

Sherborne St John C of E Primary School Newsletter

Monday 10th January 2025



Mad Hair Day - Thursday 13th Feb!

In order to raise funds for St Michael's Hospice, your children can come to school on Thursday 13th Feb with Mad Hair! Different styles, colours, etc - anything goes. We are asking for a donation of £1 or more - every penny donated will go straight to the hospice. Good luck!

A Thank you from the PTA

The wonderful members of the PTA that ran your quiz night on Friday, have asked me to share this message with you:

"Thank you so much to everyone that joined us on Friday evening at SSJ social club for another brilliant quiz night. It was great to see a few new faces - we hope everyone had a great time 😊"

We are delighted that we raised £373 which goes to our lovely School providing opportunities and experiences for the children so thank you for so generously supporting such a wonderful cause. "

I would second that. What an amazing amount of money to have raised, and all for the wonderful children of Sherborne St John Primary School.

Please remember that the PTA are still looking for new members, either to run an event, or to help, or to join their wonderful team. Do get in touch if you think you can help - we still need you!

A message from Mrs Rennison

Last week (as I am late getting this out) seemed to be a week of good things and good news!

I emailed you all to let you know that we will be taking part in Mad Hair Day this week (Thursday 13th Feb). I was blown away by how excited the school council were for us to take part, and can't wait to see all the mad hair dos on Thursday.

The PTA Quiz night sounds like it was a roaring success and fun was had by everyone. What a lovely school community event that several of you have shared with me that you really enjoyed.

Some of our infant children took part in a gymnastics competition which went very well and again I am told how well our children represented our school; great ethos, great attitude and brilliant behaviour.

Year 5 and 6 went off to QMC for their science session there, and had a brilliant time, also representing our school very well.

And finally - even the staff had a mini-celebration - with pizza! A kind parent, who wanted us to share in her daughter's birthday, provided our staffroom with a selection of Dominos pizzas! (Other brands are available, I'm sure I should add...) What a lovely surprise. I wasn't here during the day, but I found some leftovers when I got back, and also found some very happy staff. It doesn't take much to put a smile on the face of us educators - sometimes it's just a slice that does it! Thank you to that kind parent.

One week to go till halfterm. More good news for us all! Remember that Friday is an inset day. Have a great week, Mrs Mel Rennison

Key Dates:

10th Feb Parent consultation weeks
11.2.25 Cross Country competition – Juniors
13.2.25 Last day of term
wb 17.2.25 - HALF TERM
24.2.25 all back to school
3.3.25 Year 2 to QMC
6.3.25 Class 3 trip to Tower of London
7.3.25 School disco – School Association
14.3.25 The Vyne Football festival
26.3.25 Class 3 trip to The Vyne
2.4.25 Year 3/4 gymnastics
2.4.25 2.15 pm church service
4.4.25 Last day of term – finish at 2pm

Please drive carefully

I need to ask you all to please be very vigilant when dropping off and picking up from school. I have had several of you still tell me that there are some cars parking in the disabled space without a blue badge. Please remember that some disabilities are hidden, so not as obvious as others may be, but a blue badge still indicates the right to park in a disabled bay. Also - we had a very near miss last week. A parent was walking from school at the end of the lane. A car rapidly reversed into an entrance and spun round quickly. The parent saw just in time and was able to jump out of the way. However, if that had been a small child, or an adult with a baby in a pushchair, there could have been a very serious accident. Please park and drive carefully and slowly, and with regard to those people around you who are walking back and forth to school, as well as being considerate to our neighbours. Thank you for your support with this.

Collective Worship



In Collective Worship this halfterm, our topic is 'Beginnings'. Last week we were talking about when God Makes A Promise – the Abrahams family (Genesis 12 v 1-3 & 18 v 1-15) and how God always wants to be near us if we will let Him. Abraham was ready to listen and obey God even though God's promise seemed hard to believe. Through Abraham God would have a family who would understand and share his ways with other nations.

Adventure, fun and skills for life...

You're invited to join us at Sherborne St John Cubs



Cubs are young people age 8 to 10.5 who:

Master new skills and try new things

Have fun and go on adventures

Are curious about the world around them

Help others and make a difference, on their own doorsteps
and beyond

Our Cub Pack meets on Thursdays, 18:30 - 20:00

**If you're interested in your young person joining, email-
ellie.selwood@hampshirescouts.org.uk**

OFSTED REGISTERED SPECIALIST MULTI-ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CLUBS FOR 5-11YRS.

MAGNA CAMPS



FEBRUARY 2025

MONDAY 17TH - FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2025



SCAN ME FOR



CAMP LOCATIONS

Be an
EXPLORER



**EXPLORE
MORE**

*Life
is an
ADVENTURE*



Standard Day 08:45 - 16:30 Extended Day 08:45 - 18:00*

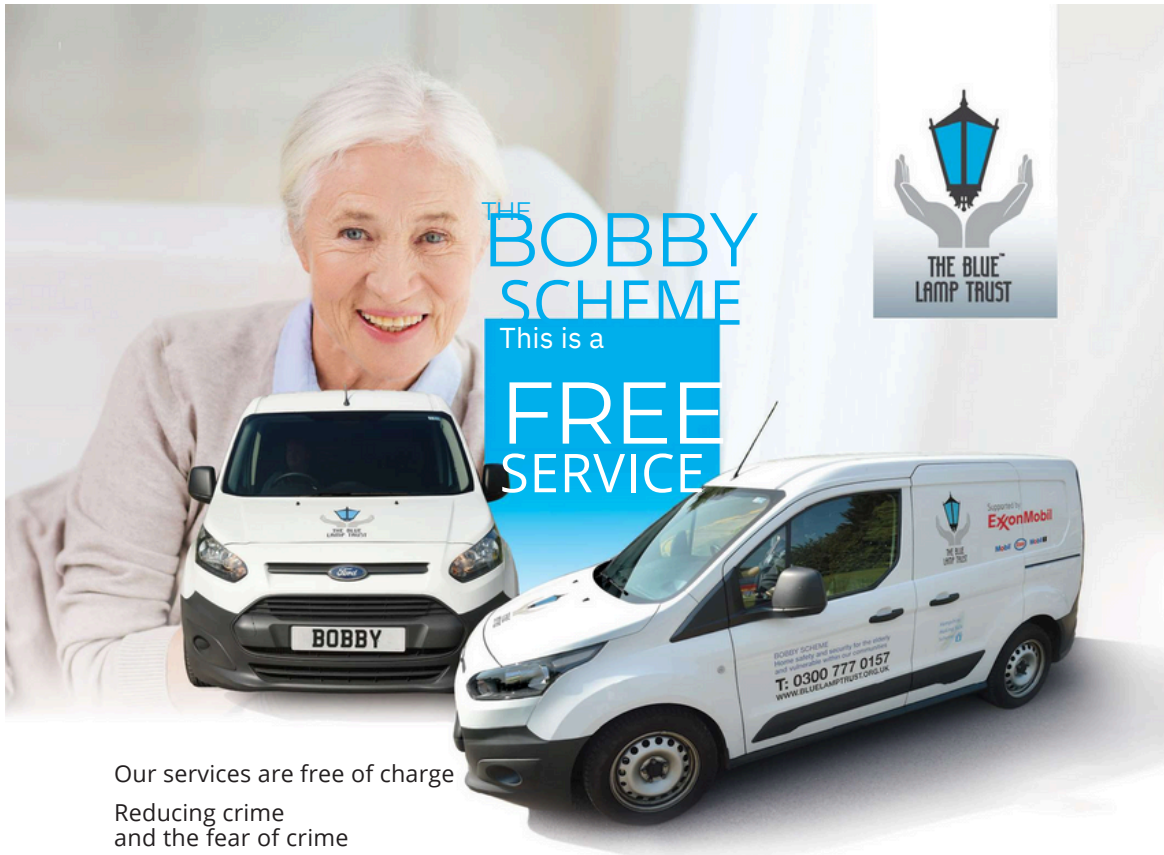
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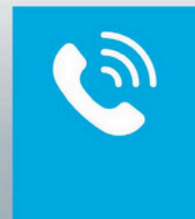
Our services are free of charge
Reducing crime
and the fear of crime
Helping people feel safe and secure in their homes

Providing home
safety and security
for the vulnerable and
elderly in our communities

We are a registered charity which provides a FREE home safety and security survey to assess the work needed to make the client's home safe and secure FREE OF CHARGE.

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- SPY HOLES
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- DOOR CHAINS
- SMOKE DETECTORS
- CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

For more details on this FREE OF CHARGE service call
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or visit www.bluelamptrust.org.uk



SEWING CLASSES

7-11YRS

Osborne Room- Viables Community Centre, The Harrow Way, Basingstoke RG22 4BJ

February 18th & 20th
2hrs session

£25
only 8 slots

SOCIAL MEDIA:



Book now www.2bobbins.com

Register

07584 220966

KIDS CLUB

LIMITED
AVAILABILITY

NEW IN BASINGSTOKE, Mar. 2025



Viables Community Centre, Viables Craft Centre
The Harrow Way, Basingstoke. RG22 4BJ

SATURDAYS

Time 1.15pm - 2.15pm

DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENROL YOUR 7-11yrs kids
TO LEARN THIS LIFETIME SKILL

REGISTER TODAY

sew learn shine

2 Bobbins Sewing Club

Creativity Hub

2hrs workshop
February 18th & 20th
10am-12noon

Spaces
8 only
7-11yrs

Location: Osborne Room. Viables Community Centre, The Harrow Way, Basingstoke RG22 4BJ

Register now

07584 220966

website: www.2bobbins.com
IG & FB: 2bobbins

New attendance rules!

There are new rules for unauthorised absences, whether this is due to holiday, irregular attendance, or otherwise. Don't get caught out!

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for 5 days.

Make sure you use the absence request form. Your holiday will not be authorised. Let the school know before you book anything. As your child will miss 5 school days, you'll be given a penalty notice fine.

1 parent & 1 child = £160
Reduced to £80 if paid in 21 days

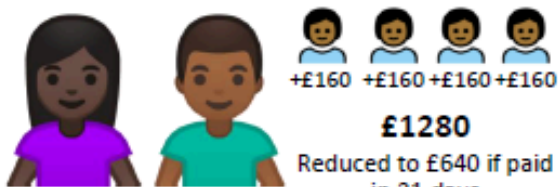


For each child a penalty is given...



1 parent & 4 children = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

For a family of 2 parents & 4 children



What happens if school suspects children are actually on holiday?

Photos on Facebook?
Foreign mobile dial tone?
Other children talking about your holiday?
Amazing sun tan?
Home visit shows no-one at home?

Please don't be offended if we ask for evidence or mention these questions to you. We're required to do this to ensure a fair system!

2 What about subsequent absences? Is it still the same penalty amount?

No, not anymore. If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence OR pattern of irregular attendance, which is unauthorised, then...

2nd TIME
2 parents and...
1 child = £320
2 children = £640
3 children = £960
4 children = £1280
NO DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

3rd TIME
A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2,500 for each child.
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents and 4 children = £20,000

3 What about irregular attendance? Could I get a penalty notice? **YES**

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks, and their absences are unauthorised, then the school is required to consider penalty notices / prosecution.



So, half a day here and day there could all add up to 10 sessions in 10 weeks. If unauthorised, then it would be a penalty notice. Remember, 1 day is 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

4 What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday	Sickness of parent or sibling
Shopping for uniforms	Sibling's school closed
Inadequate clothing for school	Refusing to attend, but able to
Child being used as a carer	Poor family organisation
Problems with transport	Family holidays
	No absence request completed

Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a GP surgery is given.



EVERY DAY COUNTS – ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW