



Newsletter

15th May 2026

THIS week in school...

Well done to all of our Year 6 pupils, you should all be incredibly proud of yourselves. You approached each day with determination, resilience and maturity, giving your very best effort throughout. These are brilliant life skills that will help you in the future.

We are all very proud of you, now it's time to relax and enjoy your final half term of Year 6.

Mrs Manning and the Bishop's Castle Staff Team



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Kites Class

Year 6 children have taken part in their SATs. They all put 100% effort into each test and didn't let their nerves stop them. We are super proud of every single one of them!

The year 5 children completed their activities; helped out other children lower down the school and supported Miss Froggatt in organising our OPAL equipment.

Miss O'Leary

Attendance

This week's attendance is

Whole School: 96.3 %

Robins: 98.2 %

Skylarks: 94.4 %

Owls: 94.6 %

Starlings: 96.4 %

Kites: 99.2 %

Weekly Attendance Prize Draw

This week the children awarded are:

Jordan H & Bronwyn



Upcoming Events

MAY

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

Hay Performance

Friday 19th

Summer Fair

Wednesday 24th

Skylarks Living History @ Ludlow Castle

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

2026 The Year of Reading



Series Books Build Fluency

Familiar characters and patterns support reading confidence.

At home: Visit the library to borrow a series your child enjoys.

Recommended read: Magic Tree House series – perfect for transitioning readers.

Parking Outside School

As part of our commitment to being a respectful and caring school community, we kindly remind all families to park considerately when dropping off and collecting children. Our school is located within a residential area, and many of our neighbours rely on clear access to their driveways.



Please do not park on the zig-zag areas and avoid blocking driveways & parking on pavements.

If possible, consider walking part of the journey or allowing a little extra time to find a suitable parking space. By doing so, we set a positive example for our children and help maintain supportive relationships with the families who live around our school.
Thank you for your cooperation.

Dear Parent or Carer

Free School Meal Holiday Vouchers were funded through the Government's Household Support Fund. This ended on the 31st March 2026. This means that the May half term vouchers will be the last to be issued.

Instead, families will be able to access lots of support through the new Crisis and Resilience Fund. This can help with one-off payments for unexpected financial shocks.

We will also be investing in services that can help maximise income, give budgeting and debt advice, and build longer-term financial resilience.

Information on all of this help is available through our cost-of-living support pages:
or Google "Shropshire Cost of Living"



Further cost of living support

What help is there?

If you need support during the current cost of living crisis, or have experienced a recent financial shock, lots of help and advice can be found at - <https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/>

This help is available to low-income households but is not just for those on benefits.



Do you have any concerns about your child's well-being?

Would you like support with your child's attendance?

If you, your child or family would benefit from extra support with your well-being, or if you are worried about a difficult situation in your family you can contact us for support.

[Julie Owen – Pastoral Lead](#)

J.Owen@bishopscastle.dhmat.org.uk

Or via

admin@bishopscastle.dhmat.org.uk

You might also benefit from Early Help.

What is Early Help?

Families might access Early Help for a variety of reasons, including concerns about a child's behaviour, difficulties at school, family relationship challenges, mental health worries, or changes in family circumstances such as bereavement or separation.

Early Help is not just for when things go wrong - it's there to provide guidance and support before small issues become bigger problems. Seeking Early Help is a positive step, showing a family's commitment to working together with professionals to find practical solutions and support their child's wellbeing and development.

The type of things Early Help can support with include:

- Concerns about child's health, development or behaviour
- How a child is doing at school
- Housing or financial concerns
- Children who may be affected by domestic abuse, drugs, alcohol, ill health or crime



Additional Support Courses for Parents

Three new courses offered by FACE, separate from the school membership.

Full access to all three courses for £6.99/month

Complete at your own pace, cancel anytime.



Building Emotional Resilience

Work through six stages of directed exercises to help your child (and yourself) improve emotional resilience.



Facing Defiance

A specific strategy aimed at supporting parents of children aged 5 to 12 with ADHD, ODD or just very challenging behaviour.



You & Your Teen

A skills building course for one parent and one teen (12 years old and above) to learn how they can both improve their communication with each other.

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Online Courses for Parents page

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



PGCE Pathway

Start your teaching career with us



Are you interested in a career in teaching?

Come and join our Regional Training Hub Plus

In partnership with the University of Worcester
www.worcs.ac.uk

Would you like to find out more?

For further information contact:

Vicky Tansley

rth@dhmat.org.uk
or
v.tansley@dhmat.org.uk

DHMAT and the University of Worcester launch new local PGCE primary teacher training route based in Hereford

For the first time ever, aspiring primary teachers in Herefordshire will be able to complete their teacher training with the University of Worcester without leaving the county.

It's thanks to an expanded partnership between the University and the Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust (DHMAT), which will see all training delivered locally in Herefordshire.

The development expands the county's existing Regional Training Hub, where trainees split their time between local schools and the University's Worcester campus.

The upgraded Regional Training Hub Plus model means that all academic study and practical training for the primary PGCE will now take place within Herefordshire schools.

Andrew Teale, CEO of Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust, said: "This is a significant and hugely positive development for education across the Diocese of Hereford. By delivering the full PGCE programme locally, we are removing barriers and opening doors for talented people within our communities who feel called to teach but previously found the logistics too challenging."

He continued: "Through our partnership with the fabulous University of Worcester, we are investing in local people and growing the next generation of teachers within our own schools. That strengthens not only the schools in our Trust, but the wider family of church and community schools across the Diocese."

Andrew added: "This is about opportunity, community, and ensuring that every child is taught by highly trained, committed professionals who understand and care deeply about the places they serve."



The fully local 36-week Primary PGCE will see trainees placed in DHMAT schools across the county, with academic sessions delivered at the Hereford Church of England Academy.

The University of Worcester, rated Outstanding by Ofsted for its teacher training, will oversee and deliver the programme, providing a high-quality, flexible, and community-based route into the profession.

Andrew Taylor, Senior Lecturer at the University of Worcester, said: "This new fully local training route has been designed for career changers, parents, and anyone who has the potential and passion to teach, but previously felt unable to start training because of travel, family commitments, or the logistics of attending the campus in Worcester."

If you are interested in applying or would like further details please email: rth@dhmat.org.uk

We would love to hear from you.



EARLY HELP DROP IN

Bishops Castle Food Bank

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



Shropshire
Council



Shropshire Parent Carer Council (PACC) are Shropshire's Parent Carer Forum. We provide information, community support and opportunities for Parent Carers of 0-25-year-olds with SEND in Shropshire to share their experiences to influence and change how support is delivered.



Influence & Change

A core aim of a Parent Carer Forum like PACC is to provide opportunities to use their combined knowledge and experience to improve services through coproduction.



Information Provision

Ensuring Parent Carers are informed with accurate and appropriate information. We provide information and signposting to support families to make informed decisions the care they and their families receive.



Community Support

Supporting SEND families to be better connected, reducing isolation and improving family life through social networks where information and support can be shared.

Following feedback from families, we are pleased to be able to offer 2 in-person events over May half-term where families can come and find out more about our Community Support offer, how to get involved and speak to us about local activities you enjoy! We also have activities on offer for children and young people!

Bridgnorth Information Event

When: Tuesday 26th May, 12pm-4pm
Where: The Board Room- Bridgnorth

Ludlow Information Event

When: Thursday 28th May, 11:30am-1:30pm
Where: Ludlow Football Club



Shrewsbury Town Foundation will be providing some football activities.

Jamila Walker Visual Artist will be helping you make animal flip-books!

Come and find out more about PACC's Healthy Lives Programme.

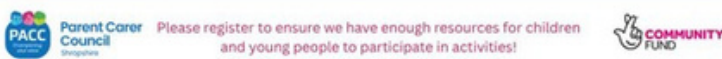
Come and find out more about PACC's Healthy Lives Programme.

Come and talk to us about local inclusive activities you attend.

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Find out about support and services.

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Come and see what The Board Room Cafe has to offer, try some games, speak to PACC rep's and register for this year's Healthy Lives Holiday Programme!

REGISTER NOW



Come and try some activities, speak to PACC rep's and register for this year's Healthy Lives Holiday Programme!

REGISTER NOW

Find out more about PACC's Community support offer!



Rhea's Rustic Kitchen will be doing a cake sale on Friday 22nd May from 3pm. Rhea is kindly gifting a percentage of her sales to school

Love is...

EATING CAKE TOGETHER!



MONTHLY SCHOOL CAKE SALE



**A PERCENTAGE OF CAKE
SALES WILL BE GIFTED
DIRECTLY TO BISHOPS
CASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

STARS AND PLANETS

Monday 25th - Friday 29th May

Get ready for an out-of-this-world adventure during May Half Term!

Create your own constellations, make a personal tin can planetarium and learn how different cultures have seen the patterns in the stars. Discover the distance to the nearest stars related to your age. Walk the distance between the sun and the earth and learn how things weigh differently on each planet and more.



£5 per accompanied 4-11 year old

For more info, times and to book, head to our website



Shropshire Hills
Discovery Centre

Open Daily, 10am-5pm

 School Road, Craven Arms
 01588 676060



Half Term Holiday Clubs 09:00 - 15:00

For children aged 5 to 11, our holiday clubs are open to all abilities with a focus on fun and sports! Groups of mixed age and ability.

Shrewsbury

The Croud Meadow, SY2 6ST

Tuesday 26th May

Wednesday 27th May

Thursday 28th May

Friday 29th May

-  01743 289177 opt 6
-  admin@foundationstfc.co.uk
-  foundationstfc.co.uk/fun

Scan the QR code or visit our website to book, single day from £18.00.



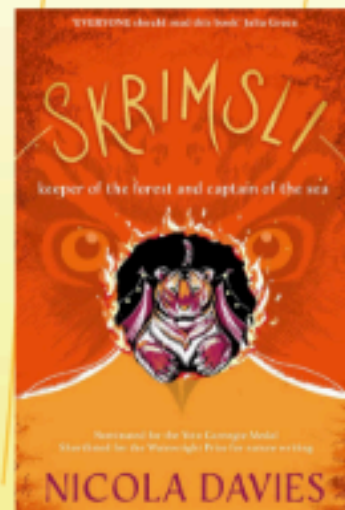
Monty MINIFEST

Children's Book Festival

June 14th 2026

Montgomery Activity Centre

Tickets free (with paying adult)



GŴYL EACH Maldwyn

Gŵyl Lyfrau i Blant

Mehefin 14eg 2026

Canolfan Weithgareddau Trefaldwyn

Tocynnau am ddim (efo oedolyn sy'n talu)



Details-Manylion: montylitfest.com