



Shardlow Primary School

ASPIRE ACHIEVE THRIVE

Summer 2

Newsletter

2025-2026

Well, Shardlow, it has been quite a year! Although it has been a mixture of highs and lows, it has been a privilege to try and navigate the school through them and to be part of each child's journey.

Mrs. Gillard's passing this term affected pupils and parents alike and still has a considerable impact on the staff team. She was part of our school's foundations and will always live on in spirit through the legacy she has left behind. She touched many families and did so much for school way beyond her role, we are still coming across previous 'Julia Jobs' on a weekly basis! She was an absolute legend, an inspiration and is missed terribly.

Mrs. Gillard would have been so proud of our Year 6's who have absolutely smashed their SATS results! Well done to Mr. Dale, all the staff for laying the groundwork but especially to the pupils who have worked incredibly hard.

There have been other highlights too, my personal favourites include Mr. Waith as a star during nativity, the DIY SOS event, the Brody Run opening, KS2 production, our new starters meeting their buddies and the inflatable staff race during Sports day (I have always wanted to dress up as a T-Rex!).

Thank you to our volunteers in every capacity- the school would not be able to do what it does without you! Thank you also to all of our parents and carers for your ongoing support which is always appreciated. Have a wonderful, well earned summer break and I will see you all in September!

Mrs. Berry





Attendance!

Our whole school attendance this year is 96.6%- we were so close to our target of 97%! Thank you for continuing to do all you can to support your child's attendance- it really does make a difference to their learning and wellbeing!

Year 2	94.2%
Year 5	95.2%
Reception	95.8%
Year 1	96.5%
Year 3	96.8%
Year 4	96.8%
Year 6	97.4%

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

Goodbye Year 6

We will miss you Year 6. You have had a rocky ride but have shown warmth, strength and resilience. I know Brody will be joining you in spirit and cheering you all on! We wish you all the best for the future and what opportunities are to follow!





Achievements and Celebrations

Book Festival

We celebrated all things reading at the Derby Book Festival; the authors brought their books to life with live readings and lots of interactive activities!





Small School, Big Spirit

Sports Day 2026

Despite the hot weather we made it! A huge thank you to everyone who supported the event this year, especially those who helped set up the gazebos and music. Well done to yellow team, and the winners of our individual trophies; Ruby, Josh and Giovanna.





Small School, Big Spirit

Rugby

Some pupils from Ockbrook class participated in a mini rugby tournament with other local schools.

It was hosted and led by coaches from Long Eaton Rugby Club. We had all different types of weather that afternoon, but we all had a great time. Our pupils showed excellent behaviour and manners, showing good sportsmanship towards their opponents and the referee plus personally thanked all the coaches and volunteers at the end of the session. Well done everyone, we were very proud!



Trust Games

At this years' ONE Trust Games children had to compete in all 4 activities: a sprint, long jump, javelin and the 400m. We were so proud of our team who showed great determination and sportsmanship.





Small School, Big Spirit

Production

Wel done to all of key stage 2 who did brilliantly performing in our end of year annual Production: Pirates of the Curry Bean . There were some amazing individual performances, and it was great to see it come to life on the big stage at St. Benedicts'. Thank you to all the staff involved in pulling it together!

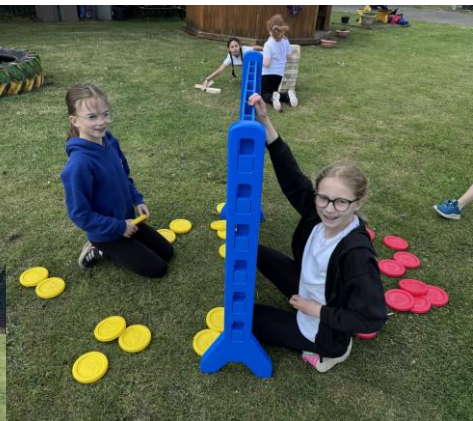




Supporting our Communities

PTA Games Night

Thank you to the Inland Port Festival for purchasing new games for our PTA events. They were put to good use at our games night, and fun was had by all!



Shardlowfest

This week we were delighted to be able to host our annual summer festival during which the children had opportunity to spend their well-earned Dojos!





Supporting our Communities



Many thanks to Swarkestone Nursery for their extensive bedding plant donations! They have really brightened up the school site!

Thanks too to Mrs. Peach for organising and gardening club for planting :-)

At the start of this half term we had a talk from Lee, who owns a local plant nursery in Great Wilne and has recently won gold at Malvern Hills and Hampton Court RHS flower show. Lee spoke about the importance of saving water and how he grows hardy plants which can survive in a changeable climate.

www.plantsletsgrow.online





Safeguarding

This term we have been learning about;
WATER SAFETY

How Do We Stay Safe Around Water?

When out and about near water, there is a special code we should follow:

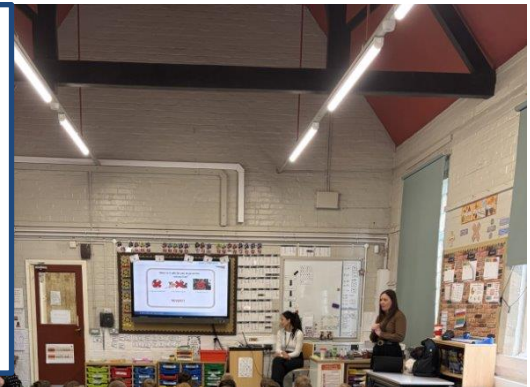
S	Stay
A	Away
F	From the
E	Edge



Why is this important?

(Photo courtesy of William Murphy @Pulse.com) - granted under creative commons license - attribution

As part of rail safety week, we had two tailored assemblies delivered by staff from Network Rail, who spoke of the dangers and important rules and how to keep ourselves safe.



Local police came into school this week ahead of the break to discuss how we can keep ourselves safe over the summer holidays.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

First of all a massive thank you to all who took part in the Brody Run in May but also a massive thank you for the sponsor money we raised over £1000.



The steering group have practically spent this already!
We have a wish list which comprises of the following:

- Relaxing area bean bags
- Repaint the wooden train
- Camouflage shelter area
- Tarpauling for the floor
- Storage for pot and pans in the mud kitchen
- Allocated soil for the mud kitchen
- Mallet
- Trowels
- Secateurs
- Plant more trees
- Binoculars
- Bird watching posters
- Butterflies spotting poster
- Minibeasts spotting poster
- Bug hotel
- Bug finders.
- Cloud spotting area
- Stage with curtains
- Slackline between the trees

Roll on September when we can enjoy this.



Sustainability

We are incredibly proud of a group of children who have formed their own litter-picking team. Giving up some of their free time during lunchtime, they work hard to keep our field clean, tidy, and free from rubbish. Their commitment, teamwork, and care for our school environment are an example of Shardlow Spirits in action!

Thank you for making such a positive difference!



MAKE NATURE, GREATER!



The Sustainability steering group have created an Eco challenge you can take part in over the summer holidays. Everyone has been given one of these to have a go at some of the activities if they would like to.

There will be some certificates given out from Sustainability steering group children in assembly when we are back!



SUMMER Eco CHALLENGE



Small
Changes.
Big Impact.

Take on our Summer Eco Challenge and see how many actions you can complete before September!

 Walk to a local shop instead of driving	 Use a reusable water bottle for a whole week	 Make a bug hotel or wildlife shelter	 Turn off lights when leaving a room	 Eat a meal made from leftovers
 Take a shorter shower	 Grow a flower, herb or vegetable	 Have a screen-free outdoor afternoon	 Feed birds or insects	 Recycle something at home
 Borrow a book from a library	 Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth	FREE SPACE  Tell someone why looking after the planet matters	 Eat 5 different fruits or vegetables in one day	 Reuse a container instead of throwing it away
 Go on a nature walk	 Dry washing outside instead of using a dryer	 Make something from recycled materials	 Switch off water while soaping hands or in the shower	 Turn off the TV (not just standby)
 Walk or cycle somewhere as a family	 Give unwanted clothes or toys to charity	 Plant something for wildlife	 Use both sides of paper	 Leave part of your garden for wildlife



TAKE PART

- Choose the challenges that work for your family.
- Tick or colour each challenge when you complete it.
- Bring your completed sheet back in September.

Every action counts!



ECO HERO AWARDS

-  **Bronze Eco Hero** – Complete 5 challenges
-  **Silver Eco Hero** – Complete 10 challenges
-  **Gold Eco Hero** – Complete 15 challenges
-  **Platinum Planet Protector** – Complete all challenges

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE OUR PLANET A BETTER PLACE!



Curriculum Steering Group

The curriculum steering group have set the summer reading challenge!



Once again, we are running The Reading Agency's National Summer Reading Challenge alongside Derbyshire Libraries.

(You don't have to attend the library to join in!)

This year's theme is "Read to the Beat" encouraging children to feel the rhythm of words and the joy of reading, celebrating the connection between storytelling and sound.

Please check out the reading challenge that has been set home this week.

The expectations are to read 6 books BUT there is a catch...

Derwent Class 2026-2027 can read any 6 books independently or with a grown up.

Erewash Class 2026-2027 must read at least 6 books (one has to be a chapter book)

Ockbrook Class 2026-2027 must read at least 6 books (two have to be chapter books)

Fill in the challenge:
win dojo points, win a bookmark, win a prize.



Derwent Class 2026-2027 can read any 6 books independently or with a grown up.
Erewash Class 2026-2027 must read at least 6 books (one has to be a chapter book)
Ockbrook Class 2026-2027 must read at least 6 books (two have to be chapter books)

Book Title	Date	Comment

Please hand into Mrs Molyneux or a Curriculum steering Group member by
Friday 12th September 2026

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 the best time at the Peak Wildlife Park recently. They showed all the Shardlow Spirits especially respect and responsibility whilst learning all about Penguins in their very own workshop.



This half term we have learnt all about life cycles! We nurtured our very own Painted lady butterflies



The summer term is all about mastering our skills in our maths lessons and Trent Class have all done exceptionally well in learning their number bonds to 10.

Here is Nellie showing everyone how we use a ten frame to do this!

Derwent



In Design Technology this half term we have been cooking food from around the world. We learnt the bridge method to safely cut fruit and vegetables.

We made some delicious raita dip and a Cranachan dessert!

In Geography we have learnt all about the Nzaikoni village in Africa. To consolidate our learning we had an Africa day where we learnt to play Djembe drums, made jewellery and listened to a brilliant show and tell from Mila's grandma about when she lived in Kenya.



In PE we have worked hard on our athletics skills in preparation for sports day. Even in the heat these children tried their absolute best. Hiding in the shade with our water bottles and an ice cold tea towel definitely helped!

Erewash



In PE, we have enjoyed developing our tennis skills independently and with partners. We have definitely improved our aiming!



We absolutely loved learning about the Ancient Greeks this half term. We have learnt so much about who the Ancient Greeks were, where they lived and we had great discussions about whether Alexander the Great was actually great!



We had the best time creating our mosaics in the style of Ancient Greeks in Art! The children were so careful and precise with where they were placing their tiles. Their creations are spectacular!

Ockbrook



In geography we have been studying how natural resources lead to trade and how this affects people and places.

In guided reading we have been enjoying 'Who Let the Gods Out.' In the story, Elliot Hooper and a rebellious constellation named Virgo accidentally release the evil death daemon Thanatos from his prison beneath Stonehenge, forcing them to seek the help of long-retired Olympian gods to save the world.



In art we have been looking at expressionist artwork and in particular delving into the art of Henri Matisse. We created our own pieces in his style with a Fair Trade theme.



We can't believe another school year is coming to an end - but what an incredible year it has been! We've had so much fun together at Kids Den, from building dens out of cardboard and seeing who could create the tallest cup tower, to getting creative with endless colouring and crafts, and finally playing more basketball matches than I could count!

With the recent hot weather, our freezer has been packed with ice poles and cubes daily. We've kept everyone safe by moving the fun indoors, enjoying film afternoons and getting creative with activities such as air-dry clay.



The children have truly earned a well-deserved summer break! We wish all the children leaving good luck at their new schools and have already organised lots of exciting activities for those returning in September. Have a fantastic summer, Shardlow!



Mr. Waith



Miss. Mitchell



Mrs. Spibey



Friends of Shardlow Primary School

We've had a fantastic year, raising an amazing amount of money whilst sharing plenty of fun, laughter... and maybe a few tears along the way.

A huge thank you to every parent, grandparent and even our wider community who has supported us, whether by donating, buying tickets or sending your child to one (or many!) of our events. Every penny has helped make a huge difference to our school.

You'll be relieved to know we're not asking for anything else from you now - just a promise to have a brilliant summer!

Before we finish, we'd like to say a special thank you to our amazing team of volunteers. None of the special work we do would be possible without them. Sadly, our team is getting smaller, so if you've ever thought about getting involved, we'd love to hear from you.



If you'd like to find out more, come and have a chat with me or Miss Mitchell in the playground.