



# Shilbottle Primary School

## Friday Flyer

**26 June 2026**

### **Headteachers Update**

It has been another fantastic week here at Shilbottle Primary School and as always there has been plenty to celebrate.

The biggest excitement this week has undoubtedly been our Year 6 residential visit to London. In fact, I am writing this week's flyer whilst enjoying some amazing time in our capital city alongside our wonderful Year 6 pupils. We had a smooth journey down and have already taken in some fantastic sights and experiences, including a West End Show. It has been a real privilege to spend this quality time with the children and of course Mr Phillips!

I would like to take this opportunity to say just how proud we are of all of our Year 6 pupils. Their manners, politeness and behaviour have been exceptional and they have been wonderful ambassadors for our school wherever we have gone. They really are doing Shilbottle proud. Looking ahead, I can already imagine that next year's planned trip to France will become another memorable highlight in our school calendar.

Back in school, we have now completed our second week of transition sessions for our Friendly Frogs. It has been lovely to welcome them into school on Wednesday afternoons and see them spending time with Mrs Blackhall, becoming familiar with their new surroundings and beginning to build confidence ahead of September. Seeing the classroom full of excited new starters is always a special part of this time of year, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming them fully into our school community.

You will also receive a letter this week regarding class arrangements for September. We appreciate that parents and carers may have questions, and if there is anything you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to speak with Mrs Phillips or myself. We will be happy to answer any questions and provide any clarification we can.

Finally, the weather has certainly reminded us that summer has arrived! The children have coped remarkably well during the extremely warm conditions this week and I would like to thank all families for their support in ensuring children have come to school with hats, water bottles and sun cream. Your support helps us to keep everyone safe and comfortable during periods of hot weather.

We hope you all enjoy the sunshine over the weekend and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday for another exciting week of learning.

**Mr Shaw**



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## Safeguarding

Shilbottle Primary School is committed to keeping all children safe. Our staff regularly participate in safeguarding training and are fully aware of how to keep our pupils safe and what signs to look out for. Our pupils know they can share any concerns and we have robust policies and procedures in place which underpin safeguarding. It is our paramount priority to keep all children healthy and safe. Remember our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) in school are **Mr Phillips, Mrs Blackhall and Mr Shaw**.

## World Cup 2026

The FIFA World Cup 2026 kicked off this week with the opening match between Mexico and South Africa and will conclude with the final on 19th July.

The World Cup can be an exciting time that brings people and communities together through a shared love of sport. However, the experience of major sporting events and football is not the same for everyone, particularly for women and those affected by Domestic Abuse.

We would like to remind all families that support is available for anyone experiencing Domestic Abuse or feeling unsafe at home. If you, or someone you know, needs help, the following organisations can provide confidential advice and support:

- National Domestic Abuse Helpline – 0808 2000 247
- Refuge: [www.refuge.org.uk](http://www.refuge.org.uk)
- Women's Aid: [www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk)
- In an emergency, always call 999

Please also speak to a trusted member of staff if you require any support or guidance.

We hope everyone enjoys the tournament safely and respectfully.





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## Attendance

As parents and carers we want to share our attendance figures because it is you who can make the big difference. Our children are entitled to a full and balanced education and at Shilbottle we feel we provide one of the best experiences possible.

**Current Whole School attendance is 94.7%. Our Whole School Target is 96%**

Class	Weekly attendance	Annual attendance
Mrs Blackhall	89.6%	94.1%
Mrs Kelly	94.2%	95.2%
Mr Phillips	92.3%	94.6%

Days of school add up to lost learning						
Days in school	190	186	180	175	171	170
Percentage attendance	100%	98%	95%	92%	90%	<90%
	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Caution	Cause for concern	Serious concern

Absence Procedures if your child is ill, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school. Please notify us by phone call or email before 9.15am if your child is to be absent, and continue to inform us on a daily basis if they continue to be ill.

We have a continual focus on attendance and punctuality and this is of the utmost importance in your child's education. Please remember that our school gate closes at 8.40am as this is when our lessons begin. Anyone arriving after this time is classed as late and will miss valuable learning opportunities, such as phonics, which take place immediately after registration.

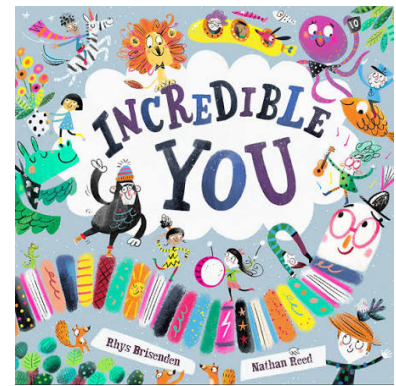


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## Classroom updates - Bluebell Class

What a hot week we have had! We are incredibly proud of how sensible the children have been in keeping themselves safe during the warm weather by drinking plenty of water, applying sun cream as advised and removing unnecessary layers of clothing. We have enjoyed lots of outdoor learning and play, balanced with regular opportunities to cool down and spend time in the shade. Thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring that children arrived with their water bottles each day. It has made a real difference in helping us keep everyone comfortable and hydrated.

Despite the heat, our classroom learning has continued as usual. As we approach transition time, I chose a special text for Drawing Club to celebrate our wonderful children as the unique individuals they are. *Incredible You* by Rhys Brisenden has provided a lovely opportunity for the children to reflect on their own features, strengths and aspirations, while recognising and celebrating the qualities that make them special.



Our upcoming Reception children have spent the last two Wednesday afternoons in the classroom while our current Reception children have been swimming. On their return, our children have been incredibly kind, welcoming and supportive towards the new starters. Seeing them together has highlighted just how much our current Reception class has grown and matured over the year. They are certainly ready for Year 1!

In KS1 English, we have been identifying the key features of a fact file. Through shared reading activities, the children explored a range of grammatical and organisational features, including nouns, adjectives, expanded noun phrases, bullet points, fact boxes and subheadings. This learning will support them as they begin planning and writing their own fact files over the coming weeks.

In Maths, our KS1 children have begun their new topic on Time. We have started by revisiting the days of the week and months of the year, as well as discussing the differences between hours, minutes and seconds. Next, we will move on to reading and recognising o'clock and half-past times.



Our EYFS children have begun their new topic, 'Visualising, Building and Mapping'. Using small-world resources, they have created their own imaginative scenes and maps, while developing their understanding of positional language to describe where different elements are located.

In Science, the warm weather has certainly helped our plants flourish. The children have enjoyed checking on their progress each day and observing the changes taking place.

Stay safe in the sunshine this weekend, everyone!

**Mrs Blackhall**



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## Classroom updates - Poppy Class

Another very hot and busy week has passed in Poppy Class. The children have been incredibly sensible in the warm weather, making sure they stay in the shade when possible, drink plenty of water and take opportunities to cool down so that they can remain focused and ready to learn.

In Maths, we have continued our work on money. The children have been comparing different amounts, adding and subtracting money and calculating change. These practical skills are so important and the children have worked hard to apply their knowledge to a range of real-life problems. In English, we are thoroughly enjoying our class text, *The Day I Fell into a Fairytale*. We have been preparing to write our own non-chronological reports by practising introductory paragraphs, sorting information into appropriate subheadings and developing our paragraph-writing skills. The children are becoming much more confident at organising information clearly for the reader. We have also celebrated some fantastic Bookworm milestones this week. It has been wonderful to recognise the achievements of our dedicated readers. As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to give a special mention to those children who continue to put so much effort into their reading at home. It really does make a huge difference to their confidence, vocabulary and overall progress.

In Geography, we explored the differences between the diets of Southern Europe and Northumbria. We learned that the warm, sunny climate of Southern Europe allows crops such as olives, citrus fruits and grapes to thrive, whereas our cooler, wetter climate is better suited to growing crops such as potatoes and supporting livestock farming. In Science, we continued our work on forces and friction before moving on to investigate push and pull forces. The children explored how contact forces act when two objects touch and discussed examples of these forces in everyday life. In PSHE, we looked at the important role we all play in protecting the environment. The children discussed ways that individuals can make a positive difference and designed some fantastic posters to encourage others to care for the world around them. We have also enjoyed our PE sessions with Emra and Mr Wilkie and have been careful not to overexert ourselves in the hot weather.

We are looking forward to another busy week next week as the end of term draws ever closer.

Have a lovely weekend!

**Mrs Kelly**





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## Classroom updates - Clover Class

What a wonderful week of wonderfully warm weather!

This week, the wonderfully warm weather has enabled Clover Class to take their learning outside. English comprehension has never been so good. Placing the reading text around the field and having a homebase of questions to answer meant that the children got to move around and work as a team to answer difficult VIPERS questions in a variety of texts. By the end of the week, it had become more of a walk than a run as the wonderfully warm weather became wonderfully warmer.



Even our maths lessons ventured outdoors. Armed with a whiteboard, a whiteboard pen and some A4 paper, children ventured into the world of Algebra - a difficult concept - armed with a function machine, we discussed vocabulary such as function, operation and expression and actually quite enjoyed it!



Mr Wilkie came armed with a rounders bat, Emra had a whole host of games to play and Mrs Slack took us outside to continue our P.E. games.



Thanks to Ignite, our Open the Book sponsors, Year 6 children did a transition workshop in preparation for high school. It was all arts and crafts and really enjoyable and Mr Phillips even got emotional at one point and said, 'You are all ready for high school, but you will all be a big miss here at Shilbottle.'

As the Year 6 children headed towards the capital city (more on this next week), those children staying at school embarked on a two-day enterprise extravaganza, building a company from scratch and taking responsibility for the finances, promotion of the company and creating a sellable product.

Wherever Clover has been this week, we have had fun and we are all hoping the wonderful warm weather hangs around for a bit longer.

**Mr Phillips**



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## Dates for your Diary

*Events could be subject to change and will be communicated if required*

Date	Time	
Wednesday 22nd April		Reception/Year1 & Year 2 Swimming (every Wednesday)
Monday 29th June	9.20 - 12.00	Y6 Multi Sports Festival
Tuesday 7th July	9.00-2.00	Whole School trip to Boulmer Beach (packed lunch required) Letter to follow
Friday 17th July	1pm	School closes for the Summer holidays



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**Happy Birthday to all those celebrating  
this week**