



**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

## **Headteachers report of the week**

What a wonderful week we've had in school. Learners continue to impress us with their enthusiasm, kindness and curiosity, and I am delighted to share some highlights, most notably our fantastic World Book Day celebration.

This year's World Book Day was a true celebration of imagination, creativity and the joy of reading. From the moment learners arrived in their colourful costumes, the whole school was alive with excitement. We were treated to an incredible range of characters from both learners and staff from much loved classics and picture book favourites to brave heroes, mischievous villains and everything in between!

Throughout the day, learners took part in a range of book-themed activities, we were especially pleased to see learners talking so enthusiastically about the books they love, discovering new authors and swapping recommendations with friends and teachers. Thank you to everyone at home who helped with costumes and encouraged reading in the lead up to the day, it made the celebration truly memorable.

Across the curriculum, learners continue to make strong progress. Teachers have been focusing on deepening subject knowledge, encouraging problem-solving and supporting learners to become increasingly confident and independent learners. It has been wonderful to see learners asking thoughtful questions and engaging so positively with their learning.

As we move into the next part of this half-term, we look forward to more enrichment activities, class projects and opportunities for families to connect with school life. Further details of our Easter bingo in the newsletter, we would love to see as many of you as possible please come and join us for an afternoon of fun at our Easter Bingo event!

Best wishes  
Jules

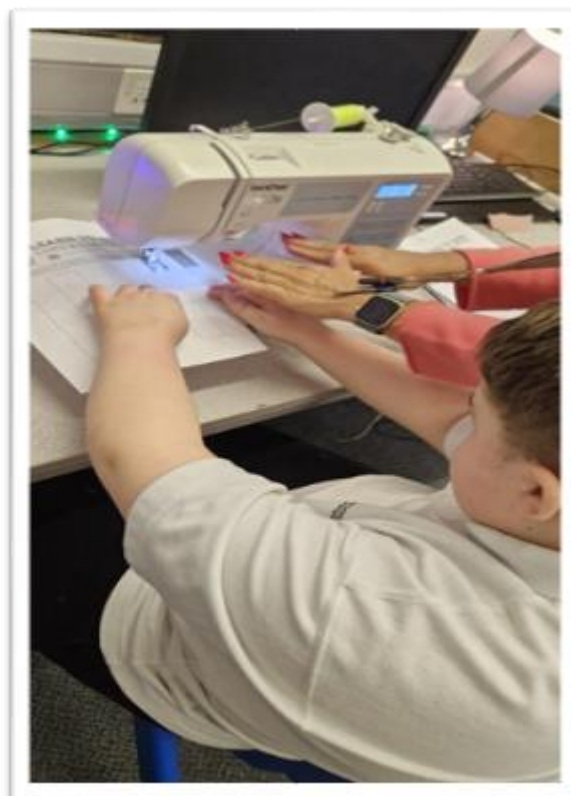
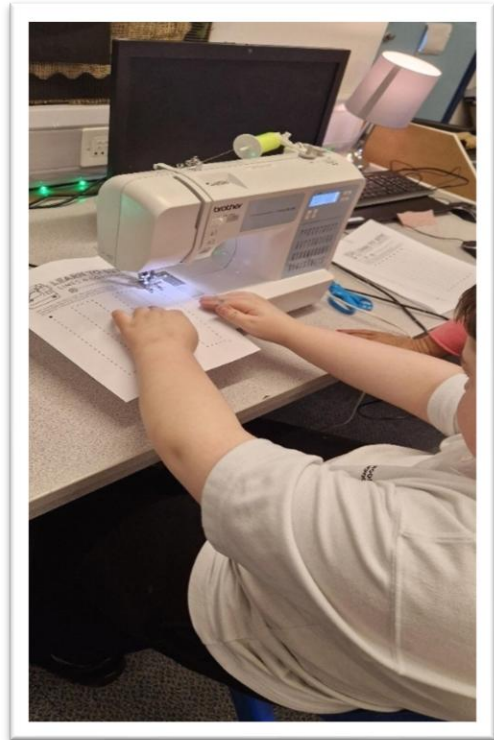
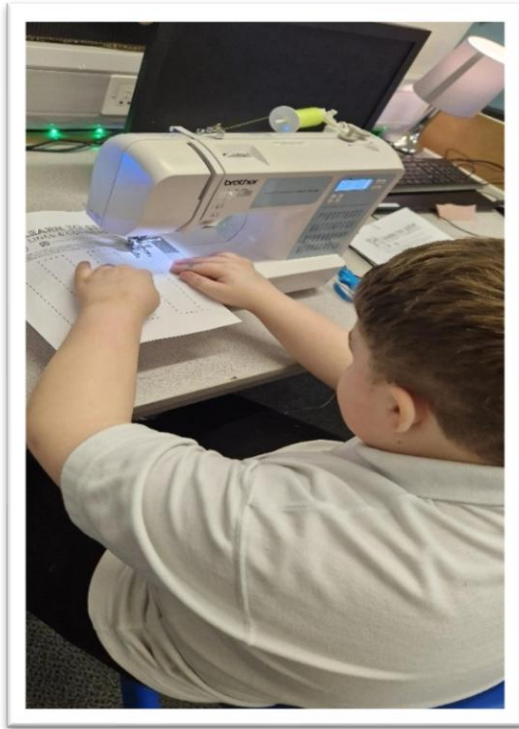


Acorns 3 took part in intentional sensory exploration to support regulation and confidence with unfamiliar textures! – Debbie G



Acorns 3 enjoyed an impromptu music lesson this week. They loved being able to show their musical talents.

Acorns 3 took part in independence and exploration (textiles) Bobby enjoyed learning how to use a sewing machine safely. Next week we will be creating a Mother's Day gift!

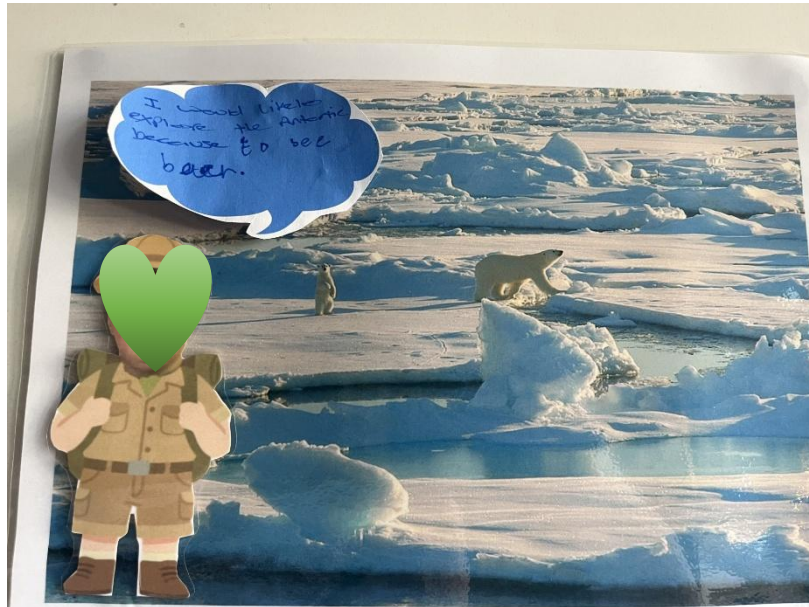




In English, learners explored a mystery rucksack and used the items inside to make **inferences** about who it might belong to, suggesting it could be an explorer. This led to a discussion where learners shared places they would like to explore and explained why.

- Sian





In Geography, learners made an **oobleck ocean**,

mixing cornflour and water to explore different textures and represent the movement of the ocean. The activity encouraged curiosity and discussion about oceans and their features.

- Sian





Learners built structures using spaghetti and marshmallows, helping to develop their fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and finger strength, which supports the control needed for handwriting.

- Sian



Learners from Orchard enjoyed a trip to the driving range this week, taking full advantage of the chance to sharpen their golf skills.

They focused on technique, power and accuracy and embraced the challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

Staff were proud to see each learner encouraging one another, celebrating improvements and demonstrating great teamwork throughout the session.



WORLD  
**BOOK**  
DAY

# World Book Day!

WORLD  
**BOOK**  
DAY



Our learners and staff  
showcased their  
incredible creativity this  
World Book Day with a  
brilliant range of  
costumes inspired by their  
favourite characters and  
stories.





From a beautiful butterfly to gangster grannies, to soldiers from different regiments and even Darth Vader himself made an appearance.

Thank you to everyone who dressed up, joined in and helped make the day so much fun and a vibrant celebration of reading. It was wonderful to see the whole community come together to share their love of books.





And to finish World Book Day, learners enjoyed hot chocolate and biscuits while reading their favourite stories!

Shout out to Nat for organising this fun filled day

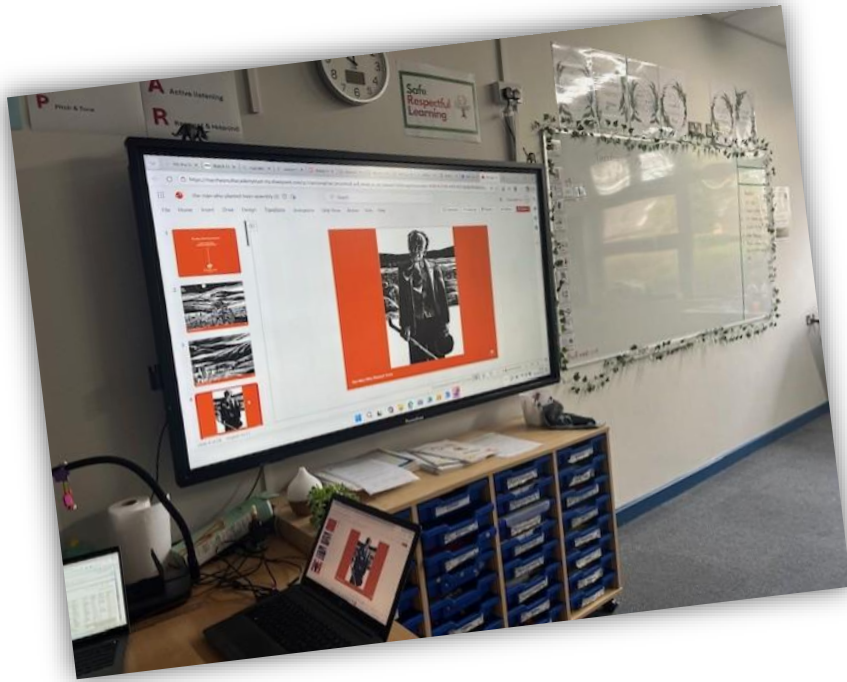
Well done Noah for helping with the hot chocolate and biscuits!



There has been more cooking happening in the kitchen this week at Orchard. Under the guidance of staff, learners have been experimenting with different recipes, learning how to follow instructions, measure ingredients and work safely in the kitchen.



Whether they're preparing simple snacks or trying out more adventurous dishes, every learner has the chance to shine and take pride in what they create.



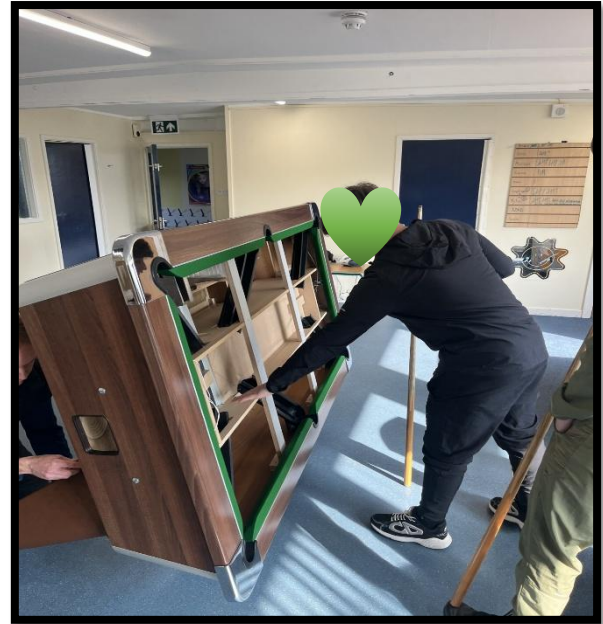
This week, Acorns 1 have been busy looking after and caring for the natural environment. As

well as taking part in litter picking around the pond and school grounds, the learners joined the Woodland Trust assembly, where they learned about “The Man Who Planted a Tree.” They showed great enthusiasm for protecting nature and

understanding how small actions can make a big difference.

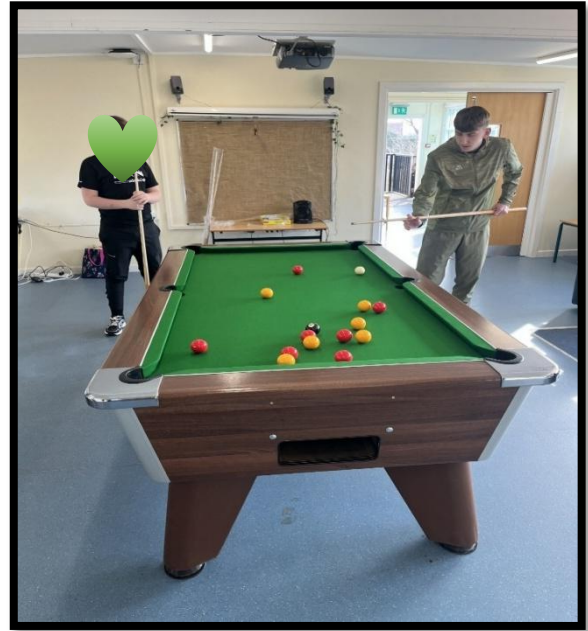
- Ceri



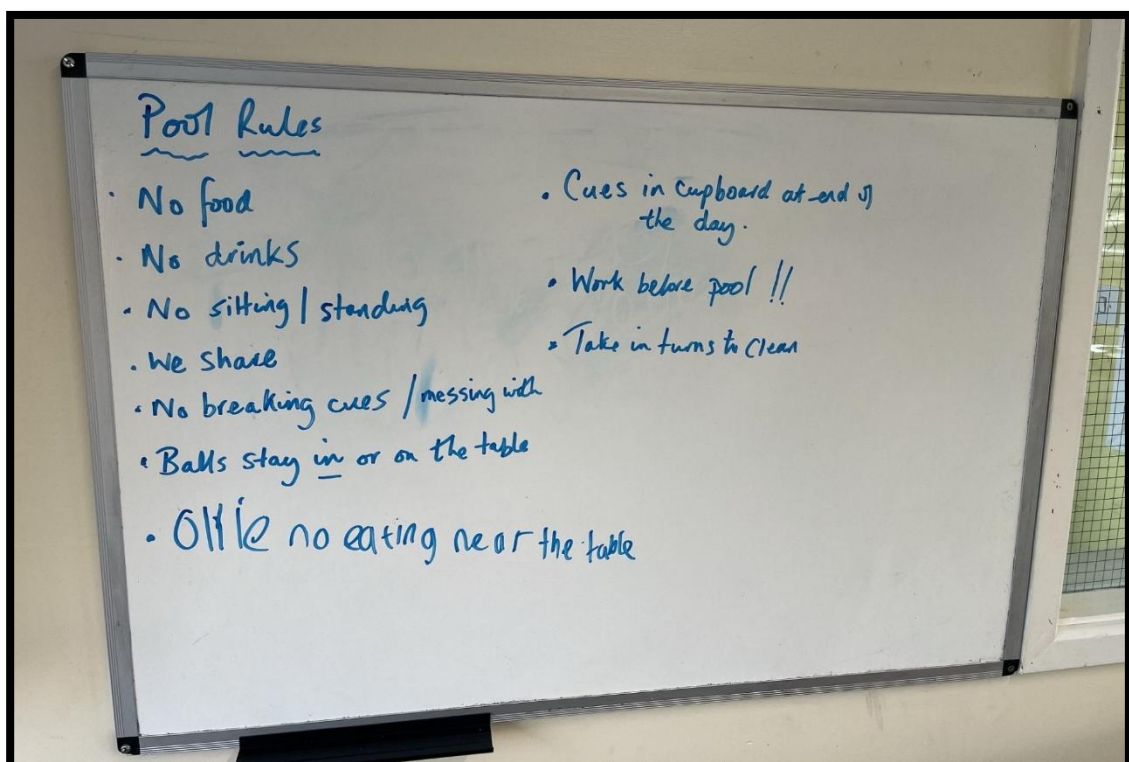


The Orchard group had an exciting challenge this week setting up their brand-new pool table! Working step by step, the group unpacked the pieces, followed the instructions, and supported one another through each stage. From attaching the legs to levelling the table, everyone had a role to play.





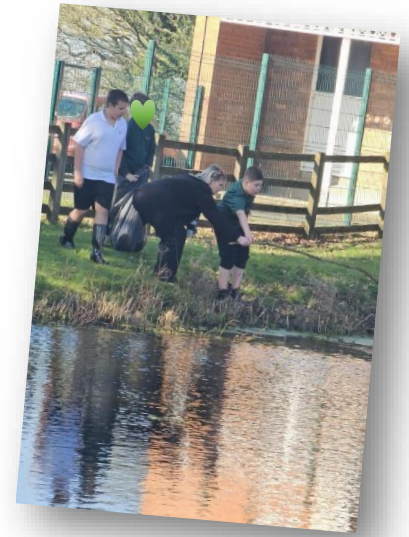
Once the pool table was ready, the learners didn't stop there—they got creative and came up with their own set of rules for how and when it should be used. Together, they discussed fair play, turn-taking, and how to make sure everyone gets a chance to join in.



This week, our learners from Acorns 1 made a real difference to their local environment by taking part in a pond clean-up activity.

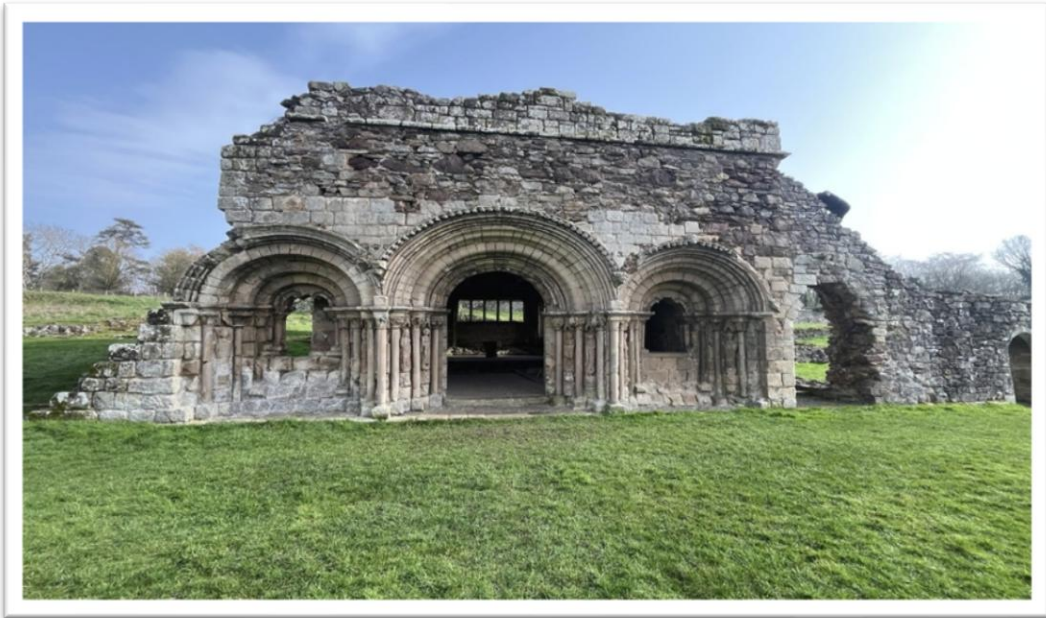


Armed with nets, litter pickers, bags, and plenty of enthusiasm, the group worked together to remove plastic waste and other debris from the water.

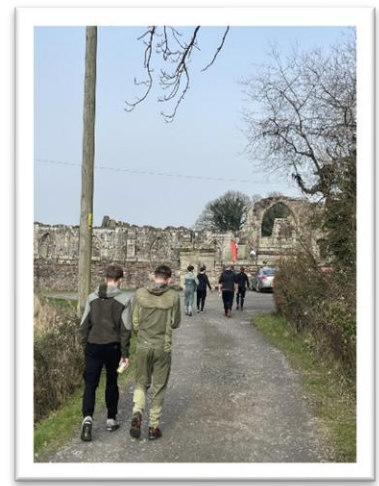
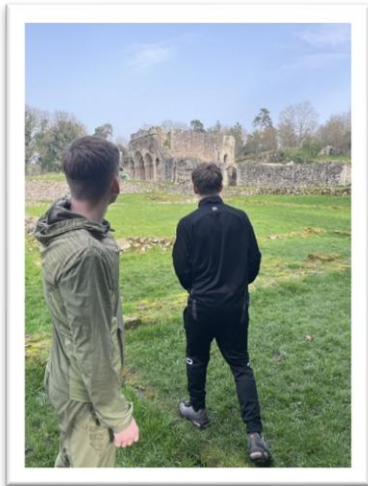


Learners showed great teamwork and care as they gathered rubbish that could harm wildlife or pollute the pond. They talked about how plastic affects nature, why it's important to keep habitats clean, and how small actions can make a big impact.





Learners had a fantastic time on their recent historical walk to Haughmond Abbey. As soon as they stepped on the site, learners were met by the impressive stone ruins and explored the history of the archways and pathways.



During the walk, learners discovered the remains of the ancient monastery, wandering through the old cloisters, the chapter house and the grand abbot's hall.





# Congratulations!

**Charlotte, Lexi, Ethan, Oscar and Michael**  
have won prizes this week for completing their  
job roles!

- Charlotte wiped tables at lunch time
  - Lexi helped serve dinner
- Oscar completed being Acorns 1 stationary monitor
- Michael completed Acorns 1 book monitor
- Ethan did a great job being Woodlands an environmental officer!!

**Well done! – Great work!**



**Coming Soon...**



**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 1:30pm**

Woodlands School

Fun for all the family and excellent prizes are to be won!

**Save the date! We can't wait to see you!**

# Glimmers



Shout out to Romeo for great learning and engagement in his Maths and completing his functional skills in English this week – Great work Romeo!

Shout out to Angel for great engagement in Maths – the challenge is on with Tyler ST and Angel to see who the highest age in Maths Whizz will be...

Leo Gu has shown his culinary skills this week and told staff he was going to make cakes. After a staff member said she could not eat them, he changed this and made some incredible healthy cakes which were eaten and enjoyed – Amazing Leo! Super proud of you.

Shout out to Tyler H and Leighton who made some very delicious rice krispie cakes and shared them with staff! – I had one! – Thank you!

Noah Huges took on a leadership role and made hot chocolate and biscuits for the school – Great work Noah!

Jake and Abel have been brave this week having their first swimming lesson. Jake jumped into the water for the first time. So proud of you Jake – Well done both of you!

Shout out to Angel for taking her coat off – Well done! Angel

Saplings 4 have all engaged with their maths lessons this week – Great work all!

Lincoln has shared his cake he made, making positive relationships around school. – Well day Lincoln!

Shout out to Matthew who has engaged well in English – Well done Matthew!

Shout out to all staff and learners in their world book day costumes

Ceri's team won the World Book Day Quiz!! – Well done All!



# Dates for the Diary

- PCP Parents Evenings
  - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 3.30 – 5.30
    - Online, by phone or in person
  - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 3.30 – 5.30
  - Online, by phone or in person
- Easter Bingo – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 1:30
- Easter Holidays
  - 30/3/26 – 10/04/26



# Headteacher Awards



- **Lexi** for confidently reading to the whole class
- **Rocco** for confidently reading to the whole class
- **Leo** for confidently reading to the whole class
- **Destiny** for supporting her friend and standing up against unkind behaviour
- **Arran** for remaining sensible in a difficult situation
- **Zane** for remaining sensible in a difficult situation
- **Noah** for remaining sensible in a difficult situation
- **Bobby** for learning how to use a sewing machine
- **Able** for engaging in learning and completing all school work this week



- **Willow** for engagement in English
- **Ryan** for engagement in English
- **Emilia** for engagement in English
- **Matthew** for engagement in English
- **Oscar** for caring for our school environment
- **Ethan** for caring for our school environment
- **Michael** for caring for our school environment



And the winner is...

Eliza!



Spring holiday fun and food in Shropshire

**BOOK  
NOW**

30 March - 10 April 2026



Wellness Activities and Food

 Shropshire  
Council

 Department  
for Education



## ***Spring Holiday Fun in Shropshire***

Have fun with your friends, learn new skills, gain confidence and get involved!

Shropshire Council is working in partnership to run an exciting holiday programme this spring / Easter, Shropshire HAF (Holiday Activities and Food).

Take part in sports, arts, cooking, forest schools and lots more fun activities, happening across the county. Free nutritious meals will be provided at each session.

**There are free places available on the programme for children and young people aged 4 (in reception class or equivalent) to 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.**

There are a limited number of free places available for children and young people who are not in receipt of benefits-related free school meals but meet a wider eligibility (see [www.shropshire.gov.uk/HAF](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/HAF) email [HAF.programme@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:HAF.programme@shropshire.gov.uk) for more details).

# ***How to Book***

Please book spaces directly with the organisations running the holiday clubs.

## **What you need to do:**

1. Use the electronic **What's On Guide** and searchable **Timetable** to find which holiday club is suitable for your child/ren. Electronic copies of the Guide will be sent to you by your child/rens school and are also available at: [www.shropshire.gov.uk/HAF](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/HAF).
2. Book onto activity by contacting the organisation running the holiday club direct, using the contact details in the Guide.
3. When making a booking, **please quote your unique HAF Code (see box below)**.
4. If your child/ren has SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities) or receives any extra help at school, before booking onto activity, please contact the holiday club to discuss your child/s needs.
5. Any queries you have about your booking or the activities on offer, please contact the organisation running the holiday club directly.
6. If you meet the wider eligibility criteria, please contact, [HAF.programme@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:HAF.programme@shropshire.gov.uk) for information about referrals onto the programme.

The unique code entitles your child/ren to attend 4 sessions of free holiday activity in Shropshire during the spring / Easter holidays 2026. Please don't use this code to book onto more than 4 sessions of activity or to book onto multiple programmes of activity with different providers, happening at the same time.

**This code is individual to your child/s school and is not transferable to other children. Eligibility checks are carried out on all bookings.**

**ZJHRS**

If you would like to find out about further help and support the Parenting Team offer please email

[Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk)

or call us on 01743 250950

All our services are free of charge to Shropshire Council residents.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



S O L I H U L L   A P P R O A C H

## **PARENTING HELP AND SUPPORT LINE**

available

**Monday to Thursday from 9.30am to 4.30pm**

and

**Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm**

**You can contact the Parenting Help and Support Line by calling**

**01743 250950**

*Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. The Parenting Team is here to help and support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.*

*Do you have any questions around your child's development and parenting?*

Why not call our Parenting Help and Support Line where one of our trained Parenting Practitioners will be ready to listen.

(Please note the Parenting Help and Support Line will not operate on Bank Holidays)

If you have concerns about a child's safety or well-being, please call

**First Point of Contact 0345 678 9021**



## **Sending an Email to the Safeguarding Team**

**[safeguarding@wdl.mmat.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@wdl.mmat.co.uk)**

- **If you have any worries Parents/Carers or Students, please email the above address.**
- **Students, you can use your school accounts or personal email addresses.**

## **Why not follow us on Facebook**

**<https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandsShropshire/>**

**Or**

**Take a look at our website!**

**[www.woodlands.school](http://www.woodlands.school)**

**Or**

**Join the conversation - We love hearing from you! Share your thoughts, questions, and suggestions with us.**

**[rachel.bates@wdl.mmat.co.uk](mailto:rachel.bates@wdl.mmat.co.uk)**

**If you need to contact us out of normal school hours, please either email on the above address**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMING SERVICES

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as SVoD: streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### COSTLY

Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for ad-free viewing, and better quality and resolution; however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

### ILLEGAL STREAMING

Sharing passwords or using modified Fire Sticks to access streaming content without permission is illegal. Most streaming services have now put measures in place to detect account sharing. When account sharing is identified, platforms will offer an opportunity to pay for an added member or will ask the user to verify who they are.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most streaming platforms allow users to set up a profile for each family member, with the option of putting specific restrictions in place. These include adding a profile lock or PIN, controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings. Nonetheless, these restrictions aren't foolproof. Content which is rated as suitable for an age group may still include themes, language, or images which children and families find inappropriate.

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 15-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

### BINGE WATCHING

Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers – especially young people – to continue watching episodes without a break. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as consuming a vast amount of content in one sitting. With binge watching come a lack of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and often late nights and sleep disruptions which impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

### HARMFUL STEREOTYPES

Many platforms track viewing habits, time consumed, and preferences, and generate recommendations to encourage your child to keep watching. This results in your child being in a 'loop' whereby they think the 'recommended' shows would be something they would enjoy rather than thinking critically for themselves. This can shape their beliefs, values, and understanding of the world from a young age without even realising it.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS

Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles where each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can view. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this private. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings.

### MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN

Discuss with your child what they are watching, find out which programmes are trending, and watch them yourself. Have a little look at their watch history to check the content of what they're watching. Some platforms have been known to recommend or autoplay older or graphic content after a child's movie has been played. While some tv shows or movies may have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content scary, or it may explore themes you don't want to explore with your child yet.

### TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS

Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and base adverts and recommended shows/movies on previous viewing. Encourage them to critically think about whether the recommendations are suitable and how they want to spend their time. Discuss stereotypes with your child and challenge them to think about what they watch and how this may influence their beliefs.

### SET TIME RESTRICTIONS

Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add additional features to your subscription such as sports channels, as well as play games. This can increase the amount of time young people spend sitting idly in front of the screen. Some platforms (e.g. Apple TV+) allow you to set screen time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't allow you to set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator, and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government, comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

