



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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23rd September 2022

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you can't see a shadow."

Dear Parents/Carers,

After a very sombre start to the week with the State Funeral of Her Majesty The Queen, the staff and children in school have been reflective since we returned on Tuesday. September is always a month of transition, a time of new beginnings, a time of change. But that seems to be true this year more than ever.

With the sad and sudden loss of Her Majesty The Queen, we are now experiencing a change in monarchy and political leadership, alongside the growing cost of living and climate emergency. This can be unsettling in many ways, and with it comes challenges for some. For others, September is a month of opportunity, time to invest in yourself, learn a new skill or start something new. All of which, we feel, our children are embracing at the beginning of this academic year.

Since Tuesday, the school has once again been a hive of activity. Forest School has continued for Year 2, a very productive PFA meeting was held and extra-curricular clubs are now in full swing. The work being produced in both choirs sounds fabulous and Miss Martin-Mills is already training our 'Young Voices' superbly. Mr Mansfield is also orchestrating an exciting Christmas extravaganza of songs in preparation for the JTMAT Christmas Concert at John Taylor High School in December and the grand 'Christmas Lights Switch On' over at The Albion at the end of November - watch this space for further news!

Please keep up to date with all that is going on in school through Twitter, the weekly newsletter and the [school website](#). Could we also ask that you ensure your contact details are kept up to date with us? We should have at least two named contacts in case of an emergency at school. Any problems with any of these, please contact the ladies in the office who will be more than happy to help you.

Thank you to everyone for making this week such a positive and enjoyable one. Whatever it is you are planning on doing this weekend, enjoy! We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday!

PFA News – Your Disco Needs You!

Thank you to all of those who were able to attend the first PFA meeting of the year on Thursday! Jo Latham was elected as Chair, Ian Pullen as Treasurer and Martin Latham as Secretary. The first fundraiser will be a **Fancy Dress Disco** on **Thursday 3 November 2022!** Fancy dress is optional, but it would be great to see as many of the children dressed as anything they wish! The infant disco will be 3.45 – 5.00pm and the junior disco will be 5.15 – 6.30pm. Miss Alexander, Mrs Sandhu, Miss Martin-



Mills and some of our parent volunteers 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/costume on the day, which they will help them get changed into. This is so that they are ready for the start of the disco at the end of school! Shobnall Stars will be in the Year 2 classroom on that evening. Tickets will be on sale week commencing 17 October, every morning before school by the entrance to the key stage 2 playground and will be priced from £2.50 - £3.50, dependent on any added 'extras' that children would like to pre-purchase. The PFA have also very kindly offered to sell tickets at Parents' Evening on 17 October and 19 October, where you will also be able to find out a little more about how to get involved and what your fundraising has achieved for the children. There will be a range of snacks, drinks and other unique merchandise on sale at the discos so children will need to bring a little extra spending money on the night should they wish to purchase anything on offer. Unfortunately, the PFA will not be able to subsidise them if they don't but water will be readily available if children do not bring spending money.



The PFA are keen for more volunteers to come forward and help support our fundraising events. If you don't have the capacity to attend the meetings but would like to volunteer to help out at an event, please speak to Jo Latham who will happily add you to the list. The next meeting will be on **Thursday 10 November**, 3.30pm in the Year 6 classroom where plans will be finalised for the Christmas Market on Friday 2 December 2022. The PFA would love to make the raffle even more special

this year, so if you have any links with local businesses or have any contacts that have the capacity to donate a prize, please contact the school or Jo Latham to let us know!

The children were delighted to see their brand new trim trails, which were installed over the summer! These have been funded by the PFA and we can't thank everyone enough for their hard work and kindness in generating this fundraising to make this possible!

Nursery Places Still Available!

Please note that there are still a few places left in our nursery, so enquire if you or someone else you know within the community, would like a place in our outstanding school.

Further information can be found on our school website [Admissions](#) page on how to apply for a place and we look forward to receiving your application!



Year 7 Secondary School Applications

The application window for a September 2023 start at secondary or high school is now 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 2022**.

Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Early Years Speech Language and Communication Journey

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Early Years Speech Language and Communication Journey provides information and advice to support parents/carers and practitioners. Please click on the [link](#) if this is of interest to you.



Burton Mail Appearance

We were very proud and very humbled to appear in the Burton Mail last week. An article was published detailing how many applications were made for each school in our area. It was stated that the most popular school in Burton and the second most popular in Staffordshire was Shobnall Primary & Nursery School, where just 55 per cent of parents who picked it as their first choice got a place for their child. With a total of 55 parents putting it as their top choice, that's the equivalent of 1.8 first preferences for our school for each of its 30 places offered. If you would like to read the full article, please visit [StaffordshireLive](#).



Parent Volunteers!

We would love to welcome some parent volunteers into school to help support our pupils with their learning! Initially, we are hoping to encourage volunteers to come into school and help pupils with their reading as reading regularly to an adult has been shown to significantly increase the rate of progress that children can make. For safeguarding, we would need to ensure that all volunteers have an enhanced DBS check, which school would arrange should anyone wish to help. Please contact Mrs Foster in the school office by email at shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk if you are interested in

volunteering. Alternatively, you can catch her on the gates in the morning if you would like to express your interest in person. Many thanks and we look forward to hearing from you.

Think Before You Park

It's the first week back and the school run can be hectic. Staffordshire Police and their partners are urging parents and carers to park safely, considerately and legally around schools.



Over the next few weeks they are highlighting the need to be aware of pedestrians, other roads users and local residents when dropping your children off or picking them up from school. One way to ease congestion is that if you can't walk to school from your home consider parking further away from the school and walking the last five or 10 minutes. We are very fortunate in that The Albion are happy for our parents to park their vehicles in their car park so as to ease congestion around the school! Please utilise their facilities.

There are rules on parking, make sure you aren't parking dangerously or causing issues for others. It's important that you do NOT park:

- on zig zags and double yellow lines
- in a way that blocks access for emergency vehicles
- opposite to or near to a junction
- on a bend

- near the brow of a hill
- near a school entrance, bus or tram stop
- over or on the driveway of a property
- over a dropped kerb
- on the pavement - this can cause problems for parents with prams, wheelchair or mobility scooter users and the elderly.
- on or near crossing points where a school crossing patrol operates, this can impede their view, making the crossing unsafe



Another common issue is drivers leaving their engine running when waiting for their children. Idling increases, the amount of exhaust fumes in the air and therefore reduces the air quality around the school where children are walking. Consider the environment and the health of the local community and turn the engine off when you're parked up.

This new school year make a resolution to be a #ParkingStar and think before you park. Residents living near to schools who have concerns or issues regarding parking can find further information on the Staffordshire County Council website [here](#).

Online Safety Tips

Reddit describes itself as a 'social news' site where users connect and share stories, opinions and support; debate issues; ask questions; and chat to people with similar interests. Discussion topics are organised into communities (known as subreddits) that are created, run and populated by users, who remain anonymous throughout. Free speech is encouraged and users – or 'redditors' – can vote posts 'up' or 'down' so they get more (or less) attention. Reddit is free to join, although signing up to Reddit Premium unlocks an advert-free version of the platform. In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as harassment, trolling and fake news.



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School Uniform Exchange

Please don't forget the *school uniform exchange*, which will continue this year! 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 Primary & Nursery School Vs St. Peter's C of E Primary School, Yoxall

Last night bought a fantastic result for our football team who had an amazing win against Yoxall St. Peter's – the final score was 3 – 2. Shobnall scored first, ten minutes into the game but five minutes before the end it was still 2 – 2. Archie managed to score in the final minute, adding to Ashton's other two goals for our team to come away victorious! Well done to everyone and thanks for all the support from the side lines and from Mr Bishop.



Good News for Mr Attwood!

You will be very pleased to hear that last Sunday, 18 September, Mr Attwood became a father for the second time after his fiancé gave birth to a very healthy baby girl! We send our warmest wishes and congratulations to Mr Attwood and his fiancé and we can't wait to meet Ella very soon!

Hot Lunch Options – 26 September – 30 September 2022

w/c 26.9.22, 17.10.22, 14.11.22, 5.12.22, 9.1.23, 30.1.23

WEEK 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Vegetarian Korma with 50/50 rice	Pork sausage with creamy mash potato & gravy	Roast turkey with mashed potato & gravy	Spanish chicken in a tomato sauce with 50/50 rice	Crispy fish fingers with chunky chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Vegetarian cottage pie	Quorn enchiladas with diced potatoes	Quorn fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Tomato & roasted vegetable pasta	Crispy vegetable fingers with chunky chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS 5	Cauliflower & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & carrots Salad bar	Green beans & cabbage Salad bar	Sweetcorn & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
DESSERTS	Chocolate & pear sponge with custard	Apple crumble & custard	Flapjack	Carrot cake	Chocolate & orange cookie
FRESH FRUIT OR YOGHURT	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
JACKET POTATO AND SANDWICH SELECTION	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection

Mellors MENU Fuel your afternoon with a healthy school lunch from Mellors

SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

Nursery

Our nursery children have had a fantastic first full week! They have settled in so well and it is lovely to see them beginning to interact with each other in their play. Some daily routines are slowly being introduced and the children have done exceptionally well sitting on the carpet during story time. They have all been showing super listening skills we are so proud of them! This week in nursery we have also been very creative as we have been focussing on the book 'Penguinpig' and the children have been busy creating their own crazy animals and learning all about not trusting everything online.

Reception

It has been a wonderful week in Reception with the children eagerly arriving to school with big smiles on their faces! We are all so proud of how well they have settled into their new routine.

They have enjoyed joining in with lots of exciting activities linked to the story 'The Colour Monster,' by Anna Llenas. The children have shown a super understanding of the different ways they feel and have been learning about various strategies to support their different feelings by using our wonderful well-being area.



After having lots of fun decorating their house in the role play area and finally getting the removal van delivery the children are all unpacked and settled in. There has been lots of fun and laughter as they compared the different paint colours and wallpapers in their new home, as well as, making each other cups of tea and the occasional hot chocolate!

The children have also enjoyed singing some of their favourite rhymes and shared some fabulous books focussing on different types of families. This led them onto sharing all about their own families by presenting their fantastic family representations they completed for homework.

As with our class routines the transition to the hall for lunchtime has continued to be a huge success as the children follow instructions well and use wonderful manners.

All of the children should be very proud of the brilliant start they have made in Reception!



Year 1

Year 1 have settled into class wonderfully! They are becoming more independent with their routines and trying extremely hard with their learning. This week we have been focussing on 1 more and 1 less in Maths as well as comparing numbers. During English, children have written fantastic descriptions of the Gruffalo using adjectives. Well done Year 1 for a great week!

Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic week of learning! They have settled into their routines and understand the expectations and it has been wonderful to see how independent they have become in their work already. In Maths, the children have been looking at Place Value using tens and ones as well as comparing numbers using the greater than/less than sign. All children showed a fantastic understanding of numbers and breezed through the work showing superb problem-solving skills along the way. In English, Year 2 have been writing Police Reports for the Gingerbread Man. The children thoroughly enjoyed this unit of writing and were able to retell the key events in chronological order so that they could charge the fox with the crime of eating the Gingerbread Man! In the afternoons, Year 2 have had a brilliant time learning about pitch, rhythm and the beat in Music. They were able to use percussion instruments to accompany their singing, as well as singing the 1666 version of 'London's Burning'. What a great week!

Year 3

Year 3 have had a wonderful few weeks in KS2 and have settled in fantastically. In Maths, we continue to look at the place value of number up to a 1,000 and Miss Barker is extremely impressed with what the children have retained from last year. We have nearly finished our unit of Poetry and the children have thoroughly enjoyed being able to write their own autumnal poem. In History, we have been learning all about chronology and the events that took place during the Stone Age. Keep up the amazing work Year 3 - well done!

Year 4

Year 4 have had a wonderful week this week. I have been so impressed with how well the children have settled into the routines and expectations in Year 4. I have been astonished by the level of presentation and care the children have taken in their work this week. In maths, we have been looking at place value and how to represent numbers in a variety of different ways. Furthermore, in English the children have written a recount to Charlie and The Chocolate Factory, and I have loved reading these! Across the curriculum, we have continued our History unit, where the children have been learning about the Romans, the Punic Wars and how Hannibal used elephants to cross the Alps in 220BC! Well done on a fantastic week Year 4. Keep it up!



Year 5

Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed science this week as they have designed and carried out an investigation looking into which paper towel is the most absorbent. We have been reading Cirque du Freak and started to look at JK Rowling's Harry Potter books. It has been great to see how different authors use techniques in their writing to allow us to practice relative clauses. We have also had fun in Maths learning Roman numerals with a song and actions.

Year 6

This week the children in year 6 have been working hard in maths which has involved revising efficient methods for the four operations. English has been an engaging lesson this week, where flashbacks are our focus. We have been looking at an interesting animation called "The Piano" where an old man has flashbacks whilst playing the piano. The children have been really engaged and seem to be enjoying the writing genre. Overall, I am really impressed with how hard the children have worked this week.

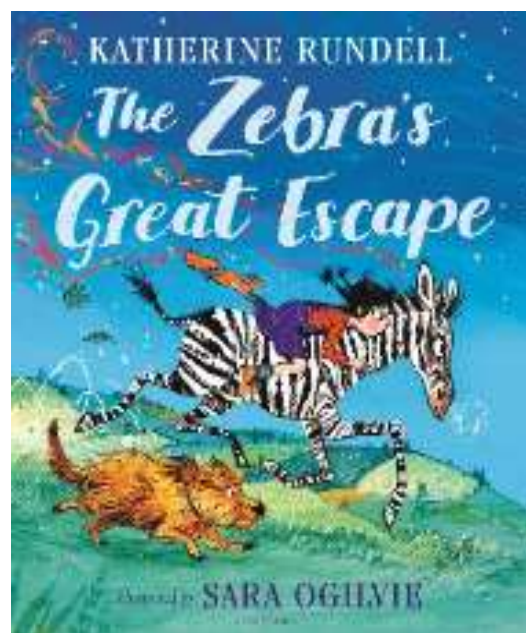
Reading Corner

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

The Zebra's Great Escape

Written by Katherine Rundell

Mink doesn't believe in rules. She loves running wild and free. So, when a zebra appears in the square where she lives and she finds out that his parents have been captured by the evil Mr Spit, she knows that it's up to her to help. So begins a grand adventure to rescue a whole menagerie of animals – an adventure that will take all of Mink's courage and determination. Written with generous helpings of warmth and humour, this is a timeless picture book about bravery, friendship and the importance of taking action. With stunning illustrations by award-winning illustrator Sara Ogilvie, illustrator of The Detective Dog, this modern classic from bestselling children's author Katherine Rundell is an unmissable treat.



Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	EVERYONE!	
Year 1	Mohammed -Y	Esme E
Year 2	Angus B	Amara I
Year 3	Aleena A	Alicia F
Year 4	Fatima S	Nell T
Year 5	Hafsa U	Jess M
Year 6	Leah W	Rosie E

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Aminah K
Year 1	Yahya K
Year 2	Lily B
Year 3	Lewis L
Year 4	Euan W
Year 5	Isabelle K
Year 6	Ashton M

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 23.09.22)	100	119	129	177
Position	4 th – 1 Point	3 rd – 2 Points	2 nd – 3 Points	1 st – 4 Points
Running Total	4	8	6	12

Autumn Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Harvest Celebration	Tuesday 4 th October 2022
Parents' Evening	Monday 17 th October 2022, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 19 th October 2022, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
School Closes for Half-Term	Thursday 20 th October 2022
INSET Day	Friday 21 st October 2022
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 31 st October 2022
PFA Fancy Dress Disco	Thursday 3 rd November 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infants: 3.45pm – 5.00pm • Juniors: 5.15pm – 6.30pm
Flu Immunisations Reception to Year 6	Tuesday 8 th November 2022
Odd Socks Day	Monday 14 th November 2022
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 30 th November 2022 to Friday 2 nd December 2022 Inclusive
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 2 nd December 2022
Christingle	Monday 5 th December 2022
EYFS Nativity	Tuesday 6 th December 2022, 9.15am
EYFS Nativity	Wednesday 6 th December 2022, 9.15am
Key Stage 1 Nativity	Thursday 7 th December 2022, 9.15am & 2.15pm
Year 3 Cosy Christmas Celebration	Friday 8 th December 2022, 9.15am
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 14 th December 2022
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at Lichfield Garrick	Thursday 15 th December 2022, 10.00am
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 16 th December 2022

Diary Dates 2022-2023

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Half-Term	Thursday 20 th October 2022
INSET Day	Friday 21 st October 2022
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 31 st October 2022
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 16 th December 2022
INSET Day	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Wednesday 4 th January 2023
Young Voices 2023	Friday 13 th January 2023
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 30 th January to Friday 3 rd February 2023
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
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 8 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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

REDDIT

Reddit describes itself as a social news website where users connect and share stories, opinions and support; debate issues; ask questions; and chat to people with similar interests. Discussion topics are organised into communities (known as subreddits) that are created, run and populated by users, who remain anonymous throughout. Free speech is encouraged, and users – or ‘redditors’ – can vote posts ‘up’ or ‘down’ so they get more (or less) attention. Reddit is free to join, although signing up to Reddit Premium unlocks an advert-free version of the platform.

← R/FUNNY

R/TRENDING →

AGE RATING

13+

← R/MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MINIMAL MODERATION

As sharing opinions on Reddit is easy (and anonymous), offensive or age-inappropriate content is frequently posted. Moderation by admins and bots does occur, but can't cover every community – so Reddit relies on users voluntarily moderating these spaces. Subreddits marked NSFW ('not safe for work') can contain anything from profanity to pornography, so are not suitable for under 18s.

HARASSMENT AND TROLLING

If someone on Reddit doesn't agree with your child's opinion, they may feel compelled to say so – in no uncertain terms. This could lead to a public bombardment of hurtful messages. Likewise, Reddit users are highly likely to encounter trolling (where someone posts a deliberately inflammatory comment to provoke a reaction) on the platform, which can be distressing.

FAKE NEWS

Absolutely anyone can post a story on Reddit, so sub-reddits are occasionally prone to bias, misinformation and opinions being repeated as if they are facts. Fake news articles often grab users' attention with catchy or controversial headlines, and Reddit is no exception. It's important that young people are able to identify fake news – and disregard it rather than sharing it.

GIFTING AND SPENDING

Users can gift awards to the authors of posts that they like (thereby encouraging their favourite redditors to keep contributing) by spending Reddit Coins. This virtual currency can be bought on demand (with real money) or received as part of the paid-for premium package. Users sending a gift can also leave an anonymous private message, a feature which has been abused by groomers.

'SUPPORTIVE' STRANGERS

By definition, Reddit users interact with strangers in public through their community – but also have the option to do so privately. Groomers could repeatedly up-vote a child's comments or respond encouragingly to their posts to win their trust. Once they've built a rapport, the predator then begins messaging the child in private to obtain personal details or try to lure them into meeting in person.

NEVER-ENDING NOTIFICATIONS

Reddit's default is for all notifications to be on. There are a total of 26 types of notification on the platform, ranging from chat messages and comments to updates and mentions of username. This would lead to a child's device being pinged almost constantly with alerts, frequently causing them to be distracted by incoming notifications rather than being present in the moment.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SORT THE SETTINGS

Reddit's user settings can help ensure that minors don't view adult material. Under the 'Feed Settings' tab, switch the Adult Content toggle to 'off', and enable Safe Browsing Mode (this blurs out any explicit images). Also in settings, you can turn off all unnecessary notifications, to prevent your child being distracted by every post or comment on Reddit, allowing them some tech-free time.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

It can often be difficult to tell if something online is real or fake – particularly for young people. It's important to encourage your child to double-check with reputable sources if what they've read is genuine. Remind them to consider what motives might be in the message – and to watch out for scams. Chatting about this regularly helps to develop critical thinking skills and good online habits.

RISE ABOVE IT

If a person says something critical or offensive to your child on Reddit, it's natural that they'll want to respond. Explain to them, however, that is exactly the reaction that trolls look for. Don't give them the satisfaction: instead, report the comment to Reddit Support for investigation. Blocking a user stops them from messaging or following your child on the platform.

AVOID PRIVATE MESSAGING

Through their Reddit profile, young people can control who's able to message them privately – with options including 'no-one' and 'accounts older than 30 days'. These controls help ensure potential groomers can't talk to your child in private, and that Reddit's admins and other users will be able to moderate and report anything they spot which causes them concern.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National
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Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.redditinc.com/policies/user-agreement-september-12-2021#EEA> | <https://www.redditinc.com/policies/content-policy>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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