

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.

Thank you to the Original School Food Showdown for an amazing healthy eating demonstration this week. It really was inspirational.

PE

- Monday – Robin Class (Year 3), Peregrine Class (Years 5 and 6)
- Tuesday - Swimming for Dragonfly (Reception) and Red Kite (Year 4)
- Wednesday - Robin Class (Year 3),
Swimming for Skylark (Year 1) and Mayfly (Year 1 and 2)
- Thursday - Peregrine Class (Years 5 and 6)
- Friday – Bumblebee Class (Nursery), Dragonfly Class (Reception)

Children need to come to school dressed in their PE kits please.

Please note that on swimming days, children should come to school in their PE kit with their swimming costume underneath. Please remember to send your child with underwear to change into on swimming days.

Dates

Saturday 25th April	Shrewsbury Half Marathon
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 8th May	Dr Bike in school all day—please see separate note on page 2.
w/b 11th May	SATs for children in Year 6
Thursday 21st May	Break up for half term
Friday 22nd May	PD Day—children not in school on this day. (Holiday Club is available)
Monday 25th—Friday 29th May	Half Term
Tuesday 26th—Thursday 28th May	Holiday Club
Monday 1st June	Return to school
	Trinity Journey Day

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.

WHIXALL SCHOOL NEWS

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.

Any queries please contact the school office.



Holiday Club



Holiday Club will run again during the May Half Term holiday on the PD day—Friday 22nd May, Tuesday 26th May, Wednesday 27th May and Thursday 28th May.

Booking details will follow shortly.

CLOTHING LABELS

Now the weather is warming up and the chances of taking jumpers off increase, please could you ensure that all clothing that is likely to be removed is labelled with your child(ren)'s name(s). This really does help with the smooth running of the school day.

Many thanks for your help.

DR BIKE

Dr Bike is coming to school on Friday 8th May. Children (and parents) may bring bikes to school for the day when it will be checked for safety and minor repairs completed.

All for FREE!



Easy Fundraising

During these uncertain times, we are looking for different ways to raise funds for school. We have registered for the Easy Fundraising scheme and would really appreciate your support with this. The scheme is very easy and free to use - if you buy any items online then please register with the easy fundraising website:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

Once registered with the site when you buy on line, please log in and see if the retailer you are purchasing from is registered with Easy fundraising—if they are then log into the retailer's website via easy fundraising identifying Whixall School as your chosen beneficiary and make your purchase—a percentage of the purchase price will be donated to school.

Please support us with this if you can, as it is a very easy way to raise funds for our school and does not cost you anything.

Thank you to everyone who has already registered.

Fake or Real? Know the Deal

Essex Police have launched a groundbreaking AI Safety Campaign in partnership with BT and EE to tackle the growing risks posed by artificial intelligence (AI) misuse and deepfake technology. This is the first time a UK police force is working directly with a global technology firm to provide practical advice to parents, guardians and young people.

AI technology offers incredible opportunities, but it also introduces serious risks when misused. Deepfake content – highly convincing, fabricated images or videos – can be used to exploit young people, sometimes without their knowledge. Artificially generated Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) is one of the fastest-emerging crimes Essex Police is actively investigating.

The campaign is designed to help you understand:

What deepfakes are and why they matter

How to protect children from online harm

What to do if an image is misused

Further information

Find out more here, including advice on how to protect your child:

<https://eephonesmart.co.uk/fake-or-real>

How to set up parental controls on ChatGPT

Internet Matters have published an article detailing how you can link your own account to your child's account (they must be logged in) to set parental controls on ChatGPT.

You can read the article here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/chatgpt-parental-controls/>

WhatsApp update: Parent-Managed Accounts

WhatsApp have announced that they are rolling out the option of Parent-Managed accounts for those under the age of 13. The settings will include allowing you to choose who can contact your child and ensuring only you can add them to groups. Find out more here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/894871699629864>

Whilst, these features could be useful, it is important to emphasise that just because the option now exists, WhatsApp may still not be an appropriate platform for your child to be on. We often receive reports of issues, particularly with group chats on WhatsApp. Wayne Denner (online safety trainer) explains more here: <https://www.waynedenner.com/whatsapp-parent-managed-accounts-what-parents-need-to-know/>

AI and homework

AI can be a useful tool for helping children with homework both in understanding a topic and for research. However, please remember that it should not be used to complete tasks as this would constitute plagiarism.

Get to know Age Ratings

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. **Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?**





COFFEE & CHAT Wem



3rd Thursday of each month
13.00-14.45

Wem Library, 3 High St, Wem, Shrewsbury SY4 5AA

You can get free information, advice and support on all aspects of family life, at our Early Help Family Drop-In. You can chat, have a coffee and see how we can help. We support families with children aged 0-19 years (up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities) We aim to make it easier for you to ask for help and get support when you need it.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN SEALED CUP/TRAVEL MUG



shropshire.gov.uk/early-help



Kids Shropshire Universal Autism Support Service

Kids offer warm, supportive services for parent carers and families of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities across Shropshire. We help provide families with practical tools, emotional support and confidence to help families thrive.

SEND Sleep Workshop

We invite you to join us for a sleep workshop.

These are held by trained sleep practitioners offering support, advice and guidance for your child/young persons sleep issues.



The workshop consists of :

- Science of sleep
- Potential Triggers causing sleep issues
- Strategies and bedtime routines
- Natural production of melatonin
- Physical and Emotional wellbeing

Friday 8th May 2026

9.30-11.30am

Online Workshop

If you wish to attend, please book a place via phone or email.

Kids Disabled children say we can

Registered office: 249 Birmingham Road, Wylde Green, Sutton Colfield B72 1EA
Company limited by guarantee no: 1346252

Registered charity number: 275936

Tel: 01743 644506

Email: kids.shropshire@kids.org.uk



Information & Support | Influence & Change

Useful Resources- Sleep



Is your child/ young person struggling with their sleep? There are a number of organisations with resources and guides to help!



Support available while waiting for your appointment

There are a range of local support providers that you and your child can access while you wait for a health appointment or assessment. Many of these can continue to support you and your child beyond your appointment/assessment.

- Development or wellbeing
- Communication
- Physical and sensory needs
- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Neurodivergent needs
- Behaviours of concern
- Preparing for adulthood



For more information, please see the Healthier Together website

Information & Support | Influence & Change

Contact: info@paccshropshire.org.uk

Crane Quality Counselling
Presents
"Every Shropshire Child Has A Voice"
In recognition of
Children's Mental Health Week 2026

Friday 15th May 2026
6:00pm - 8:30pm

- Adult Tickets : £7.00
- Junior Tickets : £3.50
- Under 11's and Tiny Tots : Free Entry

St Georges Parish Church
Drinkwater Street,
Frankwell,
Shrewsbury,
SY3 8QA

To Buy Tickets Scan QR Code Or Contact Us On
01743 240546

Charity No. 1175610

SHREWSBURY REPAIR CAFE

Your radio doesn't work?
Your jumper has a hole in it?
Your ornament is broken?

Bring it to the repair cafe
Have it fixed & repaired
Refreshments & cake

Shrewsbury United Reformed Church
Coleham Head

3rd Saturday every month
10am till 2pm

[f shrewsrepaircafe](#)

Repairing the World
One Item at a Time

In aid of
MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Bluebell Walk
Sun 26th April

A walk through Soulton Hall Bluebell wood
FEATURED IN SHAKESPEARE'S "AS YOU LIKE IT"

Soulton Hall, Wem, SY4 5RS
10:00am-4:00pm

MORNING WALK: ARRIVAL 10-11AM
LUNCHTIME WALK: ARRIVAL 12-1PM
AFTERNOON WALK: ARRIVAL 2-3PM

TICKETS:
ADULT £7.50
CHILDREN £4
FAMILY TICKET £20
Family Ticket (max 2 adults & 3 Children/1 adult & 4 children)

PRE-BOOKING NECESSARY

FOR TICKETS SCAN THE QR CODE

Refreshments will be available to purchase Walk takes up to 60-90 minutes Woodland paths Bring appropriate footwear Not suitable for pushchairs or wheel chairs Dogs on leads at all times Free On site parking.

ENQUIRIES TO SHREWSBURYMACMILLANFUNDRAISING@GMAIL.COM

This event is organised by the Shrewsbury Fundraising Group in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, a registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (504). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

Bluebell Walk
Afternoon Tea Special

Soulton Hall, Wem, SY4 5RS
Sunday 26th April
From 1pm

SAVOURIES
Ham & Salad Sandwich
Cheese & Onion Sandwich

SCONE
Jam, butter & cream

SWEETS
Victoria Sponge
Millionaires Cheesecake
Swiss Roll

TEA OR COFFEE

£12 per person

PRE-BOOKING NECESSARY

PRE-BOOK CONTACT:
IRENE RENNIE
MACMILLAN FUNDRAISER
07980669252

PLEASE MENTION ANY ALLERGIES WHEN BOOKING

In aid of
MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

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HAVE A GO AT PICKLEBALL FOR FREE



3rd MAY
10-12
WEM TENNIS CLUB

**WHY PICKLEBALL? IT'S FAST, FUN,
LOW-IMPACT, BURNS CALORIES
ALL AGES : ALL ABILITIES**

WHITCHURCH PROSTATE SUPPORT GROUP



Every 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month
7-9pm
Whitchurch Rugby Club

A confidential, supportive space for men living with prostate cancer

Whether you're newly diagnosed, in treatment, monitoring your psa, or adjusting after treatment, you are welcome here

What?

Honest conversations with other men who understand
Supportive, Respectful, judgement-free discussion

Who?

Men with prostate cancer (any stage) or prostate concerns or monitoring



CONFIDENTIAL • RESPECTFUL • EMPATHETIC

Shropshire Larder - a resource for people in Shropshire

The Shropshire Larder is a community information resource, bringing together the support available in Shropshire for people on low incomes.

Take a look at their website for further information on the following:

- How to access emergency food
- Where to access low cost or free food in Shropshire
- Advice on eating well on a budget
- Where to get local help with money issues

<https://www.shropshirelarder.org.uk/>



Worrying About Money

Worrying about Money? Please use the link below to find guidance and advice regarding money worries that may be affecting you and your family:

<https://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/shropshire>

Leaflets are also available from:

<https://www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/cash-first-leaflets>

Shropshire
family
Information Service

Info, advice and support,
for families in Shropshire

Find us on:



Shropshire
Council