

Shipton Bellinger Primary School

Weekly School Newsletter

No.23 - Friday 6th March 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome so many parents into school this week for different events. On Tuesday and Thursday after school we held our Spring Parents Evenings. This was a great opportunity for parents to look through their child's learning books and see the progress they have made. It also gave them the opportunity to discuss their child's strengths and areas for development over the next term and a half.



World Book Day on Thursday was a great success. The day was based around the theme 'Reading is fun' and it

certainly was. From walking along a catwalk dressed as a book character, to writing book reviews or learning how to be an illustrator, the day was jam packed with fun activities. It was lovely to see that every child dressed up in a costume and the range of the characters was impressive. Every class did a

fabulous job during our assembly sharing the learning they had done over the day and the parent attendance at the assembly was great too. I particularly enjoyed sharing my son's (current) favourite book with a group of children.



Next week, don't forget we have got Non-Uniform day on Friday 13th March in exchange for Easter goodies as well as our STEM week. Parents are invited to join their child in school on Friday from 1:15pm onwards to help with a STEM activity. We hope you can make it!

As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please let us know.
I hope you have a lovely weekend. From Miss Seed

SPONSORED COLOUR RUN - COMMUNITY REGISTRATION

Last week we shared our Community Registration for our Sponsored Colour Run. If you haven't received the link to register or the flyer, please speak to the school office.

Registration is now OPEN, so please sign up. It is all going to a good cause and hopefully it will be fun too!



NEW WEBSITE

Just a reminder that our new website launched last week and we hope you are finding it easier to navigate. One feature of our new website is its link to a mobile app. Through the app you will be alerted when things like newsletters have been uploaded onto the website. Details of how to do this are below:

- To download your mobile app please search for 'School Jotter 3' using either the App Store or Play Store.
- Once downloaded if you could please 'Continue as guest' (no login required).
- Then search for your school by either entering your school name or post code.
- Please click on our school and that is it.

Here is a flyer that maybe useful:

A flyer for the School Jotter mobile app. The top left features the School Jotter logo, which consists of a stylized 'S' and 'J' inside a circle. Below the logo, the text reads "Never miss school notifications". Underneath, it says "Download the School Jotter Mobile App today and you'll get:". There are three bullet points: "News and message notifications" with a speaker icon, "School calendar access" with a calendar icon, and "Other links to useful resources" with a link icon. At the bottom left, there are two buttons: "GET IT ON Google Play" and "Download on the App Store". To the right of these buttons is a QR code. On the right side of the flyer, there is an illustration of two smartphones. The left phone shows a news article, and the right phone shows a "Join the online Family Trip - details" page. There are also some decorative icons: a paper airplane, a network diagram, and a beaker.

CAMHS QR CODE

We are continuing our theme of sleep and sharing the link between ADHD and sleep. The video can also be found here:

<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/videos-podcasts/>


Hampshire Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Services

ADHD
and sleep



STEM WEEK

Next week is STEM Week and we are really looking forward to spending the afternoons exploring the skills that this event provides. This year we are exploring the theme:

"Curiosity - What's your question?"

Each day we will be dedicating an afternoon to a different area of STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and we have a wonderful range of activities that we will be completing. We are also very much looking forward to having some special visitors come into school to complete some scientific investigations with us!

JUNK MODELLING REQUEST

Please could you send in any of the following items to help us to complete our activities:

cereal boxes , shoe boxes

toilet/kitchen rolls

paper straws, yogurt pots

cardboard, milk bottle lids

Newspapers

On Friday 13th parents are welcome to join us from 1:15pm to help their children with a STEM marble run activity.

EYFS - TRASH TO TREASURE

Cygnus Class are in need of the below items for crafting and creating! In our efforts to reduce waste and be more eco-friendly, we are keen to repurpose items that might otherwise end up in landfill and also develop the children's creativity in turning 'trash into treasure' so please think of us when you're doing your recycling or having a clear out! Thank you



For junk modelling & collage

egg boxes, small cardboard boxes, toilet rolls, lids & bottle tops - all sizes (plastic & metal), old birthday and christmas cards, magazines, newspapers

Bits & Bobs

buttons, CDs & DVDs, beads, curtain/shower rings, old keys, spools, photo & picture frames - all shapes and sizes, small mirrors

Art supplies - chalk, chalkboards, tissue paper, pom poms, pipe cleaners, lollipop sticks, wool, string, scraps of fabric, ribbon

Woodwork resources Off cuts of wood (untreated), washers, screws, corks, corkboard, spanners, screwdrivers, nails, bolts, hammers and any other tools for tinkering with!

Non Uniform Day
Friday 13th March 2026

In return, please bring in an Easter
Egg/Chocolate donation for our Easter
Raffle

Please wear sensible footwear!



FRIENDS OF SHIPTON



Tickets for the Easter Raffle will be sent home today. If you would like any more, please just pop into the office. The raffle will be taking place after the Easter Bonnet Parade on Friday 27th March.

We will be holding one of our popular Cake Sales on Friday 20th March, afterschool, in the playground. As it is Red Nose Day we will be splitting the profits equally between FOS and Comic Relief.

As always, this event is only successful with the kind and generous donations of cakes from yourselves - please bring in your donations on the morning of the sale.

Thank you for your continued support.

Join us for a
Cake Sale

Please bring in cake donations to the school office on the day!

All profits will be split equally between
FOS and Comic Relief's
Red Nose Day

Friday 20th March
from 3pm in the Playground

The poster features illustrations of various cakes and cupcakes at the top and bottom. It includes logos for 'RED NOSE DAY', 'Friends of Shipton' (FOS), and 'STAR'. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold and regular fonts.

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

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

CYGNUS CLASS

Inspired by the story of The Storm Whale, after hearing about a mysterious 'creature' in the playground, the children went to investigate. From a far, it looked like a pile of rugs but on closer inspection it was a (cuddly) bear! This led us onto writing a diary entry about our discovery and the children used their imaginations to write about their adventures with the 'bear'! They thought carefully about the order of events and used time words such as 'first', 'next' to sequence their writing.

In Maths, YR continued to practise counting in ones by playing games that involved counting forwards and also ordering numbers from 0-10. Y1 began to learn about multiples of 10. We used numicon and 10p coins to practise counting in tens and showed this in arrays and on a number line. The children did so well with this, quickly grasping the idea that we add 10 each time!

We kicked off World Book Day with a costume parade! The children worked together to make a catwalk using the large blocks using their problem solving to fit the blocks together and their number skills to create steps using 1, then 2, then 3 blocks to create a staircase. Some children wrote invitations and made tickets and they were excited when Ara Class and their buddies in Y6 came along to watch them take to the stage! We talked about which stories our characters were from and wrote some fantastic 'Guess Who?' descriptions to describe who we had come dressed up as. They loved being illustrators and ['drawing along with Rob'](#) to create some wonderful illustrations.



In History, we learnt more about the Titanic, explored colour and tone with watercolours in Art and enjoyed a beautifully sunny walk to spot signs of Spring which ended with the creation of some beautiful daffodil paintings and daisy chains!

ARA CLASS

What a fantastic and busy week we have had in Ara Class!

In Maths, the children have been working extremely hard to build their confidence with counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. We have also been learning how multiplication works by grouping objects and creating arrays. The children particularly enjoyed making arrays using counters, carefully arranging them into rows and columns to help them see how multiplication works. As their confidence grew, they progressed on to drawing their own arrays, showing their understanding in different ways.

In English, we had a very exciting and slightly mysterious experience! Earlier in the week, we were visited by a strange creature in the playground. The class crept closer very carefully to investigate. To our amazement, we discovered that it was actually a bear trying to escape from the playground by climbing up the shed! This surprising event inspired our writing, and we have begun to write a diary entry about what happened. The children have been working hard to include adverbials of time, prepositions, and a range of sentence types and punctuation in their writing.

We were also thrilled to be able to enjoy two PE lessons outside this week. The children have been practising how to control a ball with their feet after someone rolls it to them, developing their coordination and control. We have also had a fitness focus, where the children learnt how to run for a more sustained period of time. By the end of the lesson there was lots of puffing and panting, but the children showed great determination!

I was absolutely thrilled with the children's beautiful artwork this week. Inspired by the artist David McEown, the class explored how to change the tint and tone of watercolour paints. They used these skills to create stunning iceberg watercolour paintings, and the results were truly impressive.

Finally, the children looked absolutely fantastic for World Book Day. They were brilliantly dressed as a wide range of wonderful characters. We also thoroughly enjoyed our 'Stop, Drop and Read' sessions throughout the day, where everyone took time to pause and enjoy a good book together. We hope you like our 'pull a funky face' poses!



CONSTELLATION ROOM

It has been another busy and enjoyable week in our constellation room, with the children taking part in a variety of activities designed to support their learning, confidence and curiosity. We have been focusing on developing key skills across maths and English while also making time for creative activities and outdoor exploration. With the warmer weather arriving, the children have especially enjoyed spending more time learning and playing outside.



In maths, we have been exploring **patterns**, practising **counting in 10s**, and learning about **grouping in 2s**. The children used practical resources, games and visual supports to help them recognise number patterns and understand how numbers can be grouped and counted in different ways. These hands-on activities helped to make the learning fun and engaging while building confidence with early number skills.

In English, we have been learning how to write **diary entries**. The children talked about what a diary is and how it helps us record events from our day. We also explored **characters' feelings and emotions**, discussing how characters might feel in different situations and how we can recognise emotions through actions, pictures and words. This has supported the



children in developing both their communication skills and their understanding of emotions.

We also celebrated **World Book Day** this week. The children enjoyed talking about their **favourite books** and sharing what happens in the stories they love. They created their own **book covers**, using colours, pictures and characters from their favourite stories. It was lovely to see their creativity and excitement about books and



storytelling.

During **Forest School**, the children loved exploring the natural environment. We found **worms** in the soil and learned about why they live underground and how they help the earth. The children were very curious and enjoyed carefully observing them. We also had lots of fun **playing on the tree swing**, which was a great opportunity for



the children to develop confidence, coordination and enjoy being active outdoors.

With the warmer weather, we also introduced **water play**, where the children explored **floating and sinking** by testing different objects in water and making predictions about what might happen. It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged,



asking questions and learning through hands-on experiences.

Overall, it has been a lovely week filled with learning, creativity and exploration as the

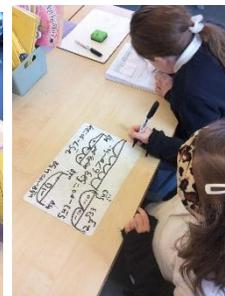
children continue to grow in confidence both inside and outside the classroom. 🌱 📖 💧 ☀️

PEGASUS CLASS

This week, we started a new Times table Tuesdays (inspired by Orion's Multiplication Mondays). It is important for the Year 3's to recall and

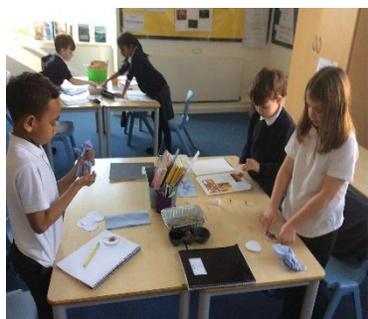


retain their multiplication facts to prepare them for year 4. Therefore, this weekly session is supposed to encourage and increase fluency and confidence of their multiplication knowledge. In our first session, we used a



counting stick to recall and secure our 2 multiplication facts. Our next sessions are going to include 5, 10, 3 and 4 multiplication tables. In Maths, we continued developing our adding and subtracting of three digit numbers. The children worked closely in small groups with an

adult to use a numberline to help them solve the problem. This also helped them secure their place value knowledge of knowing which digits change or stay the same when adding and taking away ones, tens and hundreds.



In English, we practised writing simple, compound and complex sentences to work on coherency. Making sure our sentences make sense and are punctuated correctly is a big target in Pegasus. The children loved rearranging sentences that were all muddled up and trying to make sense of them by putting them in the correct order. In Art, the children got to create their own dye using different ingredients such as soil and



turmeric. This was how they made dye back in the Stone Age times. Finally, we had our World Book Day on Thursday! It was a lot of fun seeing all the children dressed up as their favourite characters. Even our very own Miss. Yau dressed up as Winnie the Pooh, Mrs. Midgeley as Elmer the Elephant and Mrs. Dowding as the Mad Hatter. The children enjoyed reading books and creating their own



stories and illustrations.



I am so proud of all the hard work everyone in Pegasus has done this week!

ORION CLASS

Across the week we have got stuck into a range of new learning. During our writing sessions, we have explored a wider range of punctuation including commas, colons and semi-colons. We have learnt how to use them to avoid ambiguity or confusion in our sentences. As we are writing stories next week, we have had lots of chance to practise using these skills ready for our big write.

In maths, we have worked on our multiplication skills. Year 4 have secured their use of the grid method and thought about the known facts they can use to help. For example, when calculating 60×3 , I can use my known fact of 6×3 is 18 before multiplying the answer by 10 to get 60 lots of three. Year 5 children have used the column method in both expanded and compact form to check whether they are being accurate.

We loved our rocks lesson this week. Mrs Warland provided a wide range of different rocks for us to investigate. It was important to use our observation skills as well as different methods to check how hard the rocks are. We were surprised to discover some rocks that were actually really quite light! It was also fascinating watching whether the rocks were permeable or not as we tested them with water. This helped us understand why some are more suited to roof tiles!



During our reading session, we enjoyed creating freeze frames to represent parts of the story. We had to infer different elements of the story to convey the message to our audience. In groups we 'performed' our freeze frame to a partner group and challenged them to work out which scene we were depicting. It was important to consider facial expression and body language. Can you work out what is happening?



CASSIOPEIA CLASS

This week in Cassiopeia Class, we've had a fantastic time exploring creativity and learning! Our art sessions were inspired by the vibrant pop art of Andy Warhol. The children had a go at using bold colours to recreate images in a repeated style.

In Maths, we focused on the addition and subtraction of decimals and mixed numbers. We tackled problem-solving questions, honing their skills and boosting their confidence in handling numbers.

Our writing lessons were equally exciting as we delved into diary entries from Zoe's perspective upon her arrival on Eels Island. The children demonstrated great imagination and empathy, bringing Zoe's experiences to life through their words.

We were lucky with the weather this week and enjoyed our tennis lessons outside. We were able to practise our rallying and in groups played around the word which was great fun.

To celebrate World Book Day, we engaged in a genre quiz using clues, shared book reviews, and participated in a live lesson. The highlight was writing our own short stories, where the creativity flowed freely!



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| Monday 9th March - Friday 14th March | STEM Week - Parents invited in on Friday 14th March in the afternoon for STEM activities in their child's class |
| Tuesday 10th March | Rural Schools Cross Country - invite only |
| Thursday 12th March | Pegasus Family Assembly 2:30pm |
| Friday 13th March | FoS Non-uniform day - in exchange for Chocolate eggs etc. |
| Wednesday 18th March | Ara Family Class Assembly 2:30pm |
| Friday 20th March | Red Nose Day and FoS Cake Sale |
| Tuesday 24th March | Cygnus Class Family Assembly 2:30pm |
| Wednesday 25th March | Year 1 and 2 Trip to SeaCity Museum |
| Thursday 26th March | EYFS and KSI Easter Church Service 9:45am KS2 Easter Church Service 11am |
| Friday 27th March | Easter Bonnet Parade & Easter Raffle |
| Friday 27th March | PM - FoS Sponsored Event |
| Friday 27th March | Last School Day of the Spring Term 2 |
| Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April | EASTER HOLIDAYS SCHOOL CLOSED |
| Monday 13th April | School re-open for Summer Term 1 |
| Monday 13th April | ACHIEVE school values day |
| Friday 17th April | Military Child Day - Wear something yellow |
| Monday 20th April | Whole Class Photographs |
| Wednesday 22nd April | Phonics Screening Check Presentation for Year 1 Parents - 2:30pm |

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