

SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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6th September 2024

"A little learner today, a world changer tomorrow."



Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to extend a very fond and warm welcome back to you! The summer break seems like a very distant memory, but now that we're all settled back into school and our routines, it's as though we've never been away! I would also like to formally welcome all our new children and families to the school community, whether that be for the very first time, or if you are joining us from another setting. I hope that everyone has made you feel welcome and that you've eased in well to school life. I look forward to getting to know you all and to working alongside you over the forthcoming weeks and months.

The school has been a hive of activity during this first week, as you will see from reading the 'Shobnall Showcase' later in the newsletter! We have been very impressed with the children's attitude towards their learning, their behaviour, and their engagement – they certainly haven't forgotten what our high expectations look like after such a long holiday!

We are excited to announce that our <u>school website</u> has a fresh, new look! The updated design is more user-friendly and visually appealing, making it easier than ever to navigate and find important information. We've streamlined the layout to ensure that you can quickly access school updates, calendars, and resources. Whether you're looking for forms, event details, or the latest school news, everything is now even more accessible. We hope you enjoy the enhanced experience!

Finally, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for making attendance during this first week absolutely fantastic! Your commitment to ensuring your children are here, ready, and on time every day has made all the difference in starting the school year on a positive note. We also appreciate your incredible support of our new Little Heroes campaign – HERE, EVERYDAY, READY, ON TIME. Together, we are building strong habits that will set our pupils up for success. Thank you! Whatever it is you are planning on doing this weekend, enjoy! We look forward to seeing you on Monday for our first full week back at school.





Meet the Teacher

We are really looking forward to welcoming Reception to Year 6 parents into school on **Wednesday 11 September** for our face-to-face 'Meet the Teacher' event! This will take place in your child's classroom. For Reception parents, this will be at 2.30pm and for Years 1 - 6 at 3.30pm. The Nursery Meet the Teacher event will take place on **Monday 16 September** at 11.00am in the nursery classroom. Please don't worry if you are not able to attend – each teacher will be uploading their presentation to their class pages on the school website so that you don't miss out on any key information.



School Photographs – Thursday 12 September 2024

On **Thursday 12 September**, all children will have their individual photograph taken for our school records and for you. Families within school can also have a joint photograph taken this year, should you wish to purchase this. Parents who wish to have pre-school children included should arrive at school at **8.15am** so that your little ones can have their photograph taken with their siblings.

Open Evening – Thursday 7 November 2024, 4.30pm – 6.00pm

We would like to formally invite you to our forthcoming **Open Evening** on **Thursday 7 November, 4.30pm to 6.00pm**. The admissions window opens for places in our Reception and Nursery classes in November, so as well as welcoming potential new parents to look round our school, this is also a great opportunity for our existing parents to visit too and see some of the wonderful things that are happening!



So, please join us as we showcase our school, our vision, our values, our philosophy and our approaches. You will meet our staff and our children and get to see first-hand our work on the curriculum. We look forward to seeing you there!



Shobnall Stars – After School Club Closure, Monday 18 November 2024 AND Monday 3 February 2025

It is with regret that After School Club will not be open on Monday 18 November 2024 AND Monday 3 February 2025. This is due to staff having to attend essential training that cannot be rescheduled. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but the rest of the sessions run as normal.

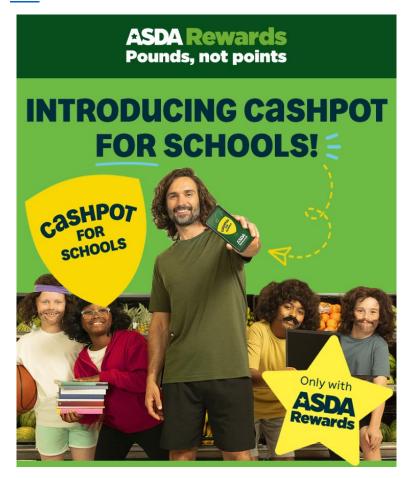
Year 7 Secondary School Applications

The application window for a September 2025 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 2024.



Cashpot for Schools!

Joe Wicks has teamed up with ASDA to support UK primary schools through Cashpot for Schools. When you opt-in you'll be able to select a school – and **they'll donate 0.5%** of your total spend when you shop to our Cashpot. Plus, we'll be given an extra £1 for every customer who chooses us! If you would like to opt in, please click on the link here.



Weight Limit Plans on Shobnall Road



Communities near a road west of Burton can find out more about plans to introduce a weight limit on it at public information forum this week.

The scheme will see the B5017 from the junction with the A515 up to the junction with Parkway (reclassified as the C5017) to allow for the introduction of a 7.5t weight limit.

This means that only legitimate delivery vehicles will be able to access the route along Henhurst Hill, Forest Road and Shobnall Road.

In addition, the junction with Postern Road and Hopley Road near the Acorn Inn will be upgraded to include traffic signals, a bus stop and parking area improvements.

The proposals were put forward by local county councillors Philip White, Arshad Afsar and Julia Jessel following concerns about increased use of the road by HGVs.

Work on the scheme is set to start in spring 2025.

Click here for more information.





FREE Uniform!

We are very grateful to Amy Roobottom, who has organised our FREE uniform service for a number of years now. We continue to accept donations of old uniform via the box situated outside the school office for any parents who wish to donate. Please could we ask that these are cleaned and in good condition before placing in the box outside the school office.

However, if you need any uniform from now, you will need to pop down to the **Family Hub** on Waterloo Street, DE14 2NJ. The Family Hub do not have the capacity to reply to emails but do have uniform on site all year round and are open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.00pm.



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 <u>Admissions</u> page on how to apply for a place and we look forward to receiving your application!



Shobnall Primary & Nursery School "Happy children, inspired learners"





Will your child be 3 years old by 31st August?

Bookings now being taken for our Nursery from September 2023!

- Nursery places are every morning Mon-Fri 8.45-11.45am term time only - minimum 15hrs over 5 days applies
- Provision for 15hrs universal funding with wraparound available from 7.30am (childcare vouchers accepted).
- · Pick up from Nursery by other local providers if needed
- Nursery is led by a qualified teacher, giving focus to the EYFS curriculum. All children access Forest School
- We have a strong family ethos, and are well regarded by our families. Many Nursery children transfer into our friendly Primary School
- To register your child or book a Nursery tour, please call 01283 247410 or email shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk

We look forward to meeting you!



Mental Health Support Team (MHST) Workshops

We have worked closely with the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) for a number of years now. You may have met our designated link, Sam Lewis, at our Parents' Evenings. She is running a series of workshops for parents this academic year, which will be held on the following dates and times in our school hall. We do hope that you are able to attend, as the content is



very useful and relevant. Please enquire with Mrs Johnston, our Family Liaison Officer, if you have any questions or would like any further information. We look forward to seeing you there!

Impact of Social Media – Thursday 10 October 2024, 3.30pm Introduction to Worry – Tuesday 4 February 2025, 3.30pm Introduction to Sleep Hygiene – Thursday 13 March 2025, 3.30pm



Online Safety Tips

For many children and young people, change can be hard to process – and this is no different when the time comes for them to return to school.

After such a long stretch of time away, they may begin to feel creeping doubts over their lessons, their teachers, their routines, or even any friends they haven't seen over the summer.

Parents, educators, and other trusted adults play a vital role for these children, and it is extremely important to know how to effectively support young people through this potentially difficult time.

This free guide offers you expert advice on how to lend a hand to youngsters returning to education, and details what you can do to make this transition as easy as possible.

How Do You Help Birds Thrive In Your Garden?

Share your secrets for creating a bird-friendly haven in your garden!

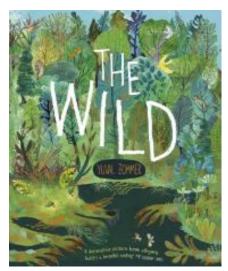
Whether it's providing nesting spots, planting native flowers, or setting up feeders, we want to hear from you!

Comment on this Facebook post to get involved.

Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, we are creating a new strategy to help support nature and help it to thrive. It is called the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The main purpose of the strategy is to identify locations across an area to create or improve habitats like woodlands, rivers, and meadows. Find out more here.







Reading Corner

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

The Wild

Written by Yuval Zommer

Once upon a time, somewhere not far away, was the Wild. The Wild was huge and giving, and everything from insects, to birds, to humans made their home in it. At first, people lived lightly and took what they needed, but when they started to take more, the Wild suffered.

For the Wild to be healthy, someone must be brave enough to raise their voice . . . Yuval Zommer's lyrical modern fable has a hopeful and powerful message about how our environment needs us just as much as we need it.

Hot Lunch Options 09.09.24 - 13.09.24

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Spaghetti Bolognese	Roast turkey with potato of the day 8 gravy	Pork meatballs with wholemeal pasta	Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Vegetarian burger with chips	Vegetarian bolognese	Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegetarian meatballs with pasta	Cheese pinwheels with diced potatoes
Accompaniments	Corn on the cob 8 broccoli Salad bar	Peas 6 cauliflower Salad bar	Carrots 8 green beans Salad bar	Cauliflower 8 broccoli Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Fresh fruit 6 whip	Lemon biscuit	Chocolate & orange muffins	Fruit sponge & custard	Ice cream
Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh or Yoghurt	Fresh or Yoghurt	Fresh or Yoghurt	Fresh or Yoghurt	Fresh 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

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 2**, **Year 4**, AND **Year 5**! Well done! Here are the latest figures...

Reception	96.7%	Target
Year 1	93.7%	
Year 2	100%	97%
Year 3	96.8%	
Year 4	100%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	100%	
Year 6	96.9%	97.9%
Overall	97.9%	

Headteacher's Awards, Team Points and Lunchtime Awards will return next week!

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 been absolute superstars with how well they have settled without their parents for the first time! They have all shown great independence by saying their goodbyes at the gate whilst coming into nursery in the mornings. They have even remembered where to put their water bottles and book bags as they come in! How amazing is this! All the children should be proud of the brilliant start they have made in nursery.

Reception

It has been a fun filled week as we arrived at school looking very smart indeed! There were lots of happy faces and cheerful goodbyes as we walked into our wonderful new classroom to find our coat peg and share a book.

We played lots of fun games to get to know all our new friends and enjoyed sharing our fantastic bee creations which we completed over the summer. It was bee-rilliant to see such a variety of designs and they all look fantastic as part of our class hive!

There were lots of decisions to be made when decorating our new home as we used paints, rollers and brushes to try out different colours. Some of us carefully cut strips of wallpaper and compared them to see which one would look the best!

One of the stories we shared was, 'There's a Snake in My School!' by David Walliams which we thought was great. We even had the chance to create our own snake using a variety of materials.

Miss Alexander and all our helpers are extremely happy and proud of the fabulous start we have made. We have listened carefully, used our manners, followed routines, joined in with a variety of activities and sat wonderfully for our lunch.

Reception really is the best place to bee! We are very excited for our first full week and the adventures that await...

Year 1

Wow what a marvellous first week back to school for Year 1! The children have been absolutely amazing with regards to learning all the different rules and routines within their new classroom and have absolutely excelled. In Maths, the children have been learning to sort groups and count items to ten. The children have been also practising their number formation. In phonics, the children have been recapping prior learning and have really impressed Miss Barker with all their hard work. In COOL time, the children have been having lots of fun completing numerous activities from creating tricky words bands, sorting fruit into different groups, writing labels, and much more. Well done Year 1 and keep up the hard work.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a great week this week settling into their new classroom. They have been exploring the story Chicken Licken and have begun to think about their own ideas for their own journey story. In maths this week we have been exploring creating different numbers using 10's and 1's. They have been using a 10s frame and counters to support their learning. This week we have been focusing on History where the children have been learning about the Plague. Well done for all your hard work this week Year 2!

Year 3

In their first week back, our Year 3 students have been diving into some exciting new topics! In creative art lessons, they've embarked on their drawing and sketching journey, developing their skills, and unleashing their imaginations. In maths, they've been working on place value, recapping tens and ones, and learning to confidently place numbers onto a number line. English lessons have introduced them to informative texts, with a focus on understanding how plants grow and thrive. Meanwhile, in science, the children have begun

exploring the fascinating world of rocks, learning about different types and their unique properties. What a great start to the year! Well done Year 3!

Year 4

Wow, what a fantastic first week Year 4 have had! In maths, the children have started their place value unit for this year, and I have been blown away with the level of presentation that the children have shown! We have also started learning our timetables and I have already been impressed with the children's desire to learn these. Finally, to end the week, the children have chosen their own representatives for pupil parliament. A brilliant first week Year 4, keep it up!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a brilliant start to the year! In Maths, the children have been working on place value and numbers to 10,000, 100,000 and 1,000,000. They have grasped this concept really well and are flying through the new Year 5 content. In English, the class have started their topic of writing around the Moon Landing. The children have explored the text, learnt new vocabulary such as 'cumbersome' and 'trudge', and identified the features of the text. The highlight of the week was Year 5's history lessons, where they began their learning about the Tudors and created a timeline to show the key events of that time period. The children certainly loved all the drama that the Tudors had! Keep up the great work Year 5!

Year 6

I cannot believe we have already completed one week of Year 6. We have had a great week and have been busy doing lots of interesting learning. On Tuesday we set our rules for our classroom and discussed expectations for Year 6. In maths, we have started our unit on place value and have been learning the place value of numbers up to 10,000,000 - revising how to partition successfully. In reading, we started our new book, 'Hana's Suitcase', and we are really keen to find out what happened to Hana during WW2. We started our new English unit on persuasive adverts and spotted the features in the model text, which was persuading us to buy a new pair of trainers. We also managed to design our Year 6 front cover in our art sketchbooks. It has been a lovely first week getting to know one another and I cannot wait for the year ahead.

Diary Dates 2024-2025

Event	Date/Time	
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 25 th October 2024	
INSET Day	Monday 4 th November 2024	
*		
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 5 th November 2024	
Open Evening	Thursday 7 th November 2024	
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 27 th November to Friday 29 th	
	November 2024	
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Jack and the	Thursday 5 th December 2024, 10.00am	
Beanstalk, Lichfield Garrick		
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 6 th December 2024	
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 20 th December 2024, 2.00pm	
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 6 th January 2025	
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 27 th January to Friday 31 st January 2025	
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 14 th February 2025	
INSET Day	Monday 24 th February 2025	
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 25 th February 2025	
Young Voices 2025	Thursday 27 th February 2025	
School Closes for Easter	Friday 11 th April 2025, 2.00pm	
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 28 th April 2025	
May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed	Monday 5 th May 2025	
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 12 th May 2025 to Friday 16 th May 2025	
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 23 rd May 2025	
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 2 nd June 2025	
JTMAT INSET Day	Friday 4th July 2025	
School Closes for Summer	Friday 18 th July 2025, 2.00pm	
INSET Day	Monday 21 st July 2025	

Autumn Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time	
Meet the Teacher	Tuesday 10th September 2024	
	Reception – 2.30pm	
	 Years 1 to 6 – 3.30pm 	
School Photographs	Thursday 12 th September 2024	
Meet the Teacher	Monday 16th September 2024	
	 Nursery – 11.00am 	
Harvest	Tuesday 8 th October 2024	
PFA Halloween Discos	Friday 18th October 2024	
	 Reception, Y1, Y2 – 3.45pm – 5.00pm 	
	• Y3, 4, 5 & 6 – 5.15pm – 6.30pm	
Parents' Evening	Monday 21st October 2024	
	Wednesday 23 rd October 2024	
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 25 th October 2024	
INSET Day	Monday 4 th November 2024	
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 5 th November 2024	
Open Evening	Thursday 7 th November 2024, 4.30-6.00pm	
Odd Socks Day	Tuesday 12 th November 2024	
Children in Need	Friday 15 th November 2024	
Shobnall Stars After School Club CLOSED	Monday 18 th November 2024	
Christingle	Tuesday 26 th November 2024	
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 27 th November 2024 to Friday 30 th	
	November 2024 inclusive	
EYFS Nativity	Tuesday 3 rd December 2024, 9.15am	
EYFS Nativity	Wednesday 4 th December 2024, 9.15am	
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Jack and the	Thursday 5 th December 2024, 10.00am	
Beanstalk, Lichfield Garrick		
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 6 th December 2024	
KS1 Nativity	Tuesday 10 th December 2024, 9.15am AND	
	2.15pm	
Year 3 Cosy Christmas Celebration	Thursday 12 th December 2024, 9.15am	
JTMAT Christmas Concert	Tuesday 17 th December 2024	
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 18 th December 2024	
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 20 th December 2024, 2.00pm	
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 6 th January 2025	





OPEN TRAINING SESSION GIVE RUGBY A GO

This free-to-attend Rugby Training Session is open to new and existing players for Girls and Boys aged 5-18 who are interested in joining our club. No previous experience needed. Give rugby a try at this fun & friendly session.

FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2024

AGES 5-11 - 6-7PM AGES 12-18 - 7:15-8:15PM



For more information email <u>bepartofit@burtonrugbyclub.co.uk</u>



Battlestead Croft, Branston Rd, Tatenhill, Burton-on-Trent DE13 9FF

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators UPPORTING CHILDREN VE BACK TO SCHOO

Change can be hard for children to manage. Going back to school after a long summer break might cause them to feel uncertain about their friendships, school routines and relationships with new teachers. However, trusted adults play an important role in providing both practical and emotional support.

LEARN WHAT EQUIPMENT

Figure out a list of all equipment needed for the start of the school year, so you can comfortably get your hands on the necessary items in time. If children have any financial issues and receive free school meals, the school may be able to provide some monetary aid or offer other

COMMUNICATE WITH THE SCHOOL

If you notice that a child is feeling anxious about a change of teacher or school, arranging a one-to-one meeting with their new teacher can be a good way to alleviate some of the anxiety. Just knowing that they understand the child's worries and will be able to help them if the need arises can build the foundations of a good working relationship. Knowing that you can contact them with any queries can also be reassuring.

CHECK THE SCHOOL

There will be plenty of information about the start of term on the school's website to keep you updated. Furthermore, you should be able to find other useful information such as contact details for staff, important school equipment, clubs, and news about any special events on the school calendar for the year. It could be helpful to look through this with children for anything which might reassure them.

HELP TO MANAGE FRIENDSHIPS

If a child is feeling anxious about making new friends - especially if they're moving up to secondary school - it can be a good idea to remind them of what they could do or say when meeting new classmates. Investigating the extracurricular activities available could be a good way to open a conversation about their hobbies and pastimes, and joining such clubs could allow new friendships to be built on this mutual

PLAN SELF-CARE

Talking to children about how they can manage their self-care can be an effective way of helping them understand its importance. This might involve playing a computer game they love with friends, a weekly visit to the library, getting to bed at the same time each night, or a range of other activities that support their wellbeing and provide the familiarity and safety of a routine that works for them.

Amy Sayer is a freelance mental health trainer for schools, an author and a content writer. She is an Associate for Diverse Educators, a fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and ITT wellbeing coach. Amy has previously been a SMHL coach, helping many different settings audit their mental health provision and support them to create and implement a strategic plan based on the specific needs of each setting.

MANAGE TRICKY

Explain that it's okay to have difficult feelings around returning to school. This can help reduce any shame or embarrassment a child might be feeling over these emotions. Emphasise that other children even some of the teachers - will be feeling the same way. Consider practical ways to manage these feelings and help children feel more in control of their emotions. Some examples include fidget toys, breathing exercises or a notepad for doodling.

SECURE A SCHOOL

Parents and carers should try to buy a child's uniform for the new academic year well in advance of the new term (although allowing for potential holiday growth spurts) and give them time to adapt to any changes. Make sure they can comfortably change into and out of it for PE lessons. Double check the requirements for PE on the school's website, as some schools will also have requirements for PE kits.

Ensuring that children attend transition days is a vital step in preparing for the new year. Some schools also have transition evenings for parents and carers to attend, offering extra opportunities to reach out for any additional support.

READ THE MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

If a young person struggles with their mental health, it's important to understand their school's mental health policy and provision to know what support is available. This should be on the school's website. A range of aid is typically on offer – from individual timetable amendments to group sessions on emotional wellbeing. You can then discuss these options with the child to reassure them that help is there if they need it.

LEARN ABOUT SEN SUPPORT

If a child has SEN and receives help in school, try to confirm exactly what support is available, to ensure they'll be having their needs met. If they're moving up to secondary school, it's a good idea to meet with the SENCO to ensure that all teachers receive the most relevant, up-to-date information about the child's needs and have a contact to liaise with if these change over time.

Meet Our Expert





The **National** College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-going-back-to-school





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