

SHILLINGTON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2025

CBC Admissions Consultation

As you may be aware CBC launched its consultation on the admissions arrangements for 2027/2028. The consultation proposes for a change to Shillington Lower School in respect of its published admissions number (PAN) to reduce this from 30 to 15 from September 2027.

Details of the consultation for your school and how to respond can be found at:

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations

The consultation is open between Wednesday 22nd October to Wednesday 3rd December 2025. Please take time to review this consultation and respond accordingly.

Fire, Fire!

Pixies and Hedgehogs would like to say a huge thank you to Shefford Fire Station for giving up their time to spend some of their morning with us. We had the best time learning about their fire engine, the different equipment they carry and the important job that fire fighters have. We all enjoyed spraying the fire hoses and getting to go into the fire engine too. This visit supported the children's learning for our 'People Who Help Us' topic. It also inspired us to take part in lots of fire fighter role-play for the rest of the week. Thank you!



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Shillington Lower School - Class news

Pixies Preschool



In Pixies we have been learning about harvest. In Outdoor Explorers we made nature crowns out of all the autumn leaves on the school field. The children proudly wore these to the Harvest Festival at the church. The Pixies were incredible at following instructions on our first outing. We have been busy learning where all our fruit and vegetables come from and how it is important to wash all our vegetables and fruit before we eat them.

This week, we have been celebrating Diwali. We began the week by learning what Diwali is and how people celebrate it. The children created their own salt dough Diya Lamps and have been busy making their own Rangoli patterns.

We have also been celebrating Halloween. The children have made fantastic decorations for our classroom and explored pumpkins. We found that the inside of pumpkins felt slimy and sticky. We ended the week by having our own little Halloween disco, you all looked amazing in your costumes. We hope you have a lovely half term break, well done Pixies for a fabulous start to this year.

Hedgehogs - Reception

In Hedgehogs this week we have been celebrating Diwali and Halloween. We learnt all about the Hindu Festival of Light before using watercolours to create rangoli patterns and making Diya Lamps out of clay. The excitement has begun for Halloween as we have enjoyed sensory tuff trays to develop our fine motor skills. We also made bubbly cauldrons using paint and bubbles and completed some spooky maths, including repeating patterns and spider counting. In PE we danced to Halloween themed songs and then relaxed for some Halloween yoga. We are very proud of all that Hedgehogs have achieved in their first half term of school and we are excited to continue our learning when we are back. We hope you all have a lovely half term!



Squirrels - Year 1 & 2

In Science, we have been learning about properties of materials. We explored which materials may be good for building and making a ship. We thought about which ones are waterproof and strong enough to carry weight on the water. It was great fun to build them!

During Art, we made clay pots inspired by Clarice Cliffe. We made these pots by either the coil or pinch method. This week, we painted them using bright and bold colours in the style of Cliffe. We made sure to use lots of shapes and bold lines.

In English, we have been writing instructions on how to be a good friend. We used lots of verbs and conjunctions to make our writing exciting. We then shared these with Hedgehogs class.



Rabbits - Year 3

In English the past few weeks we have been putting together our final edit of Mini Rabbit got Lost. The children have worked hard to edit and improve their story before writing it up neatly. We then shared them with the year 4 children.

In Maths, we have started our addition and subtraction unit. The children have started adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers, the children have started with focusing on one, then tens and then hundreds e.g. $245 + 4 =$, $245 + 40 =$, $245 + 400 =$.

This week in Art, the children cured their clay pots to make them strong and shiny. They also did some lovely Mandela mindfulness where the children used their pencils to create different patterns and shading.

Barn Owls - Year 4

It has been a fantastic half term in Barn Owl Class. We have worked so hard and learnt so many new things. We have finished our book 'Undeclared'. We have learnt about how a poem can be written in different forms, how images, fonts and sizes can have an impact on the reader but also can be interpreted in many ways. They have learnt about activists and how the values of determination and perseverance helped make the changes of today.

In maths we have finished our maths unit on addition and subtraction. We can confidently add and subtract four-digit numbers, understanding when and why we need to exchange if the column is more than 10. We have also showed perseverance when solving 2 step word problems, identifying which calculation to use to find the answer.

We have finished learning about Ancient Romans. This has been such an interesting topic, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed it. We finished learning about what legacy means and what the legacy was of the Roman Empire in Britain.

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Diary Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 4 th November 2025 9.30am	Pixies & Reception Open Morning
Wednesday 5 th November 2025	Afterschool Club Hot Dog & Movie Night
Thursday 6 th November 2025 1.30pm	Pixies & Reception Open Afternoon
Friday 7 th November 2025	PTFA Crazy Hair Day

Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September– Friday 19th December 2025

Half Term: Monday 27th October– Friday 31st October

Inset Days: Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September

Spring Term

Tuesday 6th January– Friday 27th March 2026

Half term: Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Inset Days: Monday 5th January

Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April– Friday 17th July 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th May – Friday 29th May 2026

Congratulations to our PTFA Pumkin Competition Winners

**Rosie H
Evelyn O
Seb B
Laura W
Harry T
Emily D**

Thank you to all who entered

We had a wonderful time celebrating Harvest at All Saints Church. Thank you to all who attended and to Rev Jenna for hosting us.

A huge thankyou from the **NEED Project** for the Harvest donations. We sent 15 full bags of donations across which was grateful received

We hope everyone has a lovely safe half term.