



Newsletter

5th June 2026

THIS week in school...

Before half term, our Reception children attended the Hay Festival and enjoyed a wonderful day celebrating books and storytelling. The visit was a fantastic opportunity to inspire a love of reading and spark their imaginations. Every child was gifted a book to take home and enjoy.

Year 1 have been working incredibly hard as they prepare for their Phonics Screening Check next week. We are very proud of their commitment and growing confidence.

Starlings have been very busy and have had a great start to the half term. Lots of the year 4 have now completed their Multiplication Tables Check with the rest planned for next week. They have created mosaic tiles out of clay from their own designs, learned about the digestive system with a very messy demonstration and started their PSHE unit of work on 'Changing Me'.

On Thursday, Ted, Dougie, Josh, Ollie and Dec represented the school at the GreenPower Goblin Car race. They took part in multiple races including: a drag race; slalom; auto cross and speed race. The children were a credit to the school in their spirit, behaviour and racing. Not only did they make it to the semi-final but they came home with a 2nd place trophy for the slalom race. Well done team Mario Kart!

Attendance

This week's attendance is

Whole School: 91.0 %

Robins: 92.5 %

Skylarks: 86.2 %

Owls: 92.2 %

Starlings: 89.8 %

Kites: 94.4 %

Weekly Attendance Prize Draw



This week the children awarded are:

Logan & Scarlett R





Congratulations to our Young Engineers

Our Young Engineers had an exciting opportunity to take part in the Goblin Car Race Day at Curborough Racetrack. The children represented the school brilliantly, showing determination, teamwork and enthusiasm as they raced their car.

Most importantly, they had great fun and were fantastic ambassadors for our school throughout the event.



Upcoming Events

JUNE

Wednesday 10th

School Photos

Thursday 11th

Rounders at Lydbury North - Yr 5/6 team

Friday 12th

Pyjamarama Reading Event & Author visit

Monday 15th

Cruical Crew - Yr 6

Wednesday 17th

Hay Performance at 2pm

Friday 19th

Summer Fair

Wednesday 24th

Skylarks Living History @ Ludlow Castle

Thursday 25th

Year 6 Leavers Service at Hereford Cathedral

Friday 26th

Kites trip to Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre

Monday 29th

Robins - Healthy Hero's talk

JULY

Thursday 2nd

Sports Day - afternoon

Monday & Tuesday 6th - 7th

CCBC Yr 6 Transition Day

Thursday 9th

Skylarks trip to Park Hall Farm

Friday 17th

Last day of Summer Term

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

2026 The Year of Reading



Reading in Everyday Life

Recipes, signs, schedules and instructions all involve reading.

At home: Read everyday text together during routines.

Recommended read: The Secret Zoo – adventure and curiosity combined.

Pyjamarama Reading Event & Author Visit

PYJAMARAMA
READING EVENT

Friday 12th June

Join us in celebrating Pyjamarama by **wearing your pyjamas for the day.** Thousands of children all around the country – will spend the day reading, enjoying, and sharing stories all in the comfort of their pyjamas.

We are really excited to announce that **West End actress and children's author, Emma Swan will be visiting.** She will be delivering a fun-filled, action-packed assembly to all the children talking to them about her life growing up on a cruise ship and about her books and life as an author.

EMMA SWAN is coming to visit on **12/06/26**

CRUISE SHIP KID £7.99

CRUISE SHIP KID £7.99

Pre-order your books here

Scan the QR code or contact Vikki Burgoyne 07751331933 burgoyne.books@hotmail.com

★ CELEBRATING STORIES, SPARKING IMAGINATION! ★

We are really excited to announce that West End actress and children's author, Emma Swan, will be visiting us on Friday 12th June.

She will be delivering a fun-filled, action-packed assembly to all the children talking to them about her life growing up on a cruise ship and about her books and life as an author.

It is also Book Trust's Pyjamarama day! Children are welcome to come to school in their PJs, or comfy clothes, and we'll spend the day immersing ourselves in the wonderful world of books!

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Emma will be offering a book signing at the event. There will be no option to buy books on the day so if you would like to pre-order any of Emma's books for your child to have signed you can do so by completing this form prior to Friday 29th May:-

<https://forms.gle/7fUx2TW8yVMfC5aL7>

We have organised this visit in partnership with our Usborne Partner, Vikki Burgoyne, and Usborne will donate a percentage of the total pre-orders in free books for our school.

Here's a link of what to expect:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CP1HsVHAbgXVsJFRNsk0nGON-wt0k9y7/view>

We're looking forward to it!



Hay
Festival
Education

Welcome to
a world of
different...

Hay Festival brings
a FREE SHOW
to your school!

Wednesday 17 June 2026, 2pm
Bishop's Castle Primary School, Bishop's Castle SY9 5PA

Angry Cookie & friends...

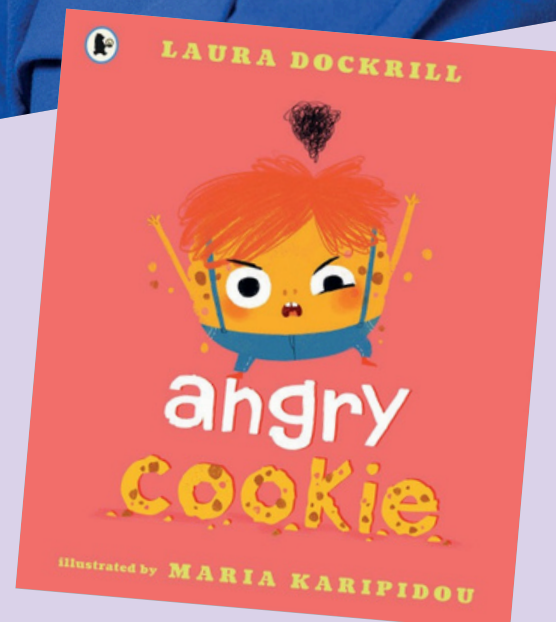
Laura Dockrill

Angry Cookie is very angry and there is nothing you can do about it (or is there?!).

Expect a recorder-playing cactus, an elephant that goes camping and a stinky pair of bobbly socks.

A practical, playful and fun session, reading and creating our own characters, while learning about empathy, change and friendship.

Discover more Hay Festival events at...
[hayfestival.org/hay-on-wye](https://www.hayfestival.org/hay-on-wye)





June 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	1 June 10am
School Anxiety	1 June 7pm
Facing Defiance	2 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	2 June 7pm
Anxiety Explained	8 June 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	8 June 7pm
Introduction to OCD	9 June 10am
What is ACT?	9 June 7pm
Decreasing Depression	15 June 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	15 June 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	16 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	16 June 7pm
Improving Family Communication	22 June 10am
Autism-Improving Communication	22 June 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 June 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	23 June 7pm
ADHD and Homework	25 June 7-8pm

Online Safety Newsletter

June 2026

Pinterest

You need to be at least 13 years old to use Pinterest.

Pinterest is a social media app, where users can share images and videos (called Pins). Users can browse through the images based on their stated interests, for example cooking. Users can then 'pin' (save) these images to their own boards to revisit.

There is content on Pinterest that is not suitable for young people to see.

Also, did you know that there is a **messaging** element to it, so your child could be interacting with strangers? Therefore, if your child is using Pinterest, it is important to show your child how to use the blocking and reporting tools. You can find out more information, including how to set up parental controls here:

<https://help.pinterest.com/en/article/resources-for-parents-and-caregivers-of-teens>

Find out more here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-pinterest-what-parents-need-to-know/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version:

<https://www.knowsleycity.org.uk/june-2026-primary/>

Online Scams

It is important to be aware that scammers can target your child whilst online through social media, messaging apps and games. These scams often look genuine, and children may not have the digital literacy skills to question their authenticity. This can happen across lots of platforms that your child is accessing, for example Roblox or TikTok. Scams can include:

Offering in-game currency.

Befriending your child, which can then lead to requests for money or account details/personal information.

Phishing links, with the intention of sharing malware or requesting account details/personal information.

What can I do?

It is important to have regular conversations with your child about what they are doing online and remind them to:

Never share passwords or verification codes.

Speak to you or another trusted adult if they are unsure about anything.

Ensure appropriate parental controls and privacy settings are in place.

Talk to your child about the different scams that can appear online and remind your child to check links before clicking on them.

Remind your child that if they do think that they have been scammed, then to tell you straightaway.

Further information

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/how-deal-online-scams-parent-guide>



Digital Footprints

When we go online, we create a digital footprint, which is a record of what we do online. This can be by visiting websites, sharing photos, liking or commenting on other people's posts or playing games. It is important that children are aware of the digital footprint that they are creating and the lasting effect it can have. Childline provides further information about digital footprints, including advice on how to protect our privacy online:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/taking-care-your-digital-footprint/>

Risks of Auto saving

Does your child use the likes of WhatsApp, which may automatically download any image/video that is sent to them to their phone's own camera roll? We would advise switching this feature off.



Children may receive lots of photos/videos, particularly within group chats, that they have not requested. If auto download is allowed, then your child does not have control over what is being saved to their camera roll. Potentially, it may also be content that you would not want your child to have saved. Additionally, from a safeguarding perspective, if everything is automatically downloaded to your child's camera roll, it can become difficult to ascertain the source of the image.

How can I disable this feature?

If your child is using a platform that allows this, then there is usually an option to disable this feature, so your child has control over the images saved to their device. The option to disable will be within the settings of the App, here is how to do this on WhatsApp:

- In WhatsApp, go to settings (click on 'You' in the bottom right).
- Click on 'Chats'.
- Toggle 'Save to Photos' to off.

Storybooks and games from the BookTrust

BookTrust have a whole host of storybooks and games on their website. They have storybooks to read, story time videos to watch and kid's games to play.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/how-we-help/have-fun-at-home/storybooks-and-games/>

Emoji Meanings

Did you know that some children and young people may be using emojis to mean something completely different? For example, a cap emoji may be used to represent a lie. It is important that you are aware of how emojis can be used and keep up to date with the way in which they can be used as their meanings are changeable. You can find out further information here:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/emoji-slang-guide/>

"Retro – Photos with Friends" App

This is a photo sharing app, and it is rated as 13+ by the App store. The aim of the app is users share their photos with close friends only, like a photo journal. Whilst it is marketed as a safer alternative to other social media apps, you do need to be aware of the following:

Privacy and data access.

It does include group chats so there is still the potential for cyberbullying and peer pressure.

Users may feel safer sharing images as it is with close friends, but content can still be shared with others (through screenshots).

If your child is using this app, make sure you check that privacy settings are set up appropriately.

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.06.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.

Omoggle

Omoggle is an online platform that is for adults only. However, you can simply lie and say you are over 18 to access it. The platform joins two strangers together and uses AI to rate their appearances in a "mog battle."

As you are paired up with a stranger and can see and hear them, there are serious safeguarding concerns and **young people should not be accessing this site.** Find out more here:

<https://www.waynedenner.com/omoggle-parent-guide/>



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



WEAR THE PRESTIGIOUS CHAINS FOR THE DAY!

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE MAYOR

Step into the Mayor's Role for the Day!
While the Mayor is occupied as the carnival chairman on **Saturday 4th July**, take the opportunity to fill his shoes for the day.



START YOUR DAY
with Breakfast at
The Castle Hotel &
meet Mayor Dickin!



**JOIN THE
CARNIVAL
PARADE!**



**EXCLUSIVE VIP
SEATING & SPECIAL
BENEFITS**
for you and your
family on the
playing fields!



**FUN, MEMORIES
& A ONCE-IN-A-
LIFETIME
EXPERIENCE!**



Participants must be over 5 and under 16 years of age.
Adult supervision is required at all times throughout the day's activities.



Start your day with a delightful breakfast
at the Castle Hotel.



Afterward, make your way outside where a
chauffeur will be waiting to take you to the church
for the parade formation.



Once assembled, you'll parade through town,
waving just like royalty.



Finally, you'll find your VIP seat on the
playing fields.

**BE A
PART OF
HISTORY!**



Please comment with your
CHILD'S FIRST NAME and **AGE**
on this post, give it a like, share it,
and don't forget to like our page!





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