



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

*"Make your life matter and have fun doing it."*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Learning is in full swing, and this week has seen many of the classes begin new units of work for this term! Positivity remains high and we have seen everything from Computing to Science, PE to Music. Well done to all the children for their efforts and for making such a wonderful start to the new year!

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 (X) 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 must 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 thank you for your understanding in this matter.



We hope that whatever it is you are doing this weekend that you have a restful, relaxing and enjoyable one! As always, we look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!



## Raring2go!

Please click on the link below to access the latest addition of Raring2go. It covers events and things to do for families for January and February.

The next edition will be available just before Easter.

[CLICK HERE FOR LINK](#)

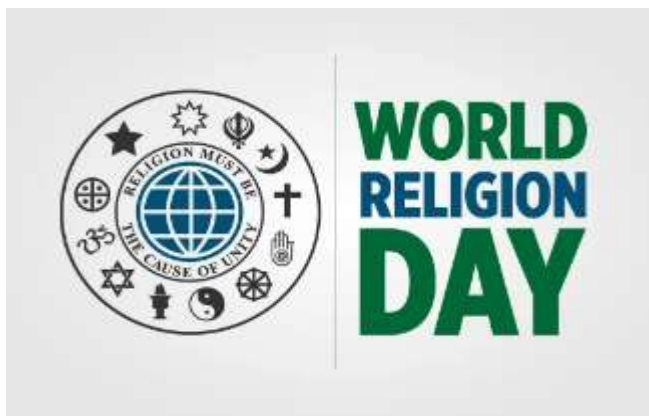
## Forest School Help!

Miss Alexander and Mrs Martin would love your help with replenishing some of the stock that is used to deliver our Forest School sessions! All of the resources they are requesting can be found naturally so if you are out and about on a winter walk and happen to spot any of the following, please could you collect and send into school. They are looking for:

- Wood for the fire
- Wood suitable for cooking on
- Wood cookies
- Small, medium and large logs
- Large stones and pebbles
- Pine cones
- Flower cuttings
- Dried flowers
- Pallets
- Kindling (silver birch)
- Large and small cable spools



Many thanks in advance if you are able to help with sourcing any of these materials!



## World Religion Day

World Religion Day takes place each January, aiming to promote understanding and peace between all religions as well as mutual understanding and tolerance between peoples from different backgrounds. It is a special day when all religions are celebrated. World Religion Day 2024 takes place on Sunday, 21 January and next week, the children will be learning about this special day during assemblies and in class. We thought you might want to know a little more about the day itself, its origins and how it is celebrated around the world:

- People who follow the Bahá'í Faith believe that the main religions around the world share some core ideas, for example, treating other people in the way you would want to be treated.
- World Religion Day was started by the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'í Faith. It began in the state of Maine in the United States as a day for World Peace Through World Religion in October 1947. By 1949, the event was being held in other areas in the US and in 1950, it became known as World Religion Day. It was decided that for one day a year, all religions should be celebrated, and their similarities appreciated.
- World Religion Day is celebrated in a variety of different ways. Many people attend special services. The focus of these services is to gain a better understanding of other religions and to celebrate the



similarities between them all. It is about promoting the common message to treat each other with respect to create a better world for everyone.

We will be celebrating World Religion Day by taking the time to learn about different faiths from around the world, increase awareness of how many different religions there are, even the smaller, lesser-known ones, speak to others about their religion and take the time to speak to people about their own.

### Class Assemblies

Following on from the success of Year 6's recent class assembly, further dates have now been set:

**Year 1 Class Assembly – 18 April 2024**

**Reception Class Assembly – 25 April 2024**

**Year 4 Class Assembly – 27 June 2024**



All assemblies start at 9.00am and we do hope that you are able to join us. These dates will be added to the calendar at the end of the newsletter and please note that dates for other class assemblies will be communicated to you in due course, so keep a look out on the newsletter!



### NSPCC Number Day!

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on **Friday 2 February 2024!** Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. We are planning to have a fun day of maths activities and will be taking part in Dress up for Digits. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (i.e. football shirt, cap. Netball shirt or even a onesie!) OR get even more creative by dressing up 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. Unfortunately, Year 6 will be at Laches Wood, but we know they'll be marking the day in their own way and celebrating with us in spirit!

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.

You can find out more about the NSPCC's work at [nspcc.org.uk](https://nspcc.org.uk).

### Attendance

Please read the [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#) which has further information if you are unsure whether to send your child to school or not.

We are always happy to advise in line with this guidance, so if you are still in doubt, please contact the school office if your child develops any symptoms and we can discuss this further with you.

**Please note that children can come to school with mild respiratory illnesses.** This includes general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose, or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above.

Let's keep working together to ensure attendance is as good as it can be! Remember, **every pupil, every day!** Thank you for your support.





## Online Safety Tips

According to Ofcom, 69% of under-18s use a smartphone as their main method of going online.

Additionally, 49% of children use them for online gaming – putting smartphones only behind consoles (59%) as the device of choice for playing games on. Most people won't require such statistical evidence, however, to acknowledge the huge importance of phones to young people.

Given that Santa's recent visit is likely to have bestowed smartphones on an even greater number of young people, it's a particularly opportune moment to ensure that children are able to use their handsets responsibly – and, above all, safely.

From passcodes to parental controls, and from screen time to scams, this guide has all the essential advice.

## New Year, New Top Tips!

It's the perfect time to make sustainable changes to do your bit for the environment! You could start with:

- Reducing your meat and dairy intake can help to reduce your impact on the environment. Why not try a meat free Monday? Choosing local produce is a fantastic way to cut your emissions, as food can be transported from all over the world - local tastes much fresher too!
- Why not make one of your new years resolutions to start composting to cut down on food waste? [Watch our beginners guide here](#). [Get a discounted bin if you have a Staffordshire postcode](#).
- Got lots of unwanted gifts from Christmas? Take them to a charity shop or your [nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre](#).
- If you still have your Christmas tree, make sure you take it to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre.
- Eligible off-gas homes in Staffordshire can get new energy upgrades to keep their homes warmer for less. The upgrades are free of charge and fully funded by the Staffordshire Warmer Homes scheme. [Apply here](#).
- Is your business looking for support on how to reduce your costs and become greener? **Green Solutions** in affiliation with the Business Energy Advice Service is a programme that offers support to businesses in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Visit [our website](#) to get a FREE energy assessment and access FREE Carbon Literacy training.



## FREE Uniform!

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](mailto:amyroobottom@outlook.com).



## Hot Lunch Options – 22 to 26 January 2024

W/c 9.10.23, 6.11.23, 27.11.23, 18.12.23, 22.1.24

WEEK 3	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Main dish</b>	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	All day breakfast	Roast turkey with potato of the day & gravy	Macaroni cheese	Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
<b>Vegetarian Main dish</b>	5 <sup>LF</sup> Vegetable tikka masala with 50/50 rice	Vegetarian all day breakfast	Pb Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	5 <sup>LF</sup> Vegetable & bean chilli with 50/50 rice	Pb Quorn™ nuggets with chunky chips
<b>Accompaniments</b>	Peas & broccoli Salad bar	Roasted vegetables Salad bar	Green beans & cabbage Salad bar	Corn on the cob & carrots Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
<b>Desserts</b>	Chocolate crunch	Apple & cinnamon muffin	Lemon cake	5 <sup>LF</sup> Apple crumble & custard	Ice cream
Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection



## SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

### Nursery

Our Nursery week has been packed with an array of exciting activities!

We have had a wonderful time designing and making rockets and have been doing some lovely role play to retell the story, 'Zoom Rocket Zoom.'

We have also listened to the story of Noah's Ark, re-enacted this using small world toys and explored the concept of floating and sinking. The children got very excited when we experimented with different solid objects.

On Friday, we looked at what Constellations are, and the children had fun making their own constellations!

Nursery have worked very hard this week, well done!

### Reception

Reception adventures this week...

We have had lots of fun becoming explorers and using our Arctic igloo station to identify lots of Arctic animals! We also carefully hunted around the class to spot the polar bears who had hidden our tricky words!



It has been very interesting learning about the fabulous Northern Lights! We went onto learn about the artist Jackson Pollock and took inspiration from his artwork to create our own version of the Northern Lights!

*"Splatter painting and drips!"* (Ava. C)

*"The Northern Lights and the balls hit the balls on the sun."* (Oliva)

*"Jackson Pollock was sad sometimes he painted to be happy."* (Elliott)

*"We painted on the paper and the paint drips on it."* (Jacob)

*"We see the lights in the dark they look like a rainbow."* (Thomas)

*"The Northern Lights are in the Arctic!"* (Adam)

*"It's an aurora."* (Harper)

Next week we are going to explore the question, is it too cold for people to live in the Arctic?

On Wednesday we had a great time working with our grown ups during the maths workshop. It is going to be fun joining in with the parent project and having maths adventures at home over the next 5 weeks!



### Year 1

Year 1 have been learning all about verbs and imperative verbs, that they may want to use in their instructions. The children loved being able to play charades in order to act out different verbs. In maths, we have been looking at one more and one less as well as understanding numbers to 20. In our afternoon sessions, we have been learning about Neil Armstrong in History and creating a fact file. In Geography, we have been looking at the UK and its cities. The children also enjoyed a chilly Forest School session, using the secateurs to cut pieces of wood as well as creating pinecone aliens. Well done Year 1!

### Year 2

Year 2 have had a great week. They have finished writing their non-chronological report about a Royal

Family member. The children really enjoyed pulling all their research together and presenting it in a neat and structured way. In maths this week, the children have been looking at 2D shapes and learning about their different properties of them. They have also explored symmetry and enjoyed using the mirrors for this activity. In topic this week the children have focused on geography. They loved their local walk at the beginning of the week where they spotted both human and physical features. I would also like to thank the parents for attending the mastering number workshop! Well done year 2 on another great week!

### Year 3

Year 3 have had a great week; they have been working hard on multiplication of 2-digit numbers. In English they have planned their own story based on our cave challenge text and they are looking forward to writing them next week! In French, the children



have enjoyed learning colours and shapes and are now able to speak in short sentences, their understanding of French is also developing very well! In History we are starting to look at the Bronze Age! Well done for a great week Year 3!

#### Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed another busy week! In maths, we have been learning how to multiply a 2- and 3-digit number by 1, whilst also looking at how we can divide a number with the aid of concrete resources. In English this week, we have been continuing our investigation into Banksy to identify the different reasons why people think that Banksy is either an artist or a vandal and I cannot wait to read through the children's balanced arguments next week! In Science this week, we have set up an experiment where we have been identifying how liquids evaporate at different rates in different environments. Finally, we have started our Geography unit for this term and the children have thoroughly enjoyed researching about the capital cities of Europe and even had the opportunity to create a bar chart to show the different populations of European countries. Well done Year 4!

#### Year 5

Year 5 are making brilliant progress with their new writing unit this week (Visit Yorkshire!), where they have learnt how to use modal verbs and emotive language to persuade. The children thoroughly enjoyed utilising the thesaurus to find synonyms for words, and the iPads to research Whitmoor Lakes in preparation



Activity	Verb	Prepositions	Adjectives	Relative adjectives
Walk around the lake	walk	across, along, under, through, round	beautiful	nearby, surrounding, opposite
Large around the village	large	at, towards, from, over	big	surrounding, nearby, opposite
Leap of faith	jump	up, over, down	big	nearby, opposite
Walk across	walk	across, over, under	big	near, opposite, surrounding
Jump	jump	up, down	big	nearby, opposite

for writing their own persuasive leaflet. In Maths, the children have continued with the learning on fractions. Despite the learning becoming significantly more difficult, the children have taken it in their stride and are becoming experts at adding and subtracting mixed number fractions, including converting between mixed-number and improper! Mrs Taylor visited the Year 5 children on Thursday afternoon to teach the class about the history of Burton and the Bass & Paget families – we are so lucky to have such knowledgeable people in our community.



#### Year 6

This week in Year 6 the children have been looking at algebra in maths, finding the nth term and looking at different rules by substituting numbers into the equation. We have been engrossed in reading and have been reading our whole class text, Stormbreaker, at any opportunity. We cannot wait to find out what happens to Alex Rider. In Science, we have been continuing with our topic of 'Evolution and Inheritance' and looked more closely at how plants are adapted to their environment. It was very interesting to find out some clever adaptations of

certain plants. In History, we looked more into the life of a child living in a workhouse and wrote a diary entry from their perspective. As well as all this learning, we have been very busy revising some key topics for our SATs and looking at test techniques to help us answer the questions.

## Reading Corner

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

### The Dog Squad

Written by Clara Vulliamy

Meet Eva, Simone and Ash: best friends, budding journalists, and the stars of this delightful new series about family, friends, and DOGS, from the author of the much-loved MARSHMALLOW PIE and DOTTY DETECTIVE books! Eva has always wanted to be a journalist, so when she and her friends go whippet racing and find some underhand competitive cheating, she might just have found her next story. Can she get to the bottom of it, with a little help from a furry friend?



## Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Harper O	Olivia W
Year 1	Milo C	Shaayani R
Year 2	Esmé E	Peta O
Year 3	Ava B	Azaan M
Year 4	Keyarah B	Kristers K
Year 5	Saif N	Daisy S
Year 6	Hafsa U	Beatrix M-B

## Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Ava T
Year 1	Hassan A
Year 2	Zayn C
Year 3	Olivia K
Year 4	Alicia F
Year 5	Zahra B
Year 6	Mohammed A

## Attendance

This week's Attendance Champions are **Year 5!** Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Reception	98.0%	Target
Year 1	98.0%	
Year 2	98.3%	
Year 3	98.1%	
Year 4	96.9%	97%
Year 5	99.1%	Overall (to date)
Year 6	91.6%	94.9%
Overall	97.0%	

## Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 19.01.24)	140	104	96	147
Position	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2 points	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 points
Running Total	4	4	1	8

## Diary Dates 2023-2024

Event	Date/Time
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024
PFA Valentine's Disco	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants: 3.45pm – 5.00pm</li> <li>• Juniors: 5.15pm – 6.30pm</li> </ul>



School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
PFA Easter Bingo	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Year 5 Trip to Hampton Court	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
School Closes for Easter	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2024, 9.00am
Reception Class Assembly	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024, 9.00am
May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 to Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
School Closes for Half-Term	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024
<b>INSET Day</b>	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024
PFA Summer Fair	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2024, 9.00am
<b>JTMAT INSET Day</b>	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
School Closes for Summer	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024

### Spring Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024
NSPCC Number Day	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Reception	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 1	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 2	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 3	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 4	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
World Book Day	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 5	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 6	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Comic Relief	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Parents' Evening	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
School Closes for Easter	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024





**SHOBNALL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**NOTICE OF FILLING SIX VACANCIES FOR**  
**COUNCILLORS BY CO-OPTION**

**The Parish Council invites applications to fill the six vacancies by co-option.**

**Persons wishing to be considered for co-option, and who fulfil the requirements for appointment as Parish Councillors for this parish, are invited to give notification in writing of their willingness to be considered for co-option to the Parish Clerk.**

Potential Councillors must be 18 years of age or over, their name should appear on the current register of local government electors for Shobnall or the applicant should, during the whole of the twelve months preceding the date of appointment, have resided in or within three miles of the parish or the applicant's only place of work during that period should have been in the parish. Applicants must not be debarred from serving as a councillor.

The notification should include relevant background information that will assist the Parish Council in forming an opinion as to a candidate's suitability for co-option.

Please contact the Parish Clerk if you require any additional information or clarification.

Mary Danby  
Clerk to Shobnall Parish Council  
32 Hillcrest Rise  
Burntwood  
WS7 4SH

Tel: 07521 022738  
Email: [clerk@shobnallpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@shobnallpc.co.uk)

15 January 2024

# SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

## for young people

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

### Meet Our Expert

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

