



# Newsletter

8th May 2026

## THIS week in school...

Mrs Owen has been creating a display with the wonderful work produced on World Art Day!



## Attendance

This week's attendance is

Whole School: 94.1 %

Robins: 92.5 %

Skylarks: 90.8 %

Owls: 95.4 %

Starlings: 95.9 %

Kites: 95.2 %



## Weekly Attendance Prize Draw

This week the children awarded are:

**Nancy M & Orla P**



## Upcoming Events

### **MAY**

**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

Mufti Day

Summer Disco

**Friday 22nd**

Robins trip to Hay Festival

### **HALF TERM WEEK**

**Monday 25th - Friday 29th**

### **JUNE**

**Monday 1st - PD Day**

**Thursday 4th**

Goblin Race Day, Curborough

**Wednesday 10th**

School Photos

**Thursday 11th**

Rounders at Lydbury North - Yr 5/6

**Monday 15th**

Cruical Crew - Yr 6

**Wednesday 17th**

Author event with Hay Festival

**Thursday 25th**

Year 6 Leavers Service at Hereford

Cathedral

## **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

## **Upcoming Events continued..**

### **JULY**

**Thursday 2nd**

Sports Day - afternoon

**Monday & Tuesday 6th - 7th**

CCBC Yr 6 Transition Days

**Thursday 9th**

Skylarks trip to Park Hall Farm

**Friday 17th**

Last day of Summer Term

# Fortnightly Class Reward goes to ....

## STARLINGS

Every two weeks, the class with the highest overall attendance will be rewarded with a special activity of their choice. This may include extra playtime, an art session, outdoor games, or another agreed activity.

We hope this initiative will encourage all pupils to attend school regularly and take pride in their attendance. We understand that there are times when absence is unavoidable due to illness; however, we kindly ask that, wherever possible, appointments are made outside of school hours and that children attend school every day they are well enough to do so.

If you have any questions or require support with attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

## 2026 The Year of Reading



### Reading Is for Fun

Enjoyment is key to lifelong reading habits.

**At home:** Share funny books or poems together.

**Recommended read:** Boss of the Underworld: Shirley vs the Green Menace – fun graphic novel style.



# EARLY HELP DROP IN

## Bishops Castle Food Bank

Apr Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> 09:30 am - 10:30 am  
May Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
June Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
July Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> 09:30 pm - 10:30 am  
August Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> 09:30 - 10:30 am

**Church Lane, Bishops Castle, SY9 5AF**  
All families within the local area welcome

**Free information, support  
& advice around:**

Family Life  
Housing & Finance  
Special Education Needs and/or  
Disabilities (SEND)  
Parenting Support  
Training & Employment  
Domestic Abuse Support  
And much more...

Refreshments will be provided  
by the food bank



[shropshire.gov.uk/early-help](https://shropshire.gov.uk/early-help)



**Shropshire**  
Council

# HELP US WIN £1,000 FOR OUR LIBRARY

Nominate us and you could win a £100 gift card!  
[nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize](https://nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize)



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National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

# 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>

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](http://www.sparctheatre.co.uk) - 01588 638038

SpArC Theatre Brampton Rd Bishops Castle SY9 5AY

ONE TENTH HUMAN  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
THE DUKES LANCASTER  
PRESENT



# SO UNFAIR



FOR YOUNG  
ENGINEERS  
AGES 7+



"RIVETING,  
FUNNY AND  
THOUGHTFUL"  
The Guardian,  
on Arthur

"REALLY  
GREAT  
CHILDREN'S  
THEATRE"  
Exeunt, on  
We're Stuck

Sat 30th May, 11am  
SpArC Theatre, Bishops Castle, SpArC Theatre, SY9 5AY  
Tickets: Adults £10, Child £7.50, Family £35  
[www.artsalive.co.uk](http://www.artsalive.co.uk)  
01588 638038



Engineering



Association for  
Black & Minority  
Ethnic Engineers



# 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 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 from 10.00am to 12.00pm  
Virtually ViaMS Teams

Sleep Tight SEND Group 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk) or call 01743 250950

Find out  
more here



Shropshire  
Council