



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TELEPHONE: 01283 247410

TWITTER: @shobnallprimary

E-MAIL: shb-office@shb.itmat.co.uk

3rd February 2023

"If we were meant to stay in one place, we'd have roots instead of feet."

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have seen so much great learning and had so much fun this week at Shobnall Primary & Nursery School! Wow! Not only have the usual wide range of high-quality educational activities been taking place, but the children have also been sharing stories with each other as part of National Storytelling Week! Year 6 have some of their own real life stories to tell as they have been experiencing life in the outdoors on their residential trip to Laches Wood! Miss Lord, Mrs Leedham and Mr Rowley did a fantastic job of keeping us up-to-date with their news via the school's Twitter account; it looks like everyone had a wonderful time! You can read more about their week in the 'Shobnall Showcase' further on in the newsletter!



You will all have received an invite to attend a consultation with your child's class teacher at Parents' Evening on Monday 13 February 2023 or Wednesday 15 February 2023. If you have not already booked your slot, it is not too late to do so. Please follow the instructions that were provided on the letter you received earlier on in the week.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week where the staff and pupils will be taking part in many activities in school to promote positivity. Please look out for this on Twitter! There are many ways parents can 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)

I don't think there are any words that can express how we all feel about the chaos that is being caused by the carriageway patching works along Shobnall Road, so it's probably best we don't discuss it too much! However, I do want to thank all of our families for ensuring that your children have arrived at school on time every day this week despite the considerable challenges you have faced and the stress you have experienced on your journey! We are in this together, we are strong, and we can get through it!

We hope that you all have a great weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday! Enjoy!



Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about DIGITAL LIVES

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the benefit of their positive aspects. At the same time, we *do* have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life ...

MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention – such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time: they could be considering how to phrase something specific, or they may be gauging your reaction.

BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how babies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers – which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions – just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.

REMIND YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online, in case it leads to having their devices confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they *do* view harmful content, then they are *not* to blame – but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resilient against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.

KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.

DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own digital life of the online world versus reality – for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house: spotlessly clean, never messy and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect – such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.

TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could deter a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.

CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'

Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home; what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings of RAISE (Raising Awareness in Sex Education) has almost 20 years' experience delivering relationships and sex education and training to schools, colleges and other education providers. A published author on the subject, she also advises the Department of Education on the staff-training element of the RSHE curriculum.



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PFA Valentine Disco – Friday 10 February 2023

The PFA are hosting a valentine themed disco on **Friday 10 February 2023**! The infant disco will be 3.45 – 5.00pm and the junior disco will be 5.15 – 6.30pm. Miss Alexander, Mrs Sandhu 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 next week, every morning before school outside the key stage 2 entrance. They will be priced at £3.00 (disco and drink) or £3.50 (disco, drink and sweets).

On the night, children will need a small amount of spending money for other drinks, sweets and savoury snacks (should they wish to have any) 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!

NSPCC Number Day – Friday 3 February 2023

Thank you to all the children for supporting the NSPCC by taking part in **Number Day**! They have had a great day dressing up in clothing with numbers on and taking part in a wide range of maths activities. In total, we have raised **£120.20** for the NSPCC and thank you all once again for your kind donations.



In association with

Sainsbury's



'My School Fund' Initiative

We announced some time ago that Shobnall Primary & Nursery School had joined the My School Fund initiative. This innovative scheme allows for us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help. So far, our community of parents and teachers have helped the school to generate **£50.44** worth of rewards!

How does it work?

Parents, guardians and carers can sign up to the scheme for free and start earning cashback on the things they buy in participating retail stores, including Sainsbury's and Argos. As you spend, you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Add that all up across our school's network of families and together we can all make a big difference!

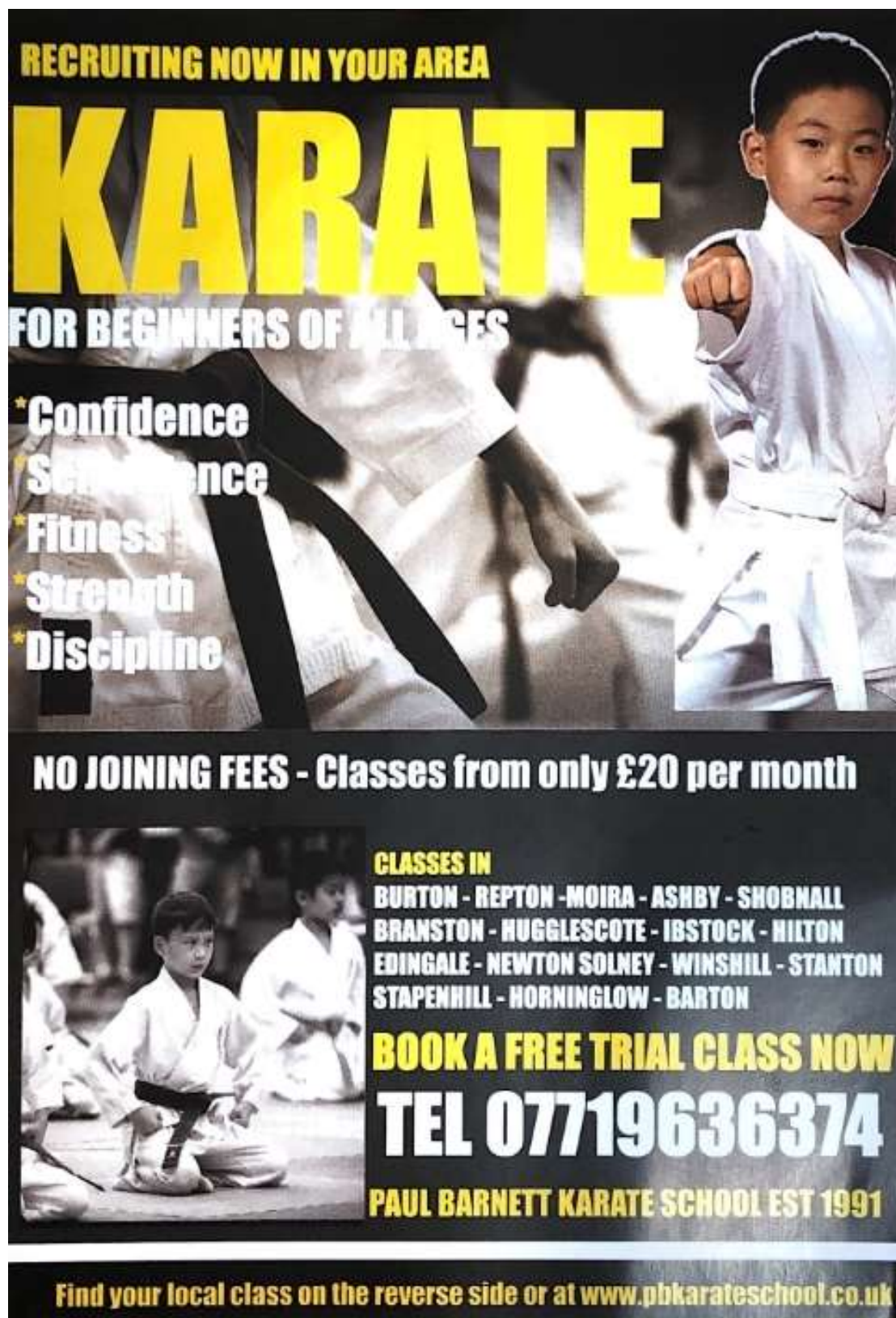
How to get involved

Visit myschoolfund.org to register for free and link to Shobnall Primary & Nursery School. From there, everything you spend in participating stores will go towards helping boost our budget, plus your own!

Sign up today at myschoolfund.org.

Paul Barnett Karate School

Paul Barnett is now holding karate classes at our school on a Monday evening, 3.30pm – 4.30pm. If your child is interested in learning karate, please contact Paul directly on the number below to get them booked in!



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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

Most parents frequently chat with their child about how things are going at school or what's happening in their friendship groups – but those discussions often doesn't extend to youngsters' online activities. In fact, National Online Safety conducted a recent survey which found that only slightly more than half (54%) of parents regularly talk to their children about staying safe online.

It can be an awkward topic to broach and, of course, it needs not to feel intrusive. However, just checking in with your child about their digital life can get them thinking about online safety and alert

you to any issues they might be having. In support of Safer Internet Day 2023, the guide has some useful tips on potential ways to start those conversations.

In the guide you'll find a number of useful tips such as being as honest as possible, discussing how misleading the online world can be and creating a 'family agreement'.

We would also like parents and carers to note that **Safer Internet Day 2023** will be celebrated on **7 February** with the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres across Europe. Click on the link below for more information, useful guides and resources:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



Keep out the Draft

We have made it through January - but the cold weather is still staying with us!

23% of Staffordshire's carbon emissions comes from our homes. Putting draft excluders in your house can help to keep the heat in and keep your house warm.



Draft excluders can go on windows, doors and fireplaces - if you don't want to buy one, you can try and make one yourself.

Hot Lunch Options – 6 February 2023 to 10 February 2023

W/c 6.2.23					
WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Beef Lasagne & garlic bread	Roast chicken with mash potato & gravy	Pork Meatballs with Pasta	Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Vegetable Quiche with baked potato wedges	Quorn Lasagne & garlic bread	Quorn fillet, with mash potato & gravy	Vegetarian Meatballs with Pasta	2 Cheese Rolls
ACCOMPANIMENTS 5 LUNCH	Corn on the cob & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & cauliflower Salad bar	Carrots & parsnips Salad bar	Roasted Vegetables Salad Bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
DESSERTS	5 LUNCH Bananas & custard	pb Ginger biscuit	Chocolate & orange muffins	Fruit Sponge & custard	Chocolate Brownie
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

SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

Nursery

Nursery have had a brilliant week! They have been working extremely hard with their maths, applying the vocabulary 'more than' and 'fewer than' in their learning. The children have also all enjoyed taking turns at taking on the role of ticket collector in our role play train area. They have thoroughly enjoyed handing out tickets, punching them with the hole punch and driving their friends around. On Friday, the children had a fantastic time celebrating Number Day and talking about their costumes and their numbers!

Reception

This week has been a fruit and vegetable exploration as we were inspired by the art of Giuseppe Arcimboldo. A range of food items were used to create our own fruit and vegetable portraits. We were all very excited to share our masterpieces! We then used the pieces of fruit to create more artwork with some magnificent printing!

During PE we all became jungle animals and used our bodies to show the different ways they



moved. We worked brilliantly in groups to create an animal dance to a piece of well known jungle themed music.

We continued to explore the theme of goals and were very excited to learn about Marcus Rashford who worked very hard towards his goal of becoming a professional footballer. He was also successful in ensuring all children received quality food in schools.

We then created our own class book full of our own goals.

"I want to swim without my float."
(Daisy)

"I want to write my tricky words."
(Sabiha)

"I really want to get better at painting a frog!" (Miley)

"Be better at riding my bike."
(Arthur)

Brilliant - you can do it!



Year 1

Year 1 have enjoyed their new English topic this week. They are learning about information reports based on 'Tigers.' In RE we have been enjoying learning about how to be good friends and linking it with stories from the Bible. In Science children enjoyed learning about their ears and hearing using musical instruments. Well done, Year 1!

Year 2

Having completed their unit on 'Cinderella' last week, Year 2 were very excited to start their new English topic on report writing around 'Transport from the past'. The children analysed the model text and found the features of a report. The tier 2 and 3 vocabulary lesson introduced the children to a huge amount of new words including; penny-farthing, invent, invention, steam-engine, soar and so much more! Year 2 loved learning about what these new words meant and are excited to use them in their writing next week. In Maths, the children have been gaining greater understanding of money through looking at making equal amounts, making a pound and giving change. The most exciting activity of the week however, was Friday when children celebrated NSPCC Number Day. As a class we completed fun mathematics quizzes, learnt about famous mathematicians, as well as how every job has an element of mathematics!

Year 3

Year 3 have had a great week. We have started our new English Topic which required us to have a tour around school. We will be creating a persuasive piece of writing for perspective parents who



would like to send their children to Shobnall. We have also celebrated National Storytelling Week and Numbers Day! We have enjoyed completing some different activities celebrating these special days. We have finished off the week learning all about different colours in French.

Year 4

Year 4 have had another amazing week! In maths, the children have been learning how to multiply a 2- and 3-digit number by a 1 digit number and I have been so impressed with the children's times tables knowledge to answer these types of questions. In English, we have continued looking at the features of a persuasive text and the children had an opportunity to write a persuasive advert to convince people to go to the Maldives on holiday! In Science, we have concluded our experiment on identifying how evaporation happens at different rates in different temperatures. Finally, we have started our RE topic for this half term and have been learning about Buddhists view on change and how we all experience change within our lives. A fantastic week Year 4!



Year 5

The year 5 children have had such an exciting week!

In English, we continued our instructional writing topic. On Monday, Mrs Knight made vegetable samosas, demonstrating how to follow a recipe. The children are looking forward to making and eating Yorkshire Puddings on Monday. Please see the homework for more information regarding this.

In Maths, we have moved onto the new multiplication and division topic. Please help your child with practicing their times table recall facts as these are really important for this topic as we are working with numbers up to 4 digits. We finished off the week with NSPCC Number Day and the children wore some great outfits displaying numbers in creative ways.

In French, we have been learning how to structure sentences using nouns and adjectives - and remember to check if the noun (or monster body part) is masculine or feminine, and then singular or plural. The children have been writing about monsters in French describing body parts.

On Thursday afternoon, the children were very lucky and had a visit from a dance teacher. They were taught five different moves and had to incorporate these into their own group dance routine. It was great to see so much enthusiasm during the workshop!



Year 6

The children have had a fantastic week at Laches Wood!

After an exhausting first day, the children were up early and climbing up the high ropes and abseiling in the morning and taking part in archery, caving, BMX biking and frisbee golf in the afternoon.

On Wednesday, the children enjoyed a day exploring the geographical landscape of Carding Mill Valley. After an 8km walk, they still weren't finished and enjoyed a campfire experience back at the centre.

Their penultimate day involved a search and rescue mission, climbing and a visit to the rock room.

I would like to thank the staff, Miss Lord, Mr Rowley and Mrs Leedham for their tireless efforts in making the trip such a great one for the children and for looking after them so well!

Enjoy a very restful weekend, Year 6!

Reading Corner

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

The Missing Piece

Written by Jordan Stephens

There are lots of things that make us feel whole. Little Sunny says finishing a jigsaw, slotting in the final piece, is what gives her the most happiness, though her much-loved Gran wonders if that's really true. Gran gives her a 1000 piece jigsaw to complete and Sunny fits it together carefully until disaster! The final piece is missing.

Sent out by Gran to the neighbours who borrowed the puzzle, Sunny makes new friends, one after another, and they dance home together as evening comes in. Searching for something is as important as finding it, and Sunny has discovered new forms of completeness and happiness.

Sunny's journey is beautifully depicted in Beth Suzanna's bold, bright illustrations, the scene in which the new friends run home under the evening sky is particularly striking, and the story has much to tell us about friends, family and learning new truths about ourselves.



Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Teigan W	Ava E
Year 1	Arham A	Charlotte M
Year 2	Alina P	Lily B
Year 3	Aleena A	Dylan S
Year 4	Lily J	Kian S
Year 5	Zahra K	Mohammed A
Year 6	LACHES WOOD	

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Sofia K
Year 1	Rupert C
Year 2	Maksym B
Year 3	Elliot M
Year 4	Erin S
Year 5	Lilly L
Year 6	LACHES WOOD

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 03.02.23)	246	224	204	203
Position	1 st – 4 points	2 nd – 3 points	3 rd – 2 points	4 th – 1 Point
Running Total	11	8	16	15

Spring Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 7 th February 2023
PFA Valentine's Disco	Friday 10 th February 2023 (EYFS/KS1 – 3.45pm – 5.00pm, KS2, 5.15pm – 6.30pm)
Parents' Evening	Monday 13 th February 2023, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 15 th February 2023, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 17 th February 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 27 th February 2023
World Book Day	Thursday 2 nd March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Reception	Monday 13 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 1	Tuesday 14 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 2	Wednesday 15 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 3	Thursday 16 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 4	Friday 17 th March 2023
Sport Relief	Friday 17 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 20 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 21 st 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 Half-Term	Friday 17 th February 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 27 th February 2023
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

