



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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11<sup>th</sup> April 2025

*"It always seems impossible until it's done."*



Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of everyone in school, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very happy Easter break! I have seen and spoken to many of you this week, either on the gates or at some of the events that have taken place in school, but if I haven't, I hope that you all have a great holiday and I look forward to catching up with you when the children return on **Monday 28 April 2025** for the start of the summer term! Let's keep everything crossed that this glorious weather continues over the Easter break!



Huge thanks to our PFA and to everyone who was able to come and support our Easter bingo event last Friday! What a fabulous evening we had, which certified why this is one of my favourite events of the academic year! A total of **£315.02** was raised, so thank you once again for your kindness and generosity both prior to, and during the event. Although much of the chocolate left over was given to all the children in attendance, we have donated what remained to our local food bank. Thank you once again for supporting the school.

Please don't forget to book your places a week in advance for Shobnall Stars Early birds, which launches on the first day back after half-term. You will need to complete one form per child, on a weekly basis. Forms will need to be submitted by 12noon the Friday before you wish to book. Please also select your breakfast options in advance to assist with catering, specifying dietary requirements if necessary. You can book your place [here](#).



We have been adding to the school calendar for next term, so please look to the end of the newsletter in order to make a note of the relevant dates in your own diaries at home. Please note that school will be closed on Thursday 1 May, due to local elections.

However you choose to enjoy your Easter break and whatever it is you decide to do, please make sure you look after yourselves and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Monday 28 April**. Happy Easter, everyone!

## Health and Safety Notice – Drop-Off and Pick-Up

We kindly ask all parents and carers to take extra care when collecting and dropping off children at the beginning and end of the school day. Please be mindful of where you park and ensure that children are supervised at all times, especially near the road and school gates. We also remind everyone to take note of the safety notices posted around the trim trail. These are in place to help keep all children safe and ensure the equipment is used appropriately. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school a safe environment for everyone.



## EVEN More Sporting Success for Shobnall!

Our run of sporting success continues, and we're proud to share yet another fantastic achievement!

This week, our **Year 4 mixed football team** showed incredible skill, teamwork, and determination to **win** the Year 4 Mixed Football Tournament at John Taylor High School. The team represented our school brilliantly, playing with great spirit and sportsmanship throughout the event.

A huge well done to all the players involved – you've done us proud once again!

## Easter

**Easter**, which is also called or know as **Resurrection Day**, is a holiday that is celebrated every spring. Among Christians, it is a celebration of Jesus Christ being raised from the dead. Christians believe that it is the most important day of the year. Some people who are not Christians celebrate Easter as the beginning of spring. Many people attend a church service on Easter Sunday, even if they do not regularly attend church. We thought it would be interesting to share some facts with you about this very special day:



- 🍌 Easter is not held on the same date every year. This is called a *moveable feast*. Currently, all Christian churches agree on how the date is calculated. Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon which occurs on or after March 21st. This means it is celebrated in March or April. It can occur as early as March 22 and as late as April 25.
- 🍌 The English word "Easter" is derived from *Eostre*, the name of the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring. Her festival occurred at the vernal equinox. The French word for Easter, *Pâques*, comes from the Greek word for Passover, which is the Jewish holiday that is celebrated at about the same time of the year.
- 🍌 Though many used to eat lamb on Easter because it was celebrated near Passover, Americans began eating ham because it would cure over the winter and be ready to eat by spring.
- 🍌 The tradition of wearing new clothes on Easter came from a superstition that said that if someone wore new clothes, they would have good luck for the rest of the year.
- 🍌 The first chocolate egg was produced in Bristol, England, in 1873. Cadbury began making chocolate eggs in 1875; currently, Cadbury produces 1.5 million creme eggs per day.



# HAF fun this Easter

Holiday Activities and Food funded for children and young people aged 5-16 who get free school meals\*. Paid places also available.



SCAN ME!



visit [staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities](https://staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities)

## Hop Into Easter Sustainability

Did you know that 7,200 tonnes of Easter egg packaging is generated every year in the UK?

Recycle your Easter egg packaging to reduce your waste and support a more sustainable future. Here are some top recycling tips for Easter:

♥ Cardboard can go into your recycling bin or bag.

If you don't have room, you can take it to your local Household Waste Recycling Centre.

♥ Plastic packaging can also go straight into your recycling bin.

♥ Foil that is often used to wrap Easter eggs can be scrunched up and put into your recycling bin too.

If you are dressing up or decorating, why not get creative and try to use second hand materials or dried flowers, leaves and twigs.



## Online Safety Tips

Search engines are a huge part of daily life, helping us find information in an instant. But with this convenience comes a hidden risk, especially for young users.

With billions of websites just a click away, children can easily encounter misleading, inappropriate, or even illegal content. Search engines don't always filter this effectively, and features like AI-generated summaries or unlabelled ads can make things even trickier to navigate.

That's why this week's guide focuses on what parents and educators need to know about search engines. From the risks of misinformation and AI errors to practical steps like activating parental controls and promoting digital literacy, it's packed with expert advice to help keep children safe online.

## FREE Uniform!

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. If you need any uniform, 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.



## Reading Corner

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

### Pike

*Written by Sara O'Leary*

Many years ago, the four children of the Brontë family - Charlotte, Branwell, Emily and Anne - lived in a windswept house by the Yorkshire moors with their father. Although their lives were often filled with sadness and their world was only as large as the distance they could walk, their inner worlds were bound only by their imaginations. Hungry for stories, these children devoured novels and poetry, history and fables. And with the gift of a group of toy soldiers, they were inspired to make their own tiny books ... a passion that would last them a lifetime.

## 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.



**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.

Please note, we can only accept and administer **prescribed medicines** that are in-date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include instructions for administration and dosage.

**If your child arrives late, it is the responsibility of the adult to report to the school office and sign the "Late Book", giving a reason for lateness. This is important so that the school office knows your child is in school and can mark your child in in the class register. The class registers in the classrooms close at 8.55am when lessons start.**

**When reporting an absence, please could we ask that parents contact the school office before 9.30am and state clearly reasons for absence.**

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 4**! Here are the latest figures...

Reception	86.0%	Target
Year 1	84.0%	97%
Year 2	87.7%	
Year 3	88.1%	
Year 4	90.3%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	82.9%	95.8%
Year 6	89.7%	
Overall	87.2%	

## Head Teacher's Awards

## Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Aidan B	Mohammed-Suleymaan R
Year 1	Khadijah F	Abia L
Year 2	Arthur H	Amina K
Year 3	Everyone	
Year 4	Mason E	Yousuf H
Year 5	Hadi K	Safa Q
Year 6	Kinza S	Erin S

Reception	Ayaz M
Year 1	Hamza I
Year 2	Astrid R
Year 3	Dhalia L
Year 4	Aiza L
Year 5	Keyarah B
Year 6	Lily J

## Team Points





Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 11.04.25)	48	47	41	44
Position	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 Points	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 Point	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 Point	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2 Points
Running Total	16	12	15	17









## Team Point Champions


Congratulations to **Trent**, who have successfully won the team point challenge for this half term! As a reward, they can wear non-school uniform (ideally something blue) on **Friday 2 May 2025**.

## Hot Lunch Options 28.04.25 – 02.05.25

WEEK 3	MEAT FREE MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	SCHOOL CLOSED – POLLING DAY!	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Chicken tikka masala served with rice	Roast beef, with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy		Crispy battered fish & chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Roasted vegetable pizza	 Vegetable tikka masala with 50/50 rice 	 Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy		 Quorn™ nuggets with chunky chips
Accompaniments	Peas & baked beans Salad bar	Sweetcorn & carrots Salad bar	Carrots & cauliflower Salad bar		Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Fruit flapjack	Marble sponge & custard	Lemon cake		Ice cream
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

**KEY**  
 1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY  
 MEAT FREE MONDAY  
 CHEF'S CHOICE  
 PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)



**"Allergens and Intolerances"**  
 All of our food is lovingly hand crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergens/ your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.

Following a significant increase in labour costs from Mellors (including rise in National Living Wage, National Minimum Wage, and increased NI contributions) we have been strongly advised to adjust the costs of school meals accordingly.

This means that from 28 April 2025, the cost of school meals for all children (except those in Reception/KS1 and those in receipt of Free School Meals) will rise to **£3.00**.

If you believe you may be entitled to Free School Meals, please a quick online assessment to see if you qualify.

[Apply online - Free School Meals - Staffordshire County Council](#)

If your child is in Reception or KS1 and your child gets Universal Free School meals because of their age, it is also very much worth applying.

## SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

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

### Nursery

Our adventures in Nursery this week...

This week in Nursery we have enjoyed taking part in lots of Easter themed activities and crafts including decorating Easter eggs, making Easter cards, building wooden bunnies. We also reflected upon Easter is a time which celebrates new life and explored signs of new life. The children had fun painting their own chicks and watching clips of baby lambs at the farm.



The Nursery children have had a fantastic final session at Forest School. They helped the Easter Bunny find some chocolate that had been dropped, spotted Easter eggs hiding in different places and used their subitising skills to say how many they could see, as well as decorating wood cookies and doing a range of Easter crafts. The children also learnt a new skill of how to use a hammer. They enjoyed learning about an old Japanese art technique called 'Hapa Zome.' The children showed great control and care when using the hammers and loved seeing the different colours and patterns appear on the fabric.

## Reception



Our adventures in Reception this week...

We have had a wonderful last week to the Spring term. The glorious sunshine has been a welcome addition making it even more fun to work on our EYFS garden area. We are now all ready to plant our vegetable seeds and bulbs after half term!

It has been an Easter fun-filled week as we have learnt all about the importance of this special Christian festival. We showed super teamwork when sequencing the Easter story and had fun acting some parts out!

It was then time to transform some very boring eggs into egg-travagant ones! We were very creative in the resources we chose and displayed enjoyed our masterpieces with each other.

During PE we practiced our football skills by listening carefully to instructions. We dribbled the ball carefully and then had to freeze placing different body parts onto the ball. It was lots of fun and got quite competitive!

It has been a wonderful end to a fantastic half term, we have worked very hard which has shown in the phonics quizzes we completed this week! Miss Alexander and all the staff are extremely proud of us – we are Reception superstars!

## Year 1

This week, we've been exploring mass during our Maths lessons! The children have been learning to compare objects using the vocabulary "heavier" and "lighter" and have had great fun weighing different classroom items and discussing their findings. In English, we've started planning our own versions of Jack and the Beanstalk. The children have come up with some incredible different worlds in which the giant could live in. In PSHE, we've been learning all about road safety. The children practised how to cross the road safely, stopping, looking, and listening carefully. We have also completed our spider sculpture that we have created in Art. Finally, Year 1 and 2 had an amazing time at Peak Wildlife Park yesterday. The children were fascinated by all the animals, especially the polar bears, meerkats, wallabies, and penguins! We learned lots





of interesting facts, asked brilliant questions, and showed fantastic behaviour throughout the day. Well done to all! Have a wonderful break Year 1!

## Year 2

We've had a lovely but very busy week in Year 2! In Maths, the children have been exploring capacity and measurement, using metres and centimetres to measure all sorts of things around the classroom. In English, they've been using the iPads to carry out their own research on the Royal Family and have really enjoyed sharing their findings. We've also been busy in RE and PSHE, creating Easter cards and crafts, while in Music, the children loved experimenting with pitch and volume.

A highlight of our week was our trip to Peak Wildlife Park on Thursday. The children had a brilliant time walking around the park, spotting a range of animals, and even feeding the wallabies – they were especially fascinated by a baby wallaby snuggled in its mother's pouch! We also saw a polar bear, which caused a lot of excitement. To finish the term, we celebrated the Tamil New Year, which falls on the 14th April. We enjoyed learning about the traditions and the importance of the sun in Tamil culture, and the children were delighted to take their learning outdoors. We shared some delicious Tamil food in the sunshine and had some lovely discussions about new beginnings and celebrations. It's been a fantastic end to the term, and we're so proud of all the children for their hard work and enthusiasm!

## Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been busy exploring a range of exciting topics

across the curriculum! In English, the children have been planning their very own persuasive texts all about our wonderful school. They've been identifying fun and engaging aspects of school life – from our fantastic outdoor learning spaces to our creative lessons – to help persuade prospective parents that this is the perfect place for their children. In maths, we've been diving into the world of money, learning to identify different coins and practising how to convert between pence and pounds, a key life skill they've embraced with enthusiasm. Over in music, the classroom has been alive with rhythm as the children have been playing F major and A minor chords on the ukulele, keeping time to a lively Cuban beat. They've also been exploring the vibrant



movements of Latin dance, adding an extra layer of energy to their lessons! Lastly, a huge thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Forest School assembly! The children absolutely loved sharing their outdoor learning adventures with you. It was wonderful to see their pride and excitement as they showcased their experiences. As always, we're so proud of their hard work and enthusiasm.

#### Year 4



What a lovely final week Year 4 have had! In Maths, we've been exploring decimals and learning how to partition them. The children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm when breaking down numbers and understanding how decimals work – a tricky concept they've tackled brilliantly! Over in English, we've been diving into a big question: *Is Banksy an artist or a vandal?* We've been investigating both sides of the argument in preparation for writing our own balanced discussions. The children have loved exploring Banksy's mysterious world and forming their own opinions. In Design and Technology, things have been extra delicious.

We've been designing, making, and evaluating our very own biscuits – and they didn't just look good, they tasted amazing too! It's been a brilliant way to combine creativity, teamwork, and a bit of baking magic. As we head into the Easter break, I'd like to say a huge well done to all the children for their hard work and positive attitude this term. Have a wonderful, restful, and fun-filled holiday – you've earned it!

#### Year 5

Despite it being the final week of term, Year 5 have continued to work hard and make great progress. In English, the children have enjoyed developing their tragedy stories, focusing on using different writing techniques to create atmosphere. Year 5's writing is now a joy to read! In PSHE, they concluded their 'Healthy Me' unit with a debate on whether the media and social media help motivate people to live healthy and safe lifestyles. The children used everything they've learned this term to present a well-rounded argument with supporting evidence.



The most exciting day, however, was Monday, when the children had a DT afternoon creating canapés! Split into three groups, they made 35 canapés each, including mini-bruschetta, bite-size omelette muffins, and Eton mess mouthfuls. The children worked hard to prep the food, always keeping food safety and hygiene in mind. After cooking, they got to taste their creations, which were a big hit! Shobnall's very own Master Chef, Mr Bishop, was on hand to sample the dishes and declared the Eton mess the most delicious, even going back for seconds!

#### Year 6

It's been a brilliant end to the half term in Year 6! In science, we've been investigating the question: Does moisture affect the speed at which mould grows on food? We used two pieces of bread – one damp and one dry – as part of our experiment. The damp bread was our independent variable, and we've been carefully observing and recording any changes each day. In maths, we explored the mean average, learning how to calculate it and solve problems where the mean is given, and we have to work out the original values. In English, most of us have now finished writing our recounts. I've been really impressed with the children's use of show-not-tell to express emotion and build atmosphere in their writing. Have a lovely half term! Have some rest but also remember bitesize chunks of revision so you are ready for your SATs which are eight days after you come back. Well done Year 6!

## Diary Dates 2024-2025

Event	Date/Time
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
County Council Elections – School Closed	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2025
May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025
Reception Class Assembly	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 9.00am
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 9.00am
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 9.00am
Year 5 Class Assembly	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025, 9.00am
<b>JTMAT INSET Day</b>	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025
School Closes for Summer	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025

## Summer Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
County Council Elections – School Closed	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2025
May Day <b>Bank Holiday</b> – School Closed	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025
Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025 – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Reception Class Assembly	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 9.00am
New Parents Meeting for Nursery & Reception Parents	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 5.00pm
Year 1 Phonics Screening	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Reception	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Year 1	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Year 2	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Mental Health Support Team (MHST) Parent Coffee Morning	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 8.45am – 9.45am
Father's Day Lunches – Year 3	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Year 4	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Father's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Reserve Sports Day – EYFS/KS1 AM & KS2 PM	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 9.00am
Year 4 Bikeability	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2025, 9.00am
Year 5 Bikeability	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025
Year 5 Class Assembly	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025, 9.00am
<b>JTMAT INSET Day – School Closed</b>	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025
Year 6 Leavers' Disco	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2025, 6.00pm – 7.30pm
Year 4, 5 & 6 Brewhouse Performance – Oliver with a Twist	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2025, 1.30pm and 6.00pm
Nursery Graduation	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2025, 9.00am
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2025, 9.00am
School Closes for Summer	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025





# ATTENDANCE

## WHY IT MATTERS



**Persistent absence** means pupils who miss more than **10% of school** every year.

**-£750**

For each additional day of absence between years 7 to 11, the typical pupil could miss out on an average of **£750** in future lifetime earnings

**-£10,000**

**Persistently absent** pupils in year 10 and 11 could earn **£10,000 less** on average at age 28, compared to pupils with near perfect attendance

This **risks to almost £20k less** on average at age 28 for those who are **severely absent**

**-£20k**

For **employability over a sustained period**, people age 28 were around:



Less likely to be employed when **persistently absent**\*



Less likely to be employed when **severely absent**\*

\*Compared to their peers with near perfect attendance



# HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP

Have fun in the  
school holidays  
with your friends!



**William Shrewsbury**

**Mosley Academy**

**Thomas Russell Infants**

William Shrewsbury  
(DE13 0HE)  
April 14th - 25th  
Thomas Russell (DE13 8DS)  
April 14th - 25th  
Mosley Academy  
(DE13 9QD)  
April 14th - 17th

## Camp info

Times: 8.30am - 3.15pm  
Ages: 4-13  
What to bring:  
Packed lunch  
snack plenty to drink,

Late collection option  
4.15pm

Featuring

Dodgeball  
Football  
Basketball  
Cricket

Movies at lunchtime  
Easter Activities  
Street dance  
Nerf wars  
Zorb football  
Capture the flag  
Gymnastics  
Axe throwing

Apply: @activelearningsports.com

If you receive this flyer you will be within  
15 minutes drive of one of our venues



# THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM IN SCHOOLS ARE **OPEN** OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

**Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April  
(excluding weekends and bank holidays)**

If your child is experiencing low level mental health difficulties, we may be able to help. Call us\* between 9am - 5pm (Monday to Friday), leave your name and number and one of our practitioners will give you a call back to see what support we can offer.

We can help with:

- Low mood
- Anxiety
- Sleep difficulties
- Worry
- Panic

Burton and Uttoxeter  
01283 504487

Cannock and Lichfield  
01283 352113

Stafford  
01283 352097

Tamworth  
01785 301027



\*Please note that these contact numbers are not to be used in an emergency.

# BURTON & UTTOXETER MHST

## Schools we work with:

- Anglesey Primary Academy
- Burton Pupil Referral Unit
- Loxley Hall School (Manor Hall Academy Trust) Secondary
- Paget High School
- Scientia Academy (Primary)
- Victoria Community Primary School
- Christ Church Primary School
- De Ferrers High School Academy
- Eton Park Junior (a deFerrers Trust)
- The Fountains High School
- The Fountains Primary School
- Lansdowne Infants (a deFerrers Trust)
- Shobnall Primary School
- Abbot Beyne Secondary School
- Edge Hill Junior School
- Holy Trinity CofE Primary
- Paulet High School
- Riverview Primary School
- Robert Sutton Catholic School Secondary
- Tower View Primary School
- Violet Way Primary Academy
- Dove CofE Primary Academy
- Oldfields Hall Middle School
- St Marys CofE First School
- St Joesphs Catholic Primary School
- Thomas Alleynes High School
- Tynsel Parkes CofE Primary Academy
- Windsor Park CofE Middle School



# CANNOCK & SEISDON MHST

## Schools we work with:

- Redhill Primary School
- Moorhill Primary School
- Bridgtown Primary School
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School
- West Hill Primary School
- Redbrook Hayes Community Primary School
- Littleton Green Community School
- Heath Hayes Primary Academy
- Churchfield CofE Primary Academy
- Kingsmead School
- Cannock Chase High School
- Cardinal Griffin Catholic College
- St Lukes CofE Primary School
- Chadsmoor CofE (VC) Junior School
- Chadsmoor Community Infants and Nursery School
- Sherbrook Primary School
- Five Ways Primary School
- Landywood Primary School
- Bilbrook C of E Middle School
- Chaselea Alternative Provision Academy
- Cherry Trees School
- Forest Hills Primary School
- Great Wyrley Academy
- Lane Green First School
- Jerome Primary School
- Moat Hall Primary Academy
- Norton Canes High School
- Norton Canes Primary Academy
- Perton Middle School
- The John Bamford Primary School
- Hazleslade Primary Academy
- Staffordshire University Academy
- Wightwick Hall School
- Longford Primary Academy

# STAFFORD MHST

## Schools we work with:

- Burton Manor Primary School
- Castlechurch Primary School
- Doxey Primary & Nursery School
- Flash Ley Primary School
- John Wheeldon Primary Academy
- King Edward V1 High School
- Penkridge Middle School
- Sir Graham Balfour School
- St. Leonard's CofE First School
- Stafford Manor High School
- Veritas Primary Academy
- St Patrick's Catholic Primary School
- St Leonard's Primary School
- St Austin's Catholic Primary School
- Walton Hall Academy
- Walton Priory Middle School
- Silkmore Primary Academy
- Marshlands School
- Blessed William Howard Catholic School
- Bailey Street Alternative Provision Academy
- St. John's C of E Primary Academy
- The Weston Road Academy
- Tillington Manor Primary School
- Blessed Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School



# TAMWORTH MHST

## Schools we work with:

- Kettlebrook Short Stay
- Landau Forte Academy Qems
- Moorgate Primary Academy
- St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary
- Two Rivers High School
- Oakhill Primary School
- Glascote Academy
- Lakeside CP School
- Amington Heath Primary
- Two Rivers School
- Ankermoor Primary Academy
- Landau Forte Amington
- Two Gates Primary
- Hanbury's Farm Primary
- Tamworth Enterprise College
- Landau Forte Academy 6th Form
- Ashcroft Infants School
- Florendine Primary School
- Dosthill Primary School
- Landau Forte Academy Greenacres
- Anker Valley Primary School
- The Woodlands Community Primary
- Birds Bush Primary
- Three Peaks Primary Academy
- Stoneydelph Primary
- The Wilnecote School
- Wilnecote Junior School
- Heathfields Infant Academy

# LICHFIELD MHST

## Schools we work with:

- Boney Hay Primary School
- Charnwood Primary School
- Chase Terrace Primary School
- Chase Terrace Academy
- Chasetown Community Primary School
- Erasmus Darwin Academy
- The Friary School
- The Rawlett School
- Saxon Hill Academy
- Queenscroft
- Rocklands School
- The Bridge Academy
- Willows Primary School
- Netherstowe High School
- St. Chad's C.E. Primary School
- St Peter and Paul Catholic Primary School





# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## OPAL Competition Time

OPAL is growing in strength in our school and children are enjoying outdoor play.

For us to run the programme efficiently we need a steady supply of new resources and items that can be used by our pupils during play time. Please have a look through your garages, attics, sheds and bedrooms for any unused items that can be repurposed for our outdoor learning. No glass or sharp-edged items please.

We are mainly looking for:

- Guttering and buckets for water play
  - Beach spades
  - Cuddly toys
  - Costumes
- Hard construction hats
  - Plastic trucks
- Small sinks and bathtubs  
(More ideas overleaf)

We are also looking for parents who could support in building areas of play for our children – this includes:

- Dens
- Mud kitchen
- Shelters
- Etc.

The class which supplies the most items or provides the most help in creating our outdoor play experience will have a chance to enjoy a taster session and try it out first during their very own extra OPAL play time on top of daily lunchtime play.

Please also remember that if you have not done so yet send your child's wellies to school which can be stored and used as needed during wet days.

All resources need to be left in the OPAL donation bin outside the Year 3 classroom and children are asked to inform Miss Lord, Mr Kay or Miss Brewin of their donations so we can keep track of it and choose our competition winners during play assembly in mid-May.



**Miss Lord**  
Curricular lead



**Miss Brewin**  
Supports both Miss Lord and Mr Kay



**Mr M Kay**  
Play lead coordinator



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TELEPHONE: 01283 247410 INSTAGRAM: @shobnallprimary E-MAIL: shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk

## What we need:

Acorns 	Baking pans 	Cake moulds 	Measuring spoons 	Strainers 
Baskets 	Cable spools 	Cones 	Containers 	Corrugated pipes 
Dress up items 	Fabric 	Funnels 	Nets 	Old electronics 
Pool noodles 	PVC pipes 	Ropes 	Shovels and spades 	Sinks and tubs 
Tires and wheels - big, small and weird 	Pots 	Colanders 	Wheelbarrow 	Watering cans 
Pinecones 	Waistcoats 	Wooden spoons 	Cuddly toys 	Plastic crates 
Cardboard boxes 	Hats 	Dinosaurs 	Frying pans 	Seashells 
Tree stumps 	Small balls 	Buggy 	Plastic tubes 	Tarpaulin 
Beach spades 	Buckets 	Trowels 	Parachutes 	Cardboard tubes 
Guttering 	Wooden planks 	Ice cube trays 	Old keyboards 	Bin lids 
Rakes 	Toy cars 	Action figures 	Umbrellas 	Plastic trucks 
Suitcases 	Hard hats 	Wellies 	Wood dowels 	'Caution' tape 
Bricks 	Plastic bins 	Laundry baskets 	Egg containers 	Duct tape 
Straw bales 	Rocks 	Leaves 	Gravel, pebbles 	5 Gallon buckets 
Poles 	Glass jewels 	Jugs 	Marbles 	Balls - every kind! 



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SEARCH ENGINES

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Search engines are an integral part of everyday life – with Google alone processing around 100,000 searches every second. Search engines use algorithms to predict which results will be useful to us, though this can expose children to inappropriate content, misinformation and even scams. This guide explains the risks associated with search engines and offers practical advice to help safeguard young users online.

### MANIPULATED SEARCH RESULTS

Although search engines take site reputation into account, trustworthiness isn't the main factor. Instead, they use algorithms that can be gamed via tactics like search engine optimisation (SEO), which is big business. As a result, users may encounter misleading content and low-quality commercial products that appear more credible than they actually are.

### MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION

Search engines index billions of web pages – and not all of them are factual or safe. Children might stumble across false information or even deliberate disinformation, especially when searching for trending topics or controversial issues.

### ENGINES BEYOND GOOGLE

Even if Google's SafeSearch is enabled, children may use lesser-known search engines that don't have similar protections. Some of these alternatives are less effective at blocking unsavoury content – sometimes by design – making it easier for children to encounter harmful or explicit material. Parental controls may also struggle to detect and block these sites.

### ILLEGAL CONTENT CAN SURFACE

Search engines are designed to retrieve content based on keywords – not to judge whether that content is lawful. As a result, even illegal or harmful material can appear in search results. Children might assume that anything found through search engines must be safe, just because they're so widely used. This misunderstanding can lead to accidental exposure to seriously inappropriate content.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT EXPOSURE

Although parental controls like Google's SafeSearch exist, they aren't foolproof, and search engines may bypass them. Young users may still see inappropriate images or content, especially in image searches, even though they may not be able to click on the results. Some niche search engines lack even basic filtering, posing further risks.

### UNRELIABLE AI SUMMARIES

Some search engines now offer AI-generated answers at the top of results. While these can be helpful as webpage summaries, they're not always accurate. There have been instances where AI summaries have presented false or even dangerous information, reinforcing the need for critical thinking.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

While no parental controls tool is perfect, this software can help reduce the likelihood of inappropriate content appearing in search results. Use tools like Google Family Link to set search restrictions and monitor your child's browsing activity.

### QUESTION AI-GENERATED CONTENT

While AI content is generated quickly and often appears legitimate, teach children that, just because an AI summary is well presented, it doesn't mean it's accurate. Encourage them to review the sources behind AI summaries and check the information with reputable sites or fact-checkers.

### IDENTIFY AND AVOID ADVERTS

One of the ways search engines generate revenue is by showing adverts to their users. Sponsored search results are labelled, but they're not always easy to spot and can sometimes be malicious. Show your child how to distinguish between paid ads and organic search results – explain why some ads might be misleading or unsafe.

### PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Encourage children to question the motivation behind online content and develop critical thinking, as not all sites can be trusted. Some deliberately misinform users in order to sell products or promote misinformation. Developing a critical mindset is one of the best defences against these tactics.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College