



SHOBNALL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TELEPHONE: 01283 247410 TWITTER: @shobnallprimary E-MAIL: shb-office@shb.itmat.co.uk

26th February 2021

"A strong mind always hopes, and always has cause to hope."

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all after the half term break! I hope you managed to spend some quality time with your family and feel relatively rested and relaxed! We've had some positive news to begin the second half of this term which is that the Prime Minister has announced that all schools will be open to ALL pupils from 8 March.

In this announcement he introduced the Government's 'roadmap.' A summary description of the Government's roadmap can be found [here](#), and the full document can be downloaded [here](#). The scientific evidence on which the Government has relied in relation to the roadmap is [here](#).



This roadmap outlines four steps for easing restrictions and before proceeding to the next step, the Government will examine the data to assess the impact of previous steps. This assessment will be based on four tests, which are no longer based on the R-rate:

- The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully.
- Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated.
- Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS.
- The Government's assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new 'Variants of Concern.'

There will be a minimum of five weeks between each step: four weeks for the data to reflect changes in restrictions; followed by seven days' notice of the restrictions to be eased. The Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Adviser have said that this will give adequate time to assess the impact of each step and reduce the risk of having to re-impose restrictions at a later date.

The first step, on 8 March, will see all pupils return to face-to-face education in schools and colleges. The reopening of education settings to all is being prioritised due to the significant impact caused by being out of school to the mental and physical health and wellbeing of children and young people.

We have been working hard on finalising our plans for 8 March and you should have received a letter providing you with the details and further information. A copy of the letter has been added to the [Covid-19 Info](#) page on the school website should you need to refer to it at any time. I must apologise for it being quite lengthy but it is imperative that we give you all the relevant information you need.

Catch up provision will also resume this term. A robust approach to a recovery curriculum, with an initial focus on transition, wellbeing and social and emotional needs will come first. This will be followed by assessment and standardisation in order for us to identify any gaps that may have arisen in learning to help us target teaching and introduce some small group and one-to-one tuition to support accelerated progress for those who require it.

If you have any questions or queries related to any of this information, please do not hesitate to ask. We are looking forward to seeing a full school again on 8 March and in the meantime continue to enjoy our final week of remote learning. As always, stay safe!

Parent Consultations

The class teachers are looking forward to meeting virtually with you next week for the forthcoming parent consultations. Please look out for a message and link to join your appointment via SeeSaw.

World Book Day

Please don't forget **World Book Day on Thursday 4 March 2021!** Whether you are learning at home or in school, to celebrate, we would like the children (and staff) to have fun and dress up as a 'Little Miss or Mr Men' character! Feel free to be as creative as you wish, as you may make your character up – for example:

- Little Miss Orange
- Mr Artistic
- Little Miss Brave
- Mr Talkative

You could choose a character from one of the books, such as Mr Bump or Little Miss Fun. A £5 book token will be on offer for the best costume in each class!



The children will also be taking part in some collaborative activities with other children across the JT MAT. Further details of these can be found at <https://jtmatlovesreading.co.uk/>. These include:

APART BUT TOGETHER

Read the flyer and then...

Choose how you would like to respond

- A) Make a **sculpture made from Rubbish, OR an artwork against plastic pollution**. For example, you could make a fish from a water bottle, or a poster to raise awareness of this issue.
- B) **Write your own poem** encouraging people to look after the Earth. For example, it could be a rhyme or acrostic poem, funny or sad.
- C) **Write a short story. no more than 300 words**



THE FANTASTIC FIRST FIFTY

Watch staff from our family of schools reading from their favourite stories. All stories from all schools are available at <https://jtmatlovesreading.co.uk/> or our direct link is <http://jtmatlovesreading.co.uk/category/school/shobnall-primary-school>

Then, think about the ingredients of a great story opening. What gets you hooked on a book?

- Write the first 50 words of your own story opening.
- Send your 'First 50' to your teacher via SeeSaw
- Each school will have their own prizes for the best entries and there will be MAT-wide prizes as well!

TOILET ROLL BOOK CHARACTER CHALLENGE


- Make a toilet roll into your favourite book character.
- Use any size cardboard roll e.g. toilet roll, kitchen roll, wrapping paper tube.
- Keep the roll in its original shape whilst you make your character – that's your challenge!
- Use felt pens, crayons, paint, collage, paper and glue to help create your book character.
- Send a photo of your toilet roll book character to your school

- School and MAT winners will be announced at the end of World Book Day

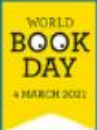


GUESS WHO

Who do you think of when you see a picture of black rimmed spectacles? Harry Potter of Course! In your home, find an object that you associate with a famous (or not so famous) book character. Take a photograph of the object and send it to your class teacher on SeeSaw. During 'World Book Day' you will have a class video discussion, led by your teacher, using the object photos. Can your classmates guess your character?

World Book Day Read Along



Pick up a **FREE** copy of My Pet Star, from a participating library, and let's read-along together on World Book Day.

On Thursday the 4th March, Staffordshire Libraries will be reading Corinne Averiss' My Pet Star at 2 pm on our YouTube and Facebook Page.

We would love you to join us, so why not pick up a My Pet Star goody bag from one of our 8 participating libraries and read-along with us.

Goody bags are available to collect from the 22nd February at Burton, Cannock, Leek, Lichfield, Perton, Stafford, Tamworth, and Newcastle Libraries - while stocks last.

We are really looking forward to the day. Do keep a look out on our Twitter page to see all of these activities come to life on the day!

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is back on Friday 19th March and this year it's never felt more important to have some fun and raise money to support people living incredibly tough lives. We need the power of funny to turn laughs into lasting change. We will let you know of our plans in due course but in preparation we have set up a school donations page at:

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=2113>



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Mrs Farrington is currently working very hard to ensure we can get stuck straight back into our action plan for the Anti-Bullying Alliance Award we were working on before lockdown. More information will follow about this in due course but she would like to share with you the leaflet that the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors designed and the charter for schools. Both can be viewed at the end of the newsletter.

School Uniform

We have had a lovely suggestion from one of our parents in relation to school uniform. I'm sure many of you are asking your children to try on their uniform again in preparation for 8 March and that many of you would appreciate some support during these times with sourcing new uniform and/or passing on old uniform to others who could make use of it. We are exploring how it may be possible to set up an exchange to support each other with this in our school community. If anyone has any suggestions in the meantime, please contact the school office via shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk – all ideas are welcome!

COVID Testing in the Burton on Trent Area for Residents Without Symptoms



To help reduce the amount of coronavirus cases Staffordshire County Council are offering free Covid-19 testing for residents without symptoms. The Council are encouraging residents who need to leave their house for essential reasons during lockdown (e.g. for work or caring responsibilities) to get tested on a regular basis. The following community testing centre is open 7 days a week:

Hillfield House, Hillfield Lane, Burton on Trent, DE13 0BW

If you'd like to attend you need to book a space in advance. You can check testing times, book a test, or see other testing locations in your area, by visiting <https://staffordshire.zipporah.co.uk/TrackAndTrace/>

If you have symptoms of Covid-19, please do not attend this testing. You need to book through the national portal at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

Hot Lunch Options – 1st to 5th March 2021

Children who are in school and eligible for benefits-related free school meals will still be provided with a meal option. Of course, all children in school are welcome to order a lunch and payment will be settled via ParentPay.

Lunch options for the coming week are:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Monday	Cheese & Tomato Pasta, Garlic Bread		Cheese or Ham Packed Lunch
Tuesday	Beef Burger in a Bun	Veggie Burger in a Bun	Cheese or Ham Packed Lunch
Wednesday	Roast Chicken, Stuffing and Gravy	Quorn Roast, Stuffing and Gravy	Cheese or Ham Packed Lunch
Thursday	BBQ Chicken & Rice	BBQ Quorn & Rice	Cheese or Ham Packed Lunch
Friday	Fish & Chips	Jacket Potato, Cheese & Beans	Cheese or Ham Packed Lunch

SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

Nursery

The Nursery children have begun a new topic this half term called 'Our Heroes' with a focus this week, on people who help us in school. The children were fascinated during a remote lesson, as Mrs. Farrington, dressed in disguise, went on a secret mission around school to see what jobs everyone was busily doing in school. Mission accomplished as Mrs. Farrington managed to creep around the building without being seen!!

On Thursday we took the nursery children in school on a beautiful walk in the local area. The sun shone, the birds sang, and we spotted lots of buds on the trees. Spring is on its way!

Reception

We have had a fantastic week back at school with the introduction of our new topic 'People that help us.' This week we had a focus on people that help us in school and the children were very surprised to discover the many different roles adults have within our school.

We had a live zoom tour of the school and caught up with some of the different staff members who were able to explain some of their responsibilities in more detail. The children thoroughly enjoyed this especially those joining via Zoom as they were able to see their wonderful school again and are now even more excited about returning very soon!

The children created some beautiful thank you cards for different staff members and their writing was magnificent! I am so impressed with the children's use of phonics and careful formation of letters.

One of the highlights of the week was when the children set up their own classrooms and taught a phonics lesson. We had some great teaching and a super mix of students including ponies, teddies, dinosaurs and a fussy baby Yoda!

A brilliant start to the half term - well done!



Year 1

The Year 1s penultimate week of remote learning has been incredibly successful as the children continue to be hardworking and resilient whilst working from home. In Maths, the children have loved their new topic of Measurement and have been learning how to measure mass using balance scales and measure capacity using measuring jugs. In English, the Year 1s have been introduced to a new book 'Cloudland'. They have been sequencing and retelling the story, as well as describing the characters and setting using adjectives. In the afternoons we have been doing PSHE, with our new topic of 'Dreams and Goals'. It has been lovely to hear all the different things that the children want to achieve in the near and distant future.

Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been investigating minibeasts and their microhabitats in Science. In English we have started to write information texts about Rosa Parks. In Maths we have been learning about shape and children have worked so hard on symmetry. Well done to all children completing their tasks on Seesaw and for interacting on Zoom this week. You have worked so hard. You are all superstars!



Year 3

Year 3 have had a great week! We have started learning about Shape Poetry in English and have been collecting descriptive vocabulary to use when we write our own next week. Year 3 have started to learn about Pop music with Mr Mansfield and thoroughly enjoyed listening to Elvis Presley. In Geography this week, we have been learning about bridges and we created a TV news report to explain why the bridges in Burton are important and how it would impact our lives if they were no longer there. Well done Year 3!

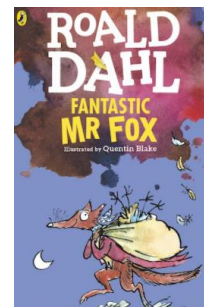
Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed this week where they have been learning about the different populations of the world's countries. Miss Westwood has been teaching English where the children have been learning how to write a Viking myth. In maths, we have continued to learn about fractions which the children have done very well with.



Year 5

This week the year 5's have been busying themselves with subtracting fractions! There have been some challenging questions, but they've all been successful – I'm very proud of them. The class have been learning opening and closing times for French and listening to different pop songs for music – some great classics in there! We've started a new topic for science, which is Earth and Space, and have been looking at evidence to support whether the Earth is round or flat? Finally, we've listened to some poems written by Ben Boden and as well as Mr Stevens reading Fantastic Mr Fox.



Year 6

Year 6 have started a fresh unit in English, looking at leaflets before we write our own in a few weeks. They have identified effective features in different examples, understood and used precise and technical vocabulary and revised relative clauses. In Maths, we have been looking at measurement, specifically metric measures and solving problems involving them. The children currently attending class enjoyed measuring the length of the classroom after making their own estimations. In Music, Year 6 have been beginning to learn about reggae music and where it originates - the pupils designed some eye-catching information posters based on their new learning.

Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children of ALL ages...

The Fantastic First Fifty

by JTMAT

Please visit <https://jtmatalovesreading.co.uk/> for a wide range of reading recommendations! You will see Mr Adams, Miss Barnard, Mr Stevens and Mrs Knight reading some extracts from their favourite stories!



Spring Term Diary Dates

Many of our dates for the spring term remain under review due to adhering to government guidance and advice. Some of our traditional calendar fixtures may not be honoured. We will keep you informed of our arrangements and procedures.

Event	Date/Time
School Re-Opens to ALL Pupils	Monday 8 th March 2021
Parent Consultations	Week beginning 1 st March 2021
World Book Day	Thursday 4 th March 2021
Red Nose Day	Friday 19 th March 2021
School Closes for Easter	Thursday 1 st April 2021

Are you struggling with IT in lockdown?



From email setup to help with social media, online shopping or zooming your family.

We are here to help with our **FREE IT Telephone Support Service**

For more information visit: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/TelephoneITSupport or call 0300 111 8000

A Staffordshire Libraries and Community Learning Service Project



STOP BULLYING

Where can I go for more help with bullying issues?

You can find more information on our school's website under Anti-Bullying Ambassadors:

www.shobnallprimaryschool.co.uk

You could also get help from these organisations:



www.childline.org.uk



Produced by the
Anti-Bullying Ambassadors at
Shobnall Primary School
Anti-Bullying Lead—Mrs Farrington



We stand together against all forms of bullying

at

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"Happy Children, Inspired Learners."



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10 Key Principles

Anti-Bullying Charter for Schools



_____ School has
committed to the following principles to prevent and respond to bullying. Our school:

1. **listens** - all pupils and parents and carers are listened to and influence strategies and approaches to prevent, report and respond to incidents of bullying.
2. **includes us all** - all pupils, including those with SEND, are included, valued and participate fully in all aspects of school life.
3. **respects** - all school staff are role models to others within the school in how they treat others.
4. **challenges** - all forms of discriminatory language – including disablist language – is challenged taken seriously
5. **celebrates difference** – difference is actively and visibly celebrated and welcome across the whole school.
6. **understands** - all school staff, pupils and parents and carers understand what bullying is and what it isn't.
7. **believes** - all pupils, including disabled children and those with SEN, and their parents and carers are acknowledged, believed and taken seriously when reporting incidents of bullying.
8. **reports bullying** - all pupils within the school and their parents and carers understand how to report incidents of bullying.
9. **takes action** - we respond quickly to all incidents of bullying. Pupils, including disabled pupils and those with SEN, participate fully in decisions made about them and help to formulate appropriate action to respond to incidents of bullying.
10. **has clear policies** - our school's anti-bullying policy reflects these principles and is embedded within other school policies. They are widely and actively promoted to school staff, pupils and their parents and carers.