

Shipton Bellinger Primary School

Weekly School Newsletter

No.29 - Friday 1st May 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been so lovely to have the sun shining all week!! Once again the children have been continuing with all of their learning and our BOB book (Book Of Brilliance) has had a record number of entries for brilliant work.

On Wednesday after school the children and parents from Cassiopeia got very excited about their upcoming residential to PGL Liddington when Mrs Webber gave a presentation about what to expect and how to prepare for it. In case you were unable to attend, the information can be found on our website, on the Cassiopeia Class page: <https://www.shiptonbellinger.hants.sch.uk/learning/class-pages/cassiopeia-class-year-6>



On Thursday, your child was sent home with their half termly progress reviews. This is to provide you with a quick snapshot of your child's progress since parents evening last half term and before your child's final reports which will be sent home on Thursday 9th July. Due to SATs being completed by our Year 6 children next week, Cassiopeia Class will not have any half termly progress reviews sent home on this occasion. As always, if you have any questions, please see your child's class teacher. Don't forget we have our Open Afternoon next wednesday for you to come into school after pick up to have a look through your child's books.



	Reading	Writing	Maths	Learning Behaviours
Milestone 1 Parents Evening	EKS	EKS	WTS	
Spring 1	EKS	EKS	CT	***
Milestone 2 Parents Evening	EKS	CT	WTS	***
Summer 1	EKS	WTS	WTS	***

* WTS (working towards the expected standard) CT (close to working at the expected standard) EKS (meeting at the expected standard but at risk of not achieving) BKS (meeting at the expected standard)

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

I hope you have an enjoyable bank holiday weekend.

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/1FAIpQLSfsj4owBBfhUBMddhsH_a59S44FE7V:AIOQM-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.



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!](#)

 FOLLOW US ONLINE @JUNIORADVENTURESGROUPUK
 JUNIORADVENTURESGROUP.CO.UK

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"

FRIENDSHIP BENCH DESIGN COMPETITION

This week the STAR Council launched their Friendship Bench Design Competition. We have already received 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.

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.

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

The DfE recently updated its guidance to schools regarding the use of mobile phones in schools. Although we have never permitted the use of mobile phones or smart devices in school, there is now a whole school policy for us to follow. Below is the guide for parents regarding the mobile phone policy and further information can be found on our school website: <https://www.shiptonbellinger.hants.sch.uk/key-information/policies>
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



A Parents Guide to our Mobile Phone Policy



DfE Guidance

Pupils should not use mobile phones throughout the school day.

Pupils are not permitted to bring mobile phones or wear smartwatches in school, or school trips or school residential visits.



Exceptional Circumstances

There may be circumstances that it is appropriate for a pupil to bring a mobile phone into school. For instance, pupils travelling to and from school by themselves. In these circumstances, parents need to complete a permission form and the headteacher will decide on a case-by-case basis whether to allow for special arrangements.

Permission Form

There are a few different ways to get a permission form. A paper copy can be collected from the school office, the office can email you permission form, or you can download it directly from the policy on the school website: <https://www.shiptonbellinger.hants.sch.uk/key-information/policies>

Granted Permission

If permission is granted, the mobile phone will be handed into the school office at the beginning of the school day, stored securely in the office throughout the day and then collected at the end of the school day.

Breach of the policy

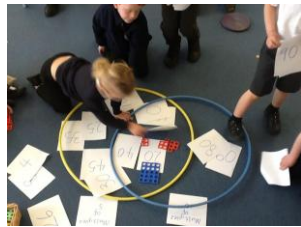
Mobile phones will be confiscated under sections 91 and 94 of the Education and Inspections Act 2026. If a mobile phone is confiscated, the pupil's parent will be called and advised to collect the mobile phone from the school office at the end of the school day. The mobile phone will remain secure in the school office.

For further information, please see the mobile phone policy on the school website: <https://www.shiptonbellinger.hants.sch.uk/key-information/policies> Paper copies can be available on request from the school office.

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

CYGNUS CLASS

Inspired by the story of The Disgusting Sandwich, one of the highlights this week was making some weird and wonderful sandwiches to support our writing of instructions. The children made some interesting combinations of fillings which included sticky jam, spicy ketchup, sweet pickle and crunchy crackers. They thought carefully about imperative 'bossy' words such as 'scatter', 'pour', 'cut', 'spread' and 'crush' as they made their sandwiches as well as adjectives to describe the fillings.



In Maths, Year R played games to support their understanding of doubling using their fingers, blocks and numicon as well as stem sentences. For example '3 and 3 makes 6', '6 is made of 3 and 3'. Year 1 are becoming more confident counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and using this knowledge to solve real life problems through repeated addition and grouping.



Some wonderful sketches of minibeasts were created in Art, we learnt about adaptation in Science and in Geography we developed map skills. YR are doing so well on their bikes through their weekly 'Balance Ability' lessons and becoming more confident lifting up their feet to glide, stop, steer and change direction.

The children had a wonderful time creating a Fairy Garden and Dino Land using natural items such as twigs, shells, pebbles and flowers.



ARA CLASS

Well done Ara - another fantastic week!

This week we have been learning how to write instructions! We had great fun learning about imperative verbs (bossy verbs). The children really enjoyed bossing each other around outside, giving them instructions on where to go. They had to be really concise with their instructions - walk forwards 5 steps and then turn to the right. We are using imperative verbs to write instructions for how to make our own disgusting sandwich. At the beginning of the week, Mrs Chapman made a sandwich which was 'inedible' and 'the worst sandwich in the whole world'. She was quite proud of that!



In Maths we have been continuing with our multiplication and division. The children have been learning the 2, 5 and 10 times tables and have just been blown away by the idea that the two times tables is also doubling....we will keep working on this!



In Geography we had a go at drawing our own map and labelling different parts of the map with symbols. We have learnt how to make our own key for the symbols.



We are really enjoying our Science learning at the moment - there are so many opportunities to pop outside to see which minibeasts we can spot. This week we have learnt about where minibeasts live and have been thinking about how they have adapted to this environment. What a week Ara! Well done!



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 finally got to start writing our newspaper reports! The children enjoyed pretending they were at the scene of King Kong destroying the city and using their reporting skills to write about the events that have happened.

In Maths, we continued our times tables learning from the Autumn term, with the focus on our 3, 4, and 8 times tables. The children had fun drawing arrays, bar models and number lines to show their working out. We also continued with our division learning to learn how multiplication and division are connected. To further understand this, we wrote down the fact family for each equation. We even got to work outside and use the chalk because it was such a nice day.



We continued learning the rules of cricket for our outdoor PE. We worked on boundaries, as fielders, and how to prevent the other team from scoring 6 points by hitting out of the boundary. The children had fun

hitting and catching the ball, as well as trying to stop the ball from bouncing out of bounds. In dance, they continued being scary zombies and monsters by working on their dance routine. This week they focused on using different poses to tell a story that they will incorporate into their final piece.



During Science, the children learnt about how to classify different organisms by making their own classifying key.



In PSHE, we had a discussion about germs and how to keep our bodies healthy.

ORION CLASS



Meet our monster creation, who we are yet to name! This beast came about while listening to a piece of music in our music session this week. We had to think about what we could hear and how we felt. Bringing all our ideas together, Miss Burns created this wonderful monster. We are wondering how many animals you can spot and whether you can guess which piece of music we were listening to!

In Maths this week, we have been learning about roman numerals. There has been lots of discussion about when and where we might see these. We are all keen to hunt on the BBC programmes to see if we can now work out which year a programme has been made!

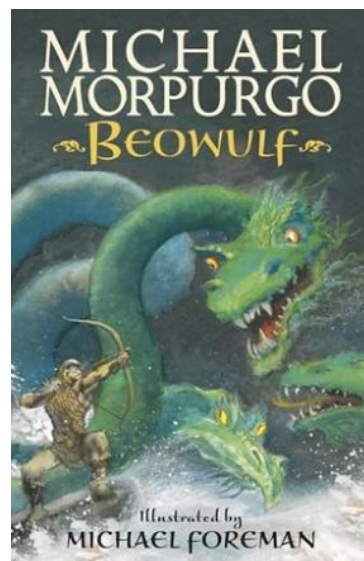
During writing, we have enjoyed creating our own newspaper reports. Year 4 children focused on the discovery of King Kong, while Year 5 had a choice of which part of the story was most newsworthy. It was important to consider the most important facts and create a succinct opening sentence that encapsulated the 5Ws - Who, What, Where, When and Why.

Our cricket session provided lots of fun this week where we used the stumps as target practice. We have been refining our overarm through to ensure we are covering a sufficient distance towards the stumps. You can imagine the pride we felt when we struck one of the stumps. Some of us even managed to knock it over.

We have come to the end of our book, Beowulf. This has been met with mixed reviews. Some of us loved the blood and gore of the different beasts coming to attack. There were many opportunities to make links between this book and ones we have read so far this year including the Iron Man. Lots of us were able to spot similar themes in the text and made expert comparisons.

The beast of focus this week in our History was - Bigfoot! Miss Burns was impressed with our skills at using fact or opinion to describe our feelings towards it. Many of us are unsure whether to believe it was a real beast and there were many thought provoking comments about it.

Have a wonderful bank holiday Team Orion!



CASSIOPEIA CLASS

This week, we've been really focused on preparing for our SATs. We are incredibly proud of how the children are challenging themselves and having a positive attitude towards their learning so far. Thank you for continuing to support them by encouraging them at home with their homelearning and reading.

In writing, we have been focused on making sure we are using cohesive devices to ensure our writing flows and is linked. The children are currently planning an information text about the film Rock, Paper, Scissors and we have created a new character. We had a range of ideas from Pen, Flint, flowers and even the aggressive ruler who joins forces with Scissors.

In Maths, we have continued with arithmetic practice daily. We also have been going over volume and capacity and revising properties of numbers such as prime, multiples, factors and square numbers.

In Music, we have fun learning new songs and singing in rounds. We are excited to showcase our songs at our end of year assembly.

PSHE, we discussed what is a risk was and the factors we need to consider when making decisions. There were a range of scenarios that we thought would be a safe risk and when it would be too risky. We also discussed how taking risks can make people feel.

Thank you for all your hard work year 6, enjoy the bank holiday!



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 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

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 H Eaton 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**