



Shardlow Primary School

ASPIRE ACHIEVE THRIVE

Spring 1

Newsletter

2025- 2026

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through the Spring Term! The weeks have flown by, and it has been a real pleasure to see the school buzzing with energy, enthusiasm, and determination since our return.

Our pupils have settled beautifully and are showing great focus in their learning. Whether tackling new challenges in maths, producing creative writing, exploring science investigations, or collaborating on group projects, they continue to impress us with their curiosity and resilience. Visitors have all commented on what a lovely atmosphere there is around school and attitude to learning.

We have also enjoyed a number of enriching experiences over the past few weeks — from sports fixtures and creative arts activities to special themed days and fundraisers. These moments help bring learning to life and give children the chance to shine in different ways. Thank you for your support in making these opportunities possible.

As we move into the second half of term, we will continue to focus on maintaining high standards while ensuring every child feels supported and confident.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support with attendance and punctuality — it truly makes a difference. And thank you for the warm partnership we share as a school community. Your encouragement at home plays such an important role in your child's success.

There is still much to look forward to this term, and I am excited to see all that our pupils will achieve in the coming weeks!

*Mrs.
Berry*





Office Updates and Reminders

Forms

Please can you return any forms promptly to the school office and keep up to date with payments (full payment for residential needs to be made in advance).

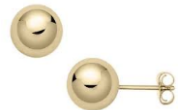
We currently have some significant outstanding personal balances for dinners, wrap around care and trips which are negatively impacting on the school budget and preventing us from purchasing resources needed for the school and its pupils.



Suitable clothing

There remains a few children who are attending school without a suitable coat during wet and cold weather. When possible, we will always try and get the children outside when there is a break/ light rain so please send them with a jacket just in case.

Jewellery



As per our welcome booklet, we advise that small plain stud earrings are removed for all PE lessons. If your child cannot remove and replace their own earrings, we ask that they are taken out and left home on PE days (we are unable to cover them with tape).

Whilst we advise you against piercings during term time, if your child has had them done recently and is unable to remove them, where possible we will try and adapt the activity (please note this can be more problematic for contact sports).

Production

Unfortunately, Friesland school have informed us that they no longer rent out their theatre and hence we have been looking at alternative spaces in the local area. The production will take place on Tuesday 14th July. Further details to follow.



Attendance!

Thank you for your support maintaining your child's attendance and getting to school on time. Every-day matters!

5	93.32
3	96.50
6	96.56
1	97.04
2	97.81
4	98.06
Trent	98.91

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



Safeguarding

Please meet our Safeguarding 'Happy and Safe' Team.
 You can find further information about our safeguarding procedures and signposting to support services on our school website and we also have leaflets and information available in the main entrance at school.

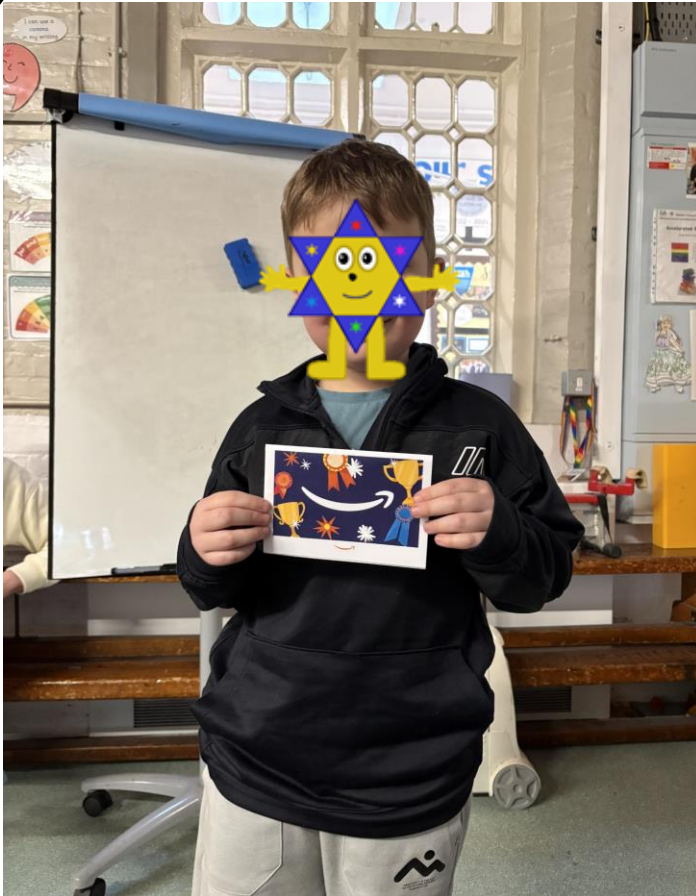
Our Safeguarding team are:

			
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	



Achievements and Celebrations

Strive for 5



Congratulations to Rocco who has won the Strive for 5 raffle this half term!

Rocco 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

Two weeks ago we had a visit from student teachers from HAN University in the Netherlands. They visited our school to see how we support our pupils, especially those with Special Educational Needs. Many commented how well behaved the children were and were very impressed with our inclusive approach what we do to support all of our pupils.

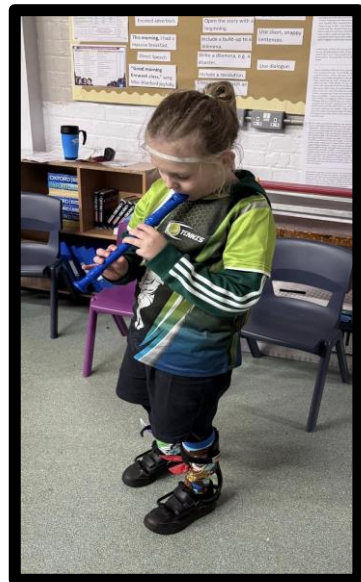
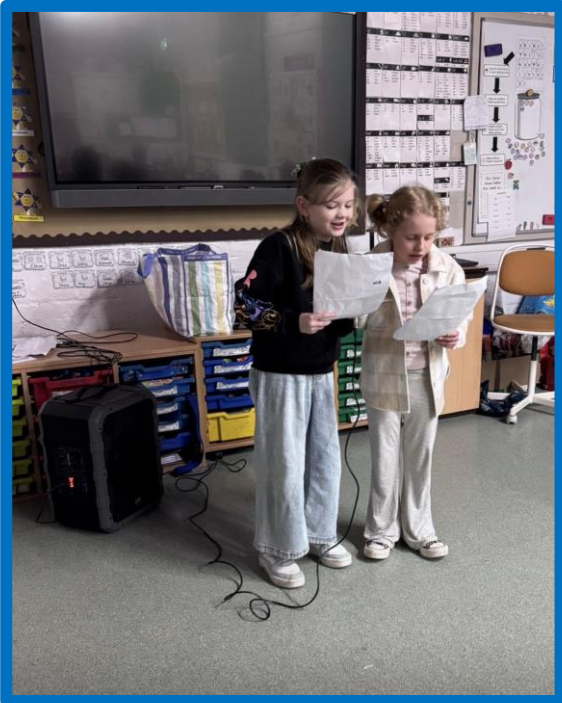




Achievements and Celebrations



Lots of fun had by all
at Shardlow's Got
Talent!





Achievements and Celebrations



A MASSIVE THANK YOU to Friends of Shardlow and the Shardlow Inland Port Festival committee for funding a new set of 15 iPads for school! These are on order and will be arriving over the holidays for us to use across school next half term! We can only do these things with your support attending events, so we are incredibly grateful to everyone involved!

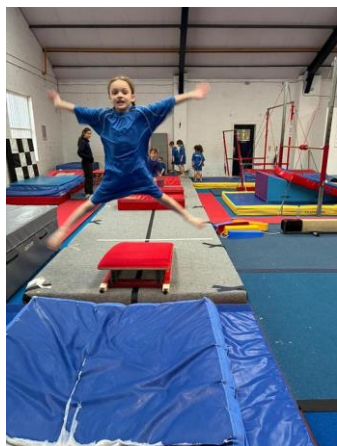




Shardlow Sport: Small School- Big Spirit!



We have been enjoying our weekly Boxercise and Stick Fit sessions!



Derwent class have been doing gymnastics and working on their balance and agility.



Well done to those pupils representing us at the Small Schools County Final! You showed brilliant sportsmanship throughout and made us proud.





Safeguarding

This term we have been learning about;

Online Safety

This half term we have been learning about online safety. We all took part in class lessons, discussions and assemblies tailored to different ages helped pupils think about how to stay safe online, especially with AI and smart tech.

We talked about staying safe on apps, games and social platforms. We learnt about recognising misinformation and understanding what personal information should be kept private online.

Please see our website for further support, including links to 'Wake Up Wednesday', a national campaign by 'National Online Safety'. This is designed to inform and help parents understand online activity.



Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL
Make use of the parental control settings available on your smart device. These can help you monitor your child's online activity and restrict access to certain apps or websites. They can also help you set up time limits for your child's device use.

2 PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES
You can set up restricted access on Android devices through Google's Family Link app. This allows you to set up a new Google account for your child and use it to manage their device. You can also use the app to monitor their location and screen time.

3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES
Apple's Screen Time app allows you to set up restrictions on your child's iPhone or iPad. You can use the app to monitor their screen time, restrict access to certain apps, and set up time limits for device use.

4 THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES
It's not just about the devices in your home - think about the devices in your car, at work, or on a personal computer. In each case, you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the internet.

5 MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER
Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'Safe Search' setting. You should always use this, as it will filter out potentially harmful or inappropriate results. It's also a good idea to teach your child about safe searching practices, such as not sharing personal information and being wary of 'too good to be true' offers.

6 REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS
Before you allow your child to use social media, you should check their privacy settings. These can help you control who can see their posts and what information is shared. It's also a good idea to teach your child about safe social media practices, such as not sharing personal information and being wary of 'too good to be true' offers.

7 DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE
Location sharing is a popular feature on many smart devices. However, it can be dangerous if your child shares their location with strangers. You should always check your child's location settings and teach them about safe location sharing practices.

8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES
Social media is full of fake profiles, which can be used to trick your child into sharing personal information or making unsafe decisions. You should always teach your child about safe social media practices, such as not sharing personal information and being wary of 'too good to be true' offers.

9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME
Managing how much time your child spends on screens is a key part of keeping them safe. You should always set up screen time limits on your child's device and teach them about safe screen time practices, such as not using devices before bed and taking regular breaks.

Meet our expert
Emma Davis is a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than 10 years. She has been working in a school setting for 15 years, delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out research. She is a member of a five-year-old, the first ever experience of creating and managing how children access online services and use apps.

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety



Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity

On Thursday 12th February we held a 'Proud to Be Me' day- dress up in our favourite clothes and the clothes that best represent us; celebrating our uniqueness as part of Children's Mental Health Week.



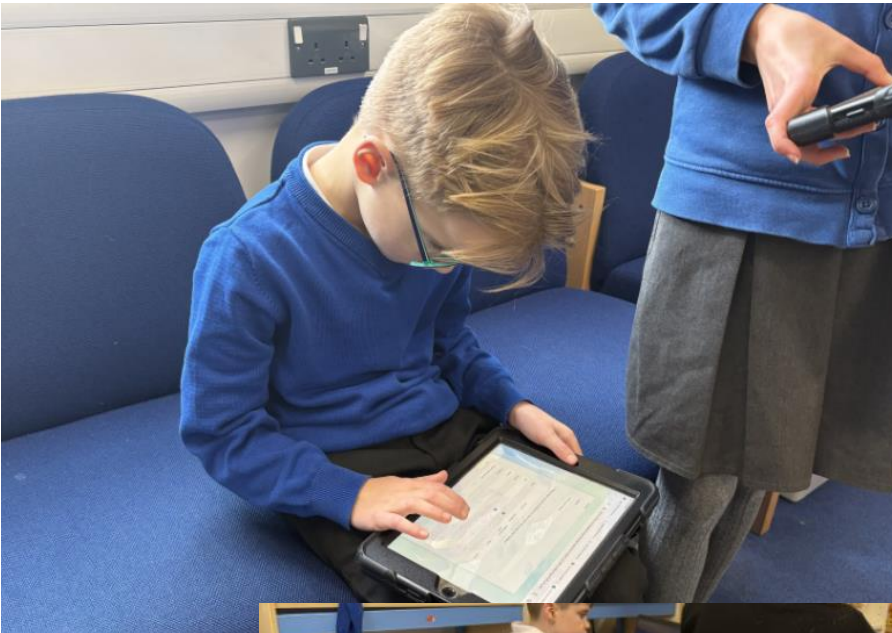
Next half term we will be looking to get everyone's views on the clubs we run at lunchtime and after school so keep an eye out for survey coming soon!



Curriculum Steering Group

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

This week the curriculum steering group devised a survey to gather some pupil voice on our curriculum at Shardlow. This feedback is going to help give the steering group some direction to make our curriculum the best it can be. Stay tuned for the results!





Mental Health and Wellbeing

Children's Mental Week

This week we have been continuing our hard work on our positive approach to mental health.

Mrs Berry started off the week with an assembly where she discussed how amazing it is to celebrate our uniqueness.



Seeds for Smiles

All the seeds are ready to go and grow now. These will be on sale after half term. They will be available on the Tuesday and Wednesday on the first week back.

Cash only please.

50p a packet or 3 for £1

All proceeds are going to our outdoor calm area.

The steering group have a wishlist of more outdoor bean bags, hanging baskets and playground game ideas.





Sustainability Steering Group

Sustainability Steering Group are very passionate about how we can be more sustainable in our school. In Spring 2, we will be thinking about ways to incorporate some of our ideas into our school day.

We have been loving seeing some sustainability links throughout our curriculum too, for example using recyclable materials in DT to create mini greenhouses and looking at sustainable energy in Science lessons.



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 have loved cooking this half term! They have learned the 'bridge' method to chop- check out Lucy in action!

These budding musicians are learning to play the xylophone in time to the music!



Trent have loved Stick Fit lessons with Ben! They got more and more confident as the weeks went on!

Derwent



This term we have had Erewash Sports Partnership come in to teach us Boxercise. I'm not sure who enjoyed this more the children or Mrs Phillips and Mr Waith!

Riddle Time

How can you find the pyramid in Shardlow Primary?

Albie in Year 2 came up with this. :)

Our art lessons linked in with geography and science this time. We created a whole class river inspired by the wonderful work of textile artist Sandra Meech.



Remember that really cold day in January? Derwent Class wrapped up warm and went on a signs of Winter Walk :)



In Science we have learned how to be more sustainable with our water usage and the impact this can have on our environment. Look out in the village for our water posters!



Erewash

We have loved our stick fit lessons this half term! The children have been so motivated and have really developed their skills!



In English, everyone has worked so hard on our instructions unit of work. We had so much fun creating instructions on how to mummify a tomato.

We have had the best time in Design Technology- we became real designers! The mini greenhouses Erewash designed and created were wonderful!



Ockbrook



In science we have been learning about living things and their habitats. As part of this unit we dissected lily flowers and looked at the male and female parts inside.

In design technology we have been studying how the Mayans used weaving to create geometric and symmetrical patterns. We used warp and weft to create our own.



In computing we have been learning about video editing. We have used imovie to create short films and then edited them using sound effects, filters and cropping to ensure they look very professional.