Bishop's Castle Primary School

Newsletter

16th October 2026

THIS week in school....

SKYLARKS

Skylarks have had a fantastic week continuing their Vincent van Gogh-inspired paintings! We have experimented with different painting techniques to create beautiful backgrounds inspired by the famous Starry Night.

Next week, we will be adding the final touches to complete our masterpieces. We have some very talented little artists in Skylarks, and we can't wait to see their finished creations!

OWLS

This week, Owls have been writing journey stories. They have been adding direct speech and fronted adverbials. We thought about what a journey story is and discussed adding adjectives and the problems that our characters might have to solve.

In Maths, we have been looking at addition and subtraction. In Science, we are still studying Animals Including Humans. This week, we looked at the different types of teeth we have and their purposes. In History, we learnt about Bronze Age houses and the differences in the way people lived compared to the Stone Age. In French, Owls are learning greetings, numbers and colours.

Attendance

This week's attendance is

Whole School: 95.7%

Robins: 92.2 %

Skylarks: 93.7 %

Owls: 94.3 %

Starlings: 96.6 %

Kites: 96.8 %

Weekly Attendance Prize Draw



100%

This week the children awarded are:

Aisling & Freya

CONFIDENT COMMUNICATORS

WIDENING HORIZONS

GROWTH MINDSET

HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY MIND

Upcoming Events



OCTOBER

Monday 19th
Reception School Tour 9.45am
Harvest Celebration
Parents Evening
Tuesday 20th
Yr 5 & 6 Art Workshop
Parents Evening
Thursday 22nd
The Solihull Approach (Week 5) 1-3pm
Yr 5 & 6 Art Workshop
KS2 Basketball
Rhea's Rustic Kitchen pop-up cake sale



HALF TERM
Monday 26th to Friday 30th October



NOVEMBER

Wednesday 4th
PTA Halloween Disco
Thursday 5th
The Solihull Approach (Week 6) 1-3pm
Friday 6th
Reception School Tour 9.45am
Shropshire Music Service - Live music event
Thursday 12th
Scooter workshop (Reception, Yr 1 & Yr 2)
The Solihull Approach (Week 7) 1-3pm
Reception School Tour 5.30pm
Friday 13th
Whole School Kindness Day
Monday 16th
Odd Sock Day - Anti-bullying Week
Thursday 19th
The Solihull Approach (Week 8) 1-3pm
Thursday 26th
The Solihull Approach (Week 9) 1-3pm





DECEMBER

Tuesday 8th
DHMAT Advert Service
Wednesday 9th
Pantomime Trip - Whole School
Tuesday 15th
Nativity Service in Church - 2pm

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 Helps Us Relax
Reading can calm the mind and reduce stress.
At home: Use reading as a quiet wind-down activity.
Recommended read: Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site by Sherri Duskey Rinker — soothing bedtime story for winding down

Secondary Application deadline – 31 October 2026

The closing date for secondary applications is 31 October 2026 which falls in the half-term holidays. If you have not already done so, we encourage you to submit an application as soon as possible but before the deadline date. This will ensure that if you encounter any problems, you can be supported/helped and to submit your application on time. There is no grace period for late applications.

The School Admissions Team strongly encourage parents to name four preferences, particularly if you reside in the Shrewsbury area. Please see the Parents' Guide to Education in Shropshire Booklet for further information.

If you have already made an application and wish to add additional preferences please contact school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk



2026 Poppy Appeal

Remembrance poppies have now arrived in school and will be available to purchase on the playground during morning break. Children can choose from a range of items, including poppies, snap bands and wristbands.

If you would like your child to support the RBL, please send them to school with a small donation so they can purchase an item. The suggested donation is between 50p and £1, depending on the item chosen.

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal and helping our children learn about remembrance and those who have served.

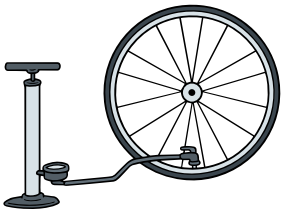


Thank you Dr Bike !

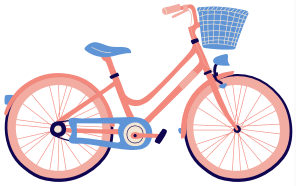
A Big Thank You to Dr Bike for helping pupils' bikes stay safe, roadworthy and ready to ride!













Harvest Donations

Harvest Celebration

Donations for Bishop's Castle Food Bank will be gratefully received.

Please send items into school by Monday 19th October

Types of Food You Can Donate:

- Non-perishable canned goods (vegetables, soups, beans)
- Pasta, rice, and grains
- Breakfast cereals and oats
- Cooking oils and sauces
- Packaged snacks and dried fruit
- Shelf-stable milk or milk alternatives
- Baby food and formula
- Toiletries and hygiene products



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

CONFIDENT COMMUNICATORS

WIDENING HORIZONS

GROWTH MINDSET

HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY MIND

More families eligible for Free School Meals



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

How to Apply

Apply Online

Go to the Shropshire Council Free School Meals Application page.

Shropshire Council Free School Meals Application Page

Apply by Phone

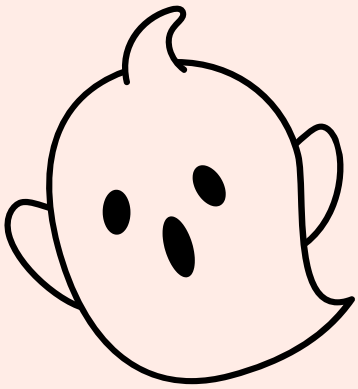
Call the Shropshire Council Customer Services Team on **0345 678 9008**.

What You Need

You will need your National Insurance (NI) number.

https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/are-you-eligible-for-free-school-meals/





JOIN US FOR A HALLOWEEN DISCO

WEDNESDAY 4TH NOV

RECEPTION,YR1 & YR2 - 4.45PM-5.30PM

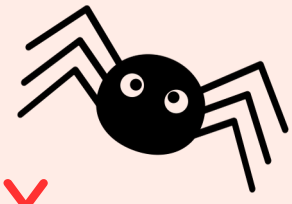
YR 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 5.45PM-6.30PM

£3.50 per child

Includes Drink, Choc Bar & Glowstick

Extra Sweets & Glowsticks
available to buy on the night
for 50p each





BC Primary Children ONLY

POTTERY PAINTING AFTERNOON.

FRIENDS OF BISHOPS CASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Saturday 7th November.

📍ChurchBarn,
Bishops Castle
SY9 5AF

⏱️2.30pm till 4.30pm

Join us for an afternoon of Pottery Painting, there will be a selection of items on the day at a range of prices.

Choose and pay for your pottery on the day.

£10pp to secure your seat, which also includes drink on arrival, nibbles and a raffle ticket.
Children welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.







Extra refreshments and raffle tickets available to purchase.

In Aid of Bishop's castle Primary school

To secure your place message
Sophie on - 07896970872
Payment taken on booking.

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



Autumnal Halloweeny

Animated short films
followed by crafty making session
Wednesday 28 October 11.00-12.45

Ideas, Guidance and all materials with plenty of freedom to create.

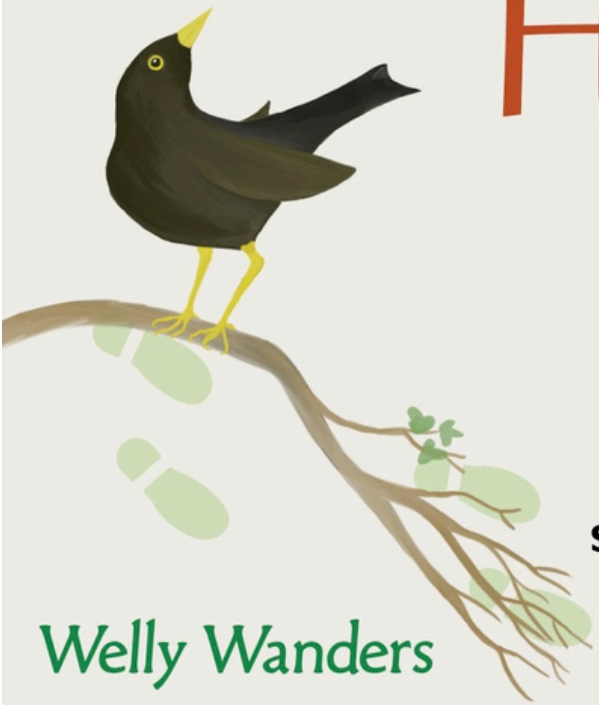
Under 8's must be accompanied by a willing helper
Accompanying adults please book a free place
(so we can make sure there's enough seating for the film)
Children £3.50 or 2 FOR £6.00
www.sparctheatre.co.uk

Sparc Theatre, Brampton Rd, Bishop's Castle SY9 5AY 01588 638038

Campaign to Protect Rural England Shropshire

Free entry for under 16s & all activities are free too!

Hedgerows in the Hills For Kids!



Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 October 2026, 10-4
Acton Scott Heritage Farm, Church Stretton

We are delighted to have received a grant from the Shropshire Hills National Landscape Conservation Fund to deliver free children's nature activities for this event.

Welly Wanders

Cath Landles will be leading **Welly Wanders for children and families** looking at the hedges on the farm site and doing some fun Nature ID.

Welly wander timings each day:
11am and 2pm (wanders last about one hour)
Gather at the PlayTent to start.

There will also be drawing, colouring and other paper-based activities under cover in the PlayTent. and a chance to try on a wild animal costume.





Be a Dormouse Detective!

Lucy Grove will open the **Dormouse Detection Den** in the New Shepherds Hut near the heavy horse working area.

Here you can step into the secret and fascinating world of dormice and become a wildlife detective. Discover the clues dormice leave behind—from nibbled nuts and natural nests to tiny footprints—and learn how to spot these elusive creatures in the wild. Get ready to put your detective skills to the test and see if you can uncover the hidden signs of a dormouse.

Big Hedge Hunt: Try your hand at finding and solving the clues in the hedges at Acton Scott which lead you to the ultimate treasure! What will you find?

More info & tickets: www.cpreshropshire.org.uk/hith

Shropshire Hills National Landscape

SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Dance Camp

Choose your camp:

Monday 26th October
Year 5 & 6

Tuesday 27th October
Year 7 & 8



SCAN HERE

- £35 per day
- All welcome

Scan QR code to register

Limited places
Don't miss out!

Shrewsbury High School, 32 Town Walls, Shrewsbury SY1 1TN

Presented by internationally renowned
The Fetch Theatre Company

Seven Tears of the Selkie

A stunning visual performance without words, featuring beautiful bunraku puppetry and original music.



This fun and interactive show transports audiences into the world of Selkies from Celtic folklore where seals transform in order to join our human world and anything is possible.....

Thursday 15th October, *1.30pm & 4.30pm*
SpArC Theatre, Bishops Castle, SY9 5AY
Tickets: Adult £7.50, Child £7.50
www.artsalive.co.uk
Groups and Schools welcome
Discounts for group bookings
Email: Liz@sparctheatre.co.uk

Touring with... arts alive

THE ELMLEY FOUNDATION

https://www.thefetch.co.uk

The Fetch Theatre Company

HALF TERM Writing Workshops

Write your own *chiller* (age 10+)
Mon 26 Oct
2-3.30pm
Writing workshop with award-winning writer, Liz Hyder. ***£10***



My Big Mouth (ages 8-12)
Wed 28 Oct
11-12pm & 2-3pm
A collaborative story making workshop with Steven Camden. ***£7.50 (2nd child £2.50)***



Book: 01584 878141 | ludlowassemblyrooms.co.uk

Places limited!

SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

ARTS & CRAFTS CAMP

PAINT, GLUE, CUT AND CREATE!

CHOOSE YOUR CAMP:

Monday 26th October – Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 27th October – Year 5 & 6

£35 per day
All welcome

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER



SCAN HERE

Shrewsbury High School, 32 Town Walls, Shrewsbury SY1 1TN