



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

*"A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."*



Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to say a very warm welcome back to everyone, after what has been a very busy week in school (more about this later on in the 'Shobnall Showcase' section of the newsletter)! It seems as though everyone has had a really good Easter break (with some good weather in parts) and it has been great to have seen children, parents and staff looking so well, refreshed and revitalised.

As the warmer weather now approaches, please don't forget to send your child to school with suncream on and sunhats when we are due to have a particularly hot day. Many thanks for your support with this.

We would also like to take this opportunity again to wish all our Muslim families a very happy, peaceful and prosperous Eid, which has been celebrated this week. Eid Mubarak! The children have had a fantastic day today in school, celebrating Eid-al-Fitr in their classrooms! It has been great to have seen the children in their traditional festive clothing and bright party outfits! Many thanks to all those parents who helped their child make an Eid decoration over the Easter holiday and to those who cooked and sent in food for the celebration. Look on Twitter (X) to see for yourself how the party went...

Whatever it is you have planned for the weekend, we hope that you are able to rest, relax and spend quality time together as families. As always, we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday. Enjoy!



## United Against Bullying Anti-Bullying Alliance Gold Award!

A HUGE thank you and congratulations to Mrs Farrington and the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors for all the work they've done on the United Against Bullying (UAB) programme. The Anti-Bullying Alliance were completely blown away by the amount of work done by our school to reduce bullying and improve wellbeing for pupils. As a result of this work, I'm delighted to announce that we've been awarded United Against Bullying **GOLD** School status! This is not an easy award programme, and we are incredibly proud of what we have achieved! For context, 296 schools completed the programme with 11% achieving Gold, 24% Silver, and 55% Bronze.



## MMR Vaccination

All school age children should have received 2 MMR vaccinations as babies/toddlers. For those who have had none or only one there are some clinics at the Burton Fire Station on Saturday 13 April 10am-2pm and on Thursday 18 April 3pm-6pm. These are walk in sessions (no appointment needed) for **MMR vaccination only**.

If you are not sure if your child has had both doses, feel free to come along and they can check for you. Pork free vaccine will be available if required.

For further information, please feel free to contact; [targetedvaccinationteam@mpft.nhs.uk](mailto:targetedvaccinationteam@mpft.nhs.uk)



## Piñata Smashlings Music Tour Visit – Wednesday 17 April 2024

The children will be taking part in Music and Art education activities with the Piñata Smashlings, who will be visiting our school on Wednesday 17 April! The Piñata Smashlings will first host an assembly to give an



inspirational talk to pupils and bring a real-world career and STEM theme to the day, which incorporates computing plus art and design. We will also be visited by Grammy award-winning record producer and songwriter, Jason Perry (also a singer in the band "A"), together with Piñata Smashlings costume characters, for some smashing piñata and music fun throughout the day!

As part of this activity, Toikido (producers of the Piñata Smashlings) would like to take some photographs and record video content of the children playing with the Piñata Smashlings costume characters and having piñata and music fun! You will be receiving a letter about this.

Please see the poster below for more information about the day, but please note that all parents and carers are very welcome to visit the party tent at the end of the day with their children for some piñata and party fun!





## Year 5 Class Assembly – Thursday 6 June 2024, 9.00am

Please note that Year 5's class assembly is being held on Thursday 6 June 2024, in the hall at 9.00am.

We do hope that you will be able to join us to see the children showcase what they have been learning about!

We look forward to seeing you then!

### Online Safety Tips

Potentially addictive online games are nothing new, but the specifics of this kind of media can vary enormously – and, as a consequence, the risks in each individual game are just as diverse.

The city-builder Township is no exception: providing its legions of devotees with accessible, satisfying fun ... but exposing them to potential hazards at the same time.

However, any safeguarding issues that the game might have can (with a little knowhow) be neutralised – allowing young players to have some engrossing fun without adults needing to worry about children's data, their money or their mental wellbeing.

Our guide outlines how to help young gamers enjoy Township safely and responsibly.



### What on Earth?

Appetite, Arts Keele and Keele University invite you to explore the nature around us and beyond with a host of hands-on activities, nature walks and inspiring talks all about our beautiful planet.

Come along on **Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 April** from **11am to 4pm** for a day of discovery! [Find out more here.](#)





## Hot Lunch Options – 15 to 19 April 2024

W/c 15.4.2024

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>	Vegetable tikka masala with 50/50 rice	Vegetarian all day breakfast	Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegetable & bean chilli with 50/50 rice	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	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



### 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).

## SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

### Nursery

Nursery adventures this week...

It has been an exciting, busy week in Nursery.

The week began with the children exploring the celebration of Eid Al-Fitr! They enjoyed listening to the different ways some of their friends celebrated and had fun sharing the super Eid decorations they had made for their homework.

The children were extremely interested to learn all about the important values and traditions related to the celebration of Eid Al-Fitr and were fascinated to watch Mrs Jamil apply henna onto Mrs Lukman's hand.



The children took part in a range of activities including creating their Eid lamps, mark making henna patterns and creating moon and star symbols for Eid.

We ended the week with an Eid party and the children enjoyed tasting a range of festive food that is eaten for Eid!



## Reception

Reception Adventures this week...

We have had a magnificent start to the summer term!

On Tuesday we were all very excited to share our holiday news, we certainly had lots of adventures over the break. These included, holidays, birthdays, movie trips, fun at the park, football, swimming, games, haircuts, and lots of chocolate!

It was great to find out that we will be having a minibeast adventure this half term as our topic is, 'A Bug's Life.' We began exploring this by sharing what we knew about minibeasts and what we would like to investigate further.

*'What do minibeasts eat?'* (Millie)

*'What colours are they?'* (Olivia)

*'How do bees make honey?'* (Jacob)

*'Where do they live?'* (Thomas)

*'Can they all fly?'* (Fred)

We then set off to deepen our understanding through research using iPads and non-fiction books, activities and becoming explorers in our minibeast research facility.

Some of our friends had an extra special time as they celebrated the end of Ramadan with the festival of Eid! We enjoyed learning more about this and listened carefully as our friends shared their experiences.

On Friday we joined in the fun by having our own Eid party. We decorated our classroom with the fancy decorations we created and arrived at school in our party clothes. The day was filled with exciting activities, games, singing, dancing, and lots of yummy food.

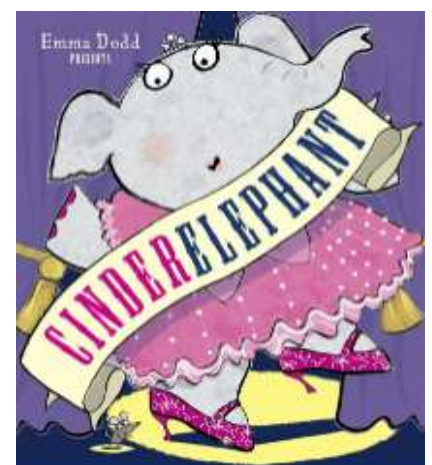
A special start to our summer term – it's great to be back at school!

## Year 1

Year 1 are extremely enthusiastic with regards to their learning this week and it has been a joy to witness. In English, we have been looking at reports about tigers and have begun learning some key facts. In Maths, we have been learning all about length and height. We have also enjoyed our first cricket session this week and have been practising our catching skills. In Science, we have been learning what animals are herbivores, omnivores, and carnivores. Well done Year 1!

## Year 2

Year 2 have had a great first week back! In English they have been creating and planning their own alternative fairytale narrative. They have enjoyed





using their own imagination on how they can twist traditional fairytales, just like our model text 'Cinderelphant'. In maths this week they have been continuing to learn about multiplication and division within their 2's, 5's and 10's times tables. I must say the children are becoming real whizzes! In RE this week the children have been learning about Islam and how the religion has a sense of belonging and a wide community. The children have enjoyed talking about their own places that they feel that they belong to. Well done Year 2 in a hardworking week!

### Year 3

Wow what a great first week Year 3 have had! We have also started a new writing unit in English about a mystery and the children are super excited to be able to begin writing their own! In Maths, we have been learning about fractions and the children have worked exceptionally hard on their times tables. We have also begun our new unit in science about light and reflection. Keep up the fantastic work Year 3!

### Year 4

What a productive first week back we've had this week! In maths, the children have been applying their fractions knowledge that they learnt last term to identify fractions as decimals. In English, the children have been identifying the features of a poem in preparation for writing their own poem next week! Across the curriculum, the children have been investigating the true meaning of the noble 8-fold for Buddhists and have been understanding the difficulties and challenges that Buddhists may face to uphold the noble 8-fold at all times. In Science, the children have been investigating animals and their habitats and have also been identifying different food chains. As always, the children have continued to learn their timetables in preparation for their multiplication check with it only being roughly 6 more school weeks away! Well done Year 4, keep it up!

### Year 5

Year 5 have had a brilliant first week back. In Maths, the children have moved onto learning about perimeter. They have been able to work out the perimeter of polygons and rectilinear shapes, as well as lengths of edges when the full perimeter has been given. The highlight of the week was Year 5's sunny and warm Forest School session! The children were ecstatic to be able to explore the area in springtime, but the glorious weather didn't stop them creating a mud slide and getting rather muddy (sorry parents)! All of the children were extremely helpful down at Forest School and worked on getting the area tidied up. This included placing new stepping stones, creating a new fire pit, cleaning the outdoor classroom, rebuilding the fairy garden, as well as creating dens from repurposed logs. All-in-all, a fantastic first week back!



### Year 6

This week in Year 6 the children have been busy in Maths investigating how shapes with the different perimeters can also have the same area. We also looked at the formula to work out triangles and used this to help us do the inverse to calculate the length of one of the sides when the area was given. In English we are very excited as we are beginning to plan our own short stories where our aim is to create suspense and tension. In PSHE, we considered the importance of looking after our own mental health, considering the challenges daily life can present us with and what support can be put in place to help us. In Science, we looked at the function of the heart and what is meant by oxygenated and deoxygenated blood. We finished the week by celebrating Eid with all our peers. A great week!



## Reading Corner

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

### Unicake

Written by Abz Hakim

Did you know that Unicorns LOVE to eat sweetcorn? In fact, it's how they got the 'corn' in their name. But when one little unicorn gets bored of his corn diet, he decides to change his name to 'Unicake'! He sets off a sugar-eating quest, sampling chocolate, pastries, cakes, and biscuits. After Unicake gets a poorly tummy, however, he starts to think that eating sweetcorn isn't so bad after all. He learns that a balanced diet, with lots of fruits, vegetables, and sweets, is the perfect way for him to feel his best!



## Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Amore F	Ibrahim H
Year 1	Arthur H	Jakub K
Year 2	Penelope T	Peta O
Year 3	Layla N	Lily B
Year 4	Jonah M-Y	Rosie T
Year 5	Innayah K	Esmee G
Year 6	Alexis H	Oliver O

## Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Olivia W
Year 1	Sofia K
Year 2	Arham A
Year 3	Isaac P
Year 4	Jonah M-Y
Year 5	Angelo M
Year 6	Eric W

## 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.

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

Reception	93.7%	Target
Year 1	93.3%	97%
Year 2	92.3%	
Year 3	91.9%	
Year 4	95.0%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	98.4%	95.2%
Year 6	90.9%	
Overall	93.7%	

### Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 12.04.24)	15	24	12	25
Position	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 points	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 points
Running Total	2	3	1	4

### Diary Dates 2023-2024

Event	Date/Time
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
Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner Election – School Closed	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024
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
Year 5 Class Assembly	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024, 9.00am
Year 3 Class Assembly	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024, 9.00am
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

### Summer Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
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
Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner Election – School Closed	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024
May Day <b>Bank Holiday</b> – 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

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024 – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Year 5 Class Assembly	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024, 9.00am
New Parents Meeting for Nursery & Reception Parents	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Father's Day Lunches – Reception	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Father's Day Lunches – Year 1	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Year 1 Phonics Screening	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Father's Day Lunches – Year 2	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Father's Day Lunches – Year 3	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Reserve Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Father's Day Lunches – Year 4	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Father's Day Lunches – Year 5	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Father's Day Lunches – Year 6	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Year 3 Class Assembly	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2024, 9.00am
Year 4, 5 & 6 Brewhouse Performance – Peter Pan	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
<b>JTMAT INSET Day – School Closed</b>	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Nursery Graduation	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, 9.00am
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, 9.00am
School Closes for Summer	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TOWNSHIP

AGE RESTRICTION  
**4+**

(on the App Store;  
'Everyone' on Google Play)

Despite launching in 2011, Township remains popular with children and adults alike. A city-building game with farming elements, it tasks players with developing their settlement and unlocking new features along the way. Aimed at the more casual gamer, it's mostly child friendly – but there are still some related risks to be mindful of.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### MISLEADING PUBLICITY

Township's developers have previously faced criticism for advertising the game on social media by using clips of gameplay which can't actually be found in the final product. This may well lead to a child or young person downloading the game with severely misplaced expectations of what they'll be playing.

### IN-GAME ADVERTS

While it's common for mobile games to feature in-game advertisements for other products and services, Township employs a particularly egregious strategy seen in several similar products. It offers users in-game currency in exchange for watching such adverts, which can obviously encourage young people to willingly expose themselves to marketing material.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES

The game's core concept of building up a settlement to increase its population and income can feel slow paced at first – and players are incentivised to spend real-world money to move things along more quickly. That can mean handing over anything from £1.99 to £19.99 for these in-game boosts: amounts that can rapidly add up to a considerable sum if left unchecked.

### TIME-CONSUMING GAMEPLAY

Township's gameplay loop of acquiring resources and reinvesting them into your little community is a fun one – but this rewarding sense of making progress can lead to players spending far more hours staring at the screen than they realise. There are also special in-game events which run for a limited time, designed to entice players into even longer gaming sessions.

### ONLINE MULTIPLAYER MODE

After reaching level 19, players in Township can form a 'co-op' and unlock the option to exchange goods with up to 30 other users. Online multiplayer modes are nothing new, of course – but neither are the potential risks they pose to children and young people. Chances are, youngsters will be interacting with complete (and possibly much older) strangers within the game environment.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### DISCUSS THE GAME IN ADVANCE

While older children may notice and understand that Township might be marketed in a potentially misleading way, it could be worth explaining to prospective younger players how and why the game differs from what's been advertised. This will help them to manage their expectations and avoid any possible disappointment if they do decide to download and play it.

### MONITOR SPENDING AND SCREEN TIME

More modestly priced in-app bundles can be a welcome treat for a child wanting to speed up their progress in Township, but it's wise not to leave a linked payment method active in case a youngster gets carried away. Likewise, to prevent Township from causing an increase in screen time, parental controls on most devices allow limits to be placed on how long a game can be played each day.

### BE WARY OF EXTERNAL SITES

Township's makers state that all in-game ads are age-appropriate: children won't be shown adverts recommending more violent titles, for instance. Even so, clicking on these adverts can take players out of the game and onto external sites that have nothing to do with Township or its developers: this raises the risk of children encountering inappropriate content or being tempted by online purchases.

### TALK ABOUT ONLINE STRANGERS

Township's online multiplayer mode (as with any game which includes that functionality), is an avenue through which a child could be contacted by people who they don't actually know. It's worth reminding young Township fans, therefore, not to give out any personal information to strangers online – whether that's within the game itself or in the social networks associated with it.

## Meet Our Expert

Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon, Lloyd Coombes has worked in the games media industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new games and tools, he's also a parent who prioritises online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College