

Friday 9th October 2026

Dates for diaries:

Autumn 1

Tuesday 13th October 2:30pm Harvest Festival School Hall. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday 13th October 3.30 – 5.30pm Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings. Bookings open.

Wednesday 14th October 3.30 – 7pm Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings. Bookings open.

Friday 16th October Flu Vaccinations in school. Sign up links have been emailed out!

Friday 16th October 2pm PTA meeting in school – everyone welcome

Tuesday 20th October School Photos – individual & siblings

Tuesday 20th October Open Day for new parents – 9.30am – 6pm Reception starters Sep 2027

Wednesday 21st October 4.30 – 5.30pm - PTA Halloween Disco

Friday 23rd October INSET Day (no children in school)

During half term

Forest School Holiday club on offer! See below for details.

Autumn 2

Monday 2nd November All children start back for Autumn 2

Wednesday 9th – Friday 11th December Year 5 Residential Trip to Leeson House

Nativity

Wednesday 9th December 2.00pm and Thursday 10th December 5.30pm

Amazing windows!

Huge thanks to Dave Pemberton of: pemberton.exteriors@gmail.com for cleaning our school windows free of charge! We can thoroughly recommend his services and are extremely grateful!

Weekly Celebrations

Well done to these children for being chosen this week for these awards!

This week's celebrations		
		
Tahlia Parker Theodore Ruby B Emre Frankie Iona	Isabella S Winston Leah Reggie B (Y3) Juniper Marnie Francis Harvey Woody	Tommy L Robin S Reggie B (Y2) Isla H (Y3) Olivia R Nancy Vanessa



SHILLINGSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wear Yellow!

Thank you for supporting our Mental Health Awareness Day today in school! The children looked great in their yellow clothing and accessories. See our website for a few photos.

Exciting half term opportunity!

**Forest School
Holiday Club**

At Shillingstone Primary School
With Mrs Higgs and Mrs Frewer

**TUESDAY 27TH
OCTOBER**

- Bushcraft activities
- Fire lighting and cooking
- Halloween Fun

Morning 9am-1pm £22
Afternoon 1pm-5pm £22
All Day £40
(Ages 4-11)

Pick up a booking form from
the school office



SHILLINGSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Jungle and Woodland Class Outdoor Learning – week 7

In Outdoor Learning on Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th October, Jungle and Woodland Classes will have an opportunity to do some apple pressing. Please if you have any spare eating apples from your trees at home, can they be brought into school for them to press.

We love our outdoor learning afternoons! The children from Jungle and Woodland classes have been enjoying learning about the environment and have been having fun learning new skills using tools such as drills, saws and fire lighting equipment. We have set up a **page on our school website** to keep you up to date with photos and news – please take a look: (under ‘School Life’ tab)

[Outdoor Learning & Forest School | Shillingstone CE Primary School](#)

Bikeability Courses for Year 5 & 6

This is a great opportunity to build confidence and develop better skills for cycling on the roads.

There is no charge! A separate email with booking details has been sent out this week.





SHILLINGSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP

MOTCOMBE PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOOTBALL

Technical sessions,
Tournaments,
Games and so much more

9AM - 3PM

Early drop off and late pick up available
£23 p/d - £21 p/d (block week booking)

MULTI ACTIVITY

Nerf, Sports, Arts and Crafts,
Halloween Activities, Nintendo
Switch and so much more

8:30AM - 5:30PM

£28 p/d - £26 p/d (block week booking)

HAF SPACES AVAILABLE

www.tcwsports.co.uk @tcwsports office@tcwsports.co.uk





SHILLINGSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

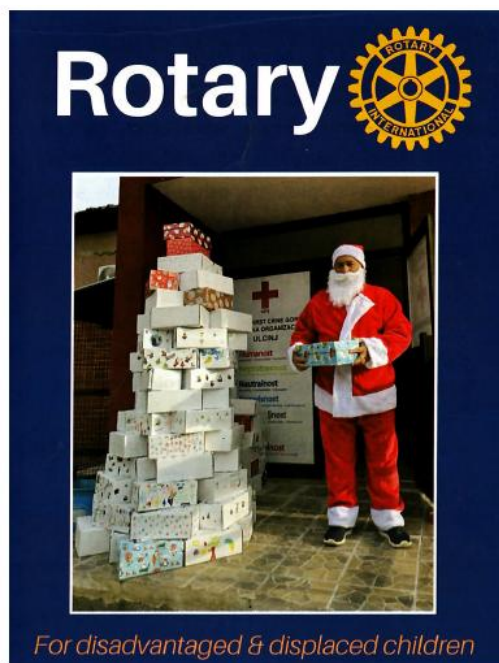
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Shoebox Appeal

Rotary Shoebox Scheme

"Spreading a Little Happiness"



Please come in and pick up a box to fill! We have not had much interest so far.

These children need your support!

We still have lots of boxes available. This may be the only gift these children get this year.

We have the information leaflets in the school office with details about what to fill your boxes with. Please come and ask for one.

The deadline is 21st October.

School Fundraising

If you are having a clear out over the half term break, please support our clothing bank which is in our school car park. Every time this gets emptied we earn a small amount of money for the school.



School pet snails!

Our five adult Giant African Land Snails are doing very well and growing quickly. We have about 10 juvenile / baby snails now too. They are in the school atrium area if you fancy coming in to say hello.



Year 6 Climbing at Bryanston

The year 6s had a fantastic time! It was a super team building exercise and it was lovely hearing them supporting and encouraging each other. Individually, they all challenged themselves and really made the most of this opportunity. Well done to them all. Thank you to Mr Curry, Luke and the Bryanston team for inviting us and leading this activity.

Visit Desert Class page to see lots more photos of our fun afternoon out!

[Desert | Shillingstone CE Primary School](#)



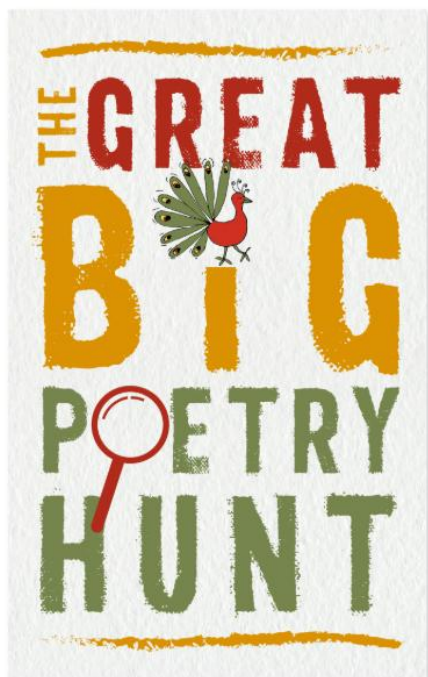


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Community



The Larmer Tree Project invites you on a **Great Big Poetry Hunt**

The Larmer Tree Gardens 
Friday 30th October
10am–3pm

Poetry | Pop-up performances | Botanical print workshops
Autumn crown making | Tree tarot | Spooky storytelling
Fairy doors | Horrible History live-drawing | & lots more!

Coffee & pizza van (picnics welcome).



In association with Fox & King Books. Supported by The Rushmore Estate.



TICKETS

£5 per person
Please scan the QR code

HALF TERM FUN

THE GREAT BIG POETRY HUNT! Friday 30th October, 10am-3pm.

Come and join us for a very special day at the Larmer Tree Project and be among the first to explore our brand-new fairy doors and poetry trail.

- Follow the trail and discover hidden surprises.
 - Be inspired by creative workshops
- Drawalong with Horrible Histories illustrator Martin Brown
 - Funny poetry from award winning poet A.F. Harrold
 - storytelling from Angela McAllister
 - pop-up performances throughout the garden.
- AND the winner of the Larmer Tree Project Writing Prize 2026 will be announced on stage
 - Pizza van & Coffee truck.
 - Picnics welcome. (but no dogs please).
 - Tickets available [here](#)





SHILLINGSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Do Everything with Love



Little Pickles MARKETS
North Dorset

Little Pickles MARKETS
Established 2010

Award-Winning
Baby and Children's Nearly New Sales

Next Market
Blandford Leisure Centre,
Sunday 25th October
10-11:30am

Shop with us without it costing the Earth!

Sell with us and keep great quality items in the loop and out of landfill

Entry £1.50 per adult and Little Pickles are free



Dorset Library Service news for schools

Reception class visits

For Reception class children, the Autumn term is a perfect way to introduce young children to libraries and the free resources that can be accessed with a Dorset library card.

This year's book is *Never Show A T-Rex A Book!* by Rashmi Sirdeshpande - is a fun-filled, laugh-out-loud adventure about a T-Rex whose love of books leads to all sorts of wonderful mischief. With its playful story and lively illustrations, children will delight in the chaos and enjoy joining in the fun from beginning to end.

By having the opportunity to use the public library children:

- will develop their confidence and motivation, seeing themselves as readers outside school
- read more widely and independently develop good reading habits from a young age
- have free access to a range of resources and activities where all are welcome

Book a Reception class visit

Class visits

Our school programme is free and available throughout the school year. We offer 3 programmes for primary schools, each session lasts for 60 minutes. They are:

- **Discover your Library** - this session aims to introduce children to the exciting world of their local library. Children will explore the wide range of books, and free services available through library membership, helping them become confident, independent library users and lifelong readers
- **Reading for pleasure** - find your next favourite book - an opportunity to talk and learn about new books. Children will be encouraged to read for pleasure and discover a range of stock to suit all levels and interests
- **Information skills: Library detectives** - unlock the mysteries of the library by learning how books are organised using the Dewey Decimal Classification System. Pupils will develop key information-finding skills, enabling them to locate resources independently for study or leisure

Find out more about our offer to schools and book a class visit [Library services for schools and teachers](#)

Thank you for your support

The 2026 Summer Reading Challenge: Read to the Beat! has now finished. Over 4600 children took part, reading a book of their choice or attending library events. Certificates are now being printed for children who chose to collect theirs from school.

Look out for your certificate delivery in the next few weeks.

Exciting online event with children's author Ashley Thorpe, 19 October 1:30 pm



Ashley Thorpe is a children's author whose fantasy stories, including *The Boy to Beat the Gods* and *Spirit Warriors*, are inspired by West African and Caribbean mythology, manga and folklore. In this online event for children across Dorset, Ashley will share the inspiration behind his characters and stories and will encourage pupils to use their imaginations to create their own characters and heroes. Ashley introduces young readers to diverse cultures and inspires them to see themselves as storytellers with stories worth sharing.

The event offers links to the National Curriculum, and provides a great opportunity for schools to celebrate Black History Month in a meaningful way, helping children explore different cultures, perspectives and storytelling traditions. The event is aimed at KS2 years 4-6, and will include an opportunity to ask Ashley a question.

Booking form for KS2 online Black History month event with Ashley Thorpe



Book now for KS2 event with Ashley Thorpe



Our Library Service mission is to **Inspire, Connect and Enable** our communities



Kindest regards

Mr Wright - Head of School (Monday-Thursday)

Mrs Vail - Head of School (Friday).