

Dear Parents/Carers

WHIXALL SCHOOL NEWS

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.

Thank you so much for your patience and support last week with the flooded roads—we really appreciate the lovely comments that we received. An enormous thank you to all our staff for the resilience that they demonstrated by getting into work each day.

We have written to Shropshire Council, uploaded daily photographs to their website to report issues as well as written to the local MP to see what support we can obtain to help alleviate the ongoing issue with flooding.

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 .

Meet the Teacher

On Monday 7th October, 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.

Please do not arrive for 'meet the teacher' until 3.25 p.m. to avoid disruption to the collection system—we will keep your children safe until you arrive. Please park on the road or on the left hand side of the layby if there are spaces. If your child is in school, they should accompany you to meet the teacher please as this is just an opportunity to say hello.

There will also be items of second hand uniform available to take away for a donation to school fund.

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.

Diary Dates

Monday 7th October—Year 6 Bikeability

- Meet the Teacher—3.30—4.30 p.m.

Tuesday 8th October—Year 6 Bikeability

Thursday 10th October—Harvest Service 9.30 a.m. at the Church—everyone welcome to attend

Friday 11th October—Orienteering at Thomas Adams for children in Years 3,4,5 and 6



Holiday Club



Holiday Club will run again during October half term on
Monday 28th, Tuesday 29th, Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st October
Further details will be available nearer the time.

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_u3FJEhj5Ss2EWtfpURDBRSUs1SlpOMkJVWIQ4VOVTRjRCRVRUUS4u

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.

Child Absence

Please telephone school (01948 880330) 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.

INTERNET SAFETY

If you or your child experience any form of content on the internet that may be harmful, this can be reported using the following link:

[*Report Harmful Content - We Help You Remove Content*](#)

Water Bottles

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



***** School Admissions Dates *****

Applications for Secondary School Places

Applications must be made online by 31st October 2024 (final day for application)

To apply please visit: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-admissions>

click on: Apply to start or transfer school, and then transferring to secondary school.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact school, we are happy to help.

Free School Meals

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if you are in receipt of certain benefits.

Children in Nursery to Year 6 may be eligible

Please visit the site below to check if you are eligible to apply

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Thank you.

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 Club

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 club - (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 late club during the week beginning 14th October please book by Friday 11th October 2024.

Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

Viewing inappropriate content

Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.

Contact from inappropriate people/grooming

Cyberbullying

Spending money on in-app purchases/scams

What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have:

<https://www.compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

EE launches Age Guidance

EE has launched age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children's digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up.

You can read the full guidance here:

<https://newsroom.ee.co.uk/ee-launches-age-guidance-for-smartphone-usage-in-drive-to-improve-childrens-digital-wellbeing/>

Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then Which? provide an overview of some options available:

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

Learn Through Play with Sesame Street

The Sesame Street website has a whole host of resources, activities, and games from supporting with learning ABCs to discussing tough topics such as grief.

<https://sesameworkshop.org/>

Be aware of what you share

Get Safe Online have produced a set of tips to help you avoid oversharing and outlines what the consequences might be if you do:

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/whatdoyoushare/>

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! ”

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

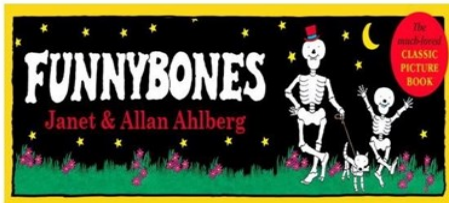
here: <https://orlo.uk/LyqVC>

Wem Library
Tuesday 29th October 2024
2:30pm to 3:30pm

Join us for a Spooky

'Funnybones'

Storytime & Craft session.



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

www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries
Follow us on Twitter @ShropLibraries
wem.library@shropshire.gov.uk
01939 236995
www.shropshire.gov.uk

SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL
GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

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

an evening with
The Reverend Canon
KATE BOTTLEY

Join us for an evening with much loved TV and Radio personality and the nation's favourite vicar, The Reverend Kate Bottley.

Tuesday 12th November 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
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