

29.08.25

SHAFTESBURY NEWS  
www.shaftesbury.leicester.sch.uk

*"Every morning's dew is a fresh breath of a new beginning." —Jessica Edouard*

## WELCOME TO THE NEW AUTUMN TERM 2025

I hope all of our families are well and refreshed following the summer break. It gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone back to school as we start our new academic year. We have had a lovely start to term with two fun-packed days and children getting to know their new teachers.

This term, and following our engaging theme of Biodiversity last term, we will now explore the important topic of Consumption & Waste. Throughout this term, our children will learn about sustainable practices and their vital role in looking after our planet.

We are hoping to inspire curiosity and a sense of responsibility in our students, guiding them towards becoming conscientious global citizens.

And speaking of inspiring curiosity, we have had the national BBC news team in school today to find out about how our start to term has gone and why attendance at school is so important. Our children rose magnificently to being filmed and the news segment will be on Sunday's evening news on BBC1. We'll make sure that we share it next week.

I would like to wish everyone all the best for the term ahead and I am looking forward to seeing all of our children's hard work in school.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**School times:** The school day begins at **8.50am**. Children may enter their classroom to prepare for the start of the day from **8.40am**. School finishes at **3.05pm**. There will be a member of staff on duty from 8.30am to 8.50am in the mornings and 3.05pm to 3.15pm at the end of the day. Children must not arrive to school before 8.30am unless attending breakfast club or the morning sports club.

**Contact details:** Please inform the office of any changes in your contact telephone numbers or address, so that the records can be updated.

**Year 3:** Parents & carers, please return all paperwork that you have received in your welcome packs, if you have not yet done so. We need up-to-date contact numbers which are essential in case of emergency. Please ask at the school office if you need any additional copies of the forms.

**Breakfast Club:** Runs from **8.00am**. Please book and pay online via ParentPay. The cost is **£3** per session. Cereals, fruit, toast and juice will be provided.

**After Care:** Runs from **3.15pm-5.30pm, Monday-Thursday** and **3.15pm-5.00pm on a Friday**. Please book and pay online via ParentPay. The cost is **£10** per session. Light snacks will be provided.

**School Meals:** Please book and pay online via ParentPay. The cut-off day is every Tuesday for ordering meals for the following week. The cost is **£2.55** per day. Free School Meals children should still book meals but are not required to pay.

**Inhalers/Medication:** If your child needs to have an inhaler or any other medication to be kept in school, please make sure that it has been handed in and that it is in date.

**Attendance:** Parents & carers are expected to inform the office if their child is not going to be in school. A message can be left on the automated answering service, stating the reason for the absence. The school telephone number is **0116 254 9203**.

Please visit our **school website** where you will find the latest updates and useful information:  
<https://www.shaftesbury.leicester.sch.uk/>

For all the parents who are not aware, we also have a closed group on **Facebook** which can be joined upon request. Here you will find all the latest news, photos, videos etc.

Please inquire at the school office for any further assistance or queries.



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## SPORTS NEWS

Morning and after school sports clubs will be starting from Monday 1st September.

### Morning Club (8-8.40am)

Monday to Friday - Open to all children at **no cost** (No need to book in advance). **Please note that children must arrive promptly at 8am to get admission.** Children arriving later than that would have to attend the breakfast club for a charge of £3.

### Sports Clubs (3.05pm—4.15pm)

- Monday – Basketball (No cost)
- Tuesday – Football Y5/6 (£1 per session)
- Wednesday – Dance Y3/4/5/6 (£1 per session)
- Thursday – Football Y3/4 (£1 per session)
- Friday – Boccia & NAK – Y3/4/5/6 (£1 per session)

Letters have been emailed to all parents and carers regarding upcoming clubs. **Please note that places must be booked and paid for via ParentPay. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!** Please ensure your child is collected on time. If a child is picked up late from a club, they will be taken to After Care and parents/carers will be charged accordingly. Thank you for your cooperation.

### PE Lessons

- Monday – Swimming (PM) – Year 5 & Year 6 Booster.
- Tuesday – Year 5 (PM)
- Wednesday – Year 3 (AM) Year 6 (PM)
- Thursday – Year 4 (AM) Year 3 (PM)
- Friday – Year 4 (PM)



## SCHOOL MEALS

Please remember to book and pay for school meals using ParentPay **one week in advance**.

The cut-off day for making the bookings is every Sunday. For children in receipt of free school meals, parents do not need to pay however, the meal choices need to be made and booked.

**Please also make note of Chartwell's cancellation policy: Sickness** - The parent needs to call the Chartwells Customer Care Line on **0781 894 4478** before **9am** every day of the child's sickness. A credit is given from the second day onwards. Schools' trips and other cancellations – 48 hours' notice before 9am prior to the event the parent needs to call the Chartwells Customer Care Line in order for the meal to be cancelled and a credit given.

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Parents and carers; If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals please apply directly following this link: <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/grants-and-allowances/free-school-meals/> Please note that the Year 3 children do not receive Universal Free School Meals after they finish Year 2. Parents would have to apply for free school meals on the above link and, if eligible, a voucher will be issued.



Coffee mornings at Shaftesbury every Wednesday from 9.00am with Mrs Espley, starting from 3rd September.

All welcome to come along, no need to book in advance!

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## SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

### AUTUMN TERM

School Opens: Thursday morning 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025

School Closes: Friday evening 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Mid-Term Break: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

School Opens: Monday morning 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025

School Closes: Friday evening 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Christmas Break: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December to Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January

### SPRING TERM

School Opens: Tuesday morning 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026

School Closes: Friday evening 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Mid-Term Break: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

School Opens: Monday morning 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

School Closes: Friday evening 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Easter Break: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April

### SUMMER TERM

School Opens: Monday morning 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

May Day Holiday: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

School Closes: Friday evening 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Mid-Term Break: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

School Opens: Monday morning 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

School Closes: Friday evening 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Holidays should not be taken during term time and will not be authorised. **If your child has unauthorised leave of absence you may be issued with a Penalty Notice of £160 per parent per child** (discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days) or, your case could be referred by the Local Authority directly to the Magistrates' Court). If there is occasion to issue a second Penalty Notice for unauthorised leave of absence within a rolling 3-year period, it will be issued at the higher rate of £160 per parent per child, with no opportunity to pay at the lower level.

A Penalty Notice cannot be issued if there is a third occasion of unauthorised leave of absence in the rolling 3-year period and it is highly likely that the local authority will take direct prosecution action in the Magistrates' Court which can result in you receiving a criminal conviction.

