



Newsletter

25th September 2026

THIS week in school...

Kites Class

We have had a busy week! Our first afterschool club started on Monday, and the biscuits definitely helped. Everyone answered lots of maths quiz questions.

We had our first outdoor learning session with Dan from Go Wild which was a welcome break from all the hard work leaning spelling punctuation in English and common factors in maths. We have also been learning about what started WWI, and the range of shades and tones on the colour wheel.

Reminder:

Every Monday 3.20 - 4.15
Year 6 Biscuits & Brains club



Attendance

This week's attendance is

Whole School: 97.5 %

Robins: 99.6 %

Skylarks: 98.4 %

Owls: 94.6 %

Starlings: 96.7 %

Kites: 98.9 %

Weekly Attendance Prize Draw



100%

This week the children awarded are:

Ben D & Millie M



Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 29th

Yr 3 & 4 Cross Country at Carding Mill Valley

OCTOBER

Thursday 1st

The Solihull Approach (Week 2) 1-3pm

Friday 2nd

Apple Pressing

Wednesday 7th

Yr 5 & 6 Cross Country at Carding Mill Valley

Thursday 8th

The Solihull Approach (Week 3) 1-3pm

Tuesday 13th

School Photographs

Thursday 15th

The Solihull Approach (Week 4) 1-3pm

Friday 16th

Dr Bike

Thursday 22nd

The Solihull Approach (Week 5) 1-3pm

HALF TERM

Monday 26th to Friday 30th October

Term Dates 2026 / 27

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

Summer

Starts 12.04.27

Half Term 31.05.27-04.06.27

Ends 20.07.27

2026 The Year of Reading

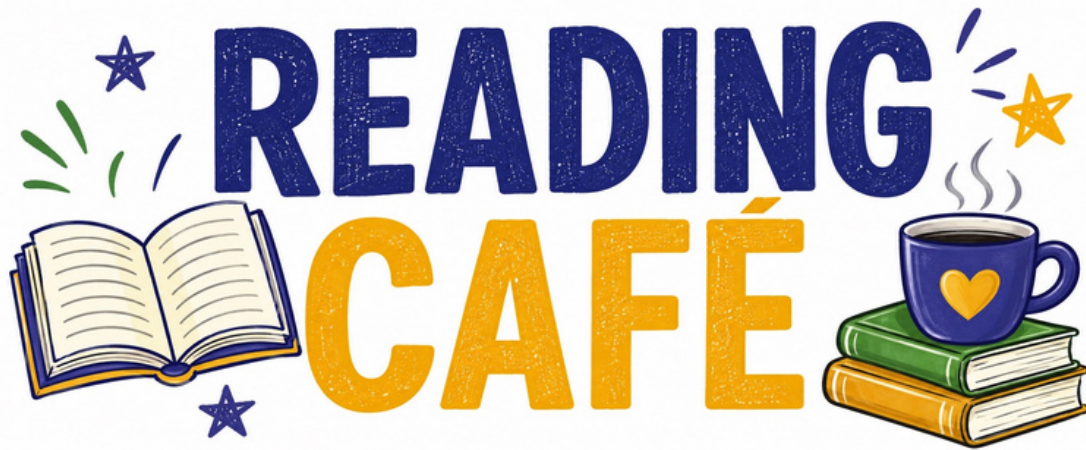


Reading Across Subjects

Reading supports learning in Maths, Science, and beyond

At home: Read instructions, maps or games together.

Recommended read: Beastlands: Race to Frostfall Mountain — thrilling adventure for older readers.



We would like to thank all the parents and carers who attended our Reading Café this week. It was wonderful to welcome so many families into school and to see everyone enjoying the opportunity to share books and read together.

During the session, we were also delighted to launch our 50 Recommended Reads for each year group, with a fantastic selection of books for children to discover and enjoy. We hope these will inspire our pupils to explore new authors and genres and encourage an ongoing love of reading.

Your continued support in encouraging reading at home is greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping to make our Reading Café such an enjoyable and successful event.



Cross Country

Well done to all of our Year 1 & 2 children who had a wonderful time at Cross Country in Carding Mill Valley. The children raced through the green trees and along the winding paths, showing great determination and enthusiasm throughout. There were lots of smiles, laughter and fun, and everyone should be proud of their achievements.

Individual results:

Bishops Castle had 6 pupils in Yr 1 & 2 in the top 5



Team results

Year 1's

1st Rushbury

2nd Bishops Castle

3rd St Lawrence

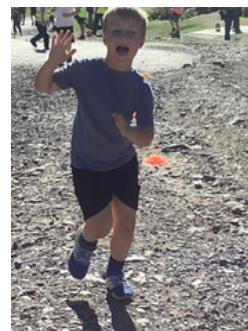


Year 2's

1st St Laurence

2nd Wistanstow

3rd Bishops Castle



A big thank you as well to our parent volunteers who joined us on the day – we really appreciate your help and support.





Every week



One KS1 pupil and one KS2 pupil with 100% attendance that week will receive a certificate in our celebration assembly. Their first names will be shared in the school newsletter.

Class attendance



Each class's weekly attendance percentage will be shared in the newsletter and celebrated in Friday's assembly.

Fortnightly class reward



The class with the highest attendance each fortnight will receive a class reward. Children will vote for their favourite reward from choices provided by their teacher.

100% for the term



Children who achieve 100% attendance for the term will receive a special sticker.

100% for the full year



Children who achieve 100% attendance across the full academic year will receive a certificate.

Improved attendance



Children who make a big improvement in attendance will receive a well done certificate.

Ready, Respectful, Safe

Secondary School Applications

Parents and carers of children in Year 6 are reminded that applications are now open for children transferring to secondary school in September 2027.

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The online application process opened on 1st September 2026 and the closing date for applications is 31st October 2026.

Applications can be made online via the Shropshire Council School Admissions website.

You will also find the Parents' Guide to Secondary Education in Shropshire on the website, which includes useful information about secondary schools and details of upcoming open evenings including:

**THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BISHOP'S CASTLE**

OPEN EVENING

**WEDNESDAY
30TH SEPTEMBER 2026**

**FROM
6:30PM – 8:30PM**

Please ensure your child's application is submitted by 31st October 2026.



BISHOP'S CASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

RECEPTION SCHOOL PLACE TOURS

For parents of children starting
Reception in September 2027



Monday 19th October 9:45am

Friday 6th November 9:45am

Thursday 12th November 5:30pm

**Call us to book your place on a
tour!**

- ✓ Tour the school
- ✓ Meet staff
- ✓ Ask questions



Telephone:
01588 638 522



Visit us:
**[www.bishopscastle-
pri.shropshire.sch.uk](http://www.bishopscastle-pri.shropshire.sch.uk)**





OUR TEAM WILL:

- ✓ CHECK YOUR BIKE
- ✓ MAKE MINI FIXES
- ✓ GIVE SAFETY TIPS



CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY

are all welcome to bring their bikes to be checked and serviced.

This on-site maintenance session helps ensure pupils' bikes are safe, roadworthy and Bikeability-ready ahead of cycle training.



WHAT HAPPENS ON THE DAY?

- Learn Cycling will set up at school with an EazyUp shelter and work stand.
- Pupils, parents and staff can drop bikes off before school and collect them at the end of the day.
- Minor repairs and safety adjustments are carried out on site, alongside practical cycling advice.
- Bikes are checked for:
Tyres • Brakes • Steering • Gears



WHY IT'S GREAT

- Removes barriers to cycling and Bikeability
- Builds confidence and independence
- Promotes healthy, active travel
- Runs just before Bikeability training



DR BIKE IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL!



St George's School

FRIDAY

25th SEPTEMBER



**Bishop's Castle
Primary School**

FRIDAY

16th OCTOBER



This event has been organised by the school using the Active Travel Grant the school applied for.



THE DANGERS OF WHATSAPP GROUPS

Supporting Safe and Responsible Communication

Stay
Connected
Stay Aware
Stay Safe

WhatsApp groups can be a valuable way for families to stay connected. However, they can also present risks including misinformation, privacy concerns, cyberbullying and online scams.



CYBERBULLYING

- Hurtful messages can spread quickly.
- Children and young people may feel isolated, excluded or targeted.
- What starts as a joke can have a serious impact on their mental health and wellbeing.



PRIVACY CONCERNS

- Phone numbers are visible to group members.
- Personal information, photos and locations can be shared without permission.
- This can increase the risk of contact from unknown people.



MISINFORMATION & RUMOURS

- False information can spread rapidly in group chats.
- Children may unintentionally share misleading content.
- Always encourage your child to check the facts before forwarding messages.



SCAMS & SUSPICIOUS LINKS

- Criminals may use group chats to share fake offers, competitions or phishing links.
- Clicking on unknown links can lead to malware, identity theft or financial loss.
- Remind your child to be cautious even if a message looks like it's from someone they know.



PEER PRESSURE

- Children and young people can sometimes feel pressure to participate in conversations or activities that make them uncomfortable.
- Group chats can encourage risky behaviour or inappropriate content.
- Remind them it's always OK to say no and to leave a group if needed.



ADVICE FOR PARENTS

- ✓ Talk regularly with your child about their online activity.
- ✓ Remind them never to share personal information.
- ✓ Encourage respectful and kind communication.
- ✓ Discuss the importance of reporting inappropriate content.
- ✓ Review privacy settings together.



USEFUL REMINDERS

- ✓ Check who is in the group.
- ✓ Talk about what is appropriate to share.
- ✓ Encourage critical thinking about online content.
- ✓ Report and block suspicious accounts.
- ✓ Use WhatsApp's privacy settings to limit who can contact your child.

STOP • THINK • PROTECT

Together, parents and schools can help children stay safe online.

Safer
Children
Brighter
Futures



SUPPORT



GUIDE



PROTECT



TOGETHER WE CAN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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!

This session will explore all aspects of children's online lives including associated risks, the latest trends and data and practical guidance on how you can support them to stay safe and thrive online

Click on the link at the stated time to join the live session:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NWU4NmM0MzktZjdjYS00NzhhlWJlNmItYWQwYmViYTA3N2U0%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22dcd b1ea5-3b10-49a2-bf8f-5fd59edcd762%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%225772fa8f-9814-4199-aef2-9195804f833e%22%7d

**WEDNESDAY
30TH SEPT
2026
4PM – 4.45PM**



Knowsley
City Learning Centres

More families eligible for Free School Meals



From September 2026

there will be significant changes to the Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility in England.



All children in households on Universal Credit will be eligible regardless of income.



Apply now
by visiting



<https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>



Shropshire
Council



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





HAUNTED Disco

IN AID OF CLUN PTA

3 - 5PM

SATURDAY

31 OCTOBER 2026

CLUN MEMORIAL HALL

TICKETS: £5 PER CHILD

SPOOKY MUSIC, HALLOWEEN CRAFTS, COSTUME
COMPETITION, SNACKS & BAR

DRESS UP IF YOU DARE!