



WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back everyone! We hope you have had a great summer and are ready for the next school year ahead. If you have any questions relating to Shillington Lower School please do not hesitate to call or email the office. I have listed below the office contact details for you.

Telephone: 01462 711 637 email: office@shilingtonlower.co.uk

Lloyds Tour of Britain 2025



What a wonderful start to the term. The children were thrilled to be able to go and cheer the cyclists on as they passed through the village. The children were incredibly well behaved and represented the school using all their values. We are very proud of them all.

Our Value this month is Fairness
“Value everyone, Value every chance, Value
everyday”

EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS

Penalty Notice Fines for absence from school are changing

From 19th August 2024 Penalty Notice fines
increase to £160 for each parent, for each child.



You can be fined if your child has
a total of 5 days of unauthorised
absences in 10 school weeks, for
things like:

- being late after the register
has closed
- truancy
- taking a holiday without
permission from the school
- or if a headteacher isn't satisfied
for the reason for missing school

Over a rolling 3-year period the
sanctions are:

- 1st offence – £160 reduced
to £80 if paid within 21 days
- 2nd offence – £160
- 3rd offence – Court hearing
and up to £2,500 fine, or
up to 3 months in prison
and a criminal record

For more information go to:
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/missing-school

Join Home-Start Bedfordshire

Right now, a family with young children in your community
struggles alone with sickness, disability, mental ill-health,
isolation, bereavement, and more. You can make a lasting
difference in their lives. You don't need any special
qualifications, just real-life experience caring for children.

You just need a couple of hours available on a week day, once
a week. The time is flexible to suit you.

Our local volunteers are parents, grandparents, and caregivers
from all walks of life who want to help others. Join us today because childhood can't wait. Visit

www.home-startbedfordshire.org.uk and get in touch. We would love to speak to you!



Diary Dates

Date	Event
Thursday 18th September 2025	Flu Vaccine Reception—Year 4
Friday 26th September 2025	 Coffee Morning 9.15am
Tuesday 30th September 2025	Individual & sibling school photographs

Term Dates 2025– 2026

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September—Friday 19th December
(Half Term Monday 27th October—Friday 31st October)
* Inset Day Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September

Spring Term

Tuesday 6th January—Friday 27th March
(Half Term Monday 16th February—Friday 20th February)
* Inset Day Monday 5th January

Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April—Friday 17th July
(Half Term Monday 25th May—Friday 29th May)
*Inset Day Monday 13th April



Newsletter

12th September 2025

Pixies

It has been lovely to welcome back all our Pixies, we have missed them! We have had a great first week sharing all the fun things we have been up to over the summer. We have also had some new friends join Pixies this week who have all been amazing at settling.

This term our topic of learning is All About Me. We will be exploring similarities and difference between our peers, who lives with us and where we live and also all the things we enjoy to play with and eat.

A reminder that Outdoor Explorers runs on a Monday morning, if your child attends a Monday morning session could you please send them in with a pair of Wellie Boots and suitable outdoor clothing.

On a Thursday morning we will be doing P.E, if your child attends a Thursday morning session could you please send them in with suitable clothing and shoes they are able to take on and off easily.



Hedgehogs

Our little Hedgehogs have had a fantastic start to school and have settled in well. They are working hard to remember our class routines and rules and have enjoyed joining in with circle times and carpet sessions.

We have enjoyed using the school hall when eating our lunch and for taking part in our fun PE lessons too. All of the children have worked very hard to create their own self-portraits which are now proudly on display in our classroom—well done!

We are excited to start some new learning next week including Phonics and Maths. Keep up the fantastic work!



Squirrels

Squirrels have had a fantastic start to the school year and have settled into life into Year 1 and 2. We have already been very busy in maths focusing on place value and writing numerals in words.

In English we have been reading 'Frog and the Stranger' and thinking about some of the characters in the book. We have been using some of the adjectives we came up with to write sentences about the character 'Rat'.

We have started out history unit of 'Kings and Queens'. This week, we learnt what a monarch is and what their duties are. Last week, we made our own crowns so we could be Kings and Queens!



In PE, we have been focusing on fitness. For this, we ran for long periods of time, making sure to take deep breaths and using big strides. We have also done some yoga to stretch.



Rabbits

It has been lovely welcoming back all our Rabbits, we have had a lovely few weeks settling into our new classroom, sharing our summer holiday news and learning new routines.

Last week we had a great walk to watch the Tour of Britain, the children had a fantastic time. We created some great posters to hold up and afterwards completed some interesting writing all about our trip.

This week in Maths we have started our learning on place value and recaping different ways to partition numbers to 100 into tens and ones.

In English we have started our new book of 'Mini Rabbit Not Lost' the children have been learning about how to write for a reader, thinking about the vocabulary and type of sentence they may use to entertain.



Barn Owls

What a great couple of weeks we have had! We have all settled well into the Yr4 routine and are all eager to learn new things.

In English we have started two new text. 'How does a lighthouse work?' and 'Arthur and the Golden Rope'. We are looking forward to exploring these books further as the term progresses.

In Maths we have started Place Value and have begun knowing the value of 4-digits numbers and what a place holder is.

We are going to be learning about Ancient Romans during History. We have found Rome on the map of Europe and begun investigating life in Ancient Rome by looking at its buildings.

In science we are starting with Chemistry and States of Matter. We have explored the differences of particles in solid, liquids and gas and that all particles vibrate.



It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

**Let's do whatever it takes
to support people living with cancer.**

Place: Shillington Lower School

Date: Friday 26th September 2025

Time: 9.15am

Contact: Mrs Woodward



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

FR Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland. MAC19933_InvitePoster

Are your children eligible for benefits-based free school meals?

Central
Bedfordshire

great
prospects

All children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are entitled to free school meals referred to as 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' (UIFSM).

But any child in Reception through to Year 11 that meets the Government criteria listed below is entitled to benefits based free school meals. By claiming this, there are also other benefits available to the child and family such as access to the Holiday Activities and Food programme, providing free activities during the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.

Do you receive one of the following benefits?

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

If so, your children may be entitled to benefits based free school meals. Turn over to find out how to apply.

Find us online



www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals

How to apply for free school meals



If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call us on 0300 300 8306. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- dates of birth for your children
- your NASS number, if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service

If your child is aged 16-18 and attends a further education or sixth form college, please contact the college for information about free school meals. If your child attends a school sixth form, please contact us to apply.

As soon as we have confirmed that you qualify, we will tell your child's school that their free school meals can start from the date you apply.

Need some more advice or support? Head to your local Children's Centre for help.

Find your local centre by visiting  bit.ly/familyinfodirectory

Find us online



www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals

