



Shardlow Primary School

ASPIRE ACHIEVE THRIVE

Spring 2

Newsletter

2025- 2026

Although we have had a short half term, it still seems like time is passing by incredibly quickly. It is hard to believe we are already two thirds of the way through the school year!

We have had record breaking fundraising events led by our amazing Friends of Shardlow. If you have any spare time and are interested in getting involved, I know the volunteers are always looking for more people to join their team.

Residential is always a highlight of the year. The children gain so much from the experience and it is lovely for staff to get to know them outside of the classroom environment. School has definitely been a lot quieter in their absence although it was lovely to welcome them back this afternoon.

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Miss. Mason today and wish her all the best in her new career path. We also wish Bella and Blaine lots of luck in their new school closer to home, we are sure they will settle in in no time!

We hope everyone has plenty of Easter fun and we will see you back for the summer term on Monday 13th April.



*Mrs.
Berry*



Kids Den

We were all so pleased to finally see some sunshine this term and spend time making the most of it outdoors – we even made it over to the field for the first time this year!

As always, we've been busy bees. The children made underwater shadow boxes and then turned them into drawings for a competition – there are definitely some budding artists among us! And of course, lots (and lots!) of basketball – which remains a firm favourite.



We also waved a big goodbye to our Kids' Den superstar, Miss Mason. She will be hugely missed by staff and kids alike.



Miss. Mason



Miss. Mitchell



Mrs. Spibey



Friends of Shardlow Primary School

Hands up if your child has enjoyed one of our brilliant events this year! If your hand is in the air (and we're guessing quite a few are), then we need you to come and join the fun.

The PTA is a friendly bunch who meet once a month – usually at the pub – to dream up new and exciting ways to raise money for school. It's not just about fundraising; it's also a great way to get to know other parents and feel more connected to the school community.



We've had an amazing time recently, from our "Special Someone" gift bags to ever-chaotic Chocolate Bingo. Together, we've raised over £1,000, which goes straight back into school life – like the new iPads the children have already been busy enjoying. If you fancy getting involved, we'd love to see you at our next meeting – watch out for the details.



A big thank you to everyone for
Putting up with all of the text
messages and reminders...
The brilliant thing about a
newsletter is you can't mute it!



Office Updates and Reminders

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

As we will be entering the summer term, after Easter, please be aware that your child will need to bring in a sun hat and suncream (if we get some sunshine!!)

Swimming

Erewhash will be swimming on a Wednesday afternoon until May break, after which Ockbrook will return to the pool for the final half term. Please remember to keep payments up to date, in Arbor, for the swimming.

Arbor

We would like to thank you for your continued patience and support as we have transitioned to the Arbor system.

Although we have been using Arbor since September, we recognise that it is still a learning process for both families and staff, and we truly appreciate your understanding as we continue to become more familiar with all of its features.



Attendance!

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

Year 2	94.03
Year 5	94.05
Year 1	97.13
Year 4	97.23
Year 3	97.28
Year 6	97.50
Trent	98.01

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

This half term we have had one of the highlights of the school year- residential!

The children and staff have had a fantastic time at Lea Green in the Peak District and not let the unpredictable weather beat them!





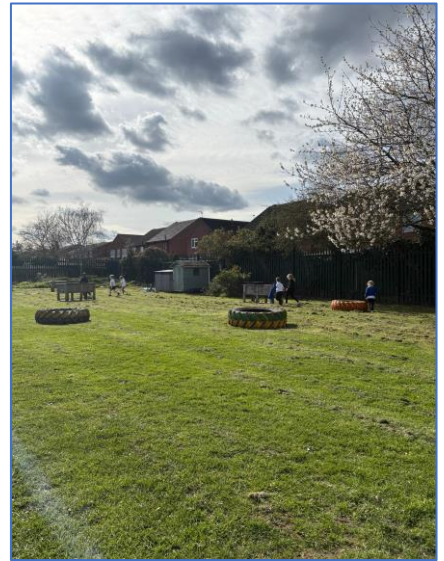
Achievements and Celebrations





Achievements and Celebrations

The rest of us in school have also had a fun and fabulous time with some extra Easter activities, including an egg hunt on the field and making chocolate 'nests'!





Shardlow Sport: Small School- Big Spirit!

This half term we sent a team to the One Trust Unity Games and the children enjoyed playing volleyball, boccia and relay races.

We also represented Erewash at the Derbyshire Small Schools Basketball County Final. The competition was held at Derby Arena with teams competing from all over the county.

In PE, KS2 have been improving their Tri Golf skills and Erewash have been learning about water safety and putting this into practice during their swimming sessions.





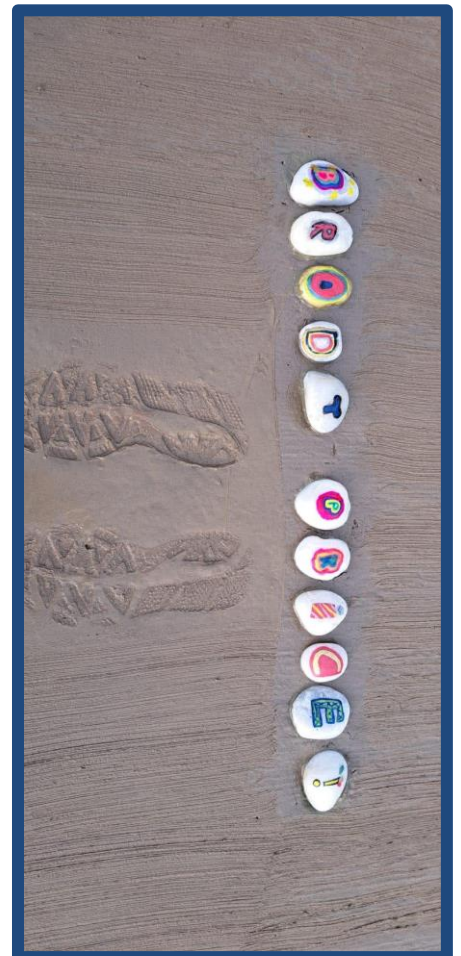
Supporting our Communities



On World Book Day, pupils and staff were invited to wear pyjamas or lounge wear and we held a book sale after school. Thank you for your support!

You may have noticed a concrete base being constructed across the road for Brody's memorial bench.

His cohort made a time capsule and painted stones with Bev, Brody's mum, which have been cemented in to spell out his name.





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;

Sharing a worry

We have been learning how to STAY SAFE and if we have a worry, SPEAK OUT!

KS2

Speak Up, Speak Out

How to face a problem...



- Tell a trusted adult
- Talk to my teacher
- Talk to the teaching assistants or other adults in school
- Talk to Mrs Berry/ Mrs Magner
- Talk to the happy and safe officers
- Talk to a lunchtime supervisor
- Talk to any other adults I trust

- Complete the Speak Up, Speak Out form on our website
<https://www.shardlowprimary.co.uk/happy-and-safe-mission/>
- Write it in the worry box



I have the right to **be safe**.

I have the right to **speak out** and be heard.

I have the right to **get help** when I need it.



Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity

Proud to be Me Day

Last term our equality and diversity steering group came up with the idea of having a 'Proud to be Me' dress up day. Everyone was encouraged to dress up in clothes that represent them in some way- be it their favourite item of clothing, their favourite colour or something that represents their culture, heritage or interests!

It was great to see and celebrate 'US' both uniquely and collectively!





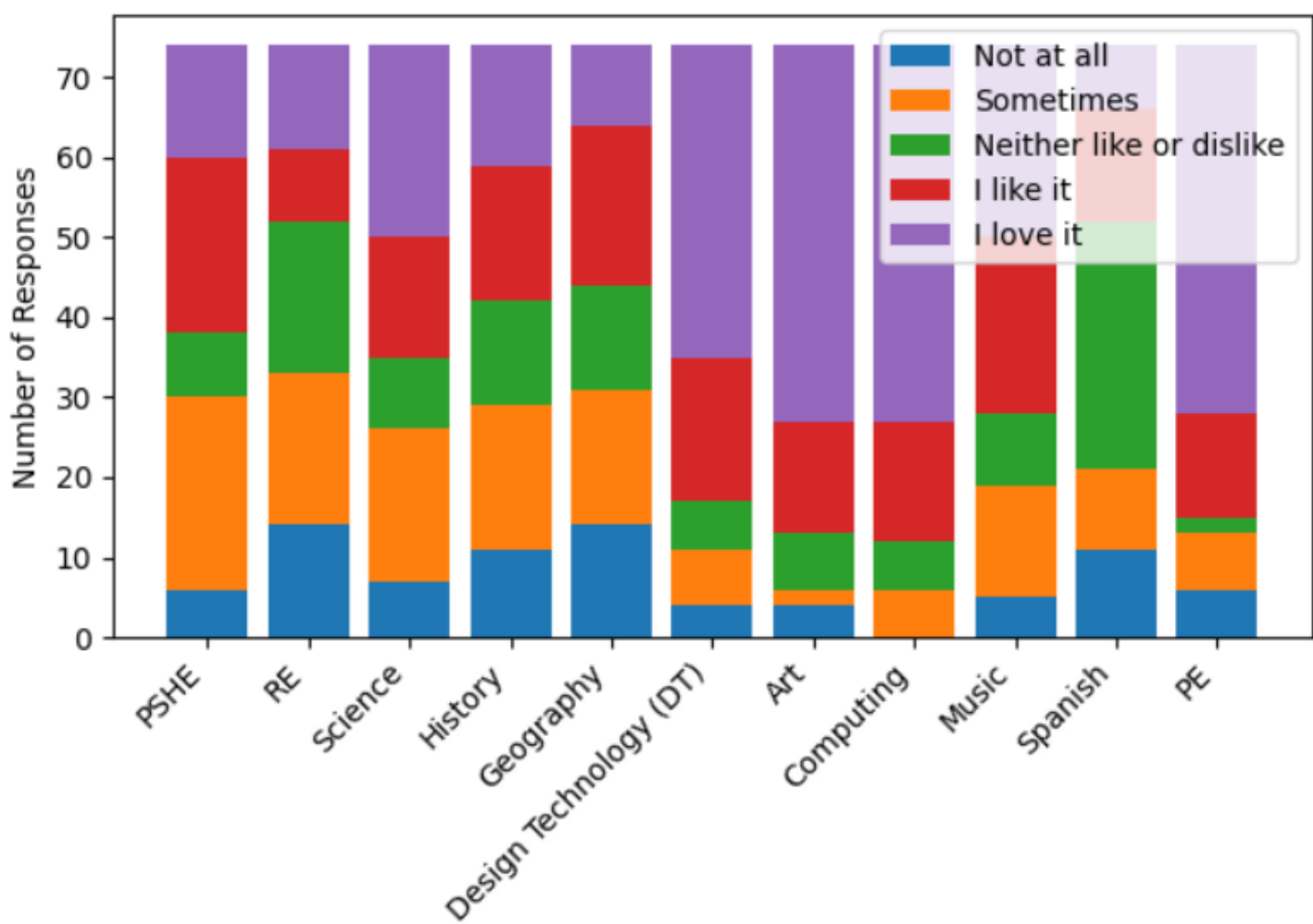
Curriculum Steering Group

This half-term we have conducted a pupil survey to gather 'pupil voice' on our school curriculum. Overall, responses were very positive across the curriculum, with the majority of pupils reporting that they either “like” or “love” most subjects. It has given us some really useful insights to take into our next meeting! You can see the highlights below.

I love history ,PE and DT I can't get enough of all of them. :)

In history I think we should do more about dinosaurs

We could make the library bigger and better!!!

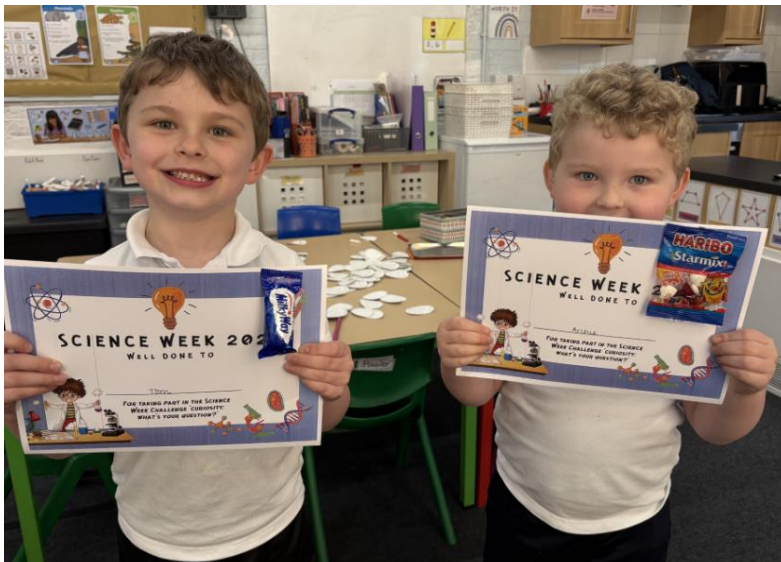




Curriculum Steering Group

British Science Week 2026

Thank you for all the fantastic Science week 'What's your question?' entries. Mrs Molyneux loved seeing and reading through your questions, predictions and findings!





Mental Health and Wellbeing

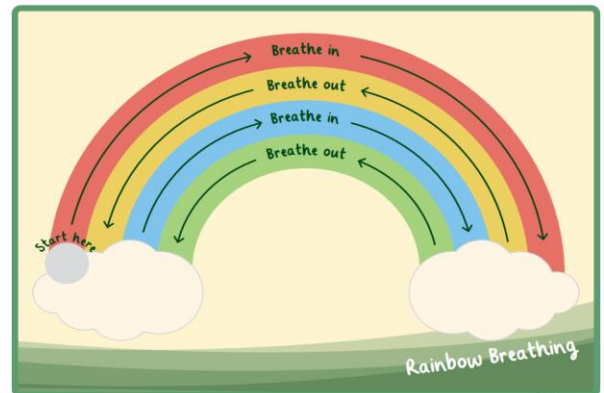


Thank you to all that bought the seeds to raise money for our outdoor area. We have £25 to spend. We will meet next half term to decide what we will get. So keep your eyes peeled!



The steering group have chosen some motivational posters that they have cleared with Mrs Berry to post around the school.

They have also chosen some calming breathing strategies to support everyone if they ever get overwhelmed outside.



Each Wednesday we have a mindfulness colouring club. It has become Mrs Peach's highlight of her week as we all take our time and chat to one another.





Sustainability Spotlight

Have you spotted our posters around the village about keeping our waterways clean?
Have you found all 5?



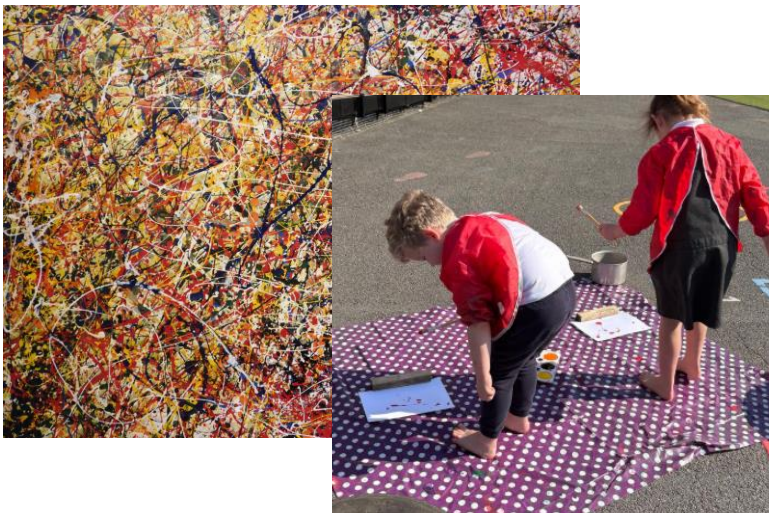
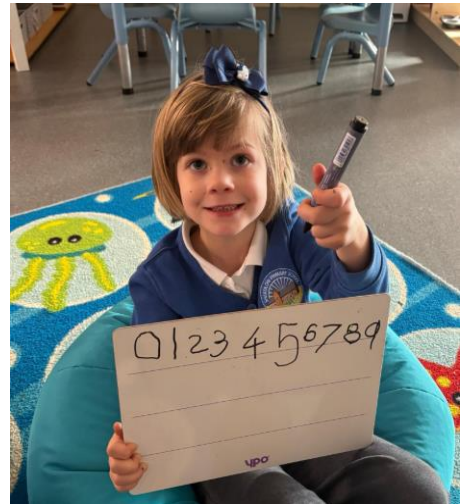
The children have been so busy this past half term! Here is just a glimpse at some of the amazing learning and wonderful work they have produced!

Trent



Trent Class have been learning number bonds to 10- if you see them, see if they can remember any!

They have also been working hard on securing number and letter formation- building those strong foundations!

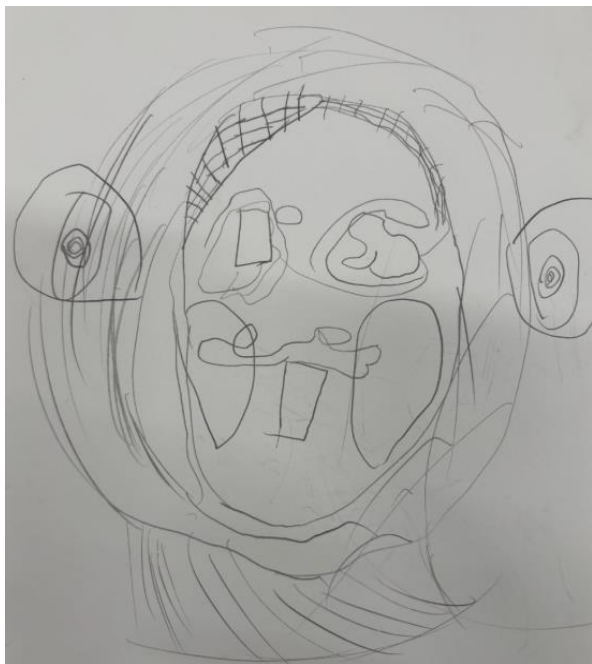


Trent Class have become artists and have made paintings in the style of Jackson Pollock. It got pretty messy!



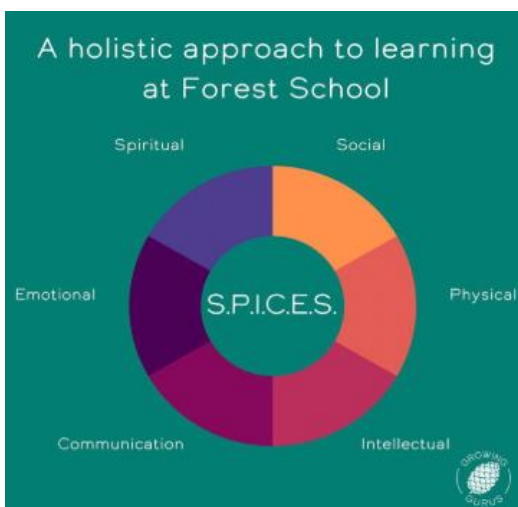
Our Curriculum

Derwent



As much as our daily learning in reading, writing and maths is going strong, we wanted to share with you all our afternoon learning. In the foundation subjects we continue our rich curriculum. This half term we have been learning:

In Art we have taken our own face and learnt to recreate it in the style of famous artists. Check out our cubist style of Pablo Picasso! Unrecognisable but so good!



In PSHE we have been learning all about Drugs Education. Derwent have shown a mature and realistic viewpoint about medicines. Such wise children.



The sun is out and our wellies are on! We always do an activity in Forest School but the children always love the exploration part of our forest school learning. SPICES is our way!



Erewash

In RE this half term, we have been learning about the Easter Story in Christianity.

Each week, we have been exploring a different part of the story. One of our favourite activities has been creating freeze frames of when Jesus entered Jerusalem. The children used facial expressions, props, and body language to bring the characters to life and show their understanding of the story.



This half term in our Drugs Education PSHE unit, we have been exploring how to make safe choices with medications.

We developed our understanding of safe choices by looking at George's Marvellous Medicine. The children took on roles as jury members, a judge, and witnesses to examine the case of George creating his grandmother's medicine. They discussed and decided whether this was a safe choice or not.

In the end, we concluded that it would not be safe for children to make their own medicine. We agreed that medicine should always be given by a responsible adult.

Ockbrook



In guided reading we have been studying the life works of Charles Darwin and his most famous book, *The Origin of Species*. This ties into our English writing unit on biographies and later on this morning we will be starting to plan biographies of David Attenborough.

In PE we have been playing tri-golf. Children created their own course and used a combination of putting and chipping to navigate their way around.



In history, we have been learning about how important roads were to the Romans for trade, travel and communication. They were sophisticated systems with built in drainage and smooth surfaces to ensure journeys were quicker.