

SHILLINGTON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2025

Safeguarding updates for Parents and Carers

At Shillington Lower School, we are committed to safeguarding all children. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is **Miss Sarah Woodham**. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is **Mrs Nichola Foxall**. Our Governor with responsibility for safeguarding is **Mrs Katie Brettell**.

Key aspects of our role are to make sure all staff are aware of how to raise concerns; ensure all staff understand the signs of child abuse; refer any concerns to children's services, maintain accurate and secure records.

We follow the guidance in [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#). If any parent or carer has any concerns about a child, then please contact the DSL via the school office. We also have our own safeguarding policy which is available on our website or in school.

The school DSL is also the single point of contact for PREVENT. Prevent is part of the Government's counter terrorism strategy and aims to stop children and young people being drawn into terrorism. On our website there is a link to a parents' guide to [Prevent](#)

Useful numbers and links

Children Services - The local Children's Services number is 0300 300 8585 (office hours) or 0300 300 8123 (out of hours). They will give advice or may investigate the circumstances. All child protection calls are treated in confidence and you don't have to give your details. For a link to the CBC safeguarding page please click [here](#)

NSPCC – for a link to the website please click [here](#)

You can contact the NSPCC helpline by calling 0800 800 5000 (11am - 5pm Monday to Friday) or emailing help@NSPCC.org.uk

Operation Encompass - Operation Encompass aims to safeguard and support children and young people who have been involved in a domestic abuse incident. As an Operation Encompass school, we will be notified of any incident reported to the Police, the following day. More information can be found [here](#)

BDAP - We are a Support Hub for Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership (BDAP). We can offer a safe space for someone who needs to access support, contact a support service to help them. Miss Sarah Woodham is a Domestic Abuse responder. More information is available on our [website](#).

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Afterschool Club Special Events

After the success of our Pizza Making event, we are excited for the 'Decorate a Trick or Treat Bucket for Halloween' event on Thursday 23rd October 3.30pm – 5.00pm

There are a few spaces left so please contact Mrs Woodward in the office to book your child a space to avoid disappointment



National Schools Snowsports Association Indoor Open Championships



13	2017	U10	(23)	KIDD Florence		Shillington Lower Sch.	DSQ	* 25.19	25.19
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We thought this piece of news was quite special. Despite being disqualified from her first run – for accidentally doing the senior run instead of the junior run! Florence surpassed herself by finishing 23rd overall out of over 110 competitors. This is a fantastic achievement; we are all super proud of her. Remember this name we could see her at the Winter Olympics in a few years.

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Shillington Lower School - Class news



Pixies Preschool

In Pixies we have continue our topic All about me. The children became mini chefs last Friday and created their own omelettes. They discussed what ingredients they liked in their omelettes and what they didn't like. Once they were cooked, all the children enjoyed trying them. We have been exploring different colours and what our favourite colours are. We went onto the big school field and made chalk paints in our favourite colours to paint the trees. This week we have been celebrating Space Week; we started by exploring all our space toys in Pixies. We added moon sand to create a better landing for our toys. We have been building rockets with our building blocks and became space aliens during our P.E lesson. We travelled the galaxy in our spaceships travelling in different directions following the grown-ups instructions.

Hedgehogs -Reception



In Hedgehogs over the last few weeks, we have started our topic 'People Who Help Us'. So far we have focused our learning on doctors, nurses, paramedics and police offers. We have had lots of fun dressing up, treating each other in the hospital, making police badges and even providing our unique fingerprints!

In maths this week, we have explored and compared size, mass and capacity. We used the scales to weigh different classroom objects and used vocabulary including 'heavier' and 'lighter'. The last few days we have enjoyed exploring and creating simple patterns and we tried our best at using different coloured bears to create our own.

We have all been working hard on developing our fine motor skills by using playdough, conkers, paintbrushes and scissors. Keep up the hard work Hedgehogs!



Squirrels - Year 1 & 2

In English, we have been reading 'How to Make Friends with a Ghost'. We have learnt about writing instructions using bossy verbs and ordering. Soon we will be writing our own set of instructions on how to be a good friend. We also made out own ghosts using PVA glue.

For the past couple of weeks, in PE, we have been focusing on team building and using teamwork to achieve goals. One of the challenges we had was to carry a ball across the hall together using different parts of our body like our elbows or knees.

Year 2 have been working on their inference and predicting skills when reading 'Dear Earth'. We looked at the front cover of the book and had to predict what the book may be about and what the characters in it were like.

Year 1 continue to work hard and challenge themselves in phonics. This week we have been reviewing all the sounds we have learnt so far.



Rabbits - Year 3

In English, we have been reading 'Mini Rabbit not Lost'. We have been writing about Rabbit's adventure using subordinating conjunctions to expand our sentences and give reasons for Mini Rabbit's feelings. We have also been practising writing a list sentence to speed up our writing for the reader using commas and interesting verbs.

For the past few weeks in PE, we have been focusing on team building. One of the challenges this week was working as a team to create a map using practical resources. The children really had to work hard to listen to each other and communicate effectively.

In History, we have been learning about the Stone Age. Last week we looked at the different types of homes and how they developed over the stone age period. This week we had a focus of weapons and tools from the Stone Age, the children learnt about what they were made from and what they may have been used from.

Barn Owls - Year 4

In English we have started a new text which is called 'Undefeated' this book is a poem and presents children with an essential opportunity to study a particular period in black history. This is a powerful and important ode to black history: the strength and bravery of everyday people and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest artists, athletes, and activists. Through the series of lessons children will consider definitions of key terms in context and discover poetic conventions and how they often link with music.

In maths we have been adding 4-digit numbers using column addition exchanging more than one, the children have mastered this concept, and we will be moving on to subtraction.

We have been learning more about Ancient Rome in History. We focused on the army this week and learnt how they were so successful. We learnt the importance of some Roman army formations, the 'testudo (tortoise)' which protected them from arrows, and we even became soldiers ourselves reenacting the 'Cuneus (wedge)' which was used to penetrate the opposition's defences.

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Harvest and The Need Project

Thank you so much for all your harvest donations over the last few weeks. We are still happy to receive donations at the school office which we will give to Rev Angus following our Harvest Celebration next week.



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

Date	Event
Thursday 16 th October 2.15pm	Harvest Celebration All Saints Church
Tuesday 21 st October 2025	Parent's Evening
Thursday 23 rd October 2025	Decorate a Trick or Treat Bucket Afterschool Club Special Event

More information for our events and trips will be sent via Parentmail. However, if you have any questions please contact Mrs Woodward in the office.