



SHILLINGSTONE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Dates for diaries:

Tuesday 16th December – Special breakfast Club - Cinnamon rolls

Wednesday 17th December- PTA Christmas Party in school. No lunch needed – PTA provide lunch. Children wear own clothes on this day.

Tuesday 16th December – Pyramid Carol Concert for those children attending choir club

Thursday 18th December - End of Term service 2:40pm Holy Rood Church

Monday 5th January – First day of Spring Term

Please see our school website for updates on events and news.

After School Clubs for Spring 1



Shillingstone Primary After School Clubs 2025-26

SPRING 1

MONDAYS	3.15 – 4.15pm Years 5 & 6 Girls' Football Led by Mr Harris	5 th January 12 th January 19 th January 26 th January 2 nd February 9 th February	Email the school office to book a place. Places will be confirmed by Thursday 18 th December
	3.15 – 4.15pm Reception & Year 1 Sports Club Led by Mrs. Bray		Email the school office to book a place. Places will be confirmed by Thursday 18 th December
TUESDAYS	3.15 – 4.45pm Year 1 - 6 Art Led by Jeannie	Dates to be confirmed.	I will let you know this in due course. I am just in contact with Jeannie to agree on our next dates. No bookings yet!
WEDNESDAYS	3.15 – 4.15pm Years 2 - 6 Nerf Club (girls & boys welcome) Run by TCW Sports £5 per session	7 th January 14 th January 21 st January 28 th January 4 th February 11 th February	All 6 sessions booking: Shillingstone Y2-6 Nerf ALL TERM TCW Sports Per session booking: Shillingstone Y2-6 Nerf PER SESSION - TCW Sports
THURSDAYS	3.15 – 4.15pm Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Construction Led by Mrs. Panther	8 th January 15 th January 22 nd January 29 th January 5 th February 12 th February	Email the school office to book a place. Places will be confirmed by Thursday 18 th December



Per session Nerf booking: [Shillingstone Y2-6 Nerf PER SESSION - TCW Sports](#)

Whole 6 week block Nerf booking: [Shillingstone Y2-6 Nerf ALL TERM | TCW Sports](#)



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First Aid Day fundraiser

Overall we raised £200 to pay for the first aid training which is great news. Thank you for your support!

Click on our website article to see photos and more details about this day.

[First Aid Day and fundraising events | Shillingstone CE Primary School](#)



Every year in the UK more than 30,000 people will experience a cardiac arrest, which is when the heart suddenly stops beating. Currently less than 1 in 10 people will survive. Performing good quality chest compressions and having access to defibrillators can significantly increase the chance of survival.

Today, as part of the Saving Lives Together in Dorset Project, Year 6 pupils have had the opportunity to learn CPR, defibrillator familiarisation and other essential lifesaving skills. The children have been asked to find their nearest public access defibrillators using www.defibfinder.uk and to encourage friends and family to learn CPR using the free British Heart Foundation RevivR QR code (see below). It only takes 15 mins to learn this life saving skill which has the potential to add years to someone's life. Dorset Fire and Rescue also encourage any phone users to download the [What3Words](#) App which gives your exact location in an emergency.



Download the RevivR app by scanning this QR code with your phone camera. Grab a cushion, follow the instructions and learn CPR today!

Everyone can access these training videos at home. Please have a look at home with your children. We have had great feedback about these resources from our Year 6s who have already used them at home to train a family member.

Parent reading volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers to listen to children read in school. If you think you would like to hear readers in your child's class or another, please pop into the office and speak to Mrs Adams.

New Teacher in Ocean Class

The children in Ocean Class had a visit from Mrs McCall earlier this week. They were so excited to spend time with her and made her feel very welcome. Mrs McCall spent time in the classroom during some of their lessons and was very impressed with what she saw. It gave the children time to ask lots of questions about January and reassured them all that it will be a smooth transition into the new term.





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DIGITAL MUSIC competition

Would anyone in Years 4-6 who loves creating digital music on our YUStudio platform like to enter this competition? Last year one of our very own talented pupils, won this competition. Create your composition over the holidays and let Mrs Higgs know so that she can enter you! Have fun!!

CALLING ALL YOUNG
MUSIC ENTHUSIASTS!

MERRY MIXERS

COMPETITION

Join us for our Merry Mixers competition and showcase your digital music-making skills. Whether you're a budding producer or a seasoned beatmaker, this is your chance to shine and be in with the chance of winning a prize! If you're in school years 4 to 8, you can join in! Make a short track on the theme of Christmas or Celebration, lasting no longer than 2 minutes.

We are looking for music that is happy and makes us want to celebrate. Perhaps your track will have a Christmassy feel, or maybe you will focus on celebrations in general. Either way, your track should make people feel joyful and ready to party!

To enter, simply create your musical track using Yu Studio* (or another Digital Audio Workstation) and send it to dorsetmusicservice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 12th January 2026 with the following information:

- A title for your track
- Your school, setting, youth club
- Your full name
- School year group

Winners will be announced by the 19th January with entries judged by a team of experienced musicians with prizes awarded for the best track in each year group. Every entrant will receive feedback on their track.

*Students can access Yu Studio tutorials via our website:
<https://www.dorsetandsomersetmusicclub.org.uk/site/young-people/yu-studio-video-lessons-students/>

Prizes to be won!

OCTAGON MUSIC HUB



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Christmas Jumper Day



Save The Children

We have raised £125 so far! Thank you so much for your support.

If you have not yet donated, there is still time. Please click on the link below:

[Shillingstone CE Primary School - Christmas Jumper Day is raising money for Save The Children!](#)



Performances

This was a great success! Well done to all of the Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 children. Thank you to the staff team who supported the children in preparing for this.

We received £186.80 in donations which will go towards funding the licence, costumes etc in the future. Thank you!





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PTA News

Thank you SO much for all the support this past month, our Big Christmas Raffle has raised a whopping £766.67!! What an amazing amount to go towards future events and resources for the children. Please see below a thank you to all who have donated prizes and supported us. We must also give a shout out to all who entered the Great Christmas Bake Off we had 20 amazing entries and they all looked fabulous.



The cakes were judged anonymously and scored on taste/texture, presentation, effort and originality. Well done to everyone who took part! Our winners are

1st place – Darcey Holbert

2nd place – Maggie Newland

3rd place – Phoebe Pattison

We look forward to rounding up the end of the busy term with the children's Christmas Party on Wednesday with a visit from the circus – all classes will have a session in the hall learning circus skills during the morning followed by a whole school circus performance in the afternoon! No need for lunchboxes as we have a yummy spread of party food planned and even a visit from the man in red himself.



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Donations received:

<i>Abbotsbury Swannery</i>	<i>Enford Farm Shop</i>	<i>Hawthorne Handmade</i>	<i>Tractor Fest</i>
<i>Amethyst Beauty</i>	<i>Farmer Palmers</i>	<i>Lazer Guys</i>	<i>Moors Valley</i>
<i>Black Cat Café</i>	<i>Hall and Woodhouse</i>	<i>Little City Role Play North Dorset</i>	<i>Moo Music</i>
<i>Bradford's – Blandford</i>	<i>Ham Farm</i>	<i>Ludere Studio</i>	<i>Old Ox Inn</i>
<i>Cards, Gifts and Balloons – Blandford</i>	<i>Happy Bouncers</i>	<i>Lulworth Castle</i>	<i>Seven Springs Studios</i>
<i>Crazy Monsters</i>	<i>Swanage Railway</i>	<i>The Tank Museum</i>	<i>Teddy Rocks</i>
<i>Three Okeford's Rally</i>	<i>Total Laboratory Services</i>	<i>Snowtrax</i>	<i>Families of Shillingstone Primary School</i>
<i>Kim Suter</i>			



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Well-being and Mental Health of our Children

To grow up healthy, children need to sit less and play more

We now have a growing body of research linking heavy smartphone use to poor sleep, reduced concentration, higher levels of anxiety, and lower overall wellbeing. These aren't just passing side effects – they're changes that can affect how children learn, interact, and develop in the long term.

We know that every family's situation is different, and many of you may already have devices in your household – for your child or their siblings. It's never too late to reset boundaries, build healthier screen habits, or take small steps toward a more balanced digital life.

We will be sharing helpful tips and advice from time to time. This week's focus is screen time.

0 – 2 Years: No Screen Time at All

2 – 4 Years: No More Than One Hour Per Day

Once children reach toddler and pre-school age, the guidance shifts slightly. Trusted sources, aligned with NHS thinking, advise a maximum of one hour per day. But this isn't free screen time, it's best when shared with a parent or carer.

Co-viewing allows adults to talk about what's on screen, ask questions, and make it interactive. Screens should never replace play, outdoor time, or meals. And avoid all screens for at least an hour before bedtime to help protect sleep.

5 – 11 Years: Limit to Two Hours (maximum) Non-Educational Screen Time Daily

For primary school-aged children, screen time recommendations by age become more flexible, but still clear. They can use devices for schoolwork, but non-educational screen time should stay under two hours per day. The aim is balance. Screen time should be in family living areas and never alone in bedrooms.

Outdoor play, reading, art, and real-world friendships should come first. Screen time should be monitored and age-appropriate, think nature documentaries, creative games, and interactive apps rather than mindless scrolling or endless videos.

Adults in the household must model healthy digital use and keep boundaries consistent.

For screen-free time, plan healthy family activities, like going for walks, bike rides and exploring nature locally.

For more information, visit [Smartphone Free Childhood | Resources for Parents](#).





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Kindest regards,

Mr Wright - Head of School (Monday-Thursday)

Mrs Vail - Head of School (Friday)

