

Shardlow Primary School

ASPIRE ACHIEVE THRIVE

Autumn 1 Newsletter 2026- 2027

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we break up for half term break, I would like to share a sample of what we have been up to over the past couple of months and take a moment to celebrate what a wonderful school community we have!

The pupils have settled into their new classes beautifully- even if they haven't moved class they still have new classmates and have been excellent role models to their younger peers. On a similar note- can I take this opportunity to thank our Year 6, whom have been outstanding buddies to our Reception children. A number of people have mentioned this to me, and I have been incredibly proud of how nurturing our older pupils have been. They have been enthusiastic and taken the role seriously, demonstrating our Shardlow Spirits of **Kindness** and **Respect and Responsibility**.

Pupils have made an excellent start to this year's curriculum, and across school we can see 'Focused Learners', which is something we drive as part of our 'Shardlow Way'. As ever, the children have been working hard, from learning new phonics sounds with Mrs. Molyneux to building cars with Mr. Dale! It has been a pleasure walking around school and seeing what they are up to, and if you have a child who doesn't tell you much at the end of the school day, hopefully you get an insight of what they have been doing through Dojo!

Outside of the classroom, pupils have had extra Shardlow school experiences- with a range of trips, sporting events, clubs and events plus we have even more planned for next half term! Enrichment opportunities help to develop each child and we are very lucky to be able to offer what we do. This leads me in to a HUGE THANK YOU not only to our amazing staff but to all of our parent volunteers, who truly are the stars behind the curtain, without which we would struggle to run the show!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for playing such an important part in our school community. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new term, refreshed and ready for Autumn 2. Please remember we have an INSET day on Monday so we will see everyone on **TUESDAY 3rd November.**

Wishing you and your families a wonderful autumn break,



Mrs. Berry



Attendance!

Pupils have transitioned well into their classes, and everyone is working hard to be here on time. This is helping pupils settle into class smoothly and accessing those first important lessons of the day, so thank you!

Year 5	96.38%
Year 6	97.22%
Year 2	97.29%
Trent	97.46%
Year 4	98.07%
Year 1	98.55%
Year 3	99.36%

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 *2 Weeks!*	50 lessons missed
94%	11 days missed	55 Lessons missed
90%	20 Days missed *4 weeks!*	100 lessons missed
85%	29 days missed *5 weeks!*	145 lessons missed

Safeguarding

Ensuring that our children are happy, healthy and safe is at the heart of what we do so that our pupils can go on to **Aspire**, **Achieve** and **Thrive**. 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 too.

Our Safeguarding team are:



Judie Anderson
Safeguarding Governor



Mrs Magner
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Mrs Berry
Deputy DSL
SENDCO



Mrs Molyneux
Assistant DSL



Claire Kudryk
Family Liaison Officer



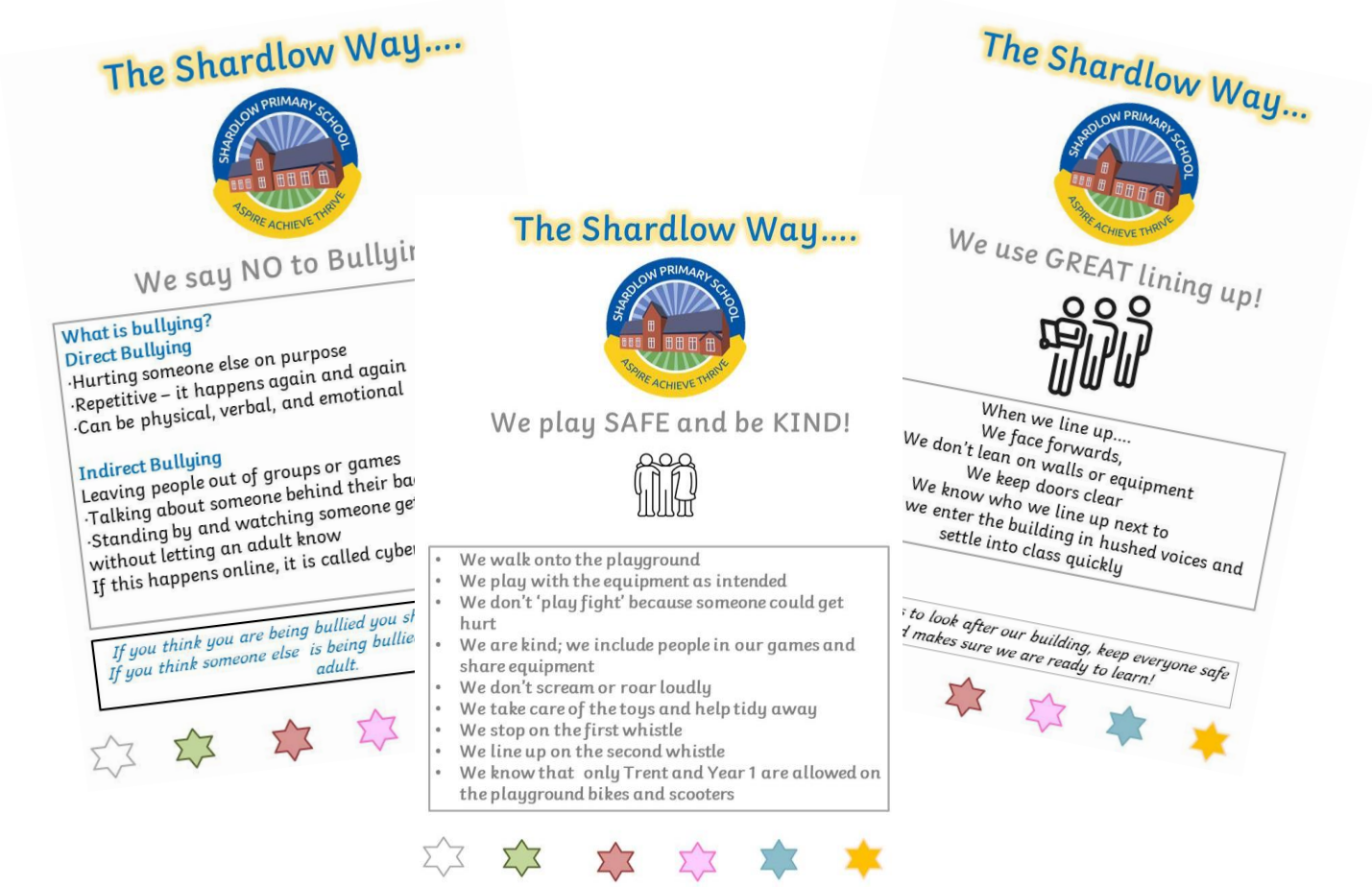
Mrs Marshall
Assistant DSL

Safeguarding

This term we have been learning about;

The Shardlow Way

The Shardlow Way is our behaviour curriculum which sets out the behaviours and routines we have around school that help keep our school a happy and safe environment, where everyone can thrive. At the start of each year we recap the different elements of the Shardlow Way and practice and embed the routines in class. We then revisit it each term as a reminder. Sometimes our Shardlow Way routines are adapted to meet the needs of individual pupils. We find it creates a shared language for expectations around school, reduces conflict at break and lunchtimes and reminds everyone of the need for our Shardlow Spirits of kindness and respect. More details of each element can be found here on our website- https://www.shardlowprimary.co.uk/the-shardlow-way/



Office Updates and Reminders

Payments

Please ensure that your Arbor account is kept up to date and clubs / trips are paid for in advance. If for any reason, you are struggling to manage your account, please contact the school office.

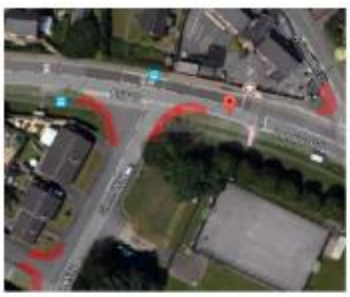
Child illness at school



If your child is not going to be in school, please call the office rather than send a Dojo or Email. The office opening times are 08:30-4:30pm.
If your child has any vomiting or diarrhea then they will need to be off school for 48 hours. This follows advice from Public Health to help prevent any further spread of the virus.

Parking

Here are some photos to help guide you where to ***avoid*** parking...











Ways to park safely

- Try parking at least 10m away from a road junction. This makes it safer for children to see cars approaching, for cars to see children crossing and helps maintain the flow of traffic.
- Never park on pavements, dropped kerbs, footpaths or verges. This may cause parents, children and residents of the local area to have to walk on the road. Imagine if you were disabled.
- Be courteous. Don't park in front of people's driveways

We do have a longstanding arrangement with the Dog and Duck PH so you can use their car park for drop off and pick up, keep our roads clear, and get some extra steps in!

Kid's Den



It's amazing to think that our newest members of Kids Den have only been with us for such a short time, as it already feels like they've been with us a lot longer! This is in no small part thanks to our wonderful older children, whose kindness, care and responsibility have helped everyone settle in so beautifully.

As we've settled into our routines, the children have loved exploring all the toys and resources on offer, and we've seen some wonderful moments of imaginative and independent free play. The babies and Duplo have been firm favourites.



Keep up the brilliant work Kids Den!



Mr. Waith



Miss. Mitchell



Mrs. Spibey

Food Bank Donations

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Harvest service this afternoon and for your incredibly generous donations to the Sawley and Long Eaton Food Bank, who provide emergency food parcels to those in need. Your donations will help keep them well stocked as we head into winter and the more difficult months for those in most need.

Long Eaton & Sawley foodbank



A Spook-tacular Disco

A huge thank you to our PTA for putting on a fang-tastic Halloween Disco. Children in Trent Class were treated to their personalised party and children in Year 1-6 loved coming along to the evening shenanigans!
We swopped Shardlow Spirit for spooky spirit and every had such a great time, all whilst raising the money for the school- thank you!









Volunteers and fundraising

A huge thank you to our parents, volunteers and governors for giving up their valuable time and helping our school behind the scenes. We would also like to thank parents and carers for your support with our fundraisers, such as Jeans for Genes and MacMillan!





Volunteer shout out!

A special thanks to Orla's dad for mending our bikes, Ellis and Tilly's dad for building the welly rack, and Ethan's dad for building our bird table, doing tip runs and helping staff fill the skip when they stayed for our annual clear out Friday night!

Also we must thank Miss. Jacqui who had given up her time every day this half term to do odd jobs and read with the children.

You are all stars!







Achievements and Celebrations

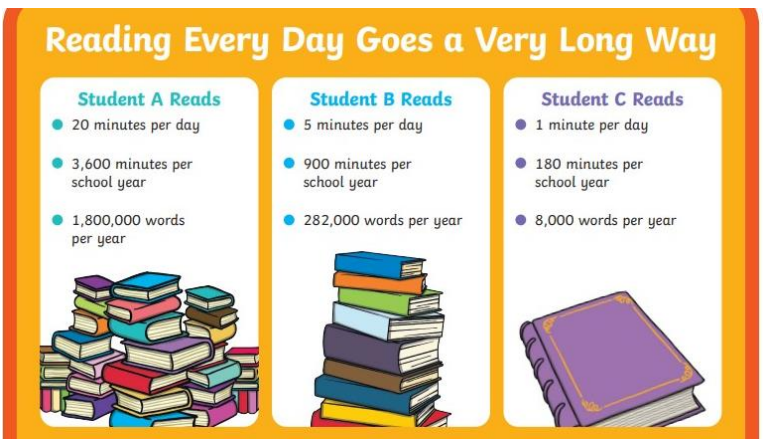
Headteacher's Breakfast



Well done to Year 6 who enjoyed their headteacher's breakfast treat this week for excellent accelerated reader quizzing, and got extra break together with our other winners in year 4.

We are very impressed with how pupils have adapted to Strive for Five, with an impressive amount of pupils achieving Mercury level (25 read out louds) so far this term.

A special mention to Maddy, who is top of our leader board, having read over 2 million words since starting year 6!



Achievements and Celebrations

Strive for 5



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

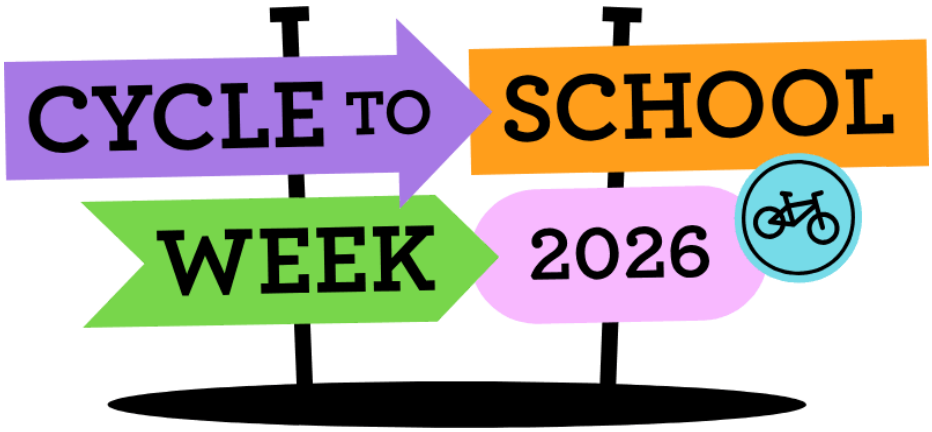
Don't forget to 'Strive for 5' and keep recording all reading in your child's organiser! Whether they read to you, a Grandparent or out loud to the dog- every read counts! 5 or more reads a week (5, 6 or 7 days) earns a raffle ticket! The children also get a raffle ticket when they reach a planet.

If you read 5 times a week (including during the school holidays!)...

- Mission Mercury (25 reads): 11th October 2026
- Voyage to Venus (50 reads): 15th November 2026
- Earth Explorers (75 reads): 20th December 2026
- Mission to Mars (100 reads): 24th January 2027
- Jump to Jupiter (125 reads): 28th February 2027
- Soaring by Saturn (150 reads): 4th April 2027
- Unlocking Uranus (175 reads): 9th May 2027
- Navigating Neptune (195 reads): 6th June 2027

Achievements and Celebrations

Cycling



Well done to Olivia for winning the Cycle to School Week Competition for her lovely bike design!



It was wonderful to see so many of you participate in Bike to School week, and even better to see that these habits have stuck for some!

Well done to Year 5 who all managed to pass their Level 2 Bikeability award this half term, which involves riding on the road. A special shout out to Keyashni and Jacob who made incredible progress and worked hard throughout the morning, learning to ride and then joining their classmates on the road!

Gardening Club

In gardening club we have harvested tomatoes, raspberries and carrots! We have got the allotment ready for winter and have already been thinking of all the delicious fruit and vegetables we can grow in the spring and summer. We have shut the allotment down for winter now but look forward to starting again in the spring term :-)













Achievements and Celebrations

Respect and Responsibility!



Year 5 learnt some fantastic new skills and games that they can now use to support and teach our KS1 children.

We're so proud of how responsible they are becoming and how confidently they are taking on their new role. They are going to make fantastic mini leaders!

Our Year 6 pupils have taken to their Buddy roles like ducks to water! They have helped Trent Class settle into school beautifully- Mrs Molyneux may be out of a job!!

Thank you Year 6- the children in Trent Class light up when they talk about you and loved walking to Church with you for our Harvest Festival!



Shardlow Sport: Small School- Big Spirit!

Cross Country







Erewash Schools Cross Country Event-
Well done everyone; you showed exemplary behaviour, supported your teammates and gave it your best!

Football



The Shardlow Girls' Football team played at the Erewash Schools competition and I couldn't be prouder. We were the only small school there and the girls were amazing. They played with determination, great teamwork and most importantly with huge smiles on their faces.

Sports



KS2 Alternative sports at Broomfield College!

Everyone enjoyed the different activities, and were polite and respectful to the wonderful college students who helped run the festival.





Ockbrook Class – Museum of Making









What an amazing day we had at the Derby Museum of Making.

From learning about the Eagle engine that was on the first flight across the Atlantic Ocean, to the modern Trent engine and how it works (suck, squeeze, bang, blow.) we loved designing and making our own aeroplanes using different materials to help them navigate the route.



We also completed a quiz whilst exploring everything the museum had to offer. The children were brilliantly behaved, engaged and inquisitive and were complimented on this by the museum staff who said we had been a joy to work with 😁

Junior Leadership Team



Congratulations to our new members of our Junior Leadership Team!

We are sure you will help us to develop our school by providing a pupil voice on behalf of your peers.

We know you are all excited to take on this responsible role, and we look forward to working with you. Well done!

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Congratulations to Amyra and Darcy who will be joining Beau, Natalia, Jessie and Thyra in our Mental Health and Wellbeing Steering Group.

We have lots planned for this year including:

- Introducing the Mental Health First Aid Kit to the school.
- Outdoor calm corner updates
- Positive Playground ideas.
- Extra-curricular clubs to promote positive mindsets.



Curriculum Steering Group

Introducing the Curriculum Steering Group for 2026!

It is lovely to welcome back our existing members and welcome our new recruit, Paisley to the curriculum steering group!

This year we will continue to make our curriculum even better, with some more extra home challenges coming your way. Our Steering Group plays an important role in ensuring that pupil voice is heard and that children have a say in shaping their learning experiences.

We are looking forward to working together and seeing what we can achieve this year!



Sustainability Steering Group

As a Green Flag School, we are continuing with our work across school towards sustainability. We have recruited some new members to our Steering group, led by Mrs. Campbell.

Our Sustainability action plan for the year includes our three focus areas: biodiversity, reducing waste and healthy living.

Thank you for participating in Bike to School week! This also helps to teach our children about healthy living and sustainable transport.







Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity



Our Steering Group will give pupils a voice and the opportunity to help make our school an even better place for everyone. The group will explore what equality, diversity and inclusion mean, celebrate the different backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and experiences within our school community, and think about how we can make sure everyone feels welcome and respected.

As members of the steering group, children will be encouraged to share their ideas, listen to others, identify any barriers or challenges pupils may face, and suggest positive changes. They will help us to challenge unfairness, promote kindness and respect, and ensure that every child feels that they belong.

By working together, we want to create a school where **everyone is treated fairly, every voice matters, and our differences make us stronger.**

Our Curriculum

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!

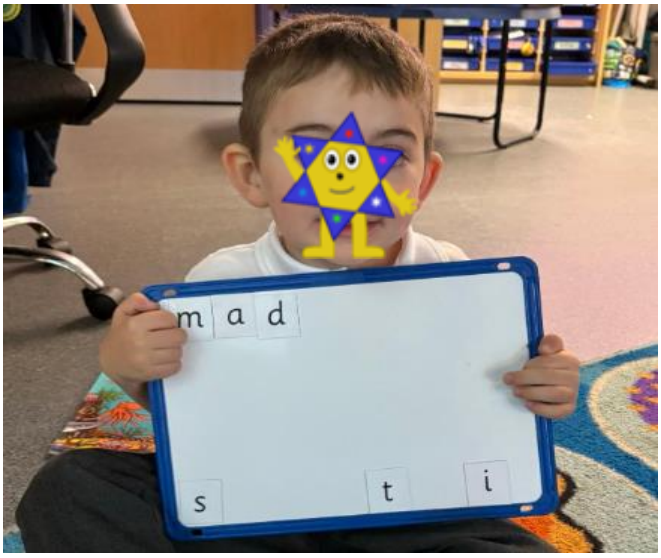
Trent



Trent Class have been learning about First Aid and how to call for help in an emergency!

They have been strengthening their fingers through dough disco to prepare for writing. 'Could have been me' is a firm favourite song in Trent!





Trent Class have been learning Set 1 sounds in Phonics and learning how to blend sounds into words. Superstars!

Our Curriculum

Derwent



Derwent Class have learnt all about communication through time. Here they are demonstrating the connections and links between information. This helped us understand Tim Berners-Lee's invention of the world wide web.

In Art we have learnt all about the printmaker Willaim Morris, we used our sketching skills to draw natural objects and then created a tile that we were then able to print with. Amazing job done by all!





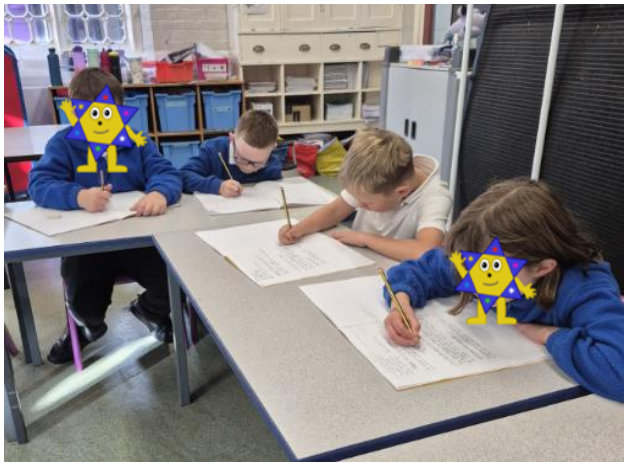
In computing with Mrs Hissitt the children have worked hard on their digital writing skills. They can type effectively and use punctuation really well.

Our Curriculum

Erewash

We have absolutely loved our Guided Reading sessions! *Amari and the Night Brothers* has taken us on a fantastic adventure and has really captured our imaginations. As we have explored the story, we have been developing our retrieval, inference and deduction skills using clues from the text to deepen our understanding of characters and events.



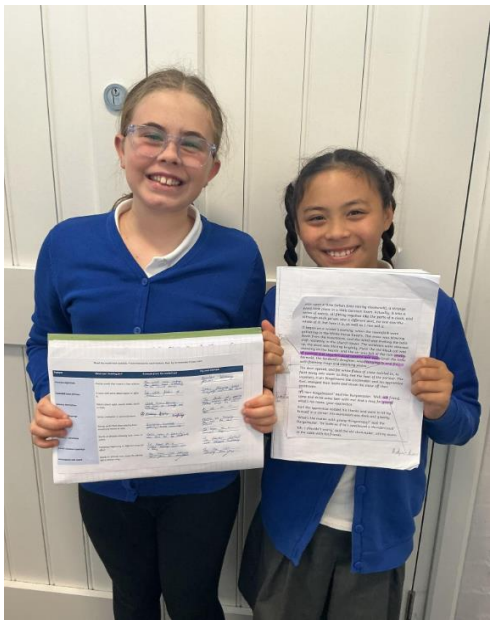


In Science, we have been learning all about vertebrates and invertebrates. We have explored the different groups of animals and looked closely at the features that help us to classify them. We have developed our scientific vocabulary and used our growing knowledge to compare, group and identify different living things.

In Geography, we have been busy developing our map-reading and geography skills. We have been learning about UK cities and capital cities, exploring how cities are connected, and using a range of map symbols to interpret maps accurately. Through these activities, we have developed our understanding of location, navigation and the features shown on maps.



Ockbrook



In English and guided reading we have been exploring the wonderful book, 'Clockwork' by Phillip Pullman. In our English unit, we are delving into the setting description and learning how the author uses the 5 senses amongst other techniques to make you feel as though you are right there in Glockenheim.



In science we grouped or 'classified' different organisms based on their characteristics. Following this we will learn about Carl Linnaeus and how important he was in classifying living things



In music we have been learning a song called, 'The Ghost Parade.' We even put in our own moves to fit the song