



SHADSWORTH INFANT SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

30th January 2026

MRS VAREY'S MESSAGE

WEEKLY MESSAGE

Next week is National Storytelling Week. Created by the Society for Storytelling, this fantastic annual event is a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world; they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and develop empathy; they help us to relax, and they support the development of essential literacy skills.

Throughout the week, the children will take part in different storytelling activities and interactive workshops that promote a love of reading.

We would love you to join your child for a special story time on one day next week at 2:45pm. Please see below:

- Percival and Jeffers: Monday
- Bright: Tuesday
- Murphy and Donaldson: Wednesday
- Carle: Thursday

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 4th February 2026

Class 1-2 H Jeffers visit Chill Factor, Manchester - Consent letter & £25 to your child's class teacher by 30th Jan 26 thank you

Thursday 5th February 2026

Class 2K Percival visit Chill Factor, Manchester - Consent letter & £25 to your child's class teacher by 30th Jan 26 thank you

Friday 6th February 2026

Creepy Crawly Roadshow Visits Nursery Children in School

Wednesday 11th February 2026

Class Murphy Visit to Manchester Runway Consent letter & £20 to your child's class teacher by 6th Feb 26 thank you

Thursday 12th February 2026

Class Donaldson RY Visit to Manchester Runway - Consent letter & £20 to your child's class teacher by 6th Feb 26 thank you

Reminder

Please remember for the safety of the children, the car park is for staff use only. Staff park in the carpark before school opens and leave after home time to minimise moving cars when the children are being dropped off or collected.

ATTENDANCE



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

“Attendance is not optional”

There is an expectation that children are in school every day

Overall School Attendance Target

96%

Actual School Attendance 26/01/26–30/01/26

93%

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Murphy	97	2
Donaldson	93	6
Bright	88	12
Jeffers	95	7
Percival	86	9
Bridge	97	1
Rainbow	91	8
Total	93	45

CELEBRATE



**This week we said
"Well Done" to**

Class	Good Work	Good Behaviour
Murphy	Rasan	Daniel
Donaldson	Skylar	Yomi
Bright	Alex R	Darcie
Jeffers	Junior	Autumn
Percival	Georgie	Evie
Bridge	Blake Y	Oscar
Rainbow	Nicolas	Jax

**Lunchtime
Award**

Colby H-V



**Headteacher
Award**

Yusuf A



**Kindness
Cup**

Maya K



OUR LEARNING



NURSERY

This week in Nursery we have been continuing our Animal Magic topic. During continuous provision, we have continued to create animal prints and patterns. In Maths, we have been learning how to solve problems using numbers up to 5. We learnt the counting rhyme 5 Little Speckled Frogs and acted out the song together. During circle time, we have shared the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff and sequenced pictures to help us talk about what happened in the book. What a great week full of learning!



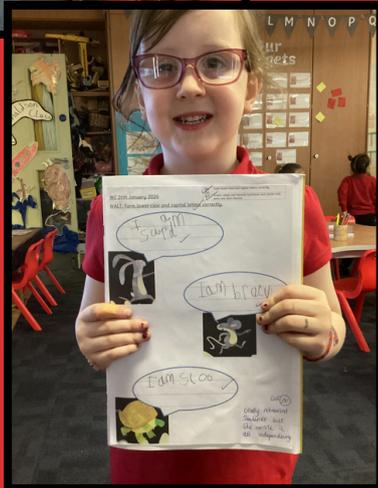
MURPHY

This week, the children have been retelling our class story using their very best story voices and character masks. We have explored what speech bubbles tell us and discussed what our story characters could be saying. In the classroom provision, the children have been independently applying what they have learned in maths and showing their construction skills off too. Great job Murphy.

OUR LEARNING



DONALDSON



Children in Donaldson class have really enjoyed reenacting our story in literacy this week and they did an amazing job at remembering what the characters said. The children then used speech bubbles to phrases to write what the characters said. In Maths, children have been learning all about doubles and practically doubling numbers up to 10. Some children were demonstrating super reading skills and sorting out jumbled sentences.

BRIGHT

This week in Bright Class we have been working on questions and roleplaying as animals in our story, 'The Lion Inside'. We have been sequencing numbers using tens and ones values to help. The children have also been using these skills to count on from different values over ten. The children had lots of fun testing more slider mechanisms ready to make their own slider in the coming weeks.



OUR LEARNING



JEFFERS



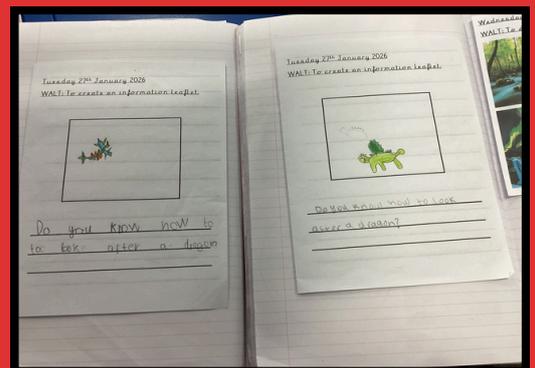
Jeffers Class have been working on using the correct punctuation in English this week.

On Tuesday we went to the Hall for a 'punctuation hunt', looking for full-stops, question marks and exclamation marks.

We received a letter from Tom telling us all about his favourite place. We are currently planning to write back to him so that we can use the punctuation marks that we have learned about.

PERCIVAL

In Percival Class this week we have investigated which material would be the best to use to make a boat. We have compared living in the Arctic to living in Blackburn and thought about the clothes we wear, the transport we use and the temperature of each. In maths we have started our multiplication unit by making groups. In English we have done some super writing! We have made leaflets all about how to look after a Dragon.



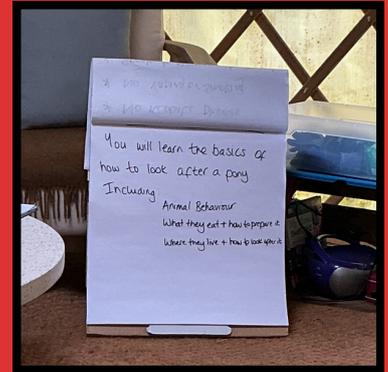
OUR LEARNING

BRIDGE CENTRE

This week, in The Bridge, we have been mostly busy with our Maths, SPaG, English and Science lessons.

However, last Friday half of us started our "Basic Animal Care" course, at The Learning Farm.

We had a brilliant couple of hours, being shown around the farm, walking through "Whispering Wood", having mini-lessons in The Yurt, visiting the "Horse School" and meeting some of the farm animals. We were then lucky enough to enter the Barn and stroke Ben the Miniature Donkey and Biscuit and Nemo, the Shetland Ponies. The most important lesson we learnt about, was hygiene and understanding the importance of washing our hands and swilling our wellies in a footbath.



RAINBOW ROOM

This week in Rainbow Room we have been looking at our class story 'Marvelous Me'. We looked at what makes us different from our friends. We looked at our faces in the mirror to see what we have that is special. We have got different eye colour, skin colour and hair colour. In Maths, we have still been learning about shapes and this week we have been trying to make shape pictures. We made a clown, flower and a rocket.





PTFA at Shadsworth Infant School
would like to invite the children to a

VALENTINE'S DISCO

on
12TH
THURSDAY 3.45PM - 5.00PM

FEBRUARY 2026

**The cost of the tickets are
£3.50 per child.**

This will include a
hotdog & drink.

Rainbow Children will have their own sensory
disco and activities during school hours.



Braveasaurus

January

EYFS

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

★ **Be Brave** ★

Courage

YOUR **BR*VERY** IS **BOUNDLESS**

New Years Day

Read Breathe with Braveasaurus

"I am brave"

World Braille Day

Create your own bravery medal

Go bird spotting

Make a new friend

play a new sport

Create a Superhero mask

Take part in a practice Fire Evacuation

Go on an adventure

Courage Checklist

Create a Bravery Medal

tactile bravery walk

Try a new vegetable

Create your own bravery character

World Religion Day

Share a family story

Learn about a profession that is brave

Braveasaurus Playdough

talk about a time you were Brave

Scissor skills

Ride a bike

Go swimming

Saint Dwynwyn Day

Look for bugs

Learn how to cross the road safely

Play with someone new

Taste test

Practise your breathing

'Be brave and be yourself day'

★ Activities in this colour are explained in the supplementary activity sheets on your portal.

BRAVE

Have you been looking after someone else's child for 28 days or more, but are not a close relative?

Do you know a child who is being looked after outside of their close family? Call us on:

Lancashire County Council - 0300 123 6720

Blackpool Council - 01253 477299

Blackburn with Darwen Council - 01254 666400

Head Lice – Together We Can Fight Them!

Head lice are a normal part of childhood - surveys among primary school children have found that nearly 1 in 10 have head lice at any one time.

If you're a parent you probably know what a hassle it is to treat head lice and just how frustrating it can be when your

child comes home scratching their head yet again. But parents, you've got the power to stop head lice in their tracks!

By following a simple three step process, Check-Treat-Complete, you can fight back against these bug bullies.

TREAT

If you find live lice, firstly, don't worry. Head lice are a normal part of life and are nothing to be embarrassed, panicked or ashamed about.

How to get rid of head lice?

There are **FOUR** types of head lice treatment:

- Non-pesticide treatments
- Pesticide lotions and liquids
- Wet combing with conditioner
- Alternative treatments

NON-PESTICIDE treatments work in a different way from conventional pesticide treatments. They kill the lice by coating and either stripping away their waxy coating, causing them to dehydrate or blocking the opening to their air tubes, disrupting their ability to manage water. These physical mode of actions mean there is theoretically no chance for the lice to build up a resistance. There are three main active ingredients currently in use, dimeticone, isopropyl and actvdiol.

PESTICIDE based treatments have been around for many years but there is now evidence that head lice already have, and continue to, develop resistance to some of them. There are two main types which work by poisoning the lice but evidence suggests that levels of resistance to these treatments are rising.

WET COMBING removes lice and nits but does take time and patience to ensure a thorough job is done. It's quite easy to miss a few and needs to be done twice a week for at least two weeks.

ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS and herbal options are available – although their effectiveness varies.

All it takes is three simple steps:

CHECK

- Your child's hair once a week
- Use a proper detection comb to trap head lice, preferably white in colour so they can easily be seen
- If you find live lice, consult a pharmacist for treatment advice
- If head lice are spotted, take a close look at all the family, including yourself, and ask close family and friends to check as well

TREAT

- Only treat if live lice are identified
- Use a clinically proven treatment, ideally with a physical mode of action to which lice are very unlikely to build up resistance
- Leave the treatment on for the recommended time for maximum effect – leaving it on for longer will not make it more effective

COMPLETE

- Check that all head lice have gone within 2-3 days of the final application to complete the treatment
- If the pack instructions specify that a second application is required, repeat the treatment for second time seven days after the first to kill any lice that may hatch from eggs during that time
- Continue to check for head lice on a regular, weekly basis

If you find live lice tell your school, friends and family straight away so they can check as well.



What to do Next

"We can fight the spread of head lice but we need to work together."

- ✓ Ask your school to get involved with the 'Once a Week, Take a Peek' campaign
- ✓ Tell your friends and family about the campaign
- ✓ Go to the web site below for copies of this leaflet as well as further information and sources of help:

www.onceaweektakeapeek.com

So just remember:
**Once a Week,
Take a Peek!**

Hedrin

Medical Entomology Centre

CBeebies Parenting and Apps

CBeebies Parenting is full of useful information from creative activities, recipes and information about the CBeebies apps.

CBeebies apps are free to download with no in-app purchases. Their apps include:

- Playtime Island - Fun Games for Kids App. This app includes 40 free games.
- CBeebies Learn - Early Years Learning App. This app includes games and videos and is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.
- Get Creative - Open-ended Creative Activities App. This app is free and includes lots of drawing and painting activities.
- Storytime - Reading Stories App. This app includes interactive story books.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/parenting>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/february-2026-primary/>

Using AI to alter images

AI image generator and moderator tools are widely available and often used by children. Whilst these tools can be used for creative purposes, we need to ensure our children are aware of the appropriate way in which to use them and the circumstances when they should not be used, even if harm is not intended.

What are AI image generator and moderator tools?

It is when Artificial Intelligence is used to create or modify images, for example it could be used to swap faces, change expressions or for more sinister reasons, such as to remove clothes. These images are often very realistic and therefore difficult to see that they are fake.

Privacy concerns and consent

If your child is using these tools, they need to be aware of potential loss of privacy and the importance of consent. They should know that they should only use images of other people with consent.

What does my child need to know about using these tools?

Children shouldn't use AI tools to manipulate images of school staff. Even if the child's intention is not malicious, children should not use AI tools to create or edit photos of teachers under any circumstances.

- Manipulation of images of friends or other children – if you are using images of other people, then consent **must** always be sought.
- The tools should not be used to create images that can embarrass or hurt others - this is a form of online bullying.
- Copyright issues – who owns the copyright? These images could be reused by others, which can affect their own digital footprint.

What should I do?

- Chat to your child if they are using these tools and ascertain the reason why. Ask them to show you the images that they have created.
- Check the age ratings of any apps/websites that your child is using and set up appropriate parental controls.
- Develop your child's digital literacy by teaching them to recognise online risks and to behave responsibly online

Further information

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-to-children-about-ai>
- <https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2025/02/18/understanding-image-consent-at-schools/>

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security / privacy settings are applied.

Account set up

It is important that your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored by age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and restricted mode here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/privacy-and-safety-settings-for-users-under-age-18>

Family Pairing

Family Pairing allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode or tailor your child's 'For You' feed by selecting keywords that TikTok will use to filter out posts. You can find out more here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Inappropriate content and themes:** whilst against guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. Some of the songs available to lip sync to may contain inappropriate lyrics/themes.
- **Challenges:** We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be **risky/dangerous**. Sadly, there are reports that children have died whilst attempting online challenges. Children may not yet have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse that what they see online is not always safe for them to replicate.
- **Stranger contact:** chat to your child about how people may not be who they say they are when online.

Refresh your feed

You can refresh your "For You" feed to update the content recommended: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/refresh-your-for-you-feed>

Blocking and Reporting

Show your child how to use the safety features available.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>
- <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.02.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or



Balance screen time tips

Internet Matters have created simple tips to help you develop healthy online habits for your child. They also answer key questions such as "how much screentime is too much" and "is gaming bad for children." Access this information here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/creating-a-balanced-digital-diet-with-screen-time-tips>

7 Steps to Good Digital Parenting

The Family Online Safety Institute have created seven steps to assist you as a digital parent. Find out more here:

<https://fosi.org/program/7-steps-to-good-digital-parenting/>

Children's Commissioner launches

new guide for parents and carers

The Children's Commissioner has released a new guide to help you in managing your child's digital life. The guide was written with direct involvement from children.

It includes advice on setting boundaries such as no devices in the bedroom and how to chat to your child. You can find the guide here:

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