

Shipton Bellinger Primary School

Weekly School Newsletter

No.28 - Friday 24th April 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

It looks like Spring has finally arrived and it is glorious to see the sun shining with some warmth too. Although it might seem that it has been a quieter week in school in terms of events, the children have been very busy across the school in all aspects of their learning.

On Wednesday Mrs Chapman delivered a presentation to Year 1 parents about the Phonics Screening Check that takes place in June for all Year 1 children. In case you were unable to attend, the presentation has been uploaded on to our school website and can be found here: <https://www.shiptonbellinger.hants.sch.uk/parents/statutory-assessments/phonics-screen-check-information-year-1> There is also further information on this website page, including a video clip explaining what the check is. If you have got any questions about this, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.



After school on Wednesday, it was great to see so many families volunteering their time to help with the outdoor area in Cygnus Class. Our school value 'TOGETHER' was definitely being shown. Thank you to all those who helped. There will be more dates coming up to finish the outdoor area and then we will be moving on to the area outside Ara Class and our Forest School.



As always, if you have any questions, queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and enjoy the fabulous sunshine, while it lasts.

From Miss Seed

CHARTWELLS QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to those who have filled in this Google form already, it is much appreciated. There is still time for you to give yours/your child's opinions and feedback about the School Lunches and menus. The information we receive from this, will be helpful to feedback to Chartwell's. Here is the link for you to provide feedback:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfj4owBBfhUBMddhsH_a59S44FE7V:AIQQM-Aub6BJpQy_FQ/viewform?usp=header

MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

Please see below information from JAG, who will be running a holiday club in school during May half term.



Junior Adventures Group

HOLIDAY HQ **WORLD CUP**

TEAM KIT & FLAG WORKSHOPS

FOOTGOLF & GAME ARENA

MAKE & TAKE YOUR OWN SPORTS BOTTLES

View Dates & Book in 2 Minutes **Don't Miss Kick-Off This May Half Term!**



A Half Term packed with action

WHERE HOLIDAYS COME ALIVE!
RUNNING FROM 26TH - 29TH MAY

Celebrate the big kick off with JAG Holidays:

- 🏆 **Create team names, flags and anthems to kick off the week**
- Take part in striker, defender and goalkeeper skill challenges
- Design and build their own World Cup trophy**
- Compete in quizzes, team missions and problem-solving games
- Design football shirts, bottles and flipbooks to take home**
- Play matches, footgolf and high-energy team games
- Finish the week with finals day, celebrations and awards

VIEW OUR FULL MAY SCHEDULE ONLINE!

Sibling discount - Save 10%
Multi-day booking discount - Save 4%

Ofsted-registered care
Experienced, DBS-checked staff
Full & half-day options
48-hour cancellation policy
Tax-Free Childcare accepted

Trusted by parents and children across 90+ venues!

Click here to book now or find out more!

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JUNIORADVENTURESGROUP.CO.UK

ONLINE SAFETY PRESENTATION

Last half term we had a virtual presentation for parents regarding online safety for their children. The presentation has now been uploaded onto our website and can be found here:

<https://www.shiptonbellinger.hants.sch.uk/learning/ict-e-safety>

ICE CREAMS

The Ice Cream van will be visiting after school on a Monday (from next week). A percentage of the sales comes back to the school.



FRIENDS OF SHIPTON

We are pleased to share with you some upcoming events, more information will be sent out in due course.

Friday 5th June - Non-uniform day in exchange for Bottles for the Village Fete

Saturday - 13th June - Village Fete (the school will be taking part)

Saturday 4th July - Summer Picnic/BBQ - more information to follow

Thursday 9th July - End of Year Disco



"No one can do everything but everyone can do something"

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS WEEK.....

CYGNUS CLASS

This week our writing has continued to be inspired by the story of 'Tidy'. The children took on the role of the characters and gossiped about Pete the badger and his antics. They then transferred their ideas onto paper and wrote sentences about story events. Y1 used conjunctions 'and' 'because' to extend their sentences and also wrote some apology letters from the badger to say sorry to the woodland animals.



In Maths we investigated mass and used the language of 'light', 'heavy', 'lightest', 'heaviest', 'lighter', 'heavier', 'equal'. We used balance scales to measure and compare the mass of objects and weighed objects in cubes. YR took their learning into Explore and Learn time as they worked together to make a bucket of water lighter because it was too heavy to be carried and then compared the mass of water in different containers. It was lovely to see some brilliant teamwork as the children scooped, poured, measured and used funnels to fill and transfer!



In Science we explored what a minibeast is and what an insect is by sorting photos of creepy crawlies and drawing and labelling the parts of an insect. In Art we created butterfly collages inspired by Eric Carle's famous butterfly illustration in 'The Hungry Caterpillar'. We thought carefully about colour, size and pattern to make our collages symmetrical. In Geography we began our map skill work by looking at maps and sharing knowledge of our local area.

The children were so excited to find some new additions to the Cygnus Garden! A HUGE thank you to our parent volunteers who gave their time and skills to enhance our outdoor area further and add to the children's opportunities for learning and development.



ARA CLASS

What a week Ara!

In English we have finished reading Tidy and have written some lovely letters to Pete the badger's friends. The children have been working hard to use a range of prefixes and suffixes to change the meaning of root words.



In Maths we have been adding and subtracting using mass. In year 1 the children have been using balance scales to measure the weight of different classroom objects and comparing them to the weight of others. They have been using the language of 'heavier and lighter'. In year 2 we have been problem



solving with weight. They have been adding and subtracting different weights, using two 2 digit numbers. This has meant that they have learnt how to make an 'exchange'.

In Science the children have explored our forest schools area to search for where minibeasts live, learning about habitats and microhabitats. They ended the week by learning about what body parts insects have, and what makes them actually an insect!



We had great fun at the beginning of the week in PE, where we explored our first yoga lesson and our second wall and field games lesson. I'm so impressed with how well the children are listening to their instructions.

Well done Ara!

CONSTELLATION ROOM

This week in the Constellation Room, we've been making the most of the warmer weather by spending lots of time outdoors. The children have loved exploring their environment, searching for mini beasts and discovering where they live. This has sparked some fantastic conversations, with lots of curiosity and thoughtful questions about the world around them.

In Maths, we have been focusing on weighing and learning how to balance scales. The children have enjoyed hands-on experiences, comparing different objects and exploring what makes something heavier or lighter. We have also been practising counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to support concrete learning and build confidence with number patterns.

In English, we have been reading Tidy and exploring the character of the badger. This led to discussions about what it means to be tidy and why tidying up can be important. The children shared their own ideas and experiences, making great connections to their daily routines.

Our Art sessions have been full of creativity as we explored symmetry through painting butterflies. The children experimented with colour, folding techniques, and pattern-making to create beautiful symmetrical designs.

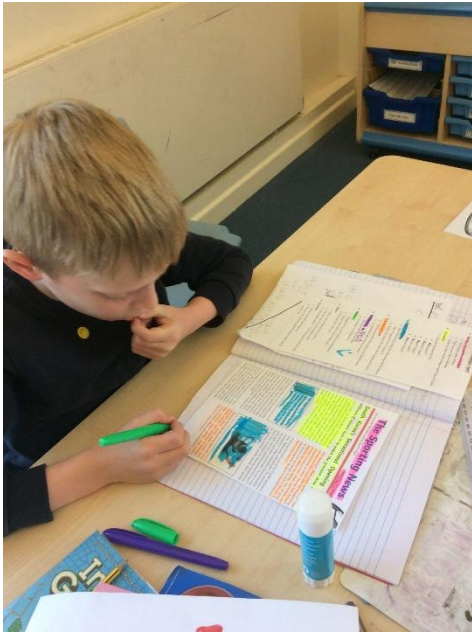
In Science, we continued our focus on mini beasts—looking at what they are, where they live, and their different features. The children particularly enjoyed getting hands-on by digging in the mud to find worms and exploring our forest school area. These experiences have helped bring their learning to life in a meaningful and exciting way. We have also been developing our fine motor skills through fun activities using pom poms and pipettes. These activities help strengthen hand muscles and coordination, which are important for writing and other everyday tasks. It's been a fantastic week full of exploration, creativity and discovery. We're looking forward to building on this learning next week!



PEGASUS CLASS

What another eventful week for Pegasus!

In English, we looked at different newspaper reports and the language used, such as past tense, first, second and third person, direct speech and quotes. The children had a go using each tool to write their own sentences. This helped them gain a better understanding of how to write a newspaper report, which will help them with their final write.



In Maths, we continued our unit on time. We learnt about am and pm and then converting 12-hour time to 24-hour time. We now know that a 24-hour time must always have four digits and when converting from a 12-hour time in the afternoon/evening, we must add 12 to the hour, but the minutes stay the same.

For example:

$$9:30 \text{ pm} = 21:30$$

$$8:30 \text{ am} = 08:00$$

We finally got to use the field for our outdoor PE. The children learnt the rules to cricket and then had a go playing a game in small groups. It was really fun watching them run around and encourage their team. They practised batting and fielding, really working on their throwing, catching and hitting skills. In dance, the children listened to Thriller by Michael Jackson and then watched a video of children performing a dance. They gathered some ideas and then had a go at replicating the dance. They had to use their acting skills to move like scary zombies and monsters.



Pegasus had the privilege of having Mr. Sullivan teach them an RE lesson. They enjoyed recapping the Easter story and using the different props to act it out.

In Art, the children continued learning about Walter S Arnold and compared him to Phoebe Cummings, who creates clay sculptures depicting nature. Their final piece is creating a clay monster sculpture.

During Science, we learnt about the 7 life processes that every living thing needs to have in order to be considered living. We used the acronym MRS GREN to help us remember what they are. The children then had a go at sorting living and non-living things.

Music was a lot of fun! The children worked with Mrs. Lane to create different musical pieces using the musical instruments.



ORION CLASS

Thank goodness the sun is shining and we can get out for PE onto the field! This week we have begun our cricket journey. The focus was throwing and catching. After warming up with some underarm practise we moved onto overarm. We practised strategies to maintain a straight arm and use our non-dominant arm for aim. Mrs Warland set up different targets for us to aim up. In Year 4 we used a standing throw, whereas Year 5 began to develop their run up!



We have had a truly fantastic time diving into our learning, with a particular focus on statistics in maths. The classroom has been full of enthusiasm as everyone embraced the topic with confidence and curiosity. It has been especially pleasing to see everyone not only understanding the concepts but also enjoying the challenge of experimenting with different methods to solve problems. Many children have shown great perseverance when tackling more complex questions, and it has been lovely to see them supporting one another and sharing their ideas.

On Tuesday, we turned our attention to Science, where we explored how living organisms are classified. This sparked lots of thoughtful discussion, with pupils asking insightful questions about how and why scientists group different species. The highlight of the lesson was creating our own classification charts. The class demonstrated fantastic creativity and attention to detail as they carefully organised organisms into groups, explaining their reasoning clearly. It was a wonderful hands-on activity that really helped to deepen their understanding.

In History, we ventured into the mysterious world of the Himalayas as we explored the legend of the Yeti. We were immediately captivated by the topic and eager to find out more. We examined a range of sources, including photographs and newspaper articles, and worked brilliantly to gather evidence. There were some excellent discussions as we began to debate whether the legend could be true, using our critical thinking skills to justify our opinions. It was fantastic to see such high levels of engagement and curiosity throughout the lesson.

Across all subjects this week, we have continued to show a positive attitude to learning, excellent teamwork, and a willingness to challenge ourselves.

It is a pleasure to see their confidence continue to grow! Well done, Team Orion!

Keep up the brilliant work and continue to shine!

CASSIOPEIA CLASS

We have had a fantastic week! On Monday, in gymnastics, we practised our handstands and many of us achieved this. We also practised shoulder stands and the bridge. These skills were new for many of us and it meant we had to work collaboratively and trust our partner.

In Writing, we have been examining sentence structure and investigating different ways of writing sentences. We then concentrated on developing cohesion within paragraphs, ensuring we are using a range of sentences, adverbials and subordinate conjunctions.

We are going to put this into practice when writing our letters to one of the characters from our film stimulus, Broken: Rock, Paper Scissors.


It has been wonderful to see the progress this week in Maths. The children are doing fantastically well with the arithmetic questions and are so much more confident at answering them. We have had a focus on percentages, and can now find percentages of amount and use this skill in more complex reasoning questions. Well done everyone!

In Art this week, we explored the work of Michelle Reader, a sculptor who uses recycled materials to create her pieces.



23.4.26
Lo: Explore and evaluate the work of Michelle Reader

Michelle Reader is a British artist known for her creative sculptures made from recycled material



→ could use metal to make its strong neck.


fork pronges to present its back main.

metal coricals to hold its massive body.

mine mic to act as a heat

I think this sculpture is trying to say your all no matter what.

I think this picture is trying to say never give up and keep on going



→ legs are wires as legs for the man

water bottles as the base

→ wheels for deceleration


→ buttons for eyes

→ using this picture is trying to say don't litter

Thursday 23rd April 2016

Lo: Explore and evaluate the work of Michelle Reader.


Michelle Reader is a British artist known for her creative sculptures made from recycled materials.



"I love this horse statue she did of the man and goat."
"Stand tall with elegance and beauty!"

This deer is made out of one can, metal pieces, bands on the neck and chains of love for the eyes.

"Be brave and have courage all the time."




Love like she used plastic which are colourful for the girl named up with metal rods.

"Have a little colour in your life as well as some happiness!"

This bird has wire and metal for the body with card legs for balance.

"Fly high and follow your dreams!"





Wednesday 29th April	PGL Presentation for Cassiopeia Class Parents - 3:10pm
Thursday 30th April	Progress Reviews to be sent home
Monday 4th May	BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 6th May	Open Afternoon 3:10pm onwards
Monday 11th May - Thursday 14th May	KS2 SATs Year 6 children invited in for Breakfast (See Summer 1 flyer for more information)
Wednesday 13th May	Multiplication Timetables check presentation for Year 4 parents
Monday 18th May	EYFS and KSI SCARF Workshops
Wednesday 20th May	National Numeracy Day
Thursday 21st May	Diversity Day
Thursday 21st May	Last day of Summer 1 half term
Friday 22nd May	INSET DAY School closed for children
Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May	HALF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 1st June	School re-open for Summer 2 term
Monday 1st June - Friday 12th June	Year 4 Multiplication Screening Check
Wednesday 3rd June	New Entrants Meeting 6pm
Thursday 4th June	Athletics Event AM - invite only
Friday 5th June	Non-uniform day in exchange for bottles

All dates and timings are accurate at the time of publication but are subject to change.