element is that these games are designed to scare or unsettle the player through gameplay, atmosphere, story, music, setting and jump scares. The most common sub-genres are survival horror, action horror, psychological horror, jump-scare horror and reverse horror. These games originate from a range of developers, including smaller indie studios which release download-only titles (that is, they aren't physically sold in shops) and therefore aren't subject to age ratings.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADULT THEMES

Horror games are typically made with adults in mind, which means by definition that they often feature adult themes. Outlets for horror games include digital stores such as Steam and Xbox Game Pass. Other games, like *Five Nights at Freddy's* and its sequel, have a lock-story that doesn't actually appear on screen but still hints at explicit adult themes.

VIOLENT CONTENT

Not all horror games contain graphic violence (titles like *Five Nights at Freddy's* and *Phasmophobia* prefer a spookier, supernatural aesthetic) but many do portray extreme brutality very realistically. Until *Down and the Hugely* popular *Resident Evil* and *Outlast* franchises, for instance, feature incredibly graphic violence. The oldest source of action is to thoroughly research a game in advance.

ONLINE INTERACTION

Some horror games are played cooperatively with others online. *Phasmophobia* is one of the most popular titles in this category, and while it doesn't feature an excessive amount of gore, it does place a strong emphasis on online interaction – often with strangers. *Dead by Daylight* is another game in which frequent and prolonged online communication with other players is an advantage.

PSYCHOLOGICAL HORROR

Rather than simply loading on the blood and gore, psychological horror games try to scare the player through subtle mental and emotional means. For this reason, this type of game (potentially including *Alone in the Dark*, *The Medium* and the *Amnesia* series) can have a longer-lasting effect on players: some occasionally break the fourth wall – interacting directly with the player as if they were real.

LONG-TERM FEAR FACTOR

Horror games are designed to be scary; most players accept this fact in advance. They can, however, include content which serves an emotional learning experience. By focusing on our fears and concerns to elicit an emotional reaction, horror games can be triggering in unexpected ways for some players. It's difficult to predict when – and how – a game might have long-term effects on an individual's mental wellbeing.

Advice for Parents & Carers

BEWARE OF JUMP SCARES

Jump scares in video games are often no worse than they are in movies. If a young person doesn't cope well with being suddenly startled by something in a film or on TV, they probably won't be able to handle horror games featuring jump scares. Some games (such as *Five Nights at Freddy's*) are built entirely around this technique and aren't suitable for younger children or those who are easily frightened.

RESEARCH THE GAME

It's best to look into a horror game thoroughly if your child expresses an interest in playing it. Many indie horror titles are download only and therefore don't require to come with an age rating – so you'll need to do some background reading and judge the game's content for yourself. Check out the game's web pages, read any write about it (including fan ones) and watch videos of the gameplay.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy to lose track of time when gaming, and horror games are no exception. A short break every hour or so is important to rest the eyes and relieve the posture – especially if traumatic situations in the game have built up tension and stress. For horror gamers, breaks also give the added benefit of feeling more relaxed afterwards, which can mean a cooler gaming session when they resume!

IF IN DOUBT, SWAP IT OUT

If your child finds a horror game to play, but after doing some research you decide it doesn't look like the right one for them, swap it out! There are a lot of horror titles to choose from, and some will be more appropriate than others. Work together with your child to find a suitable game for them. Remember, horror games don't have to be gore-spattered and graphic to be enjoyably scary!

STAY RECEPTIVE

Maintaining good communication with your child is vital for safe gaming. If they see something in a horror game that disturbs them in ways they didn't expect, then they should feel comfortable opening up to you about it. Try not to simply laugh it off or make light of it, and always make time to listen. It's a useful reminder that they can talk to you about any type of problem they have in the future.

Meet Our Expert

Chloe Ockwell (a.k.a. Lunewell) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2016, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunewell Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalsafety.com



@nationalsafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalsafety

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NSPCC



Number Day 2022

Tuesday 17th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on Friday 4 February 2022.

Making maths meaningful

Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it.

We are having a fun day of maths activities and we will be taking part in **Dress up for Digits**. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!). Or get even more creative by dressing 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.



Everything the NSPCC does protects children today and prevents about tomorrow

The NSPCC need our support more than ever. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern.

On average, a child contacts Childline every **25 seconds**

Safe fundraising Please send in a donation to support NSPCC's work in a sealed envelope.

It all adds up

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.

Best wishes,

Mrs T Farrington (Maths Co-Ordinator)

