

SHEEPY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Edition 11: 6th February 2026

Outdoor Learning

Sweet Pea Planting

Mrs Smith and lots of happy children enjoyed planting some Sweet Pea seeds ready for some flowers this summer. They used toilet rolls as plant pots - recycling at its best! We can't wait to see them bloom! 🌸



Diary Dates

Fri 6th Feb:

Cotswold Class Assembly 2.30pm

Fri 6th Feb - Fri 13th Feb:

Unity Schools Times Table Rockstars Competition (see attached)

Weds 11th Feb:

KS1 Tamworth Castle Trip

Weds 11th Feb:

KS2 Gymnastics competition

Friday 13th Feb:

Where What You Love Day ❤️

Mon 16th - Fri 20th February:

Half Term Break

Tues 24th / Weds 25th Feb:

Parents' Evening Times TBC

Fri 27th Feb:

Achievements from Home

Sat 28th Feb:

Snarestone Cross Country

Mon 2nd Mar:

Y2 Netball Festival

Weds 4th Mar:

SEND Parents' Evening

Y5/6 Unity Football Match ⚽

Thurs 5th March:

World Book Day: Dress as a frog! 🐸

Tues 10th Mar:

Portland Class Assembly 2.30pm

Sat 14th Mar:

Packington Cross Country

Weds 18th Mar:

Sheepy's Got Talent 5.30pm

Fri 27th Mar - Mon 13th Apr

Easter holidays 🐰

Governor Spotlight

Revd Julia Hargreaves
Foundation Governor



I'm in my 15th year of being the Priest at Sheepy and love our connection with the school this ranges from our EYFS coming to Tuesday Church to our Yr6 coming to communion And with a team from the congregation we offer Open the Book on a weekly basis bringing Bible stories into school

I'm happy to chat to staff, parents and children whenever possible.

Carol Holmes-Pearce
Foundation Governor



I have been a governor since 2018. Part of my role is to ensure that the Christian ethos is reflected in all aspects of the school. I am the SEND link governor and a member of the Finance Committee. Two of my grandchildren attend the school and it's always a privilege to attend the many events held throughout the year. In my professional life I am a qualified accountant and finance programme manager with a strong background in Financial Services. In my spare time I like walking my dogs, visiting my caravan in Wales, and attending live music events.

Catherine Parkinson
Foundation Governor



Hi I'm Catherine!

I've been one of the foundation governors for 5 years. My little girl attends Sheepy school and is now in year 3.

I love coming into the school to see the children and spend time with our fantastic staff.

When I'm not working in healthcare I help out on our family farm. We are busy getting ready for lambing and I'm really looking forward to welcoming our reception class back again to see the new lambs.

2026 – Year of Reading

The year 2026 has been celebrated as the Year of Reading in schools, marking a renewed commitment to nurturing a lifelong love of books among young learners. Throughout the year, we place reading at the heart of the curriculum, encouraging children to explore stories, information texts, poetry, graphic novels and more. Classes have their own daily reading routines, allowing pupils to enjoy quiet, focused time with books that inspire curiosity and imagination and of course our class books, which the children thoroughly enjoy.

On Thursday 5th March, we celebrate World Book Day and will be asking children to come to school dressed as a frog! The books being read across school will all have a 'frog' or 'life cycle' theme and will be engaging for children of all ages. We are always keen to strengthen the connection between home and school learning and we are reiterating the **importance of hearing your children read regularly at home.** The benefits are huge as shown in the infograph below.

Find out more here: <https://goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families/>

20 is plenty!

Children who read for 20 minutes a day will...

Improve
focus and
concentration

Have a world of
imagination and
creativity
opened to them

Have
stronger
writing skills

Improve and
strengthen
memory

Be exposed to
**1.8 million
words a year**

Have a
broad
vocabulary

Have better
general
knowledge

Improve
test results

Improve
communication
skills

Improve
communication
skills

Develop
a love for
learning

Learn how to
develop
empathy

Improve
critical
thinking skills

Have
reduced
stress levels

Volunteers

We have some wonderful volunteers who come into school to hear our children read. If this is something that you or maybe a grandparent may be interested in doing, please pop into the office and let us know. We would welcome some additional volunteers.

Year 6 Penpals

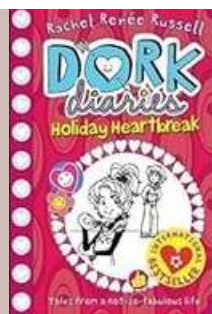
Year 6 have become penpals with Sarah Wynne. She is the author of the middle grade thriller novels *Murder in Velvet* and *Murder on the Dancefloor* as well as the action-adventure books *Dogs of Doom* and *Shark Attack*, aimed at slightly younger children. She is writing to us monthly to share her favourite reads and we have shared our recommended reads of 2025.



Josie recommends...



Darcie recommends...



Niamh recommends...



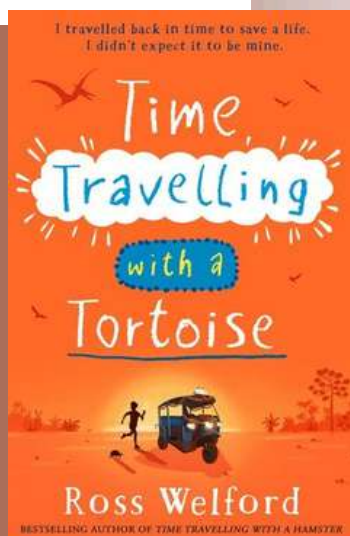
Joel recommends...



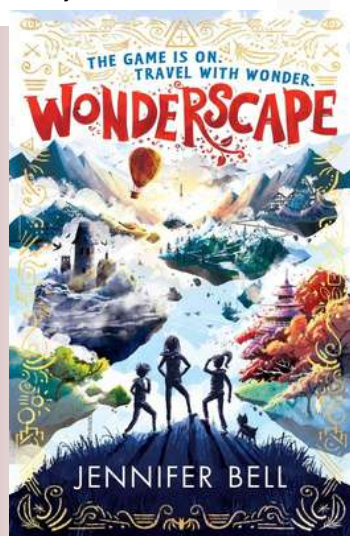
Fred recommends...



Alfie J recommends...



Everley recommends...



Callie recommends...



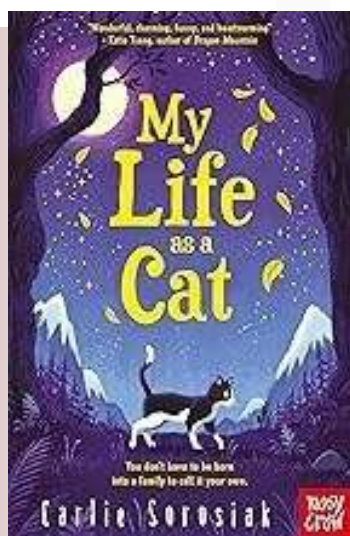
Mason recommends...



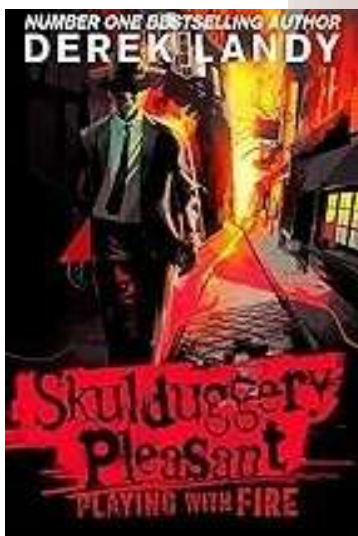
George recommends...



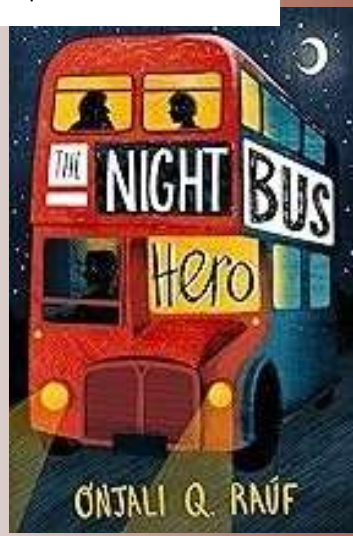
Alfie B recommends...



Thomas recommends...



Hope recommends...



Harry recommends...



Jamie recommends...



Year 6 Books of 2025



Wear What You Love For Valentine's



*Please bring an Easter
Egg, Chocolate or make a monetary
donation to the PTA*

Friday 13th February
Sheepy Magna Primary School

Keep your lunchboxes healthy!

Some useful advice from the NHS...



Keep them fuller for longer

Base the main lunchbox item on foods like bread, rice, pasta and potatoes. Choose wholegrain where you can.



Freeze for variety

Keep a small selection of different types of bread in the freezer so you have a variety of options – like bagels, pittas and wraps, granary, wholemeal and multigrain.



DIY lunches

Wraps and pots of fillings can be more exciting for kids when they get to make them. Dipping foods are also fun and a nice change from a sandwich each day.



Cut back on fat

Pick lower-fat fillings – like lean meats (including chicken or turkey), fish (such as tuna or salmon), lower-fat spread, reduced-fat cream cheese and reduced-fat hard cheese. And try to avoid using mayonnaise in sandwiches.

[See more healthier swap ideas](#)



Mix your slices

If your child does not like wholegrain, try making a sandwich from 1 slice of white bread and 1 slice of brown bread.



Always add veg

Cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, celery and peppers all count towards their 5 A Day. Adding a small pot of reduced-fat hummus or other dips may help with getting kids to eat vegetables.



Ever green

Always add salad to sandwiches and wraps too – it all counts towards your child's 5 A Day!



Cheesy does it...

Cheese can be high in fat and salt, so choose stronger-tasting ones – and use less of it – or try reduced-fat varieties.



Cut down on crisps

If your child really likes their crisps try reducing the number of times you include them in their lunchbox, and swap for homemade plain popcorn or plain rice cakes instead.



Add bite-sized fruit

Try chopped apple, peeled satsuma segments, strawberries, blueberries, halved grapes or melon slices to make it easier for them to eat. Add a squeeze of lemon juice to stop it from going brown.



Tinned fruit counts too

A small pot of tinned fruit in juice – not syrup – is perfect for a lunchbox and easily stored in the cupboard.



Swap the fruit bars

Dried fruit like raisins, sultanas and dried apricots are not only cheaper than processed fruit bars and snacks but can be healthier too. Just remember to keep dried fruit to mealtimes as it can be bad for teeth.



Switch the sweets

Swap cakes, chocolate, cereal bars and biscuits for malt loaf, fruited teacakes, fruit breads or fruit (fresh, dried or tinned – in juice not syrup).



Yoghurts: go low-fat and lower-sugar

Pop in low-fat and lower-sugar yoghurts or fromage frais and add your own fruit.



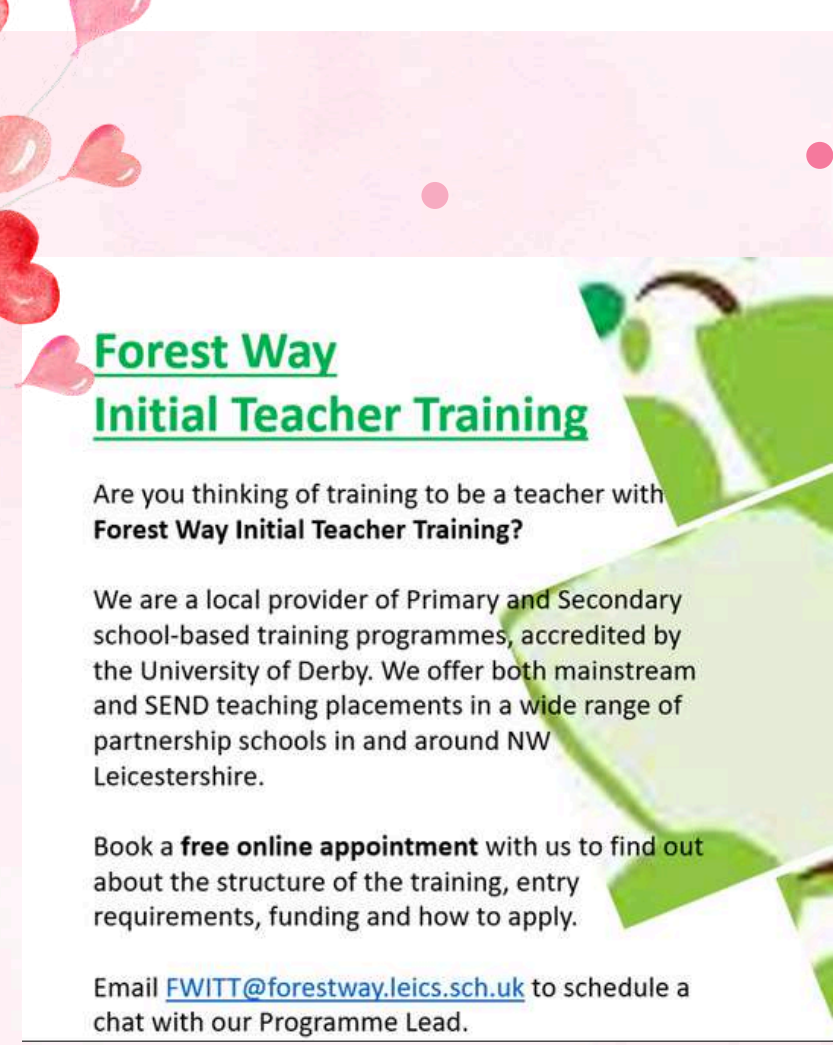
Get them involved

Get your kids involved in preparing and choosing what goes in their lunchbox. They are more likely to eat it if they helped make it.



Variety is the spice of lunch!

Be adventurous and get creative to mix up what goes in their lunchbox. Keeping them guessing with healthier ideas will keep them interested and more open to trying things.



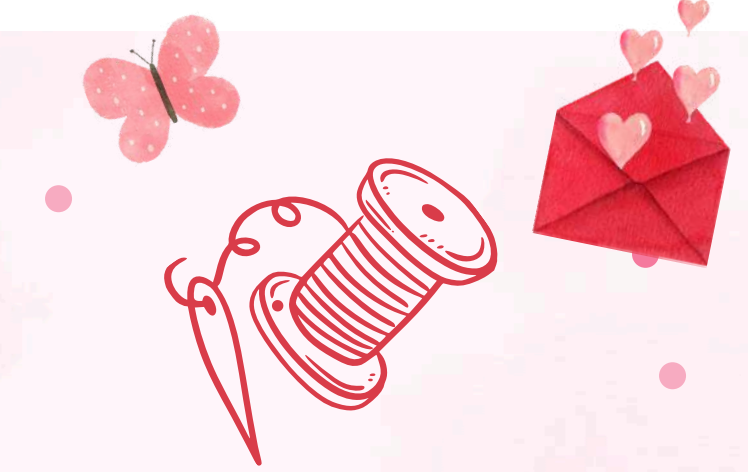
Forest Way Initial Teacher Training

Are you thinking of training to be a teacher with
Forest Way Initial Teacher Training?

We are a local provider of Primary and Secondary school-based training programmes, accredited by the University of Derby. We offer both mainstream and SEND teaching placements in a wide range of partnership schools in and around NW Leicestershire.

Book a **free online appointment** with us to find out about the structure of the training, entry requirements, funding and how to apply.

Email FWITT@forestway.leics.sch.uk to schedule a chat with our Programme Lead.



Woodlands Sewing

Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who came into school this week to sew with the children. It was lovely to see so many people in school and it was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon for everyone.

WORLD BOOK DAY

THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2026

COME TO SCHOOL
DRESSED AS A FROG!



LEAP INTO A WORLD
OF STORIES!



Leicestershire
County Council

SPRING
TERM
COMPETITION

ROAD SAFETY

*Please send entries
into school!*

**POEM
COMPETITION!**

WRITE A POEM THAT
INCLUDES BEING SAFE
WHEN USING THE ROAD

YOU COULD INCLUDE
KEY ROAD SAFETY
MESSAGES SUCH AS:

- STOP, LOOK,
LISTEN, THINK
- RIDING SCOOTERS
SAFELY
- WEARING
HELMETS

A WINNER FOR EACH
YEAR.
ENTRIES SENT TO US
BY: FRIDAY 20TH MARCH
2026

TEACHERS TO DECIDE WHO WINS
AND SEND THE WINNERS WORK
TO ROADSAFETY@LEICS.GOV.UK