



Shurdington C of E Primary School

Be the **BEST** we can be, through love.

Believe Enjoy Succeed Together

Spring Term Newsletter - 13/02/2026

Dates For The Diary

13.02.26 Last day of Term 3 (normal finish time)

23.02.26 INSET day

24.02.26 First day of Term 4

26.02.26 Feet First Festival for Y3 and Y5

03.03.26 Parents Evening

04.03.26 Apple Class trip to Waterstones

05.03.26 School Prayers

05.03.26 Parents Evening

06.03.26 World Book Day

25.03.26 PTFA Colour Run

27.03.26 Poetry Slam

27.03.26 Last day of Term 4 **2:15 Finish**

13.04.26 INSET day

14.04.26 First day of Term 5

WC 11.05.26 Y6 SATs

22.05.26 Last day of Term 5

01.06.26 First day of Term 6

11.06.26 Sports Activity Day (no parents)

19.06.26 Sports Day (TBC) Parents invited

10.07.26 Summer Fete

17.07.26 Last day of Term 6 **2:15 Finish**

Clubs

A reminder that football (both boys and girls), Y6 Friday hockey and choir have now all finished. Rugby and hockey will both start after half term on a Tuesday and Timetables rock stars club on a Thursday—these are all for Y4 to 6. Mr Millin will also try and rearrange some Fri Y6 hockey for those missed this term.

ParentPay

Please ensure accounts are kept up to date. Please can we remind you that bookings for Breakfast & ASC sessions must be made 48hrs in advance.

Visit our [website](#) to find out more about our school and your childrens learning.

Recently updated pages include:

- Information regarding complaints in the [useful links section](#)
- Information regarding our [Writing curriculum](#)
- Cleaner vacancy information the [Staff Vacancy Page](#) of our website.

PTFA

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us and volunteered at the school disco, together we raised an amazing **£687.45!** Your support, energy, and enthusiasm make these events so special for the children.

Our next event will be the Colour Run on the 25th March, and we can't wait to see you there. Tickets will go on sale as soon as we're back from half term.

"Love God and Love your neighbour as you love yourself" Matthew 22:37 and 39

Staffing changes

Year 5: Mrs Royle will be going on her maternity leave from Easter. Her days (Wed-Fri) will be covered by Mrs Lomax (a wonderful teacher we have used many times for supply) in Term 5 (April to 22nd May) until Mrs Delaney returns from her maternity leave. Once Mrs Delaney returns in Term 6, she will cover the Year 5 class for the rest of the year on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Year 2: Mrs Ryletts teaching contract will end when Mrs Delaney returns in Term 6. She has decided to go back to her Teaching Assistant role and therefore will stop being the Year 2 teacher on a Monday and Tuesday at June half term. Mrs Lomax (the teacher mentioned above) will take on these days in Term 6 and Mrs Rylett will support a different class during this term.

After half term we also welcome a new full time Teaching Assistant, Mrs Porter, who will work alongside Miss Mason to support the class teachers.

Year 3: Due to the increase in numbers in our Year 3 class, Mr Onakoya and Mrs Flagg have both agreed to change their hours to increase support in our Year 3 class. Mr Onakoya will support Monday to Thursday (keeping his Fridays in Year 1) and Mrs Flagg will also support on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Opportunity to work with us: One of our cleaners will be going off on maternity leave around the Easter Holidays so we will be looking for a new cleaner to work with us until she returns. If you are interested please visit our [vacancy page](#) on our website or speak to Mr Millin for more information.

February Half Term Holiday Club Provision

Unfortunately, due to lack of numbers Atlas Camps has been cancelled over the half term. As this is the third or fourth time we have had to do this, its clear this provision is not needed at school so we will not be offering this again in the future

Mobile Phones, Online Safety & Respecting Privacy

Following an incident recently at the school disco where a small number of pupils brought mobile phones into school and took photos, we would like to remind families that we are a phone/free school. Phones should not be brought onto the school site, and any that are needed for the journey home must be handed into the school office at the start of the day. Staff have spoken to pupils about the seriousness of this, reminding them that taking photos or videos on school grounds is strictly prohibited, and reinforced the importance of consent, privacy and respectful online behaviour. Children continue to receive regular teaching on online safety through our Computing, PSHCE and P4C curriculum, and we appreciate your support in reinforcing these messages at home.

House Point Certificates

Following a conversation with some pupils around our 'eco' work we have decided not to award House Point Certificates at the end of each term moving forward. Today will be the last certificates handed out but children will still be awarded house points, work towards winning the house cup and earning a non-school uniform day for their team.

World Book Day

We are excited to announce that we will be celebrating the Shurdy Literature Festival throughout the month of March. We have a range of engaging activities planned to support our reading-for-pleasure agenda and to help immerse the children in the wonderful world of books – more details to follow.

As part of these celebrations, we will be marking World Book Day on Friday 6th March. We encourage children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character or in their pyjamas. They are also invited to bring their favourite book to share with their class.

OPAL Play

As part of our OPAL play provision, pupils spend time learning and playing outdoors in most weather conditions, unless it is unsafe or extreme. With the recent spell of wet weather, we would be very grateful if you could ensure your child has waterproof clothing and wellies in school each day.

Staff always encourage children to wear their waterproofs and wellies when the ground is wet, but please be aware that some children may still come home muddy. This is perfectly normal and often means they have enjoyed a high-quality playtime - being creative, exercising, problem-solving and having fun with their friends. Thank you for your continued support.

Dinner Menu Wk Comm 02/02/26

A	Cheese & Bean Pasty with New	Beef Burger with Cheese & Wedges	Roast Chicken	Chicken Enchilada Bake & Rice	Battered Fish & Chips
B	Tomato Pasta	Coconut Curry & Rice	Vegan Sausage	Jacket with Vegan Bolognaise	Mexican Bean Roll
C	Jacket Potato with Filling available daily				

Dinner Menu Wk Comm 09/02/26

A	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with New Potatoes	Meatballs with Rice	Roast Gammon	Chicken Curry & Rice	Fish Fingers & Chips
B	Vegetable Pasta Bake	Vegan Burger with Wedges	Quorn Roast	Macaroni Cheese	Cheese Whirl & Chips
C	Jacket Potato with Filling available daily				

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake 'facts'. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday®

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