



Newsletter

1st May 2026

Message from our Executive Head Rebecca Manning

It has been great to spend time in both schools this week after returning from my maternity leave.

It's been lovely to be working with our wonderful children, staff and families again, and hearing about the progress and developments over the past year.

Attendance

This week's attendance is

Whole School: 91.9 %

Robins: 91.2 %

Skylarks: 86.5 %

Owls: 89.6 %

Starlings: 97.6 %

Kites: 94.7 %

Weekly Attendance Prize Draw

Each week, two children who have achieved 100% attendance (one from Key Stage 1 and one from Key Stage 2) will be entered into a prize draw.

One child from each key stage will be selected at random to receive a certificate and a small prize. This week the children awarded are:

Freddie & Tyler



Upcoming Events

May Monday 4th - BANK HOLIDAY

Tuesday 5th

Kites visit to Transport Museum

Monday 11th - Friday 15th

SATs Week

Mental Health Week

Thursday 14th

Joe Wicks Live

Mondy 18th - Wednesday 20th

Year 6 Bikeability

Thursday 21st

Goblin Car - Time trials

Summer Disco

Friday 22nd

Robins to Hay Festival

Term Dates 2026 / 27

Summer

Starts 13.04.26

Half Term 25.05.26-29.05.26

Ends 17.07.26

Autumn

Starts 03.09.26

Half Term 26.10.26-30.10.26

Ends 18.12.26

Spring

Starts 06.01.27

Half Term 15.02.27-19.02.27

Ends 25.03.27

Whole School Dance Workshop

This week in school, we were delighted to host a whole school dance workshop led by Dance Days. Pupils from every year group took part in fun, high-energy sessions, learning new routines and developing their confidence and creativity. The day was filled with plenty of smiles as children enjoyed expressing themselves through dance.



2026

The Year of Reading



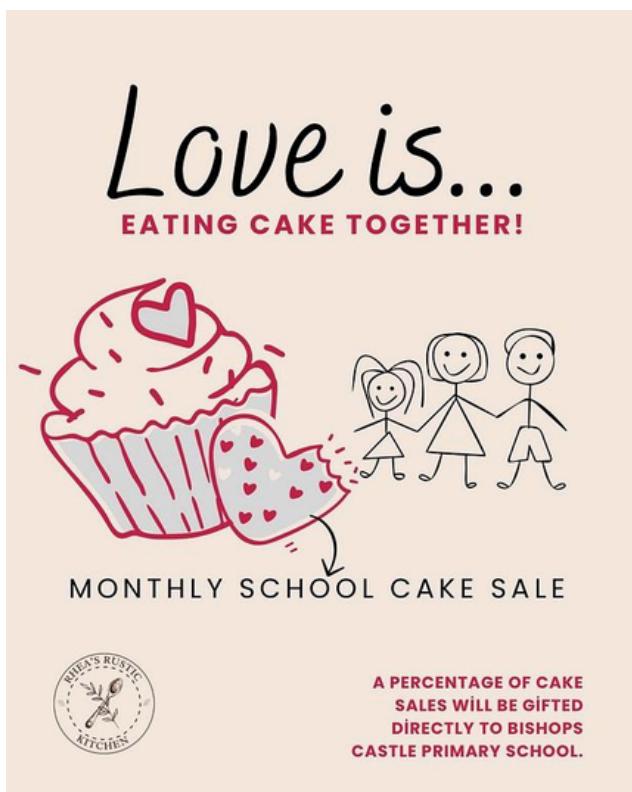
Reading Helps Us Understand Others

Stories allow children to explore emotions, perspectives and empathy.

At home: Ask, "How would you feel in that situation?"

Recommended read: Jakub's Otter – heartfelt and thoughtful narrative.

Thank You !



We would like to thank Rhea's Rustic Kitchen for her ongoing generosity. Each month, Rhea kindly donates a percentage of her bake sale proceeds.

The funds we receive are being used to purchase valuable resources for OPAL, helping to enrich playtimes and enhance the experiences of all our pupils.



In partnership with Knowsley CLCs, all parent/carers are invited to an:

Online Safety Information Session

This session is delivered virtually so can be watched from anywhere!
We will share the link with you privately.

Guide to Social Media & Livestreaming - this will include latest trends and emerging threats and will focus on developing your understanding of social media and livestreaming, the associated risks and steps we can take to support our children.

**WEDNESDAY
6TH MAY
2026
4PM – 4.45PM**



Knowsley
City Learning Centres

Online Safety Newsletter

May 2026

FreezeNova (Unblocked games)

FreezeNova unblocked is a website that is free to access and contains a wide variety of games, including shooting, multiplayer and racing games. This site may bypass usual filters, making it easier for your child to access games that you may not want them to play. As there are a variety of games, not all games may be suitable for your child.

There is also FreezeNova Chat, allowing users to chat to their friends and meet new ones. Clearly there are concerns with any online chat facility as there is the potential to view inappropriate content, risk of bullying as well as grooming.

We could not locate any age ratings on this site and there are constant adverts. Childnet have a webpage providing advice on gaming and chat features here:

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/gaming/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitycs.org.uk/may-2026-primary/>

Group Chats

Is your child part of any group chats? This could be on social media, for example on WhatsApp or within games such as Fortnite. If so, it is important that you are aware of the potential risks, which include:

Inappropriate content—there is often a lack of moderation within chat facilities so users could be exposed to content/language that is not suitable for their age.

Bullying—there are many instances where inappropriate/hurtful comments are shared within groups, this could take the form of name calling or body shaming. Bullying can also be in the form of excluding others from the group. These issues often overflow into 'real life'.

Strangers—your child could be added to groups with people they do not know or even with someone that they have previously blocked.

Conversations can be shared/screenshot—make sure your child is aware that anything they share within a group can be shared with others.

Sharing personal information—remind your child to be aware of the information they share with others, including images and location.

How can I help make group chats safer?

- Check the recommended age rating and adhere to them.
- Set up age-appropriate parental controls, suitable privacy settings and set screen time limits.
- On WhatsApp you can do a privacy check, by going to settings, privacy and privacy checkup.
- Show your child how to use any reporting and blocking tools.

What else can I do?

- It is crucial to have regular conversations with your child about the risks outlined above and about what they are doing online.

Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about what they send and how it could be perceived by others.

Talk about positivity and not saying anything hurtful. Ask them to think about whether they would say what they are messaging, face to face.

Devices should be used in family rooms so you can monitor what they are doing and who they are interacting with.

- Finally, make sure to model good digital behaviour yourself, as children often learn by observing the adults around them.

Further information

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>



Roblox - update

What is Roblox?

Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. **As a lot of the content is user generated, not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play.** If your child is playing Roblox, **it is important to monitor**



what your child is accessing as well as set up appropriate parental controls. PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance recommended label, this is because it is a platform of individual, user generated games.

New Age-Based Accounts

From next month, Roblox will introduce two new age-based accounts: Roblox Kids for users ages 5 to 8 and Roblox Select for users ages 9 to 15. Roblox Kids Accounts (ages 5–8) will be limited to games with a 'Minimal or Mild' content maturity label and all communication is disabled by default. Roblox Select accounts (ages 9 to 15) will be limited to games with content maturity labels up to and including 'Moderate'. By default, Experience Chat is ON and Direct Experience Chat is OFF. The differences in chat are outlined here: <https://about.roblox.com/safety-by-age>

Parental Controls

As part of parental controls, you can manage content ratings, communication, screen-time, and spending limits as well as see which games your child is playing on and who their friends are. Roblox are extending these controls to allow you to:

- Blockspecificindividualgames(toage15).
- Managedirectchatsettings(toage15).
- Approveaccesstospecificgames.

It is important to regularly monitor what your child is playing on Roblox and who they are interacting with, even if you have parental controls set up. You can find out more about the new accounts and parental controls here:

<https://about.roblox.com/newsroom/2026/04/introducing-roblox-kids-and-select-accounts>

Further information

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/roblox-releases-updated-parental-controls-and-age-appropriate-experiences/>

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Screen time guidance for under 5s

The Government now advise limiting screen time for young children. They advise avoiding screen time for under 2 years and to try to keep it to less than 1 hour a day for 2-5 years. Best Start for Life have published an article outlining what content is better, how your own screentime affects your child and how screentime can affect your child's development. Find out more here:

<https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/screen-time-under-5s/>

Do you know what 'looksmaxxing' is?

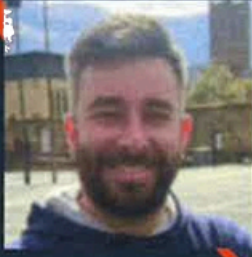
It is the idea of improving and maximising your looks. Internet Matters have published this article, which provides more information on this topic and outlines the risks (including links to the manosphere):

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-looksmaxxing-online-safety-guidance-for-parents/>

PEGI is expanding their age ratings

From June, PEGI is adding new categories. "Newly submitted games will be classified with a broader set of criteria that will focus on content and functionality, such as purchases of in-game content, paid random items, communication features, and features that incentivise players to continue playing." Find out more here:

<https://pegi.info/news/pegi-expands-age-rating-criteria-interactive-risk-categories>



Mike Barton
Head of Clubs
07427 483020
mike@wedotennis.co.uk
www.wedotennis.co.uk

“IMPROVING TENNIS FROM THE GRASS ROOTS TO THE PRO GAME”

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THE 2026 TENNIS SEASON STARTS TODAY!

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- **FREE TENNIS TASTER SESSIONS**
- **LTA FREE PARK TENNIS**
- **LTA BIG TENNIS WEEKENDS**
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WE DO TENNIS

Big Dreams. Bigger Pumpkins.



**GOLDA
ROSHEUVEL**

**NICK
FROST**

GROW

PLUS SEED BANK, PLANT SALE AND GOING WILD TO HELP US WITH OUR GROWING



Saturday 9 May 3pm

Adult £8 Child/Student £4.50 Family £22



To Book: www.sparctheatre.co.uk - 01588 638038

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Shropshire Parenting Help and Support Line

01743 250950

Mon - Thurs, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Fri, 9.30am - 3.30pm

No judgment, just support. For **all** Shropshire families, including those whose children have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)



Does your child struggle with their sleep?

Free Sleep Tight Groups

Join us on one of our virtual or face-to-face groups and:

- Find out why sleep is important for our health and emotional wellbeing
- Get support to help improve sleep and bedtime routines
- Meet other parents/carers to share and discuss experiences

Sleep Tight Universal Group 24th April 2026 from 10.00am to 12.00pm
Virtually ViaMS Teams

Sleep Tight SEND Group 12th June 2026 from 10.00am to 12.00pm

at The Keystone Academy, Squinter Pip Way, Shrewsbury, SY3 8XQ

The groups run for 5 weeks excluding the school holidays and bank holidays.

Groups with SEND are suitable for parents/carers of Children who might have special educational needs and disabilities, no formal diagnosis is needed to attend the groups.

To book a place email Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk or call 01743 250950

Find out
more here



Shropshire
Council