



Shardlow Primary School

ASPIRE ACHIEVE THRIVE

Autumn 2

Newsletter

2025- 2026

It has been a very busy but extra special half term, starting with Remembrance and ending with our Christmas Service at the church. The children have been a joy, and it has been a pleasure to see them enjoy all the extra activities we have been doing.

A big shout out to the Friends of Shardlow, who organised a wonderful Christmas fair and who have supported in the background with other events.

Our younger pupils performed a gorgeous Nativity at the village hall, and we had a fabulous time with them at the pantomime. They behaved beautifully and represented the school brilliantly, making us all very proud.

On Monday, we had a delicious Christmas dinner and received a treat from a very special visitor!

All of the school generously raised money for Reindeer Dash in aid of Treetops, despite the event being rained off twice!

A big thank you to Mrs. Bishop who has been successful in securing a teaching post and leaves us today. We wish you all the best! Good luck to Edie too- we are sure you will settle into your new school with no difficulty ahead of your move to secondary next year.

We hope everyone has plenty of festive fun and we will see you back in the New Year on Monday 5th January!



*Mrs.
Berry*



Shardlow Primary School

ASPIRE ACHIEVE THRIVE

Autumn 1

Newsletter

2025- 2026

Dear parents/carers,

It is always such a joy to come back to Shardlow on my weekly visits. I am so proud of the staff and how brilliantly they have adapted this term to keep things going so smoothly.

The children continue to be an absolute delight- watching their interactions with one another around school and the little moments of kindness when they think no one is watching is just wonderful. Of course there are moments when some children may struggle; this is a key age for their social development and we remember that some children face greater barriers to this than others. We continue to approach this with empathy and understanding whilst keeping our boundaries and expectations clear and we are grateful for your shared understanding and support in this too.

The curriculum continues to grow and thrive! This term I have had the pleasure of monitoring Maths , History and Whole Class Reading learning. It is a pleasure to see our curriculum come to life with the children eager to share their knowledge and making meaningful links between the different subject areas.

My secondment will continue into the new year and so I continue to leave you in the safe hands of Mrs Berry and the fabulous 'Team Shardlow', whilst looking forward to my weekly visits as we head into the spring term.

I hope you all have a wonderful festive break and the children fetch to enjoy some well earned rest and quality time with family.

Mrs Magner





Office Updates and Reminders

Kid's Den

We have had a great time at Kids' Den this half term!

We have been doing a range of activities, such as basketball, ping pong competitions, ship making and crafts!



Please note:

We have a number of parents owing for previous sessions which is currently coming out of school's budget. Please remember to pay your outstanding balance or we may need to prevent you from booking further slots until the balance is cleared.



Miss. Mason



Miss. Mitchell



Mrs. Spibey



Allergens

Please be aware that whilst we cannot guarantee being nut free, we do have some pupils with a nut allergy and try and avoid exposure where possible.

We respectfully request that you do not send in any snacks or packed lunches which contain nuts.

Suitable clothing

There are a few children who aren't bringing coats to school. We do try and send the children outside if it is 'spitting' at break, so all pupils need suitable outdoor clothing, especially at this time of year.



Swimming

Erewash will be swimming now on a Wednesday afternoon until May break, after which Ockbrook will return to the pool for the final half term.



Residential

Thank you for your deposits for Lea Green. Monthly payments are now set up on Arbor. The full balance will need to be made before the trip at the end of Spring term.



Attendance!

The usual autumn term illness has had its impact this half term but thank you for your support maintaining your child's attendance and getting to school on time. Every day matters!

Year 2	94.76
Year 5	94.84
Year 4	96.21
Year 6	96.42
Year 1	96.92
Trent	97.40
Year 3	97.73

ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Good attendance is the very **first step** in giving each child **the best possible chance** of understanding the learning in class and achieving their potential.

Our curriculum is **progressive** this means that each lesson and unit of work builds on from the next- if a child misses lessons **they may struggle** to understand the next lesson when they return.



**EVERY LESSON
COUNTS!**

HOW DOES IT MEASURE UP?

ATTENDANCE %	DAYS MISSED	LESSONS MISSED
100%	0 days missed	0 lessons missed
98%	4 days missed	20 lessons missed
96%	7 Days missed	35 lessons Missed
95%	10 days missed <i>2 Weeks!</i>	50 lessons missed
94%	11 days missed	55 Lessons missed
90%	20 Days missed <i>4 weeks!</i>	100 lessons missed
85%	29 days missed <i>5 weeks!</i>	145 lessons missed



Achievements and Celebrations

Ockbrook and Erewash held a beautiful and reflective Remembrance Service. The British Legion came to watch as well as serving Officers. Many members of the audience commented at how respectful the children were.



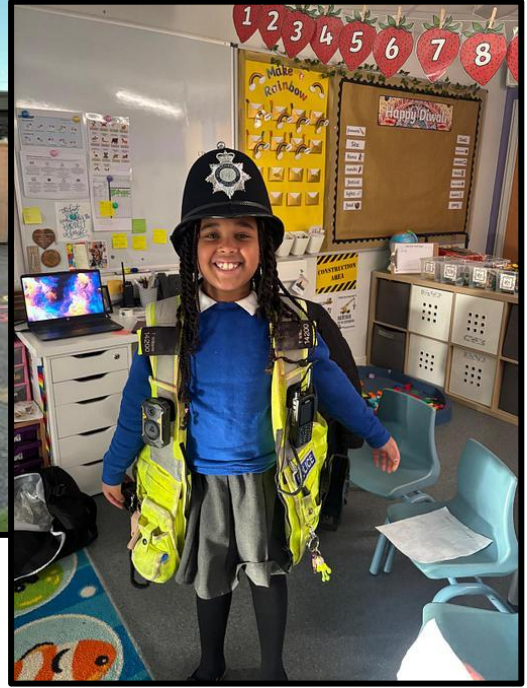
We created some pieces of Remembrance art and class displays.





Achievements and Celebrations

The whole school participated in our first career's week, and it was a roaring success! Many thanks to all the parents who came in to talk about their careers, and to Mr. Dale for organising it!





Achievements and Celebrations

Strive for 5



Congratulations to Archie who has won the Strive for 5 raffle this half term! Archie has won an Amazon voucher to spend at his leisure!

Remember... you can be entered to the raffle by having 5 reads or more recorded in your organiser every week, and when you reach one of the planets.

If you read 5 times a week (including holidays!)

- 🚀 Mission Mercury (25 reads): 13th October 2025
- ☀️ Voyage to Venus (50 reads): 17th November 2025
- 🌍 Earth Explorers (75 reads): 22nd December 2025
- 🔴 Mission to Mars (100 reads): 26th January 2026
- 🪐 Jump to Jupiter (125 reads): 2nd March 2026
- 🪐 Soaring by Saturn (150 reads): 6th April 2026
- 🌌 Unlocking Uranus (175 reads): 11th May 2026
- 🌊 Navigating Neptune (195 reads): 8th June 2026



Achievements and Celebrations



Merry
Christmas
Everyone!





Shardlow Sport: Small School- Big Spirit!



Ockbrook and Derwent have been enjoying their weekly Tai Chi lessons!



Well done to those children representing the school at Sports Hall Athletics!



Balance Bikes with Trent- we showed great progress!



Congratulations to our basketball team for winning the Erewash small schools competition!





Supporting our Communities

We are always astounded by how generous and supportive our school community are. Here are some of the ways in which you have all helped others over the last 7 weeks.



We all wore yellow for Pasic, a local charity supporting children with cancer and their families.

Through Reindeer Dash, we raised money for Treetops, a local hospice based in Risley, who also support children affected by bereavement or terminal illness.





Supporting our Communities

Albie and Darcy participated in a 5K Elf run at Elvaston Castle, raising money for Mind, a Derbyshire mental health charity.



Thomas, has spent after school this week raising money for Treetops Hospice by welcoming guests into his home. Some members of staff have been for a visit, and it was truly magical. So much attention to detail! Thomas served the food and drinks himself, designed all the signs and helped piece the alpine village together! Well done Thomas for demonstrating the true spirit of Christmas.





Safeguarding

Mrs. Molyneux has now completed her training and has joined our safeguarding team. You can find further information about our safeguarding procedures and programmes on our school website and we also have leaflets and information in the main entrance at school.

Our Safeguarding team are:

			
Judie Anderson Safeguarding Governor	Mrs Magner Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Mrs Berry Deputy DSL SENDCO	Mrs Molyneux Assistant DSL
			
Mrs Gillard HLTA Assistant DSL	Claire Kudryk Family Liaison Officer	Mrs Marshall Assistant DSL	



Safeguarding

This term we have been learning about;

Safety

We recently had a visit from an officer from the Fire Service who has spoken to all the school about the dangers of frozen water.

This follows on from last half term, when Ockbrook class learnt what to do if someone (including themselves) gets into difficulty when in water.



We have been also learning about road safety in the dark, and extra precautions we can take to be seen. Compare the images below and the difference between wearing dark or bright clothing. On both pictures, the child is in the same position.





Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity

This half term our Equality and Diversity group have reflected on how we have created a sense of belonging and sharing our differences across school;

- Edie reported that Year 5 and 6 have been studying the text, 'Boy at the Back of Class' and how this develops children's understanding of what it is like to be a refugee.
- Oliver shared that Erewash Class have been studying the text, 'Wonder' and how this helped them to understand how it feels for people with a facial deformity and how we can help.
- Maia shared that her class had been learning about Islam in their RE lessons and that you need to wash your hands if you are going to touch the Quran.
- Arlo reminded us of the great careers week festival and celebrating a different range of careers available to anyone.
- Oliver shared his aspiration to be a professional wheelchair tennis player and how he hoped to go to the Olympics in the future- he promised to come back for our future careers week festivals and give Mrs Magner a ticket!

Holiday Challenge

After being inspired by our class texts this half term, over the holidays we are inviting you to share any books or films that share the message of belonging- look out for the

Next term;

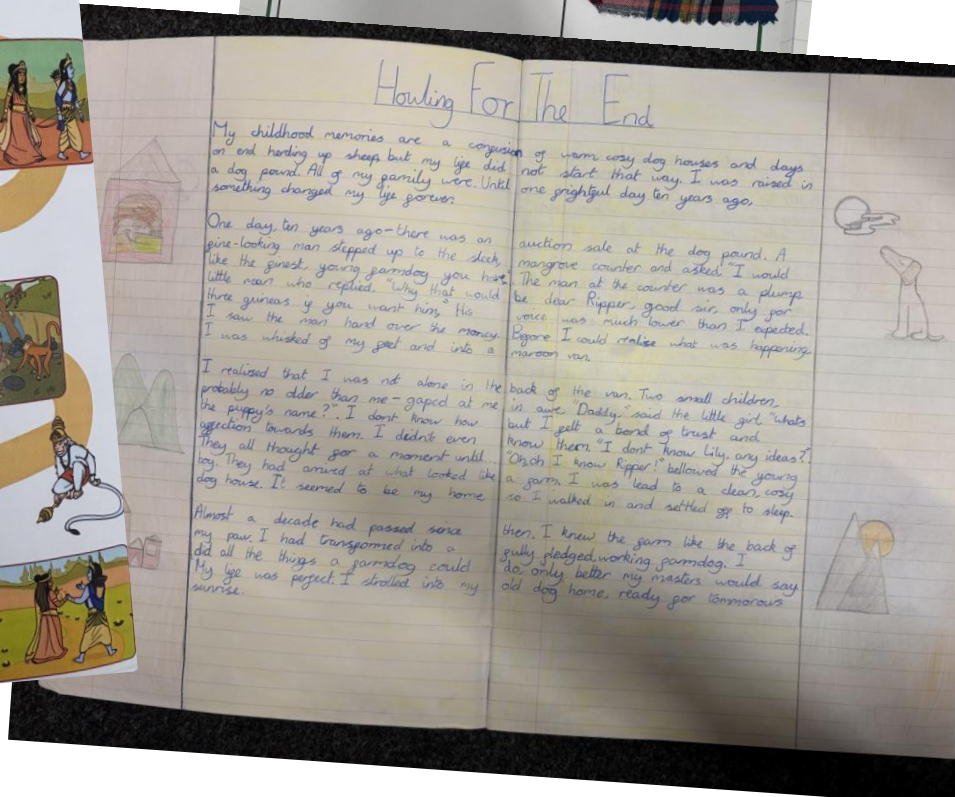
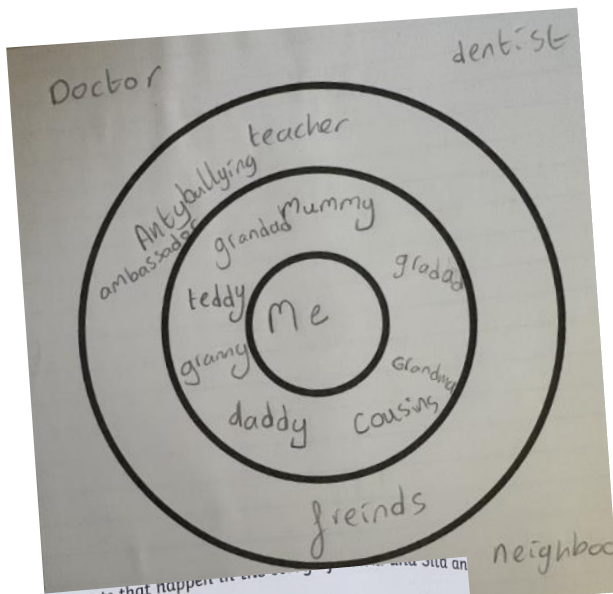
Next term we are planning 'This Is Me' dress up day to celebrate our uniqueness and differences.



Curriculum Steering Group

There has been some fantastic work going on in our curriculum at the moment. The steering group are so proud and are excited to put the findings from the survey into practice in the Spring term.

Here are some of the examples of the super work from Science, PSHE, RE and English that we are proud of this half term.





Mental Health and Wellbeing



Our steering group would like to raise money for the outdoor calm corner area. We want to freshen it up with posters and extra outdoor fidgets and seating. We have worked hard behind the scenes to make up our seed packets ready to sell in the new year.

Mental Health and Well being Team

are selling packets of seeds after Christmas. Keep an eye out for when these will be on sale.

50p a packet

Or

3 for a £1





Sustainability Steering Group

Sustainability Steering Group are very motivated and have some fantastic ideas to share in Spring.

Something that has come to our attention is that there are a few water bottles coming into school that are often single use plastic water bottles. We wanted to remind everyone to please bring in a reusable water bottle everyday for the classroom.

We can't wait to share more of our ideas in the Spring term!



The children have been so busy this past half term! Here is just a glimpse at some of the amazing learning and wonderful work they have produced!

Trent



Trent Class had a fantastic time at the Balance Bikes Festival in November!

They have been learning all about Diwali, the Festival of Light. They made their own Diya lamps and re-told the story of Rama and Sita.



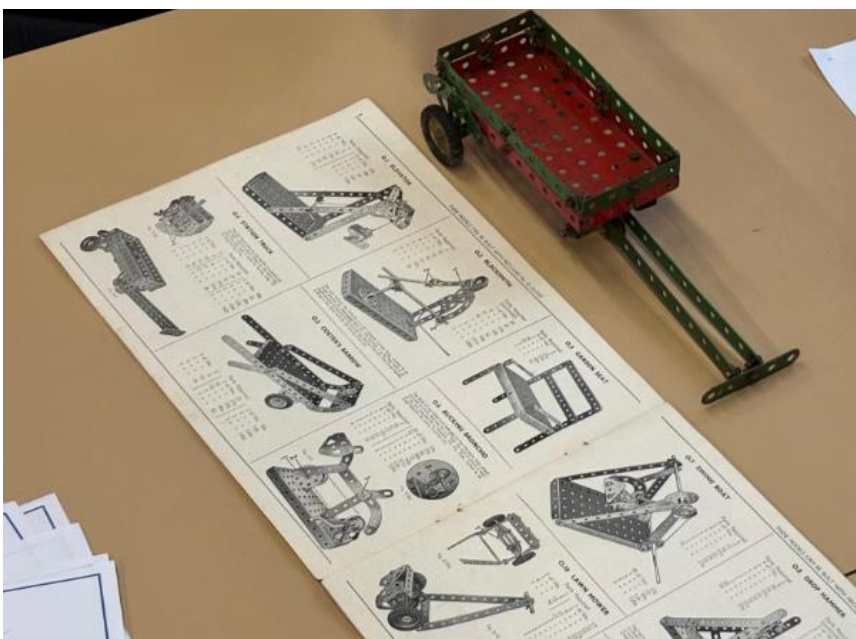
Trent Class have been in full swing of Christmas- performing their first Nativity and their first Panto trip!

Derwent



This half term we have been learning all about Toys from the past. It has been brilliant to see the children's engagement with this especially when it came to playing with real Victorian toys. We engaged with a workshop and got to make our own thaumotrope.

In maths we have been working hard on our place value on numbers to 100. We have been able to recognise the value of the numbers in the tens and the ones column and compare these numbers and position them on a number line!



In Science we have been materials detectives and we have used this knowledge across into History especially when looking at what old toys were made from and comparing to modern day toys.



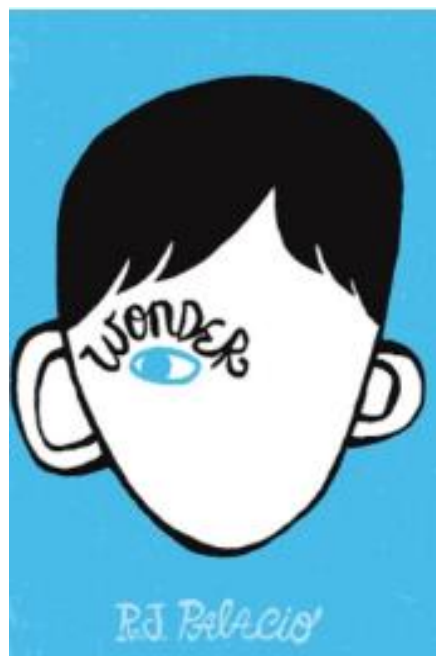
Erewash

In PE, we have been practising and developing our netball skills. We have been passing, defending, blocking and shooting with the ball! There are some fantastic netballers in Erewash and great sportsmanship has been shown in ever lesson this half term!



We have had fabulous festive week doing some Christmas crafts! We had the best time glass painting to make tealight holders!

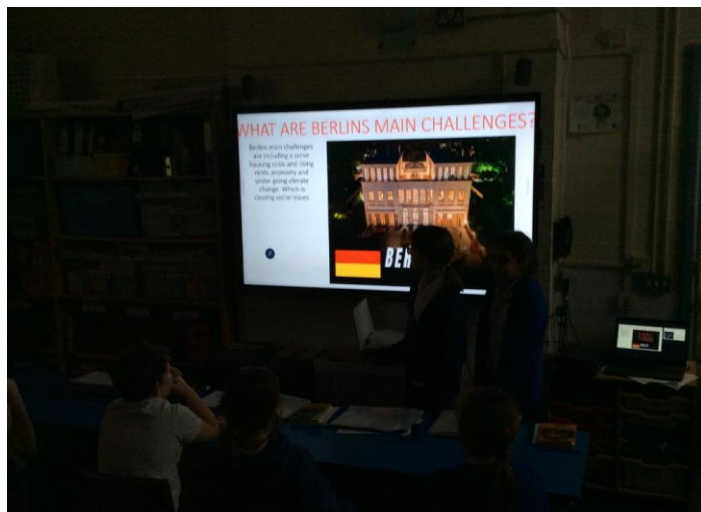
We have loved reading our guided reading book this half term. The children have been so incredible at understanding other's feelings and their inference skills are fantastic!





Our Curriculum

Ockbrook



In geography we have been learning about global cities. We put together these fantastic powerpoint presentations which were delivered brilliantly.

In design technology we have been learning how to cook a family meal. This time we planned and made an aubergine pasta bake with side salad and it was very yummy.



In science we have been learning about forces. We conducted an investigation into the force of classroom objects using Newton metres.