



### Headteachers Spotlight

6TH MARCH 2026

The past couple of weeks have been incredibly energetic across the school, with pupils embracing a wide range of sporting and outdoor opportunities. Some of our year 4 pupils represented us brilliantly in a friendly Dodgeball competition against local schools, showing great teamwork and determination. Year 4 pupils also took to the field for an energetic tag rugby event, while our Year 5 and 6 footballers demonstrated fantastic skill and sportsmanship in an inter-school competition. Year 6 also enjoyed an exciting orienteering adventure in Carding Mill Valley. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and problem-solving skills were clear to see as they navigated the landscape and worked together to complete the challenges. Today, they are on a big day out in London visiting the Houses of Parliament and the Natural History Museum.

Alongside all this activity, we were delighted to welcome members of our Governing Body into school. They spent time speaking with pupils across the year groups, gathering their views on school life and listening to what they value most about their learning and experiences here.

We also celebrated World Book Day in school this week, KS2 were visited by author Krista Joy and children and staff made a fantastic effort dressing up as always! It has been great to see our pupils engaging so positively, representing the school with pride and embracing every opportunity that comes their way.



### Reminders

Good News!! We have been made aware by ParentMail that the issues caused by an app update have now been resolved. This should mean that you are now able to make payments and bookings of wrap-around clubs.

You may need to reinstall the app or log out and reload to have the issues resolved.

Where possible we ask that your child has enough lunch money in his/her account for their school lunch orders each morning, as it supports the kitchen staff to ensure they are preparing the correct amount of meals each day.

RED NOSE DAY - 20<sup>th</sup> March



Red Nose Day arrives on 20th March, and we're inviting children to join the fun by wearing their own clothes—funny outfits very welcome! They'll also have the chance to share a joke or riddle, so get practising those punchlines!

Suggested donations: £2 for own clothes and £1 for a tasty cookie from Cook at break time.

### Upcoming Events

10th March - Owl Class to Red House Farm.

12<sup>th</sup> March - Fox Class to Red House Farm.

14<sup>th</sup> March - Cross Country (see flyer below)

17<sup>th</sup> March - Oak Class to Red House Farm.

19<sup>th</sup> March - Pine Class to Red House Farm.

19<sup>th</sup> March PM - Birch Class to Red House Farm.

20<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose Day (own clothes day and a sweet treat from the kitchen).

23<sup>rd</sup> March - Whole School Easter Service (children only)

24<sup>th</sup> April - Willow Class to Red House Farm.

24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April - Year 6 Parents Evening.

26<sup>th</sup> April - Birch Class to Red House Farm.

30<sup>th</sup> April - 10<sup>th</sup> May - Easter Holidays



## What's going on at Red House Farm

Dear parents

We are now in our second year of running school visits to the farm and I thought it might be nice to introduce ourselves a bit more, let you know about our farm and what the children do when they visit each term.

Red House Farm is about 150 acres, located between Longville and Church Preen, we have a range of animals on the farm, including cows, sheep, pigs, ponies, chickens and two dogs (Peppa and Spike). Our farm is also home to badgers, hares, barn owls, deer, a wide range of birds and other native creatures. We try to farm alongside nature and so have a wide variety of wildflowers, herbs, grasses and trees species, with the beautiful Hughley Brook skirting around and through the farm at different points.

Since the visits started we have been partially funded by a grant from FiPL (farming in protective landscapes) to convert a shed into toilets, handwashing facilities and a room with tables and chairs where the children can eat their packed lunch. The log burner means we can also use it for activities if the weather is cold or wet. The classroom is attached to an enclosed yard on the one side and on the other by an enclosed garden, which the photo below may help you envisage (the classroom is the building in the middle with the solar panels on the roof).



The children arrive on farm about 9.30am, and we usually we split them into two groups before we do an activity for about an hour and have a snack. We then change over groups for another hour before the children have their packed lunch. The bus returns the children to school on the bus between 12.30 and 1pm for their afternoon lessons.

One of the sessions is run by myself, Helen, I live and work on the farm and my session tends to be something out and about on the farm. We do activities like dung beetle safaris, "hunter gatherer" berry searches, create wildflowers bracelets, make bird nests, look at soil health and dig for worms, meet the animals and lots more.

Emily runs the other session; she is a trained teacher with expertise in art and ceramics. She helps the children create different types of clay pots with clay from our farm, collages from natural materials, a range of projects from wool produced by our sheep as well as planting seeds, pressing apples and making burgers.

This term, with spring hopefully just around the corner, we will be planting potatoes, lots of different seeds, onion sets and hedging plants. Hopefully on their visit next term the children will be able to see how these plants are getting on and even sample some of the produce they helped create.

Plus, we have the excitement that spring and newborn animals brings. Although we don't really start lambing until the beginning of April, we have a few lambs arriving early so the KS2 will hopefully all get to see a newborn lamb. But don't worry, the KS1 children won't miss out as they will get to see the lambs and hopefully a few calves next term, along with the baby chicks.

Together with the amazing teachers from St Lawrence's, we have developed a range of activities on farm for each year group, each term, that are all curriculum linked and so as the children move up through the school they will do different activities each time they come and visit the farm.

We carry out and constantly update our risk assessments on farm to ensure the safety of all visitors. To minimise any risk we would like to ask for your help on farm visit days by sending children to school in their own clothes (not uniform), preferably long sleeves, waterproofs if needed, wellies and spare shoes in a plastic bag to change into.

At the end of the visit we wash wellies and the children put their shoes on and put their wellies in the plastic bag before getting back on the bus to return to school. As I'm sure you will be aware, there is always a risk of zoonotic diseases with contact with any animals. We do all we can on farm to minimise this risk, but we would recommend washing the clothes and wellies again once home.

Thank you all for your help and support; we are absolutely thrilled to be able to work with your children. They are all such a pleasure to have on farm, their enthusiasm is contagious, their visits are a joy and the farm always seems a little empty once they leave.

We would really love to give the parents the opportunity to visit the farm and hope to arrange something on "Open Farm Sunday" weekend. We are building a new house for us to live in at the moment, so if it's not this year it will be next. But in the meantime, I will aim to send a little newsletter update at the end of each term.

Many thanks Helen Forsyth

**SHROPSHIRE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
UNDER 11's YEAR 5 & 6 CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Saturday 14th March 2026**

**Venue:** Concord College, Acton Burnell, Shrewsbury, SY5 7PF

**Please note:** Entrance for cross country is at mobile.basic.venturing (what3words)

The postcode in SATNAV may take you to the wrong entrance.

**NO DOGS** permitted.

Races will begin at **2.30pm** and be run in the following order

2.30 - U10/Year 5 Girls approx. 1300m

2.45 - U10/Year 5 Boys approx. 1300m

3.00 - U11/Year 6 Girls approx. 1600m

3.15 - U11/Year 6 Boys approx. 1600m

**Please note children must run in the correct age groups.**

**Year 4 children may not run in the Year 5 race.**

3.30 - Fun run for Year 3 & 4 runners

(no pre-entry needed for fun run, £1.00 per entrant on the day. PLEASE BRING CASH)

Trophies/medals will be awarded to winning teams and first three individuals.

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES**

**Wednesday 11th March 2026**

**ENTRY FEES - £3.50 PER INDIVIDUAL**

- Any number of athletes may be entered. The first **four** for a club/school to finish will be the scoring team.
- Entry fees are non-refundable unless the organisers have to cancel the event for any reason in which case a full refund will be given.
- Please make any cheques payable to **SHROPSHIRE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**
- Please contact Mary Thornton if you wish to pay by BACS/electronic transfer
- Entry fees must be paid before the event. If fees have not been paid, athletes may not be allowed to participate.

ENTRIES AND ENQUIRIES TO:-

Mary Thornton. 8 Lower Hengoed Cottages, Hengoed, Oswestry, SY10 7EG

Email: [mary58@btinternet.com](mailto:mary58@btinternet.com)

ENTRY FORM FOR THE SHROPSHIRE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
UNDER 11 /YEAR 5 & 6 CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

Saturday 14th March 2026

Concord College, Acton Burnell, Shrewsbury, SY5 7PF

Please note: Entrance for cross country is at mobile.basic.venturing (what3words)

The postcode may take you to the wrong entrance.

NO DOGS permitted.

School or Club name:

Entry fee enclosed:

(cheques payable to SHROPSHIRE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, Please contact Mary Thornton if you wish to pay by BACS/electronic transfer.

I declare that all below are eligible to represent the Club/School under the governing rules (see below).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed:

Address for correspondence:

Email address:

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER IN CASE OF CANCELLATION:

- Only athletes named on the entry form will be eligible to run.
- Any athlete running without a number will not be counted.
- Individual numbers will be issued on the day of the competition.
- Please collect your school/club/individual pack from registration.
- All athletes must attend a school in Shropshire/Telford & Wrekin **and/or** be a member of a Shropshire based Athletics Club **and/or** be resident in Shropshire.
- "An entrant shall be deemed to have made himself/herself/themself, familiar with, and agreed to be bound by the UKA Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the authority of UK Anti-Doping in the application and enforcement of the Anti-Doping Rules. The UKA Anti-Doping Rules apply to entrants participating in the sport of Athletics, for 12 months from the date of entering the event, whether or not the participant is a citizen of, or resident in, the UK."

RETURN TO:- Mary Thornton, 8 Lower Hengoed Cottages, Hengoed,

Oswestry, SY10 7EG by Wednesday 11th March at the latest

Email: [mary58@btinternet.com](mailto:mary58@btinternet.com)





Stretton Parish

# Through the roof!



Thursday 12th March

3:30 - 5:45pm

New Venue: St Laurence's Church, CS



Due to venue change places are limited  
so please book your places asap!:

[www.strettonparish.org.uk](http://www.strettonparish.org.uk), use the QR code  
or email [sally@strettonparish.org.uk](mailto:sally@strettonparish.org.uk)



**ALL WELCOME**



# EASTER CAMP

£22 a day

Exciting Activities for Y1-Y6

Explore creativity with our fun games and activities. From painting to crafting and energetic games, there's something for every young explorer. Let's get busy!



April 7, 8, 9, 10.



Flexible drop off/pick up 8am - 4pm



St Lawrence Primary



[www.passmastercoaching.co.uk](http://www.passmastercoaching.co.uk)



Free places for HAF



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