



# **John Shelton Primary School Newsletter**

Sway Edition 1

24th October 2025

## Headteacher's Comment

Dear Families,

As we reach the end of our first half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a wonderful start to the school year it has been. The children have settled back into school life brilliantly, embracing new learning opportunities with enthusiasm and showing kindness and respect in all they do. It has been inspiring to see our school values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility shining through in classrooms, on the playground and in every aspect of school life.

I would like to thank all our staff for their hard work and dedication, and our families for their continued support. Together, we are creating an environment where every child can thrive, feel valued and take pride in their achievements.

I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable half-term break. We look forward to welcoming you all back, refreshed and ready for another exciting half term ahead.

Mrs Storer



## Colder Weather



As the weather begins to turn colder, please make sure that your child comes to school with a coat each day. We are trying to use the outdoors more for our learning so a warm, waterproof coat is essential.

## OPAL play

With the wetter weather arriving, **children will also need wellies** for our OPAL play sessions so they can continue to enjoy our outdoor spaces safely.

We are really proud to be developing OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) at our school. OPAL encourages children to be creative, active and cooperative through play, helping them to build friendships, resilience and problem-solving skills. You may have noticed the children exploring a wider range of equipment and materials during playtimes this is all part of our commitment to giving them rich, imaginative outdoor experiences. As we continue to

develop this approach, suitable outdoor clothing and wellies will make sure everyone can join in whatever the weather.



## Poppies





Our Poppy Shop is now open as part of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. This annual event gives children the chance to learn about remembrance and to show respect for those who have served and continue to serve our country. Items such as poppies, snap bands, wristbands and keyrings are available, with prices ranging from 50p to £1.50. Children can bring in small change if they would like to buy something and support this important cause. We will also be taking time in school to reflect on the meaning of remembrance and the values it represents one of our school values of respect.

[Price list link](#)

## **Parking**

Please remember **not to park in front of or near the school gates** in the morning or at the end of the day as this causes congestion and poses a risk to children's safety.



## **Applying for Secondary School - *Deadline for applications is 31st October***

Parents/Carers of children in Year 6. It is time to apply for your child's place in Secondary School for next year. Please click on the link for more information.

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/40764/secondary-admissions-booklet-2026>

Secondary School Open Evenings. If you would like to attend an open evening, please click on the link below.

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/school-admissions/secondary-school-open-evenings>

Please click the link below for more information and to apply online.

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/school-admissions/secondary-school-admissions/2>

## **Teacher Training Days for next academic year 2025-2026**

**Please find the dates for teacher training days for academic year 2025 -2026.**

1. Monday 1 September 2025
2. Tuesday 2 September 2025
3. Friday 7 November 2025

4. Monday 05 January 2026
5. Monday, 20 July 2026



## Punctuality

Recently we have seen a high increase in pupils being late for school.

**The start of the morning is the most crucial learning. Children should be in school by 8.45am ready to start their learning.**

School gates open at 8.35am and close at 8.45am.

If you arrive after the gates have closed please go to the school office.



## Upcoming dates



The poster features a decorative border of autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and brown. In the top left corner, there is a circular logo for 'The Grange Primary School' with a central emblem. The title 'Autumn Term 2025 Key Dates' is centered at the top in a red, serif font. The main content is a list of dates and events in a blue, sans-serif font, with some dates in red. The background is white.

**Autumn Term 2025 Key Dates**

- October 24th—Children break up for half term
- November 3<sup>rd</sup> —Children return to school
- November 5<sup>th</sup> – Key Stage 2 Maths Fair 2pm for parents
- November 6<sup>th</sup> – Disco for Reception to Year 6 4.15pm – 5.15pm (£2.50)
- November 7<sup>th</sup> – School closed for Training Day
- November 10<sup>th</sup> – Coffee and chat with Family Hub 2-4pm
- November 11<sup>th</sup>—Year 5 & 6 Spooky Stories 3.15pm – 4.15pm
- November 14<sup>th</sup> – Non uniform day for Christmas Fair donation
- November 14<sup>th</sup> – Nursery, Reception & Year 1 Nursery Rhyme performance for parents
- November 19<sup>th</sup> – Key Stage 2 English Fair 2pm for parents
- November 20<sup>th</sup> – SEND coffee afternoon for parents 2pm
- November 21<sup>st</sup> – Non uniform day for Christmas Fair donation
- November 27<sup>th</sup>—Christmas Fair (3.15pm–5.00pm) Please collect children at 3pm
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – Coffee and chat with Family Hub 9-11am
- December 10<sup>th</sup>—Parent Christmas Crafts Nursery & Reception 10am – 11am
- December 10<sup>th</sup>—Parent Christmas Crafts for Year 1 – Year 6 2pm
- December 11<sup>th</sup>— Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner Day
- December 12<sup>th</sup> – Flu jabs (Reception to Year 6)
- December 15<sup>th</sup> – Rock Steady concert 9am
- December 15<sup>th</sup>—Nursery Christmas Performance (10.00am)
- December 16<sup>th</sup>—Reception Christmas Performance (9.30am)
- December 17<sup>th</sup>—Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance (9.30am)
- December 17<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 class assembly 2.30pm
- December 18<sup>th</sup> – Key Stage 2 Christmas Performance 1.15pm & 2.15pm
- December 19<sup>th</sup>—Non- uniform day. Break up for Christmas

## E-Safety

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, about their best interests. This guide focuses on the risks we believe to be most significant for children and young people. Please see our website [nationalonlinesafety.com](http://nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, tips and tips for adults.

It can be challenging for parents and carers to know whether children are spending too much time on their devices. Furthermore, it's even more of a challenge to know whether a child is addicted to the internet and social media. As technology is becoming more pervasive, children and young people are experiencing tech-related dependencies. Do we as parents and carers have the knowledge to identify and support children and young people who may be developing an addiction to their devices?

**47%** of parents said they thought their children spent too much time in front of screens

### What parents need to know about SCREEN ADDICTION

#### HEALTH & WELLBEING

Children as young as 13 are attending mental health services over screen time. There are also help centers in the UK which deal with mental health issues for children and adults (showing the seriousness of device addiction). The World Health Organization (WHO) has officially recognized gaming addiction as a mental disorder. The condition has been confirmed as part of their International Classification of Diseases (ICD) which serves as an international standard for diagnosing and treating health conditions.

#### LACK OF SLEEP

7 out of 10 children said they had missed out on sleep because of their online habits and 60% said they had neglected school work as a result. It is important that children get the sleep they need in order to focus the next day.

#### LOSS OF INTEREST IN OTHER THINGS

Your child may become less interested in anything that does not include their device. You may notice that your child is missing school time and generally being less engaged with other activities as the going is to be important to discuss this with your child as soon as you notice a behaviour change.

#### CONFIDENCE, SUPPORT & ADVICE

The Children's Commissioner report 'Life in Likes', explored how children aged 8-11 are using social media under 10 and that children as young as 10 are using apps to their online lives and support in removing face to face interactions.

#### APPS CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Apps have been designed with psychological tricks to constantly have you hooked for attention. One example of this is an app called Snapchat, where you can gain streaks by interacting with your friends. If you don't respond, you lose the streak. This addictive nature of apps aims to engage children and keep them coming back for more.

### Top Tips for Parents

#### LIMIT SCREEN TIME

In today's digital age, technology is an important part of a child's development as compared to learning from books. Use devices with screens they are missing out on a bit, including internet and computer games with their friends. Before their bedtime, turn off their devices, we suggest setting a screen time limit. Work out what your child's screen time needs and amount of time for your child to be on their device per week. Remember that your child may need to have devices for their school homework so only set screen limits on recreational time on their devices. Check you have established this, have the child's attention with them to discuss why you are implementing a screen limit. There will still be screen time at your child's educational institution when they do not have access to their phones.

#### LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children model their behavior on their parents, so if their parents are constantly on their devices, they will see this as acceptable. Try limiting your own screen time and avoid your child to not see their phone at the table, make sure you don't try to bring them into the room that the whole family abide by.

#### REMOVE DEVICES FROM THEIR BEDROOM

Setting a rule about removing devices from bedrooms and that you should be using devices from bedrooms and that you should be using devices from bedrooms and that you should be using devices from bedrooms.

#### ENCOURAGE ALTERNATE ACTIVITIES

It may seem like an obvious solution, but encouraging children to play with their friends, read a book, or playing outdoors can help them realize they can have fun without their devices. Playing outdoors is an all-round, exciting activity for a wide range of ages. Try to join them in their outdoor activities to show your support.

#### LESS TIME MEANS LESS EXPOSURE

There are many risks associated with devices, such as cyberbullying, grooming, sexting, viewing inappropriate content etc. Less time spent on a screen means that a child will be less exposed to these risks.

#### STATISTICS

- 52% of children aged 3-4 go online for nearly 2H15 a week
- 82% of children aged 5-7 go online for nearly 3.5H15 a week
- 93% of children aged 8-11 go online for nearly 13.5H15 a week
- 99% of children aged 12-15 go online for nearly 20.5H15 a week

## Before school Provision

Our before school provision is still available and is run by KITS academy. Please see the latest information from them:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We're excited to announce that from **1st November 2025**, we'll be moving our booking system from **Active Works to Pebble**.

Pebble is a more user-friendly platform that will make booking your sessions **smoother, faster, and easier**.

To prepare for this transition, **all bookings from 1st November onwards have now been disabled on Active Works**. You'll need to rebook your sessions through Pebble using the link below:

👉 [Book your sessions on Pebble here](#)

Please note: while the Pebble system will officially go live on our website from **1st November**, you can use the **direct link above to book your spaces now**.

If you've already made a booking for November or later through Active Works — don't worry! Simply **reply to this email**, and we'll send you a **discount code** equal to the amount you've already paid. You can then apply this code when you rebook via Pebble.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we make this improvement to enhance your booking experience.

## REMINDERS



*1 - Please remember we are a NUT FREE school.*



*2 - Appointments to be made out of school hours.*



*3 - Please collect your child on time.*

## School Lunch Menus

School lunches are paid for weekly on Monday morning and from September 2025 cost £2.40 per day £12.00 per week. Our preferred method of payment is online via [School Gateway](#), however please ensure you have notified the office that your child requires a dinner otherwise they will not be catered for. If your child is eligible for free school meals please ensure that you take up this entitlement using this link - <http://coventry.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>. Families in receipt of Income Support or Income based Job Seekers allowance are entitled to free meals for their children. If you are unsure of how to claim your entitlement, please see the school office as soon as possible. We advise you to claim your free meals even if you decide to send your child with a packed lunch from home or take him/her home for dinner. Part of every school's budget share depends on the uptake of free meals. By claiming your entitlement you ensure that the school is financed as well as possible.

# AUTUMN TERM

## WEEK 1

### Monday

Pork Sausages  
Vegetarian Sausage (V)  
Served with Mashed Potato,  
Peas, Coleslaw  
Lemon Sponge served with Custard

### Tuesday

Homemade Beef Lasagne  
Vegetarian Lasagne (V)  
Served with Sweetcorn & Salad  
Diced Herbs Potatoes  
Shortbread Finger  
with Fruit Wedges

### Wednesday

Roast Chicken  
Vegetarian Mince and Onion Pie (V)  
Served with Roast Potatoes,  
Green Beans, Carrots  
Iced Chocolate Sponge

### Thursday

Mild Beef Chilli con Carne  
Vegetable Enchilada (V)  
Served with Rice, Sweetcorn, Broccoli  
Apple Crumble & Custard

### Friday

Fish Fingers  
Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)  
Served with Chips, Peas,  
Baked Beans  
Fresh Fruit

## WEEK 2

### Monday

Beef Burger in a Bun  
Tomato and Pizza Cheese Pinwheel (V)  
Served with Potato Wedges, Mixed Salad  
& Coleslaw  
Jam Sponge

### Tuesday

BBQ Chicken  
Chickpea and Vegetable Biryani (V)  
Served with Fluffy rice, Peas & Broccoli  
Mini Sultana Oat Cookie  
with Fruit Slices

### Wednesday

Roast Turkey with Gravy  
Vegan Quorn Sausage (V)  
Served with Roast Potatoes,  
Green Beans, Carrots  
Pineapple Upside Down Cake  
with custard

### Thursday

Chicken Wrap  
Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)  
Served with Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn, Salad  
Chocolate Brownie

### Friday

Fish Fingers  
BBQ Vegetable & Bean Wrap (V)  
Served with Chips, Peas, Baked Beans  
Fresh Fruit

## WEEK 3

### Monday

Ham Pizza  
Mixed Bean Fajita (V)  
Served with Potato Wedges,  
Salad, Coleslaw  
Shortbread

### Tuesday

Mexican Chicken  
Macaroni Cheese (V)  
Served with Warm Baguette,  
Peas, Broccoli  
Chocolate Sponge with Custard

### Wednesday

Roast Gammon with Gravy  
Roast Quorn Fillet  
with Gravy (V)  
Served with Mashed Potatoes,  
Carrots, Green Beans  
Banana Traybake

### Thursday

Pasta Bolognese  
Vegetarian Chilli (V)  
Served with Bread, Sweetcorn, Broccoli  
Chocolate Cookie

### Friday

Salamon Fish Fingers  
Vegetable fingers (V)  
Served with Chips, Peas, Baked Beans  
Fresh Fruit



**AVAILABLE DAILY:**  
Jacket Potato topped with either Beans,  
Cheese or Tuna Mayonnaise  
Choice of sandwiches:  
Cheese, Tuna Mayonnaise, or Ham  
Choice of Freshly Baked Bread, Fresh Salad Bar,  
Water, Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt and Fruit Jelly.

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## Early help video



To find out more what Early Help is please watch the video at [Early help videos – Coventry City Council](#)

## Like our Facebook Page



If you haven't already liked, join our Facebook page!

It is a fantastic way to get the latest news, achievements and information, as soon as they are available.

[CLICK HERE](#) to be directed to the page.

## Contact Us

### John Shelton Community Primary School

#### Address

Briscoe Road, Holbrooks, Coventry, CV6 4JP, United Kingdom

#### Telephone

024 7668 6063

#### Email

admin@jsprimary.org

#### Website

[www.johnshelton.org.uk](http://www.johnshelton.org.uk)

#### Social Media

- Facebook: [John Shelton Community Primary School](#)

