

Shipton Bellinger Primary School

Weekly School Newsletter

No.30 - Friday 8th May 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Even though it has only been a four day week, it really has flown by. It was lovely to welcome some many parents and carers into school on Wednesday after school for our Open Afternoon! There were lots of children proudly showing off their learning which was a joy to see. If you were unable to attend and you would still like to have the opportunity to see your child's learning in the books, please either contact the school office or speak to your child's class teacher.



Next week we have got our Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessments taking place and all of the Year 6 children are invited into school from 8:10am each morning (via the school office) to enjoy a yummy breakfast. We also have the Multiplication Timetables Check Presentation for Year 4 parents on Wednesday at 3:10pm.

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

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

From Miss Seed



SCHOOL BOOK SWAP - WATCH THIS SPACE! DONATIONS WELCOME!

The Star Council met with Mrs Chapman last week to discuss their idea of a school book swap.

We have decided that this would be amazing to have set up as part of our school library. Our plan is to have a selection of boxes for the EYFS, Key stage 1 (years 1 and 2), Lower Key Stage 2 (years 3 and 4) and then Upper Key Stage 2 (years 5 and 6).

If you have any books that could be donated to start us off, please can you send these into the school office!

Thank you for your support and we can't wait to get this up and running!

Mrs Chapman



MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

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



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

FRIENDSHIP BENCH DESIGN COMPETITION

Last week the STAR Council launched their Friendship Bench Design Competition. We have already received quite a few entries. The deadline for entries is Monday 11th May. Please see below the flyer or check out the website:

<https://www.shiptonbellinger.hants.sch.uk/learning/school-council>



STAR Council



Friendship Bench Design Competition

The STAR Council would like to invite all children at Shipton Bellinger Primary School to design a picture that could be used on our friendship bench.

Our new friendship bench is being made by one of the parents at our school and therefore we can design it ourselves.

We want your pictures to help create a welcoming place where everyone feels included, supported and valued.

Your picture could show themes such as friendship, kindness, helping others and belonging.

All entries must be completed and handed in to the school office by Monday 11th May. The pictures chosen by the STAR council will be shared on Monday 18th May.



THE BIG NUMBER NATTER - WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY - 2PM

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to let you know that, as a school community, we will be celebrating National Numeracy Day this year. Maths and numbers can sometimes evoke strong feelings, both positive and negative. For some, maths brings confidence and enjoyment; for others, it may bring anxiety or difficult memories. We know that classroom experiences can last a lifetime, and we want our school to be a place where every child and adult feels supported in building positive relationships with numbers.

Big Number Natter: Why "Natter" About Numbers?

As part of our celebrations, we will be taking part in the Big Number Natter. Love it or loathe it, everybody has something to say about numbers. Talking with children and adults in our school community about numbers can turn low number confidence from a private struggle into a shared strength. Opening up about how we feel is often the most powerful way to start thinking differently. When we talk honestly about maths, it helps people realise they are not alone and that many others share similar experiences. It can help build confidence with everyday numeracy and normalise learning, showing that it is okay to ask questions and learn at any age. It also gives children the opportunity to talk about numbers in everyday life, not just in maths lessons, and creates opportunities for staff and parents to engage in a different kind of conversation about maths, including parents' own experiences and feelings.

Please come and join us from 2pm on **Wednesday 20th May** for the Big Number Natter.

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"

DIVERSITY DAY

In celebration of the United Nations World Day for Diversity, families are invited to join us for a parade followed by a picnic (bring your own) at 2pm.



Children are invited to come to school in an outfit that reflects their uniqueness. For example, a traditional costume, their favourite colour or perhaps colours of the rainbow to represent the colourful world in which we live!

GROUND FORCE WORKING PARTY

Following the success of the Ground Force Working Party last week, a few parents have come together to continue to support the school in developing the outdoor learning environments. As such they have two dates:

Wednesday 13th May 3:10pm

Sunday 31st May from 10am

where they will be continuing to work on Cygnus Class outdoor area, moving on to Ara Class outdoor area and then our Forest School.

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

CYGNUS CLASS

This week in English we've continued to focus on instructions. We've been writing instructions on how to make a sandwich for badger full of forest treats such as 'gooey mud', 'green leaves', 'crunchy ants' and 'gritty sand'! We've focused on the use of 'bossy' (imperative) verbs such as 'chop', 'smash', 'crack' and 'sprinkle' as well as prepositions to add detail to our instructions.

In Maths, YR have been exploring the composition of numbers making number bonds for numbers up to 10 and using stem sentences such as '8 and 2 makes 10. 10 is made of 8 and 2.' Y1 have been grouping and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to solve word problems. They have represented their calculations on number lines and through repeated addition.

In Geography we created a map of the school grounds and plotted where we would like to create some microhabitats for the minibeasts that we're learning about in Science. For our 'Wild Wednesday' in our forest area we collected materials that we'll use to make our microhabitats such as logs, bark and pine cones, enjoyed the woodland swings and made buttercup chains. In Art we started our garden collages layering tissue paper and magazine cuttings.



ARA CLASS



This week, the Amazing Ara's have been extra bossy! We have learnt all about imperative (bossy) verbs and have been using them to create sets of instructions for how to make our disgusting sandwiches. I have been amazed at how well the children have remembered each step from last week and they have been brilliant at adding bossy verbs and beginning to add adverbs to their instructions.....Tip the sand on slowly!

In Maths we have been exploring

multiplication and division and this week we have been focusing on dividing using the 2, 5 and 10s. The children have shared counters, cubes and even each other into equal groups to see how many groups there are. They have even learnt how to record this in an array. In Science, the children have collected lots of different natural items to create their own microhabitats to entice more minibeasts into our outdoor areas.....I hope there aren't too many spiders!



In Art this week, the children have continued with their collaging. They have created a background, which shows many different colours and shapes that they would find in nature, ready for adding a minibeast next week. I'm really looking forward to their finished pieces.



In Computing they have been having a fantastic time coding Scratch Jr! They've learnt how to change a background, to make Scratch move and how to make him speak!

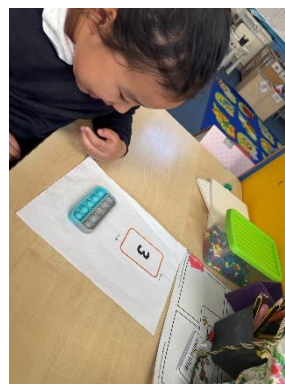
What a week!

CONSTELLATION ROOM

This week we have enjoyed lots of time outdoors, making the most of the warmer weather. The children took part in plenty of messy play and messy mark making, and we have been busy planting seeds to add colour to our outdoor area and hopefully attract some minibeasts. On Wednesday, we spent time in our Forest School area, where the children had great fun on the swing and exploring the space, which is now full of growing plants. We discovered centipedes, woodlice, snails, ants and many other minibeasts, which caused lots of excitement!

In English, we had lots of fun creating and writing about disgusting sandwiches. The children collected a variety of "ingredients" such as mud, sand and even glue, then wrote lists describing what they had added—some of the combinations were truly yucky! In Maths, we have been exploring doubles to 10 and practising our multiples of 5. We also revisited our shop role play, using 5p coins in the context of money, and the children especially enjoyed asking the adults for all their money!

In Science, we have been learning about different minibeasts, discussing their features and what makes an insect an insect, before drawing our own. In Art, we created beautiful butterfly collages to celebrate the season.



PEGASUS CLASS

In English, we started our poetry unit. The children were introduced to our new book "Werewolf Club Rules". They enjoyed listening to a poem and drawing any images that came to mind. This helped them understand that although poems are short, they can be quite descriptive and help paint a picture in the reader's mind. They liked reading various short poems from the book and looking at rhyming couplets.

In Maths, we continued with creating arrays, bar models and number lines to work on multiplication and division problems. We worked on word problems and used the counters to help us with our arrays. We then practised grouping and sharing to further understand division word problems.

We practised being the bowler during cricket and improved our throwing skills to get the batters out by aiming for and hitting the wicket. This will help us when we play a proper game of cricket next week. In dance, the children further refined their dance to "Thriller" by Michael Jackson and included some freeze frame poses in small groups. The children had to use their bodies and facial expressions to act like monsters and tell a story.



In music, the children worked in groups to combine their creature designs and created vocal and instrumental music pieces to go with their creature.



Computing was so much fun! The children went on Canva and edited some photos. They learnt how to change the colour, brightness and rotation of the photo. They then had some time to play around with the website and see how much they can edit the photo.

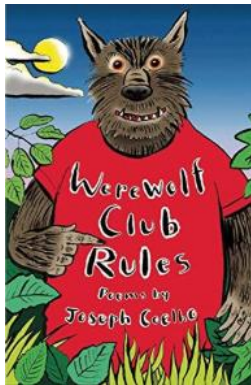
ORION CLASS

This week has been full of creativity, curiosity, and a little bit of spookiness! Our class finally completed the choreography for our *Thriller* dance, and we had an absolute blast becoming zombies. It was wonderful to see everyone moving together and enjoying the performance.



We explored food chains and webs in Science, learning how animals get their energy by consuming creatures smaller than themselves. The children were fascinated by the connections between predators and prey in nature.

Our journey into Romania's past in History introduced us to the legends of Transylvanian vampires. The class loved debating whether these stories were based on real events or created by people worried about illness. The discussions were thoughtful and full of curiosity!



During English, we began reading our new book, *Werewolf Club rules*. The children have enjoyed performing the poems aloud, using lots of emphasis and enthusiasm. Changing their tone of voice to show emotions really helped bring the words to life for the audience.

It has been a truly amazing week.

Well done, Orion Class, you should all be very proud!

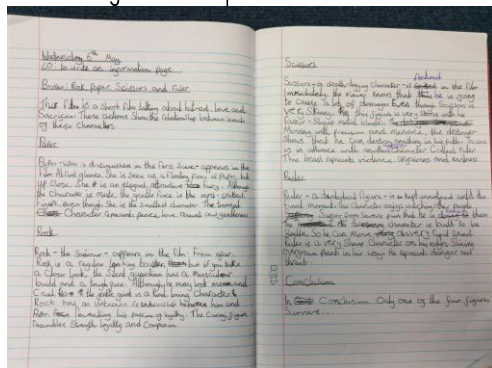


CASSIOPEIA CLASS

We have been busy this week with all our learning. It has been great to see everyone's positive attitude to their learning.

Geometry has been our focus this week, reminding ourselves of coordinates where we have read and plotted them in all 4 quadrants. We have recapped the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and then translated them onto a grid. Arithmetic has been a key focus with division and multiplication being the skills we have practised.

In writing, we have all written and edited our information pages about our film stimulus. We have enjoyed sharing our writing with our peers.



We have polished up on our grammar knowledge and ensured we understand all the key terms in preparation for next week.

Although it has been a short week, we have squeezed so much in. Don't forget it is SAT's breakfast next week. You're welcome to come along from 8:10am to enjoy time with friends in a relaxed way.



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 Timestables check presentation for Year 4 parents 3:10pm
Wednesday 13th May	Ground Force Working Party 3:10pm
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
Sunday 31st May	Ground Force Working Party from 10am
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
Monday 8th June - Friday 12th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Monday 8th June - Friday 12th June	Year 4 Multiplication Screening Check
Tuesday 9th June	Cricket Event - invite only
Thursday 11th June	Pegasus and Orion Trip to Paultons Park
Monday 15th - Friday 19th June	Cassiopeia Class Residential to PGL Liddington

Wednesday 17th June	Orion Class Family Assembly - 2:30pm
Thursday 18th - Friday 19th June	Year 3/4/5 Activities and Sleepover

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

“Storybook”

Scarecrow Competition 2026



Recreate the magic of your favourite storybook character and bring them to life.

Submit your entry by scanning the QR and message on the page or contact Sam Heaton via Facebook or inform the school office.

Entries to be on display from 1st June
Judging & prizes awarded at Village Fete



**Straw available on request - £1 per bag.
Please call 07795433483**