



# The Stotty School News 30.1.2026



[Stottesdon CofE Primary School](https://www.stottesdon-school.co.uk)

Part of [The Four Stones Gateway Trust](https://www.the-four-stones-gateway-trust.co.uk)

Tel: 01746 718617

Email: [admin@stottesdon-school.co.uk](mailto:admin@stottesdon-school.co.uk)

If viewing on a phone and you can't see all the text just swipe up on the writing.

## Diary dates for the week ahead



Diary Dates for next week	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Teme Phonics Workshop - Information via Class Dojo Lunchtime Computing Club Kidderminster Harriers - Health Kick for Severn Class Kidderminster Harriers After School Club
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Teme Phonics Workshop - Information via Class Dojo Private Music Lessons with Mrs Leverett Williams Lego After School Club SATs After School Club
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Munch & Maths Group with Mrs Jones Teme Phonics Workshop - Information via Class Dojo Private Music Lessons with Mrs Leverett Williams Lunchtime Choir Club Momentum Gymnastics - Rea Class Momentum Gymnastics After School Club
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	SATs After School Club Cookery After School Club
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Reading Comp Buddies Group with Mrs Jones
Upcoming Diary Dates	
W/C 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Evenings
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	FoSPS Silent Disco: Nursery & KS1 - 3.30 - 4.30pm KS2 - 4.45 - 5.45pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of Spring 1 term
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> - Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>	SGN Holiday Club Open - Subject to bookings
17 <sup>th</sup> February	Licensing of the new vicar @ St. Mary's Church, Stottesdon @ 7pm
21 <sup>st</sup> February	Chorley Chapel Warm Hub 11am to 1pm

## Parent, Pupil, Teacher Consultations



*Parent, Pupil, Teacher consultations are due to take place week commencing 9th February 2026 - please see attached letter for further details.*

*Slots are available to book on Arbor, please ensure bookings are made before 6th February 2026.*

*We are delighted to share the very positive findings from our recent SEND Review for the Local Authority. The reviewer praised Stottesdon Primary School for being a highly inclusive, nurturing and ambitious setting where children with SEND are well supported and thrive.*

*Our leadership of SEND was described as proactive and reflective, with clear systems, strong governance, effective use of data, and a commitment to ongoing improvement. Parent-school relationships were recognised as a particular strength, with good communication, well-attended workshops, and pupils' voices meaningfully shaping school life.*

## February Half Term - SGN Holiday Club



Mon-Thurs: 8:00am-5:30pm (PLEASE NOTE WE ARE NOT OPEN FRIDAYS AND CLOSE AT 3:15pm WEDNESDAYS)  
A range of activities are arranged for different sessions (no extra charge). These may be subject to change.  
A packed lunch, including drinks, will be required on each day.

To register for Holiday Club sessions, please complete the registration form and return it to the school office, ([admin@stattlesdon-school.co.uk](mailto:admin@stattlesdon-school.co.uk)). PLEASE NOTE THAT IF THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT UPTAKE TO MAKE THE SERVICE VIABLE, WE MAY NEED TO REDUCE OPENING. In order to help everyone with plans please make booking requests as soon as possible. You will be invoiced for the sessions you book and so don't need to include payment at this point. If places are limited and will be issued on a first come first served basis. Please also note the extract below from our terms and conditions: To pay fees even if your child/ren does not attend the session they are booked in for, due to holiday, sickness, school clubs or adverse weather conditions. Also, to be aware that we are unable to swap sessions if your child misses any. However additional sessions can be booked on an ~~ad hoc~~ basis, subject to availability. We request that when there is high demand for slots in Nursery / wrap round and holiday club, unneeded ~~ad hoc~~ spaces are cancelled 72 hours before 10.00am to allow spaces to be taken by others.

Monday 16th February (8:00-5:30) (HT+SC)	Bike and scooter club
Tuesday 17th February (8:00-5:30) (HT+BT)	Design and make your own pancake
Wednesday 18th February (8:00-3:15) (HT+BT)	Tye Dye Please bring a white t-shirt
Thursday 19th February (8:00-5:30) (HT+SC)	Making Gingerbread Men

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*Subject to bookings the SGN Holiday Club will be available on the following dates:*

*Monday 16th February 8am to 5.30pm*

*Tuesday 17th February 8am to 5.30pm*

*Wednesday 18th February 8am to 3.15pm*

*Thursday 19th February 8am to 5.30pm*

*Would you please make bookings via Arbor as soon as possible - Friday 6th February latest.  
We will make a decision on Friday 6th as to the viability of the sessions offered and notify  
parents accordingly.*

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## SGN Holiday club - Advance Notice of reduction in opening hours

*Advance Notice: Please be aware that going forward, from Easter 2026, the holiday club will  
only be open for 2 days a week (Tuesday & Wednesday).*

*This is due to staffing difficulties and low uptake.*

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## FoSPS - Silent Disco



A poster for a Silent Disco event. At the top left is a circular logo for 'FRIENDS OF STOTTESDON PRIMARY SCHOOL' with 'FoSPS' in the center. To the right, it says 'STOTTESDON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL'. The main title 'SILENT DISCO' is in large, glowing white letters inside a purple and blue circular light effect. Below this, the date and location are 'FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY | SCHOOL HALL'. The times are 'NURSERY & KS1: 3:30 - 4:30PM' and 'KS2: 4:45 - 5:45PM'. A note in blue text says 'PLEASE NOTE NURSERY CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN'. The entry fee is '£5 ENTRY FEE' in large white letters, with '(INCLUDES A GLOW STICK AND UNLIMITED SQUASH)' in smaller white text below it. At the bottom left, it says 'TUCK SHOP WILL BE OPEN SELLING SWEET TREATS AND GLOWY THINGS!'. At the bottom right, there is a QR code and the text 'SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK TICKETS' and 'ACCESS CODE: FOEPS'.

FRIENDS OF STOTTESDON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
FoSPS

STOTTESDON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

# SILENT DISCO

FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY | SCHOOL HALL

NURSERY & KS1: 3:30 - 4:30PM  
KS2: 4:45 - 5:45PM

PLEASE NOTE NURSERY CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN

## £5 ENTRY FEE

(INCLUDES A GLOW STICK AND UNLIMITED SQUASH)

TUCK SHOP WILL BE OPEN SELLING SWEET TREATS AND GLOWY THINGS!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK TICKETS  
ACCESS CODE: FOEPS

## Pupil Social Action Conference - Hereford Cathedral



On Wednesday 25th March some of the children in Severn Class (all year 5 children plus a couple of year 6 children) will be transported to Hereford Cathedral to attend a 'Pupil Social Action Conference' where they will have the opportunity to explore key social justice issues and opportunities for action.

Children will require a packed lunch, water bottle and waterproof coat.

To cover the cost of this trip we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £8.70 per pupil (we are very thankful to FoSPS for covering half of the cost for the transport) - those pupils

eligible for benefit related FSM £4.35. We would be grateful if you would make this contribution via Arbor.

## Top Tips for Practising Spelling at Home



We are continuing our amended approach with spellings (regular input with games and retrieval practice - rather than weekly tests). However, we would still welcome parent support in children practising spellings in a short, sharp low stakes way. Teachers are still sending home the range of words so please see below some easy ways to seep in practice without it being cumbersome. Thank you for your support in this.

### 1. Look, Cover, Write, Check:

- Look at the word
- Cover it
- Write it
- Check and correct. This helps children remember the spelling and spot mistakes independently.

### 2. Say It, Clap It, Spell It:

Say the word together, clap the syllables, then spell it out loud. This helps children hear the structure of the word before writing it.

### 3. Notice the Pattern:

Each spelling list usually follows themes or rules. Look for what's the same—such as *ai*, *tion*, *ck*, or silent letters. Sorting words by their shared pattern helps them “stick”.

### 4. Mini Whiteboard or Scrap Paper Practice:

Using wipe-clean boards or scrap paper keeps practice low-pressure. Children can quickly try again without worrying about mistakes.

### 5. Use the Words in Sentences:

Encourage your child to say or write a short sentence with each spelling word. This helps them understand the meaning and remember how to use the word.

### 6. Make It Active:



Try writing the word in the air, on a parent's hand, or with a finger on a table or the carpet. Movement supports memory—and keeps practice fun.

### **7. Keep It Short:**

Five minutes a day is enough! Little and often builds confidence and long-term recall.

### **8. Play Quick Spelling Games:**

Try spelling snap, matching pairs, mini quizzes, or a word hunt around the house (everyone loves a post it!). Games help children stay positive and engaged.

**Thank you for supporting spelling at home—small daily practice makes a big difference!**

## **A Message to Families: The Importance of Avoiding Term-Time Holidays and Supporting The Education Of Your Child**

So far this year, **20 pupils (a fifth) have taken holidays during term time**, and **14 of those children currently have at least one core area (literacy or numeracy) that is not at age-related expectations**. This is not unique to our school—**national research continues to show a strong link between school attendance and academic attainment**. A Department for Education (DfE) report (2025) found that **higher attendance is consistently associated with higher academic performance across all pupils**. [\[gov.uk\]](https://gov.uk):

*At KS2, pupils who attended school nearly every day in Year 6 (with an attendance rate of 95-100%) were 1.3 times more likely to achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to pupils who only attended 90-95% of the time. This means missing just 10 days of year 6 reduced the likelihood of reaching the expected standard by around 25%. Pupils who attended nearly every day were 1.8 times more likely to achieve the standard than persistently absent pupils who only attend 85-90% of the time (relating to 4 -6 weeks more time in school).*

There are **extensive school holiday periods across the academic year** when family breaks can be taken without interrupting learning. Of the **365 days in the year, children attend school for 190**, leaving **175 days available for holidays**. We fully understand the financial pressures on families and the temptation to travel during cheaper off-peak periods. However, we also believe strongly that **children's education must remain a priority**. National data is clear: missing learning—even short periods—has a measurable impact on progress, especially in literacy and numeracy. In school, we are also noticing a **clear pattern of disruption linked to term-time holidays**:

- **Before the holiday:** behaviour often becomes unsettled as anticipation builds.
- **During the holiday:** children miss key steps in the learning sequence, meaning crucial parts of the curriculum are lost.

- **After the holiday:** pupils often return out of routine, take longer to re-establish learning behaviours, and can feel less confident because content has moved on in their absence.
- This is sometimes followed shortly afterwards by a **scheduled school holiday**, which can **extend the period of disrupted learning** even further.

Nationally, attendance remains a key concern. Data from the 2025/26 academic year shows that absence continues to disrupt learning at a national level, with persistent absence (less than or close to 90%) linked to **widened knowledge gaps, reduced confidence, and lower engagement**, particularly for disadvantaged pupils. At primary level, these early patterns matter: habits formed now can follow pupils into later schooling. Our staff are working incredibly hard to help every child thrive. However, it can feel disheartening when progress is interrupted or has to be rebuilt after an avoidable absence. **Regular, consistent attendance is essential—not just for academic progress, but also for emotional stability, routine, and social development.** We are asking families to please support us by **avoiding holidays during term time**. Together, we can ensure continuity, protect progress, and give every child the very best chance to succeed.

## A message from the Children's Commissioner



We wanted to share the letter below with all parents and thoroughly recommend the excellent guide that has been produced to support parents in their decision making and oversight of what children are doing online. We would also like to share that a safeguarding alert has been circulated this week from NHS England concerning two young adults (with considerable Tik Tok followers) who have been involved in encouraging self-harm. There is no further details but a request to remind parents/carers to monitor content and share any safeguarding concerns. If anyone has any concerns about their child's online activity and the impact it is having please consider the guide below and know that we are very happy to support and liaise to help keep children safe.

*Dear Headteacher,*

*I am writing to inform you that I have recently published a new guide, [What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives](#).*



*Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.*

*The last time I published a guide like this, *The things I wish my parents had known: Young people's advice on talking to your child about online sexual harassment*, in December 2021, it was to help parents and carers navigate difficult conversations about sexual harassment online. This guide is different in scope, in recognition of the complex, rapidly evolving landscape in which children – and parents – are navigating. It focuses on the challenge of managing children's everyday online habits.*

*This guide was written with the direct involvement of children in England. It is a reflection of their views. My office visited schools to speak to teenagers, and spoke to my Youth Ambassadors and Youth Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Panel to get their expertise on what works and what doesn't work between parents or carers and children in the 21st Century.*

*When I speak to children about what they would do differently when it comes to being online, with the benefit of hindsight, I ask them: would they give a smartphone to their own teenager? Almost unanimously, they tell me no. They want to be protected from it as long as possible.*

*As educators and leaders, you play a vital role in supporting parents and carers to navigate these challenges. Responses to my recent school survey show just how concerned school leaders are about their children's safety online, despite most already taking steps to limit or ban devices from the classroom. Children are clear that they value firm, informed and protective boundaries when adults have concerns about the content they are accessing online.*

*As parents, carers, and educators, our job must begin and end with our children's care and safety. It's what they expect and what they want from you.*

*As one young person told me: "Don't be afraid to be firm... If you are worried [that] your child is seeing harmful content and you don't know what they're watching and it's affecting the behaviour, just take it that you know best – they don't."*

*I hope this guide will be a useful resource for your school community, and I encourage you to share it with staff and parents where appropriate.*

*Yours sincerely,*

**Dame Rachel de Souza**

**Children's Commissioner**

## Licensing of new Vicar - Great news!



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*The licensing of the new vicar for the benefice of Stottesdon is due to take place on Tuesday 17th February 2026.*

*The service will be conducted by The Bishop of Hereford and will take place at St. Mary's Church, Stottesdon at 7pm.*

*Everyone is welcome.*

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## Chorley Chapel Warm Hub



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*Chorley Chapel will be holding a 'warm hub' on the following date:*

*Saturday 21st February 2026*

*The Chapel will be open from 11 till 1pm, serving bacon/sausage sandwiches, toasted teacakes etc.*

*If there are any children who would like to be helpers (writing menus, taking orders, serving tables, clearing up) please email the office to let us know.*

*Children would need to arrive at 10.45pm and stay until approx. 1pm. Mrs Jones will be there to supervise and support.*

*This is a fantastic way to feel part of the community and get involved in multi-generational events.*

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## **School Council Announcement: School Desktop Calendar For Sale - help us raise funds for environmental charities**



**STOTTESDON CofE  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
PART OF FOUR STONES GATEWAY



# **2026**

Children were so inspired by the World Nature Photography Competition that the School Council ran their own competition. The winning photographs have been used to create this calendar to help us to raise funds to donate to a wildlife charity that helps look after our world.

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***LAST CHANCE SALE!!! - School calendar.***

*It contains all of the nature photography competition winners from last year - one for each month.*

***The desktop calendar will be on sale in the playgrounds for just £1 per calendar to the end of term.***

*Buying a calendar helps raise funds for worthy causes and encourages the great work of the School Council. Please consider supporting this initiative and helping us make a positive impact together.*

*Any money raised from the sale of the calendar will be split between 3 different world wide environmental charities:*

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- *WWF which protects animals and habitats*

- *Coalition for Rainforest Nation who are protecting rainforests*
  - *The Clean Air Task Force who are working to keep air clean and reduce pollution.*
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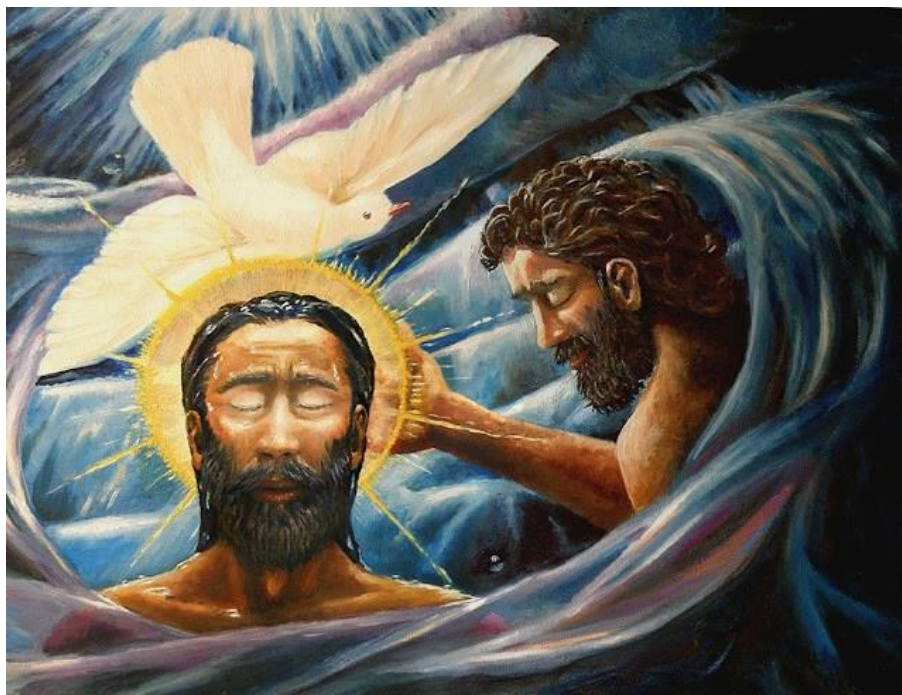
## **Our Worship / Reflections this week:**



Monday: We reflected on the story in our mural. A vineyard owner decided to pay all his workers the same wage regardless of how long they had worked (they'd all turned up to do work at the same time but not all were chosen). The story creates debate about how we decide what is fair and making sure that everyone has what they need.



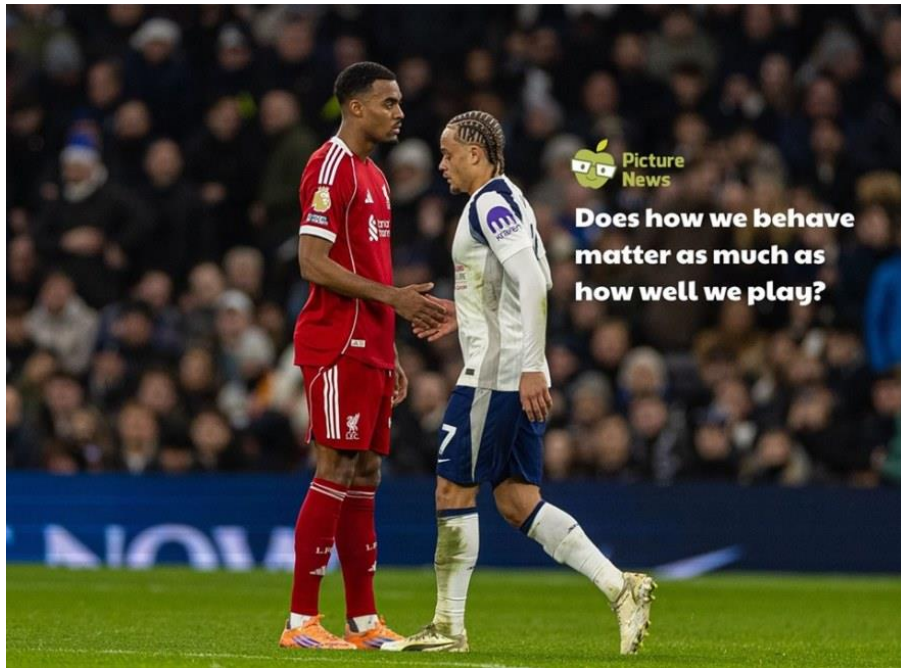
Tuesday: We reflected on the story of the blind beggar and what we do to make sure people feel included. We considered how we make sure partially sighted or blind people are helped (guide dogs; braille; reading pens etc.)



Wednesday: Open the book focussed on the story of when Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist. We reflected on knowing what is right and wrong, choosing the right thing and knowing when to say sorry (even if that is hard).

Thursday: The Football Associations (FA) has published a review looking at behaviour in football across England. The review encourages all involved in the sport (players, referees and fans) to play their part in supporting and following values of positive behaviour. Children reflected on how sport can be exciting and also an opportunity to come together. However, emotions can run high, so it is important to think about the impact of our behaviour on those around us.





## Four Stones Gateway Trust Photography Competition



FOUR STONES  
GATEWAY TRUST

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*This year marks an exciting new chapter as The Four Stones Multi-Academy Trust and The Shropshire Gateway Trust come together to form Fours Stones Gateway Trust, bringing together seven schools across Worcestershire and Shropshire.*

*To celebrate this union, we're inviting students, and staff to take part in a Photography Competition that captures the spirit of our new Trust.*

*The theme is 'Togetherness' we'd love to see photos that show what togetherness means to your child, from friendships, celebrations, to the beautiful landscapes that connect Worcestershire and Shropshire. Do encourage them to take part and represent their Year group, school and community.*



*Winning entries will be showcased on our new Trust social media pages and featured in our launch celebrations. Please follow us @fourstonesgateway on Instagram and X.*

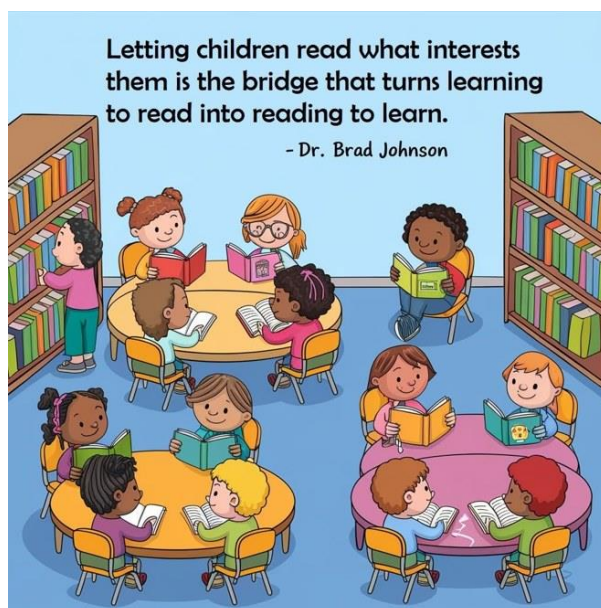
*Let's celebrate our new beginnings, and the power of togetherness.*

*Students and parents can get further information from the slides sent with the school news.*

*Please send competition entries to [admin@stottesdon-school.co.uk](mailto:admin@stottesdon-school.co.uk) (by 30th January 2026)*

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## Celebrating Reading



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### *Reading*

*Reading with children is one of the most powerful gift parents can give. The development of language, creativity and cultural understanding from reading, discussing and sharing is HUGE so if you are giving this gift thank you for helping to keep this powerful, essential activity 'alive'. Reading is also very powerful as it reduces stress (for the child and the adult!).*

*Teme: 75%*


















*Rea: Yr1=85% - Yr2=100%*

*Corve: Yr3=93% - Yr4=100%*

*Severn: 93%*

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## EYFS (Nursery and Reception) News

Spring 1: Winter & People Who Help Us										
<p>This week in EYFS, we have been learning all about 'People Who Help Us'. This week, as part of our topic "People Who Help Us," the children have been learning all about <b>firefighters</b> and how they help us when there is a fire. We explored what firefighters do, the special equipment they use, and how they keep everyone safe. The children enjoyed acting out being firefighters, pretending to use hoses, wearing helmets, and "driving" the fire engine! We also talked about the importance of calling 999 in an emergency and how firefighters are brave helpers in our community.</p>										
NURSERY										
<p>Talk for Writing</p> 	<p>Makaton Sign of the Week:</p> 	<p>Phonics Sound of the Week:</p>  <p>Pronunciation Phrase - c</p> <p>Open your mouth into a little smile; make your tongue flat and move it up towards the top of your mouth to say c c c</p>								
RECEPTION										
<p>Talk for Writing</p> 	<p><b>Mastering Number:</b> This week, the children continued to explore activities that developed their understanding of composition, the idea of numbers within numbers. We used Hungarian die pattern to represent numbers in different ways. These visual patterns helped the children recognise the "5-ness" of 5 and gave them clear structures to support their understanding of how numbers are made and how they relate to one another. The children secured their knowledge of the pairs of numbers that make 5 and then used double dice frames to begin exploring 6 and 7 as numbers made from "5 and a bit."</p> 									
<p>This week's phonics:</p> <table><tr><td> curl the fur</td><td>ur</td><td> wow owl</td><td>ow</td></tr><tr><td> boing boing</td><td>oi</td><td> get near to hear</td><td>ear</td></tr></table>			 curl the fur	ur	 wow owl	ow	 boing boing	oi	 get near to hear	ear
 curl the fur	ur	 wow owl	ow							
 boing boing	oi	 get near to hear	ear							
<p>Tricky words: <b>they into my by all</b></p>										

## Numbots

# NUMBOTS

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*Please find attached information about the brilliant Numbots resource. Children, of all ages, regularly using this has massive positive impact on their mental maths fluency.*

*Mrs J Jones will be running a workshop for parents to help them support their children with Numbots on 12th March @ 3.30pm.*

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## Parenting Signposts

### You and Me, Mum Group

An 8 week course to help understand how domestic violence impacts on you and your children.

Every Wednesday from 14th January - 11th March

**You and Me, Mum Group**

This 8-week course will help you understand how domestic violence impacts on you as a parent and how it affects your children. The course objectives are to empower, support and develop further understanding of your role as a mother in addressing the needs of your children and young people

To book and secure your place on this course please call  
**01743 250400**

Every Wednesday from  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
**09:30-11:30am**  
**Venue: Shrewsbury SY1**

Facilitated by  
Early Help and Support Team with Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service

A poster for the 'YOU AND ME, Mum' course. It features a green heart icon at the top right. The title 'YOU AND ME, Mum' is in large, bold, orange and green letters. Below the title, there is a small illustration of a woman holding a child. To the right of the illustration, there is a small text box that reads: 'An 8-week course to help understand how domestic violence impacts on you and your children. Aiming to empower, support and develop further understanding of your role as a mother in addressing the needs of your children/young person.'

The Best Start in Life campaign, aims to increase awareness of the importance of early years in a child's development and the role of early years education.

Please visit their website (formerly Childcare Choices): <https://www.beststartinlife.gov.uk/>

The website contains a wealth of information from pregnancy through to starting school.



Please find link below to the excellent guide that has been produced to support parents in their decision making and oversight of what children are doing online:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

Understanding Your Child Group - January 2026 - Clee Hill Community Academy

Face to face group - Understand your child SEND commencing on Thursday 15th January 2026 @ Clee Hill Community Academy from 9am to 11am - every Thursday for 10 weeks (excluding the school holidays).

**Understanding your child**  
**From toddler to teen**

- Would you like to know more about your child's development?
- Do you need help and support to understand your child's behaviour?
- Would you like a chance to meet with other parents and carers with children of a similar age?

Join us for our free face-to-face group

**Understanding Your Child SEND**  
**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**9.00am to 11.00am**  
**Clee Hill Community Academy**  
**Tenbury Road, Ludlow SY8 3NE**

All our groups run for 10 weeks from the start date excluding the School Holidays.

SEND groups are for parents/carers of Children who might have special educational needs and disabilities, no formal diagnosis is needed to attend the groups.

To book a place email [Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk) or call 01743 250950

Find more free online courses at [inourplace.co.uk/shropshire](http://inourplace.co.uk/shropshire)

Find a list of local groups here

Shropshire Supporting Families through Early Help

Shropshire Council

The poster features a yellow background with a blue border at the bottom. It includes illustrations of a toddler crawling and a young girl standing. A QR code is shown with an arrow pointing to it from the text 'Find a list of local groups here'.

Understanding Your Child Groups - Spring 2025

## Understanding your child From toddler to teen

- Would you like to know more about your child's development?
- Do you need help and support to understand your child's behaviour?
- Would you like a chance to meet with other parents and carers with children of a similar age?

Join us for one of our free virtual or face-to-face groups, our next groups start:

Understanding Your Child Group 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 9.00am to 11.00am St Giles Primary, Shrewsbury  
 Understanding Your Child Group 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 4.00pm to 5.30pm Uffels, Shrewsbury  
 Understanding Your Child SEND Group 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 10.00am to 11.00am Severn Valley Academy  
 Understanding Your Child Group 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 1.00pm to 3.00pm Virtually via MS Teams  
 Understanding Your Child Group 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 1.00pm to 3.00pm St Lawrence Primary, Church Stretton  
 Understanding Your Child SEND Group 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 8.00am to 11.00am The Hill Community Academy  
 Understanding Your Child SEND Group 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 1.00pm to 3.00pm Virtually via MS Teams  
 Understanding Your Child Group 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 9.00am to 11.00am Highley Primary School

All our groups run for 10 weeks from the start date excluding the School Holidays.

SEND groups are for parents/carers of children who might have special educational needs and disabilities, no formal diagnosis is needed to attend the groups.

To book a place email [Parentingteam@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parentingteam@shropshire.gov.uk) or call 01743 250950

Find more free online courses at: [ourplace.co.uk/shropshire](http://ourplace.co.uk/shropshire)



## Sleep Tight Work Shops - Spring 2025

## Does your child struggle with their sleep?

### Free Sleep Tight Groups

Join us on one of our virtual or face-to-face groups and:

- Find out why sleep is important for our health and emotional wellbeing
- Get support to help improve sleep and bedtime routines
- Meet other parents/carers to share and discuss experiences

Sleep Tight Group Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 9.00am to 11.00am Virtually via MS Teams

Sleep Tight Group Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 8.00am to 11.00am Highley Primary School

Sleep Tight SEND Group Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025 from 1.00pm to 3.00pm Virtually via MS Teams

Sleep Tight Group Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 from 9.00am to 11.00am Greenknow Primary School

The groups run for 5 weeks excluding the school holidays

SEND groups are for parents/carers of children who might have special educational needs and disabilities, no formal diagnosis is needed to attend the groups

To book a place email [Parentingteam@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parentingteam@shropshire.gov.uk) or call 01743 250950




## Send Meet & Chat Family Drop-In



# SEND MEET & CHAT FAMILY DROP-IN

## SPRING TERM

Hosted by Shropshire Early Help




Do you care for a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)?

These sessions are open to anyone supporting a child with SEND — whether you're a parent carer, family member, or professional.

Come along to ask questions, get practical advice, and connect with professionals who understand your journey

Speak with experts in:

- EHCPs
- School support
- Health and wellbeing
- Social care
- Mental health



### LUDLOW - HELENA LANE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tuesday 20th January 2026  
12:30pm-14:30pm

Helena Lane Community Centre, 20  
Harriet Rd, Ludlow,  
SY8 2NP

### SHREWSBURY THE LANTERN


Thursday 19th February 2026  
10:00am-12:00pm

The Lantern,  
Meadow Farm drive,  
Shrewsbury SY1 4NG

### MARKET DRAYTON RAVEN HOUSE

Tuesday 24th March 2026  
13:00pm-15:00pm

Raven House,  
129 Chesire Street,  
Market Drayton TF9 3AH



Parenting Help & Support Line

# Shropshire Parenting Help and Support Line

## 01743 250950

Mon - Thurs, 9.30am - 4.30pm  
Fri, 9.30am - 3.30pm

No judgment, just support.



Find out more here






Shropshire Public Health Nursing Team



## Shropshire Family Information Service



Hello from the **Family Information Service** (FIS for short).  
Our job is to give you the info and resources you need to help your family life run a little smoother. We can help with:

- Childcare - finding it and advice on paying for it
- Local baby and toddler groups
- Events, clubs, activities, and fun things to do in the school holidays, for all ages
- Getting parenting and family support
- Finding health and wellbeing support

We cover everything and anything to do with family life, so if you have a question, chances are we'll be able to help, or if we can't, we'll point you in the direction of someone who can.

**Follow us on social media for all the latest news and info.**

 @ShropshireFamilyInfo  
 @ShropshireFamilyInfo  
 @ShropFamilyInfo



[www.shropshire.gov.uk/fis](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/fis)

## What is Shropshire Family Information Service:

The Shropshire Family Information Service (FIS) is a brilliant universal service. The FIS brings together loads of useful, local information for families, to help take the stress out of things like finding:

- Childcare or baby and toddler groups
- Holiday clubs, events and things to do as a family
- Parenting, relationships, and emotional health and wellbeing support
- Cost of Living info and advice

FIS use our social media channels to bring families news, events and handy information, which links through to our [Family Information Directory](#). Families are welcome to contact us directly for help with anything to do with family life. We have created a brand new short video to explain who we are and what we do. You can view it here on YouTube [https://youtu.be/7t1jBqJJl8?si=LeOiNag8\\_LeSPzX0](https://youtu.be/7t1jBqJJl8?si=LeOiNag8_LeSPzX0)

#### **What we would love you to do:**

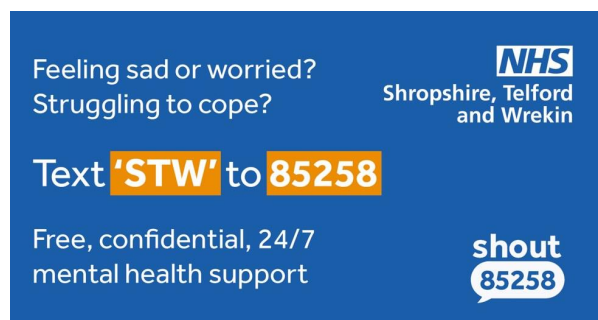
1. Follow us on social media. We use social media as a key tool for reaching parents and professionals, so give us a follow and we will follow you back.

[Family Info Service Facebook](#)

[Family Info Service Instagram](#)

[Family Info Service Twitter](#)

2. Subscribe to our newsletter <https://orlo.uk/5RvZN>



From 1 December, a new, free 24/7 mental health text support service is available for people of all ages living in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin (STW), delivered by qualified mental health professionals. The service is delivered by SHOUT on behalf of Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT) who are commissioned by NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin. Why is it important? The service expands access to immediate mental health support, complementing existing services such as NHS 111 option 2, and supports the national transformation of NHS mental health care by improving responsiveness, inclusivity and accessibility.

#### **How to access?**

Text **'STW'** to **85258**, free of charge and at any time, to start a conversation with a trained mental health professional.

#### **Benefits to Patients**

- **Easy access.** No need to speak on the phone or wait for an appointment. Text at any time from anywhere.

- **24/7 support.** Available day and night, including weekends and holidays.
- **Mental health-focused.** Tailored to people experiencing mental health difficulties, delivered with compassion and understanding.
- **Discreet and private.** Ideal for those who prefer not to talk on the phone or need support in a public place.
- **Inclusive and equitable.** Helps reduce inequalities by offering support to anyone across STW.
- **Integrated with local services.** If needed, text responders can help you signpost to local services like NHS 111, crisis teams, or other community-based mental health support.

If someone feels unsafe or at immediate risk, they should call 999, as the text service is not intended for urgent emergencies. Individuals already receiving mental health support should contact their named worker first, in accordance with their care plan.

Further information can be found by following this link:

<https://www.shropshiretelfordandwrekin.nhs.uk/news/mental-health-text-service-launch/>

BeeU Emotional Health and Wellbeing



Are you a parent/carer to a child under the age of five?

Are you concerned about meeting their emotional needs or some challenging behaviours that you are seeing?

Would you like to have a better relationship with your baby or child?

Do you worry about your bond or attachment with your baby or child?

Do you worry that you are not able to meet the needs of your baby or child?

Here at BEEU we can help you explore the answers to some of these questions and many more issues that you may be affected by

Our practitioners can offer a listening ear and help you make sense of some of the thoughts and feelings you have around your relationship with your baby/child.

We may also be able to offer a therapeutic intervention if you wish and is appropriate

We have two practitioners who are trained in Video Interaction Guidance (VIG) therapy which is an evidence-based approach to supporting better relationships with parents and their baby/infants in the early years. You can find out more about VIG at [What is VIG? | AVIGuk](#)

If you would like to find out more about our service and if it is right for you or would like to speak to one of our practitioners please contact BeeU via email:  
*beeuearlyyears@mpft.nhs.uk*

We welcome contact from parents/carers directly.

Togetherness for better emotional health (previously known as the Solihull Approach):

Togetherness is an online learning environment developed by psychologists and health practitioners providing accessible learning about emotional health and wellbeing, proven to positively impact mental health, behaviour and relationships.

To find out more about the free online courses please visit:

<https://inourplace.co.uk/shropshire/>

For more information on the change from 'Solihull Approach' to 'Togetherness' please visit:

<https://inourplace.co.uk/becoming-togetherness/>



### How to sign up:

Residents can access these courses for free by entering the Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin

Access Code:

**DARWIN18**

at [inourplace.co.uk](https://inourplace.co.uk).

inourplace 

## Bridgnorth Community Information Drop In Sessions

# Family Drop-In

Here to help

## Free information, advice and support

You can chat, have a drink and see how we can all help you with:

• Family Life	• Housing Support	• Home fire safety
• Children's health and wellbeing	• Domestic abuse support	• Healthy living advice
• Drug and alcohol support	• Financial advice	• Help with getting back to work

**Bridgnorth Youth Centre**  
45 Innage Lane, Bridgnorth WV16 4HS

**Every Tuesday from 1.30pm—4pm**



Supporting families with children aged 0-19 years (up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities)

We aim to make it easier for you to ask for help and get support when you need it.

 Shropshire Council  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)

 Shropshire Supporting Families through Early Help



# COFFEE & CHAT

## Stay & Play

**Every Tuesday**  
**1pm until 3pm**  
**Bridgnorth Library, 67 Listley Street,**  
**Bridgnorth, WV16 4AW**

All families within the local area welcome

Free information, support & advice around:

- Family Life
- Housing & Finance
- Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)
- Parenting Support
- Training & Employment
- Domestic Abuse Support
- And much more...

 Shropshire Libraries  
Learn, imagine, discover

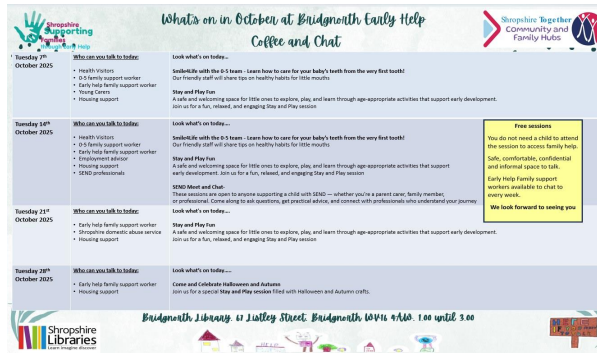


[shropshire.gov.uk/early-help](http://shropshire.gov.uk/early-help)

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED  
"PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN SEALED CUP/TRAVEL MUG"

 Shropshire Council





## Highley Community Drop In Sessions

# Community Drop-ins

## How can we help you?

Come along to:  
Highley Library, Halo Severn Centre, Bridgnorth Road,  
Highley, WV16 6JG

The fourth Friday  
of each month  
9.30am-12.30pm



Free information, advice  
and support around;

- Housing support
- Getting older
- Family Life
- Domestic Abuse
- Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) support
- Parenting support
- Finance support
- Healthy living, and much more!

Sponsored by:



OneplusOne

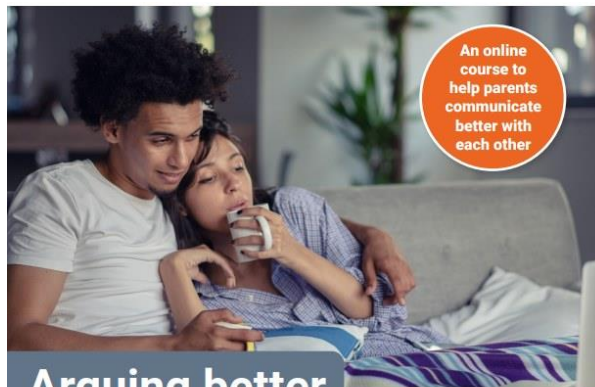


Introducing the Separating better app, a **free** self-guided mobile app for separating parents, designed to facilitate a smoother separation journey and promote positive co-parenting. This app is filled with expert advice, video resources, practical parenting, and budgeting plans, as well as co-parenting tips. It offers an easy-to-follow journey where you can track your progress and unlock app sections as you go.

Find out more and download the mobile app, now:

[https://www.oneplusone.org.uk/separating-better?utm\\_source=referral&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=sbaffiliate](https://www.oneplusone.org.uk/separating-better?utm_source=referral&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=sbaffiliate)

For face to face support, go to [Getting on better | Shropshire Council](#) and select Free Courses and Workshops.



An online course to help parents communicate better with each other

## Arguing better

Disagreements are a normal part of life, and most couples argue from time to time. How you deal with disagreements can make a big difference to you, your partner, and your children.

This free online course can help you learn to manage difficult conversations, avoid conflict, and improve things for your whole family.



Create your free account at [www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents](http://www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents) or scan the QR code  
To access the course, you will need a good internet connection and a smartphone, tablet, or computer.



An online course for separating parents to help manage conflict and minimise the impact on children

## Getting it right for children


When separated parents argue, it's common for children to feel like they are caught in the middle. This free online course is designed to help separated parents communicate better with each other and parent co-operatively after parting.

You will learn positive communication skills like staying calm, seeing things differently, and speaking for yourself so that you can sort out disagreements with your child's other parent and find solutions together. You can do the course on your own, at your own pace.



Create your free account at [www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents](http://www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents) or scan the QR code  
To access the course, you will need a good internet connection and a smartphone, tablet, or computer.






An online course for new and expectant parents

## Me, You and Baby too

Tiredness and stress are common when you're caring for a baby. If parenthood is leading to more arguments between you and your partner, this free online course could help.

With tips and advice on how to talk about difficult topics, share stress, and prevent arguments, this short course will help you and your partner navigate challenging times together.



Create your free account at [www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents](http://www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents) or scan the QR code

To access the course, you will need a good internet connection and a smartphone, tablet, or computer.

***Pharmacy First can help families – a new service available in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin***

Pharmacy First can help families with minor illnesses and seven common conditions. If appropriate, treatment can be offered without a prescription for seven common conditions, and it can be quicker to see a pharmacist than a GP. Normal prescription charges and exemptions (those who do not have to pay, including children) will apply.

A pharmacy is a great place to get healthcare advice and treatment. Pharmacies are easy to reach, usually located within local communities, and often open evenings and weekends. This service may help children and colleagues get well and back to nursery/school/work quicker.

**Integrated Care System**  
Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin

**NHS**  
Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin

Kiley, Alex, Chelsie, Jayne, Jasdeep, Karen

**Worried about your child's health?**  
**Think 'Pharmacy First'**

You can now get treatment for a variety of common conditions and minor illnesses from your local community pharmacy.

Your pharmacy can help with:

- Earache (ages 1-17)
- Infected insect bites (from age 1)
- Impetigo (from age 1)
- Sore throat (from age 5)
- Hay fever (all ages)
- Conjunctivitis (all ages)

If you don't know whether a pharmacist can help with what you need, give them a call first or just pop in.

If you get a prescription through your pharmacy, you'll never pay more than if you had seen your GP.

## Health Visiting Information

Every family with children under 5 has access to a health visitor.

Families can access advice and support up until the age of 5 years old by calling **The Single Point of Access on 0333 358 3654**.

If parents don't want to talk to someone, they can send a text and one of the team will get back to them on **07520 635212**

This is a Monday to Friday service 09:30am until 4pm where a Health Visitor is on the line to offer the appropriate advice and support and referrals can be made to the appropriate practitioner.

If parents need extra support or support for potty training, behaviour, sleep, eating we have two Healthy Child practitioner who they can be referred to who will come out to their home or to a clinic to support the family with these issues.

This referral can be completed through the single point of access and sent to the appropriate team.

If it is specialised targeted work the family will be seen by a Health visitor for example low mood or complex development issues, safeguarding or specialised referrals.

All children are seen universally at one years and at two years and they are offered a full health growth and development review via a letter with an appointment.



These are now completed at Cleobury Mortimer Health Centre, Ludlow or Bridgnorth depending on where they live.



## Accessing Support

Knowing how to access support and who to speak to can be overwhelming and difficult at times. We have created this information sheet of charities and organisations that can provide help and support. You can also contact PACC for support and information on [info@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:info@paccshropshire.org.uk)



We provide information, advice and support to parents and carers of children aged 0 to 25, and young people aged 16 to 25 who have, or may have, special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).



We are the leading charity in the West Midlands for Autistic adults, children, young people and those who love and care for them. Our passionate, expert staff and volunteers work across a range of age groups and abilities.



for families with disabled children

We're here for families wherever they live in the UK, and whenever they need us.



The SEND local offer is a single place for information, services, and resources for children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs and/or disabilities, their families, and the practitioners who support them.



The PACC Preparation for Adulthood (PFA) Navigator service is available to help SEND families understand the options available for young people with SEND on their preparation for adulthood journey.



IPSEA is a registered charity in England that provides free legal advice and support to families of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

PACC (Parent Carer Council) have created an information sheet of charities and organisations that can provide help and support.

Please let us know if you would like a copy.

Otherwise please contact PACC for support and information on [info@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:info@paccshropshire.org.uk)

## Celebrating Children's Achievements





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*The children representing all the hard work and positive attitudes in our school this week.*

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**Numbots**

Rea: **Ophelia Preece**

Corve: **Leon Dorrell**



**Times Tables Rock Stars**

Corve: **Ralph Trenfield**

Severn: **Ellie Davies**



**Spelling Bee**

Bronze: **Maxwell**



### **Sports Stars:**

Teme: **Daisy** for her perseverance with balancing on one foot in our PE gymnastic session.

Rea: **Arthur R** and **Bella E** for their good balance in gymnastics.

Corve: **Flo, Grace, Leo P, Esther** and **Reggie** - for continued engagement during our dance lessons.

Severn: **Ellie, Esme & Bella** for fantastic confidence and involvement during your football matches for Kidderminster Harriers Health Kick Programme / **Fletcher & Elia** for their focus and determination at the athletics festival at Lacon and the **girls team** who represented Stottesdon for their excellent baton change.



**Pride and Presentation:** Award for pupil focus on presentation of work across the curriculum.

Rea: **Bella E** for her English.

Corve: **Eva** for continuous neat handwriting and organisation through all subjects.

Severn: **Noah** for his work in maths.



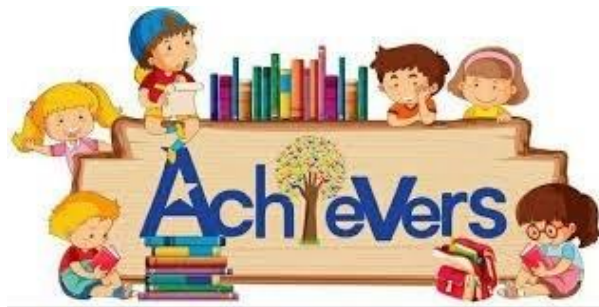
**Great Sentence using words of the week:**

Teme: In the morning when I open my curtains it is **light** in my bedroom. **Arthur**

Rea: May I have some **delicious** and grainy, crunchy sugar? **Kai**

Corve: The children were **continually** changing their books. **Grace**

Severn: The darkness **engulfed** the sky. **Harrison**



**Class Achievers:**

Teme: **Esme** for applying her phonics and sentence writing knowledge to her independent writing in her free play.

Rea: **Arthur** and **Wilf** for their expressive artwork using paint tools they have created themselves.

Corve: **Skyler, Lincoln, Aubrey, Phoebe R, Ella, Meghan, Libby Grace, Frankie, Eva, Phoebe S** and **Rosie** - brilliant concentration during art.

Severn: **Jenson, Gabby & Tabby:** great French sentences about the subjects they like/don't like (including because and but) /

**Leo D** for a fantastic comparison between orthodox and progressive synagogues.



Children selected for growing kindness.

Reception: **Memphis** for stepping in and suggesting friends use a timer to share a resource.

Year 1: **Freddie** for helping to tidy up.

Year 1: **Bella W** for being forgiving.

Year 3: **Harriet** for helping Mrs Carter put all the laptops away when they'd finished all their work.

Year 4: **Phoebe S** for helping Mrs Carter put all the laptops away when they'd finished all their work.

Year 5: **Leo** for showing another pupil how to tie their shoe laces.

Year 6: **Holly** for helping another pupil with the 'sound system' at playtime.