

Dear Parents/Carers

We demonstrate our Values of **respect, caring, supportiveness, tolerance, perseverance, forgiveness, and trust**, at Whixall C.E. Primary School in all that we strive to do each day.

WHIXALL SCHOOL NEWS

PE and outdoor learning

Please find below the days that each class will have their PE lessons. Children will need to come into school in their PE kits.

Wednesday—Swimming for Skylark Class (Year 1), Mayfly Class (Year 2), Peregrine Class (Years 5 and 6)

PE for Dragonfly Class (Reception) and Bumblebee Class (Nursery) and Robin Class (Years 3 and 4)

Thursday - PE for Dragonfly Class (Reception)

Friday – PE for Bumblebee Class (Nursery) and Robin Class (Years 3 and 4)

If children could bring their outdoor learning clothes into school please and leave them in school, that would be appreciated. It would also be appreciated if all children could bring a pair of wellies into school please.

Music Lessons

Music Lessons

We have the most amazing guitar teacher who comes into school every Tuesday. If your child is interested in learning to play the guitar please use the link below to register your interest.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=d9KNe5f8nUSmrAU16L-NafsATH_u3FJEhj5Ss2EWtfpURDBRSUs1SlpOMkJVWIQ4V0VTRjRCRVRUUS4u

Please also use the link to book any other instrumental lessons that you may wish your child to participate in.

Choir

As part of our music provision the children can attend choir which is run by our Music teacher Mrs Hawke every Tuesday lunchtime. There is no cost for this club.

If you are concerned about someone's safety

In an emergency dial 999, but for other calls to the police please ring 101. To report a safeguarding concern by phone ring our **First Point of Contact team** on **0345 678 9044** Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, and Friday 9am to 4pm. If you have urgent adult safeguarding concerns outside of these hours, please phone the **Emergency Social Work Duty Team** on 0345 678 9040.

Meet the Teacher

On Monday 30th September, there is an opportunity to come into school and meet your child's class teacher. The teachers will be in their classrooms from 3.30 p.m. until 4.30 p.m. so please come along and say hello.
There is no need to notify us of your attendance.

Harvest Service

Our Harvest Service is on Tuesday 1st October at 9.30 am at St Mary's Church—everyone is welcome to attend. We will be asking for donations of non perishable food e.g. tins and packets to donate to the Whitchurch Food bank, there will be a collection box in school, so please send any items you wish to donate into school before Thursday 28th September. During the service, there will be a voluntary collection, donations will be sent to the Farm Crisis Network.

Child Absence

Please telephone school (01948 840209) by 9.00am if your child is unwell and will not be attending that day. If leaving a message, can you please provide the exact reason why your child is absent. If we have not heard from you by 9.30am we will text you and then follow-up with a telephone call if we have still not heard from you by lunchtime.

We shall also be contacting parents of Nursery children who do not attend, for whatever reason, on days that we are expecting them. This is a health and wellbeing safeguarding check.

Home Learning

As from next week, all classes will be changing the format of the home learning set for our children.

EYFS—children in Nursery and Reception

To practice the phonic sounds that the children are learning for the week in order to support your child at home, There will be an activity connected to maths such as a counting song to practice. There may be an additional optional activity to support the work that has been completed in class, such as learning the month of our birthday or practising the name of our body parts.

Key Stage 1—children in Years 1 and 2

Weekly reading at home as many times as possible during the week. Weekly spellings and Number Bonds practice. Every half term, the children will be set a project, which is linked to their work in the curriculum, this half term, projects will be needed to be handed in on 11th October.

Key Stage 2—children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Weekly reading at home as many times as possible during the week. Weekly spellings and Times Table Rockstars practice. Every half term, the children will be set a project, which is linked to their work in the curriculum, this half term, projects will be needed to be handed in on 11th October.

Children in Year 6 will be given additional home learning later in the year to help to prepare for SATs.

If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. Home learning is set on Seesaw unless you would prefer your child to have a paper copy, in which case please contact your child's class teacher.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD
SOLIHULL APPROACH

Understanding your child
Free courses for Shropshire families

“ This course has given me confidence as a parent and helped me to improve our relationship. I wish I had done it sooner! ”



Shropshire Council

Understanding Your Child

Would you like to know more about your child's development?

Would you like support to understand your child's behaviour?

Want to meet other parents and carers?

Then this FREE 10 week course is for you. It will help you to understand your child, yourself and your parenting style better. Giving you practical tips to improve your relationship and a chance to talk about challenges within a supportive peer group setting.

Throughout September and October there will be courses starting in Oswestry, Whitchurch, Market Drayton, Shrewsbury, Cressage, Church Stretton and Ludlow. Find out more about the course and how to book your place

here: <https://orlo.uk/LyqVC>

Uniform - School Uniform

We will be working closely with parents to ensure that a strict uniform code is adhered to by everyone.

Our school uniform is as follows:

Grey trousers or skirts

White polo shirt / blouse or shirt

Navy blue school sweatshirt or cardigan **with or without the school logo**

Black shoes for boys and girls (no sandals)

Light blue and white checked dress

For PE

Navy blue shorts or jogging bottoms (jogging bottoms are advisable this half term as your child will be wearing their PE all day.

Plain navy T-shirt or a navy T-shirt with the school logo on it

Plain navy hoodie or track suit top Trainers for all children (not pumps)

Children are allowed to wear plain STUD ear rings which will need to be covered during PE.

We really would appreciate everyone's co-operation with our uniform code.

****Donated School Uniform****

If you require school uniform for your child we have: trousers, skirts, pinafore dresses, jumpers, cardigans and polo shirts in various sizes that have been donated to school.

Please email the school office to check the sizes we have available and help with recycling.

Thank you.

Water Bottles

Please can children bring a water bottle, labelled with their name to school each day.

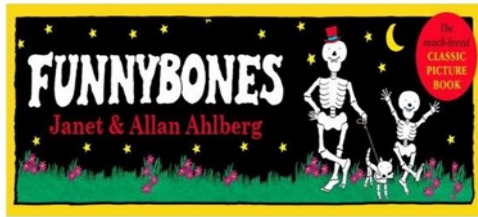
If you child is bringing juice to drink with their lunch can they also bring a bottle with water in so that they can stay hydrated throughout the day.

Thank you.





Join us for a Spooky
'Funnybones'
Storytime & Craft
session.



Free drop in event.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.



SHREWSBURY
HIGH SCHOOL
GDST
An Evening
with
Louise Minchin
Hear the story of the
fearless adventures of
an extraordinary
woman

Wednesday 16th October 2024
DOORS OPEN AT 6.45PM FOR A 7.00PM START
The New Hall, Town Walls,
Shrewsbury, SY1 1TN



Refreshments and book signing
Tickets Adults £20 | Students £10 | SHS Students £5
Available from School Office and Eventbrite. Email: g.parish@shr.gdst.net

shrewsburyhigh.gdst.net

**** School Transport ****

Your child may be eligible for school transport if they are in
Reception Class to Year 6 and fulfil certain criteria.

Applications can be submitted online at

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-transport/available-support/>
Scroll down and click on Primary.

Thank you.

Clubs

Clubs for this half term will be as follows:

- Mondays: Netball and Craft
- Tuesdays: Code and Church
- Wednesdays: Sports and Cookery Club (please note that cookery club is for Year 6 children only—the cost for this club is £3 per week.
- Thursdays: Homework and Film Clubs
- Fridays: Games Club

We are offering wrap around care after our normal school clubs from 4.30 p.m. until 6.00 p.m. These must be booked and paid for in advance by 3.00 p.m. of the Friday of the previous week (booking will close at 3 p.m.)—our apologies but unfortunately until the club becomes established, we cannot accept bookings in any other way.

Clubs will therefore be organised as follows:

3.00 p.m. —4.30 p.m.—Usual clubs—please see above at £2.00 per session these are booked and paid for in the usual way.

4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. - £4 per session payable under the booking section of sQuid

4.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.—£6 per session payable under the booking section of sQuid

If anyone wishes their child to access club during the week beginning 30th September please book by Friday 27th September 2024.

Social Media Algorithms

What is an Algorithm?

Algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms and predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with, thereby keeping us online for longer. The algorithm uses information such as who you follow, what you have searched for and what you have watched, liked or shared to determine what it thinks most interests you, to then show you this content more, for example, in the explore tab on Instagram.

What do I need to know?

Whilst there are benefits to algorithms, for example it means we tend to see content that does interest us, unfortunately there are negatives as well.

They can lead to increased screentime as we continue to see things that interest us. Secondly, it can lead to users being shown large amounts of inappropriate content which can exacerbate negative body image or heighten access to misogyny content. It can also lead to 'echo chambers' where you are only seeing content that relates to your opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint.

The Family Online Safety Institute discuss algorithms in more detail as well as tips for you to help your child, such as how to reset their algorithm:

<https://www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-social-media-algorithms>

WhatsApp: chat lock/secret code

You must be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp. Did you know that you can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting? If a user locks a chat, then the chat will appear at the top under locked chats but cannot be viewed without your device password or biometric (face id/fingerprint). Furthermore though, a user can apply an additional setting to hide the locked chat (so it does not appear in their chat list and can only be accessed via the search bar). Whilst this feature adds privacy, it can make it difficult to monitor what your child is doing on WhatsApp, which is why it is important to have regular chats with your child.

Need app ideas?

Internet Matters have curated a list of age-appropriate apps depending on what your aim is when your child is spending time online:

Skill Building apps:

If you would like to help your child develop a new skill, then you might find some useful ideas here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/skill-building-apps-guide-for-kids/>

Apps to keep your child entertained:

These apps are organised into age groups so you can find an app that is suitable for your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/13-great-apps-to-keep-your-kids-amused-in-the-school-holidays/>

Apps to help get your child active:

Again, these apps are organised by age group:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/apps-to-help-kids-get-active/>

Wellbeing apps:

These apps are organised by topic such as sleep aids or managing anxiety and will help your child develop an understanding of how to look after their own wellbeing:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/wellbeing-apps-guide-for-kids/>