

SHAW RIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 2 - DEC 2025

HEAD TEACHERS NOTE

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a wonderful and very busy term, filled with learning, laughter and plenty of festive cheer. Across the school, children have thrown themselves into every opportunity with enthusiasm and resilience.

Our Year 6 pupils have been working incredibly hard, taking part in their mock SATs and showing real determination as they prepare for the months ahead. Meanwhile, KS1 have been getting into the full swing of the festivities, practising and enjoying their Christmas performances always a highlight of the season and a joy to watch.

This term we say goodbye to several staff members who are moving on to exciting new opportunities. We are incredibly grateful for all they have done for our pupils, our school, and the wider community they will be truly missed.

Congratulations to: Kirsty Williams, moving into a full-time role at her other school. Sarah Robinson, joining Mountford Manor as a Family Support Worker and Abbie Dart, taking on a new office role at Peatmoor. We wish them every success in their next chapter.

Mrs Cowell

ARBOR - OUR NEW SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM

We are pleased to announce an important update regarding our schools administration systems. As part of our commitment to enhancing efficiency and improving parental engagement, Shaw Ridge is transitioning to a new Management Information System (MIS) provider called Arbor. Alongside this transition, we are pleased to introduce the Arbor Parent Portal and Arbor App, powerful tools that will revolutionise your experience in managing various aspects of your child's education. The Arbor Parent Portal and Arbor App are user-friendly digital tools that support parents in managing their child's education. Through these platforms, you can conveniently make online payments for school fees, trips, and other expenses, eliminating the need for traditional payment methods. Moreover, you can easily track your child's attendance and stay informed about their progress in school.

Registering your child for clubs and trips will be simplified, replacing paper forms and visits to the school office. Additionally, you will have the ability to update your child and parent information directly, ensuring that records are accurate and up to date for effective communication between home and school.

This transition to Arbor signifies our commitment to simplifying administrative processes and providing you with a user-friendly experience.

We invite all our parents to familiarise themselves with Arbor using the link here: [Getting started - Log into the Parent Portal and the Arbor App](#)

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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

At the start of term, our School Council had the exciting opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament. During their visit, they learned about the importance of Parliament, its role in shaping laws, and what happens inside this historic building. It was a fantastic experience that helped bring their understanding of democracy to life.



In-School Pantomime

At the start of the month, our annual in-school pantomime visited to deliver a wonderful live theatre experience for all our children. Staff and pupils alike absolutely loved it, and it certainly helped everyone get into the festive spirit.

A huge thank you to FOSR for funding this event, and to the wider school community for your continued support in helping us raise the funds that make experiences like this possible.



Year 4 Visit to STEAM Museum

Year 4 enjoyed an exciting trip to the STEAM Museum, where they explored the history of railways and discovered how trains have changed over time. The children took part in hands-on activities, learned about life on the railways, and were fascinated by the impressive locomotives on display. It was a fantastic day that brought their learning to life.

Portals to the Past Workshops

Year 3 and Year 5 enjoyed fantastic immersive workshops delivered by Portals to the Past. The children had the chance to dress up and step back in time for the day.

Year 3 explored what life was like in the Stone Age, discovering how early humans lived, worked, and survived. Meanwhile, Year 5 learned all about the Vikings, gaining a real insight into their daily life, culture, and traditions. It was a brilliant hands-on learning experience for both year groups.



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Year 2 - Lydiard Church Visit

Aspen and Sycamore classes walked to Lydiard to visit St Mary's Church where they engaged in some Christmas activities and viewed the amazing collection of nativity scenes that Capt Rev Deverall has collected over many years.



Thinking of others

On a number of occasions this term we have taken time to pause and reflect on ourselves and others in our wider community. Through wearing odd socks for a day we focused on antibullying and wearing spots or superhero costumes we raised money for Children in need. (One of my personal favourite super-hero costumes was a nurse.) More recently the children made gifts for seniors which were presented in our annual visit from the Elves by members of the school council.

Thanks to local businesses

Support from our local businesses is always appreciated. This year, Dunelm generously donated gifts for our Young Carers, and Toomers provided the stunning Christmas tree that now brightens our foyer. We're also incredibly grateful for all the amazing prizes contributed to the FOSR Christmas raffle.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

06.01.2026 Start of Term 3

15.01.2026 Deadline for reception applications opening in September 2025

15.01.2026 FOSR Meeting @ school 6:30pm

21.01.2026 FOSR Disco

11.02.2026 Parent Interviews

12.02.2026 Parent Interviews

13.02.2026 End of term 3

23.03.2026 T D Day

24.03.2026 Start of Term 4

<https://shaw-ridge-primary-school.schudio.com/calendar> - Keep up to date with the school calendar here

*Due to unforeseen circumstances, dates can be subject to change.

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SCHOOL LUNCHES TERM 3 MENU

Our Term 3 menus are new for Jan 2026 and will as always be on a 3-week cycle throughout the term.

Meal bookings are already open for the new term, so please ensure your selections are made in advance. We can not take bookings on the day.

Meal Booking Update – Starting January

From January, all school meals must be booked via the **Arbor Parent Portal or App**. Please note that meal bookings close **24 hours in advance**. We are no longer able to take same-day emergency bookings, and if a lunch has not been booked or provided, parents will be contacted to bring one in.

How to Book Meals on Arbor

- **Access the Portal/App** – Log in to the Arbor Parent Portal or App.
- **Check Balances & Top Up** – Open the Meals section to view your balance (shown in red if negative) and use Top up account to add funds.
- **Make Meal Choices** – Select your child's meal options from the menu or set regular choices.
- **Free School Meals (FSM)** – If your child is eligible, FSM entitlement will be shown in their profile and will automatically cover the cost.

What's on the menu?		HARRISON [®] food with thought				
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
WEEK ONE	Vegetable Bolognese with Pasta Gluten, Fish Cheese & Potato Layered Pie Milk, Gluten Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Sweetcorn, Peas Cheese Salad Bap, Egg Salad Bap Milk, Gluten, Egg Baked Apple Strudel with Custard Milk, Gluten, Sulphates	Braised Sausage in an Onion Sauce and Creamed Potatoes Creamy Vegetable Curry & Steamed Rice Milk, Mustard, Celery Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Garlic Green Beans / Roasted Cauliflower Ham & Tomato Wrap, Cheese and Chive Wrap Gluten, Milk Upside Down Pineapple Sponge with Custard Gluten, Milk, Egg	Baked Gammon with Roast Potatoes Creamy Tomato Pasta Gluten, Milk Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Roasted Carrots / Garden Peas Egg Mayonnaise Bap, Sausage Baguette Gluten, Milk Fruit Cocktail & Ice Cream Milk	Fluffy Topped Beef & Vegetable Pie with Savoury Potatoes Gluten, Celery, Fish Quorn Sausage & Sauté Onions with Savoury Potatoes Gluten Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Broccoli Florets / Sweetcorn Cheese & Tomato Bap, Turkey Salad Bap Gluten, Egg Chocolate Cake and Chocolate sauce Gluten, Egg, Milk	Fish Fingers with Chip Shop Chips & Ketchup Gluten, Fish Vegetable Goujons with Chips & Ketchup Milk, Gluten Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Baked Beans, Garden Peas Tuna Salad Wrap, Cheese & Tomato Wrap Milk, Gluten Cheese & Crackers or Fruit Smoothie Milk, Gluten	
WEEK TWO	Vegetable Sausage & Tomato Pizza with Seasoned Wedges Milk, Gluten Sweet Potato Frittata with Seasoned Wedges Egg, Milk Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Sweetcorn, Coleslaw Egg Cheese & Chive Mayo Baguette Egg Mayo Milk, Gluten, Egg Lemon Sponge with Custard Eggs, Gluten, Milk	Creamy Chicken Curry with Naan Bread with Steamed Rice Milk, Mustard, Gluten Vegetable Stroganoff and Steamed Rice Milk, Egg Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Broccoli Florets / Cauliflower Sausage Bap, Cheese and Carrot Bap Gluten, Sulphates, Milk Coconut & Jam Sponge, Custard Sauce Eggs, Gluten, Milk	Roast Turkey & Roasted Potatoes Vegetable Biryani Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Steamed Carrots, Garden peas Tuna Mayo & Sweetcorn Wrap Cheese Salad Wrap Gluten, Milk, Fish Arctic Roll Milk, Gluten	Fisherman's Pie Vegetable Pie topped with Puff Pastry served with Creamed Potato Milk, Egg, Gluten Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Green Beans / Vegetable Medley Egg Salad Baguette, Turkey Coronation Baguette Egg, Gluten, Sulphates Chocolate Brownie Tray Bake Gluten	Chicken Goujons, Chunky Chips Gluten, Egg Vegetable Bites, Chunky Chips Egg, Gluten Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Mushy Peas / Baked Beans Cheese & Tomato Bap, Tuna & Cucumber Bap Wrap Gluten, Milk, Fish Fruit Smoothie or Cheese & Crackers Milk, Gluten	
WEEK THREE	Cheese & Tomato Pasta Milk, Gluten Vegetarian Chili with Rice with Nachos Celery, Fish Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Mixed Vegetables, Sauté Courgettes Cheese & Carrot Wrap, Egg Mayo Wrap Eggs, Gluten, Milk Apple Topped Sponge & Custard Milk, Egg, Gluten	Turkey & Ham Norfolk Pie Gluten, Milk, Mustard Vegetable Casserole with Herb Dumplings Gluten, Celery, Fish Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Green Beans, Cauliflower Florets Turkey & Lettuce Baguette, Egg Salad Baguette Eggs, Gluten Creamy Rice Pudding with Strawberry Sauce Milk	Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes Ratatouille Pasta Gluten, Fish, Celery Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Peas, Carrots Cheese & Cucumber Bap, Pork Salad Bap Gluten, Milk Peaches & Ice Cream Milk	BBQ Chicken with Cheesy Mashed Potato Milk Vegetable Goulash and Cheesy Mashed Potato Milk Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Broccoli Florets, Mixed Vegetables Cheese & Tomato Wrap, Sausage and Red Onion Wrap Milk, Gluten, Sulphates Ginger Sponge & Custard Milk, Egg, Gluten	Fish Fingers, Chipped Potatoes Gluten Vegetable Goujons with Chips & Ketchup Milk, Gluten Jacket Potato Bar with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Milk, Egg, Fish Mushy Peas / Baked Beans Egg Mayo Baguette, Tuna Salad Baguette Gluten, Egg, Fish Fruit Smoothie or Cheese & Crackers Milk, Gluten	

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100%

ATTENDANCE

Good attendance and punctuality lay the foundation for a strong and successful education. On 12th November, we achieved an incredible milestone with 100% attendance for all statutory school-aged children. A huge well done to you all, what a fantastic achievement!

We are always working hard, together with our parents, to make sure that this is maintained and even improved upon. Our school is committed to improving achievement through attendance. As I am sure you will agree, regular attendance ensures our children receive the maximum benefit from education.

We, and the Local Authority, monitor closely the attendance of all of our pupils, particularly any pupil who falls below 97%. Each term we will send out information letters to parents. These will notify you if your child's attendance and highlight attendances that fall below the expected figure. We believe it is important that we keep working together to improve any attendance which falls below 97%.

As in everything we do, we have high expectations for good attendance and punctuality! Gates are open from 8.30am and school starts at 8:45am each morning. Registration and morning tasks take place in the first few minutes in class, so punctuality is important.

We do celebrate good attendance - Award bands are given to children who achieve 100%

Absence through illness or medical appointments

If your child is ill, we ask that you please ring the office on the morning of each day of absence. As always you are very welcome to consult with us for advice on attendance with certain conditions. Please note that we ARE happy to administer prescribed medicines (if prescribed **4 times** a day) and or paracetamol in single dose form but these need to be signed in at the school office. If for any reason your child is not at school and we haven't received a message we will make a courtesy call home to you to ensure your child is safe.

Taking Holidays during Term Time is Unauthorised

Schools no longer have any authority to authorise absence for a family holiday during term time. Any such absence is **unauthorised** and may incur a Penalty Notice. In the event of a family deciding to take a holiday during term time an 'Absence from School for Exceptional Circumstances' form must be completed and submitted to school with sufficient time to enable the school to consider the request and inform parents of the decision.

Absence from School In Exceptional Circumstance

The schools 'Absence from School in Exceptional Circumstances' policy follows the Local Authority Policy. It details the circumstances in which the Headteacher may authorise an absence. An 'Absence from School for Exceptional Circumstances' must be completed and submitted to school with sufficient time to enable the school to consider the request and inform parents of the decision.

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 Follow us @ShawRidgePrimary

REMINDERS...

The Friends of Shaw Ridge:

Shaw Ridge has an excellent **P**arent **T**eachers **A**ssociation who work very hard to organise events to raise money for our children. All parents are automatically members of the **P.T.A.** If you would be interested in supporting the work of the FOSR the next meeting is taking place on Thursday 15th Jan at 6.30pm in the school staff room.

Parking:

Please do not keep car engines running (idling) when parked in the school car park. Everyone who uses the car park should adhere to the markings and not park in the staff car park

No wheel zone:

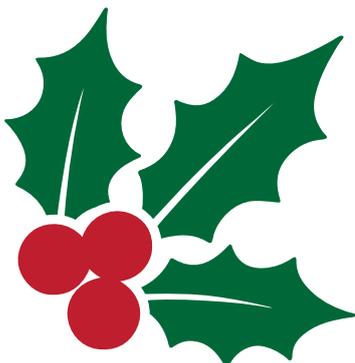
There is a no wheel zone both inside and around the school grounds and most of our pupils/parents/carers are really good at remembering to dismount from cycles and scooters. Thank you for your co-operation in maintaining an environment that is safe for all children and adults visiting our school.

School Uniform :

We have noticed that some uniform choices being made are not in line with our policy, particularly regarding footwear. Please take some time to re-familiarise yourself with the school's uniform policy and do please ask if you have any specific questions. Please also note that hair accessories should be simple and that hair at shoulder length or longer should be tied up (this applies to all children).

School Applications Deadline – Thursday 15th January 2026

A reminder that Thursday 15th January is the deadline for applications for reception aged children starting school in September 2026. Late applications can still be submitted, but please be aware that they are less likely to secure your preferred school choice.



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HELPFUL INFORMATION

MUSIC LESSONS AT SCHOOL

 Swindon
Music
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Music Lessons

*Violin, Woodwind, Guitar & Piano
At Shaw Ridge Primary School*

Why choose our lessons?

- Convenient: Lessons happen during the school day, no extra travel required
- Flexible: Arranged directly with you after application
- Expert Tuition: Professional, experienced music teachers

Lesson Options & Prices

- 15 minute individual lesson or 30 minute paired lesson: £8.75
- 20 minute individual lesson: £11.70
- 30 minute individual lesson: £17.50
- 45 minute individual lesson (online only)
- *Prices are per lesson*

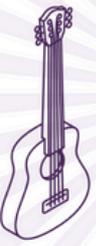
Shared lesson options
(please note, not available for Piano or Drums)

- 3 pupils in 30 minutes
- 2 pupils in 20 minutes



Let the Music Begin - Apply now!







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- Fun and Inclusive
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- Award Winning

Venues	Dates	Cost	To Book
Swindon - The Croft (9am - 1pm) Royal Wootton Bassett Infants (10am - 2pm) Chippenham Sheldon School (10am - 2pm) Malmesbury St.Joseph's Primary (10am - 2pm) Potential wraparound care - enquire for details	Swindon: 22-23 Dec & 29-30 Dec Wiltshire: 29-31 Dec & 2 Jan 2026	£25 per day or free for those in receipt of HAF vouchers. (includes free hot meal)	go to our website: www.revolutionpa.co.uk email: office@revolutionpa.co.uk or call: 07799 691328

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HELPFUL INFORMATION



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE CHRISTMAS CAMPS

2 DAY FOOTBALL	BOYS & GIRLS - 4 TO 15 22 nd & 23 rd DECEMBER 2025 9am to 3pm	1 DAY: £20 2 DAYS: £38
GIRLS FOOTBALL	GIRLS - 4 TO 15 22 nd & 23 rd DECEMBER 2025 9am to 3pm	1 DAY: £20 2 DAYS: £38
GOALKEEPER DAYS	BOYS & GIRLS - 4 TO 15 22 nd & 23 rd DECEMBER 2025 9am to 3pm	1 DAY: £20 2 DAYS: £38
2 DAY MULTI SPORTS	BOYS & GIRLS - 4 TO 15 22 nd & 23 rd DECEMBER 2025 9am to 3pm	1 DAY: £20 2 DAYS: £38
NETBALL	BOYS & GIRLS - 5 TO 11 23 rd DECEMBER 2025 9am to 3pm	1 DAY: £20

SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE FACILITY

3G PITCH & SPORTS HALL, MOULDED STUD FOOTBALL BOOTS, TRAINERS FOR THOSE ON MULTI SPORTS & NETBALL, PACKED LUNCH, DRINKS & SPARE CLOTHES

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
OCTAL WAY
SWINDON
SN3 3LR

CONTACT US TO EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST

Please contact:
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www.swindonmultisports.co.uk



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FIND US ON
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

KIM'S CHRISTMAS 2025 HOLIDAY CLUB

BROOK FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mon 22nd & Tues 23rd December 2025 **AGES 4-14**



Book Online



TWO DAYS ONLY

Monday 22nd December
9am - 3pm - All Day

Tuesday 23rd December
9am - 3pm - All Day

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

FUN ACTIVITIES

To book a place at our holiday club where lots of fun and laughter awaits, please visit our website to secure your place.

www.swindonmultisports.co.uk