

SHAW RIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 3 - FEB 2025

HEAD TEACHERS NOTE

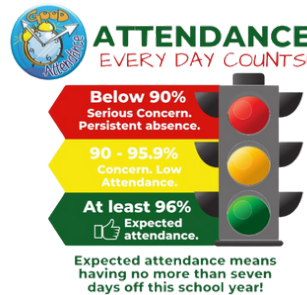
Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been really encouraging to see our school attendance improving this term compared to last year. A big thank you to parents and carers for your support - it makes a huge difference! It's also great to see fewer children with attendance below 90%. Just a reminder, if a child's attendance falls below this, they are classed as a persistent absentee, and we have to report it to Swindon Borough Council. We know that children love coming to school and learning, so let's keep this up. Every school day counts!

82% of our parents booked a parent:teacher meeting this week to talk about their child/children's progress and attainment. These are important opportunities to celebrate success. If you missed your appointment, the staff will be pleased to arrange another time next term to get together. Please do contact them directly.

Oak class parent teacher consultations will take place on Wednesday 26th February. A separate link has been sent to book an appointment.

Mrs Cowell



PUNCTUALITY FOR SCHOOL

WEEKLY PUNCTUALITY

Last week there were 30 children late for school. We understand that school mornings can be hectic, but ... Did you know?

Being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school!

- Gates open at 8.30am
- Classroom doors open at 8.45am
- Late arrival is between 8.45am and 9.00am
- Arrival after 9.15am is recorded as unauthorised. Consistent late arrivals can trigger a Fixed Penalty Notice especially if your child also has other unauthorised absence!

This is the time of year when we have lots of illnesses and bugs going around. We do make sure children are wearing outdoor clothes for break times so please check they are named. If your child is a bit under the weather, please send them to school if they are well enough—we will always contact families if children become unwell at school. It is very important that they do not miss learning as it is very difficult for them to catch up.

Days missed so far this academic year: **11846**

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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Sports

Our sporting teams have been in action - Boys and girls footballers have done a great job representing the school. Qualities of teamwork and respect have been highlighted as being demonstrated by all.



Children's Mental Health Week

Being self-aware means getting to know and understand what we are good at, what we find difficult, our likes and dislikes, what makes us feel JOY and what may cause us SADNESS. It is also about understanding what makes us unique and our fears, hopes and dreams. As we build a sense of self, we grow in our ability to connect with others, as well as develop our skills and talents. It is with this basis we can form strong and healthy relationships.

E Safety Day

This years e-safety focus was:

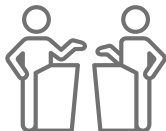
'To good to be true - protecting yourselves and others from online scams.'

Across the school we have considered scam scenarios and learned how to respond when we don't feel safe.



Year 5 children attending Debating Competition

What amazing superstars! Our Y5 Debate Team - Kimaya, Stuti, Nicolas and Zara represented the school at the GLT Debate Competition. They wowed the judges with their performance skills, dealing calmly with questions from the crowd as well as pre prepared questions from one of the other schools. Their presentation on Wind Power as a sustainable energy source really made us think. Thanks also go to the Y5 researchers who formed an integral part of the preparation team.



Computer Science Taster Day

Four children from year 5 had the opportunity to attend a computer science taster day at LPA. Our young minds had the opportunity to explore the world of technology during a fun-filled Computer Science Day. The event, designed to spark curiosity and creativity, introduced children to coding, robotics, and problem-solving through interactive activities.



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Handwriting and presentation

This term we have been working hard on our handwriting in order to present our learning in the best possible way for our audience to read it. Well done to the following children have shown amazing progress.

F2

Lowie and Evelyn-Rose

Y1

Dhiya and Aryaana

Y2

Pedro and Jacob

Y3

Adrian and

Y4

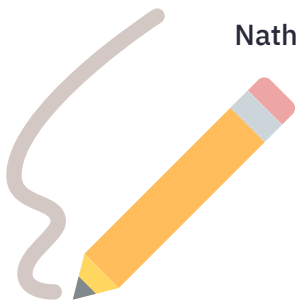
Joseph and Harvey

Y5

Amelia and Bailee

Y6

Nathan and Lexie



DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 24.02.25 Start of term 4
- w/c 3rd March - Book Fair arrives!
- 06.03.25 World Book Day
- 06.03.25 FOSR monthly meeting
- 21.03.25 Red Nose Day
- 26.03.25 - FOSR School Disco
- 04.04.25 - FOSR Easter Event

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

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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 6th March at 6.30pm in the school staff room. We would appreciate help with organising our next events; School Disco and the Easter Trail.

Parking:

As with the majority of primary schools in the country, we do not have a 'parent' car park. If you do need to drive to drop off or collect your child please park considerately and ensure you are not obstructing drives, garages or access to roads. Please be respectful of our neighbours and remember that parking on ziz-zag/double yellow lines at any time of the day is prohibited. Parking up by the school community rooms is not permitted and is for staff and external club providers only. Please remember that there is additional parking at Simply Gym. Our children's safety is our main priority and this includes their journey to and from school. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Absence from school:

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please call the school on 01793 871601 and select the absence line (option 1) between 8.15am and 8.55am each day of their illness. Your child will need to remain off school for 48 hours after their last bout of vomiting or diarrhoea.

We encourage parents and carers to arrange all medical appointments outside of school hours, where possible. Should your child need to be absent for school for any reason, you will need to complete a Request for Absence from School form available from the school office.

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 here](#) 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).

EARRINGS:

Children are allowed to wear small, simple STUD earrings to school. CHILDREN MUST BE ABLE TO TAKE OUT AND PUT IN THEIR OWN EARRINGS, STAFF CANNOT ASSIST WITH THIS.

If your child is participating in after school sport clubs, the same guidance applies.



01793 871601



admin@shawridge.swindon.sch.uk



Swindon, SN5 5PU



shawridgeprimary.org.uk

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HELPFUL INFORMATION

TIPS FOR FAMILIES

Place2Be's CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

- 1 Encourage journaling**
Just like Riley, encourage your older children and young people to express their emotions and thoughts through journaling. It can be less confronting than speaking out loud and is a helpful way to process what is going on.
- 2 Make space for reflection**
When children and young people reflect on their different emotions, it can help them better understand themselves and what they need.
Go for a walk, drive, or try some mindful colouring or baking together.
- 3 Be visual**
Use imagery, such as emojis or flashcards to help children and young people recognise and label their feelings.
- 4 Practice mindfulness**
Try mindful activities, and quiet family time, to enjoy being in the present moment. This can help children and young people be aware of their thoughts and emotions and learn a useful new coping technique.
- 5 Communicate**
Feedback is crucial for helping us see our blind spots and gain greater insight. Children and young people are no different. Creating safe and supportive ways to share your own experience with your child can help them understand themselves and their impact on the world around them.

If you're a parent or teacher, you'll find loads of useful advice to help you support the brilliant young people in your lives – from FAQs to downloadable packs. [Here4You.co.uk](https://www.here4you.co.uk)



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HELPFUL INFORMATION

TOP TIPS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Place
2Be

1 Be curious about your emotions

You're fascinating! Take notice of your emotions and thoughts, either as they come up or maybe later on that day. You can use techniques like meditation or journalling to help you make sense of what is going on inside of you.

2 What matters most

Our values are often what make us tick, so reflect on what really matters to you. Are you ambitious, funny, kind, creative? Similar to Riley, our beliefs can evolve as we grow older and have new life experiences. If you're feeling lost or confused, take a moment to think about what drives you. It may help you understand yourself better and make choices that feel right for you.

3 Feedback, feedback, feedback

Other people we know can often see things about us that we miss. Sometimes these can be areas for us to develop and sometimes they can be our strengths. Either way it's great to have a friend, family member or teacher that can help us with our blind spots

4 Get creative expressing yourself

Creativity can often help us express emotions and show parts of ourselves that are sometimes hidden. If you are feeling blue like Sadness, painting might help. If you are feeling bright and happy like Joy, song and dance could be the creative outlet for you. Whether it's painting, music, dance, drama or something else, find your creative outlet and share it with others.

If you're a young person struggling with any kind of mental health worries, reach out in a way that suits you. From speaking to someone or grabbing some info, to webchat or text, there's people ready and waiting to help [Here4You.co.uk](https://www.here4you.co.uk)



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HELPFUL INFORMATION



01793 689001 - HOPE Team

DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARE SCHOOL

LOVE SHOULD NOT HURT.

HOPE
Designed by a survivor

Open Door Prevention & Early Intervention, Education & Employment Support



01793 689001 - HOPE Team

DO YOU THINK YOUR RELATIONSHIP IS UNHEALTHY?

WE ARE A SAFE SPACE TO TALK ABOUT THIS



Bristol Autism Support

UPCOMING EVENT DATES

SWINDON COFFEE MORNING

Support for Parents and Carers of Autistic Children - No Diagnosis Required

Our drop in group for parents and carers of autistic children (no diagnosis required). Come along and meet our Peer Educators and others who are there to listen, support, share experiences and offer signposting if needed.

No need to book, just turn up!

**Wednesday
26th February
10:30-12:30**

Goddard Arms, Old Town
Swindon, SN1 3EG

Located in the semi-private area to the right as you walk in the main front door.

 Autism Central

 COMMUNITY FUND



Dear Parent/Carer,

We are aware that a percentage of parent/carer's in the Shaw Ward have applied for Working Families Childcare Funding, received their code but have not yet signed up with a Childcare Provider. As a Local Authority we would like to understand the reasons behind this and help to support with any difficulties that you may be experiencing in finding a suitable Childcare setting.

We would appreciate and value your help in this by asking you to complete a short survey using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/v1HUG49z4z>

Please Note the cut off date for survey responses is Wednesday 5th March 2025

Many Thanks,

The Parent Support and Engagement Team



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HELPFUL INFORMATION



**1-1
Instrumental
music lessons
at school, online
or at home.**

**Swindon
Music
Co-operative -
providing 1-1
instrumental
lessons in schools
across Swindon and
Wiltshire since 1998.**

*Piano, Drums, Guitar,
Woodwind, Brass and Strings.*



Swindon
Music
Co-operative



Our aim is to develop each pupil's musical potential according to their individual needs and aspirations. Quality of teaching is monitored through regular observations of all our teachers.

For more information or to apply please scan the QR code below



Application form



More information

Swindon Music Co-operative, Astoria House, 165/166 Victoria Road, Swindon, SN1 3BU
01793 781973 • info@swindonmusiccoop.co.uk • swindonmusiccoop.co.uk