



16th January 2026

Issue 701

Rushbury CE Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Telephone: (01694) 771 233

Emails : admin@rushbury.shropshire.sch.uk
headteacher@rushbury.shropshire.sch.uk

Website: www.rushburyschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr Steve Morris

Our school values:

Curiosity, Friendship, Perseverance, Respect.



Value of the month for January:

WISDOM



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear parents/carers,

I do hope that you and your family enjoyed the recent festive/new year period. The children have returned very well to school this week and last. Attendance has been very high again and school routines have quickly been reestablished across the three classes.

I want to thank you for your understanding towards the end of last week with the storm and associated snowfall and high winds. It was certainly challenging all-round, and I hope that you and your family were able to stay safe. It is very rare that we close the school at Rushbury for a 'snow day'. In fact, just 1.5 days prior to last Friday, in the last five years or so, I believe. Conditions last week, were quite exceptional and it was clearly the right thing to do as well as making that decision by the Thursday afternoon. As I mentioned to pupils in assembly earlier this week, if we get further snowy weather and school remains open, pupils will need forest school kit and gloves in school as we would most definitely make the very most of it.

In classes since our return, Ticklerton's reception pupils have worked on their book, Jack Frost, with Y1/2 creating instructions; the class completed a habitat hunt in Forest School; considered how to stay safe online by creating passwords and discussed people who are special to them; finally in PE they have been working on their invasion skills. Gretton have used shading to create 3-D drawings; learnt about James Watt and his role in the industrial revolution; used descriptive and sensory language during outdoor language; covered factors and scaling in Maths and in PSHE considered and debated age restrictions across all manner of areas such as when you can start to learn to drive a car. In Stanway, the class have started their English project on Darwin's journey on HMS Beagle, plotting the route from Plymouth to the Galapagos Islands; started their Science unit on Evolution and Inheritance; looked at the continent of South America in Geography, focusing on the capital cities; covered long multiplication and division and covered key vocabulary linked to food with the story El Ratón Glotón

Enrichment started back up this week too. Baking, scale models, gardening and a super trip to Shrewsbury Museum for Miss Reeves's group (please see photos of this further on in the newsletter).

Finally, our school website has benefited from a much-needed revamp. If you do get the opportunity, do please take a look. We will be adding more to it at a school level, over the coming weeks.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,
Steve Morris



CHILD'S PRAYER

Dear God

May peace be in our hearts forever and always when we are sad.

Please can you help us with our manners and how to remember to say please.

Thank you for people who show that they care.

Please can you make sure that the world can always stay peaceful and safe.

Amen

By
Emilia L

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS



- **Ticklerton** – Ralph E for completing an excellent habitats hunt in outdoor learning
- **Ticklerton** – James C for a super effort with writing this week
- **Gretton** – Emilia L for confidence in English, to add unique vocabulary
- **Gretton** – George E for completing all work to a high standard
- **Stanway** – Charlotte D for her curiosity during our museum visit
- **Stanway** – Anna M for an excellent report on how mudskippers are particularly well adapted to their environment

HOUSE POINTS (2 weeks as not reported on last week)

Lawley – 495

Ragleth – 481

Callow – 426

Caradoc – 357

CALLOW'S ENRICHMENT TRIP TO THE SHREWSBURY MUSEUM





WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS...

We are still keen to explore if there are any members of the community who may be interested in a minibus driver role. Our minibus committee have a small number of dedicated drivers on the payroll but are always looking to expand.

It is important to emphasise that his communication isn't just aimed at parents but grandparents too or other family members. Or, indeed, friends and neighbours.

As you will likely be aware we operate two minibuses at the beginning and end of each school day, plus they are often utilised for a variety of school trips during the school day... so there is always plenty of driving to undertake.

If this is of interest to you, or somebody you know, then please do talk to me or email me on:
headteacher@rushbury.shropshire.sch.uk

Alternatively, do please phone Sian or Julia in the school office, for an informal chat/further details.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO OUR 'STAND IN' COOKS

A big thank you to Stef and Matt Mills, who stepped in to cover our cook Wendy for most of this week. We have been told reliably (by the children) that the shortbread that Matt made was a particular hit! All being well, Wendy will return on Monday. Thank you for your understanding with this.

MUSIC LESSONS

Beverley Turner, from the Shropshire Music Service, now has some spare slots. She can teach recorder, violin or keyboard. Please contact the school office if you think your child might benefit from these lessons and we can put you directly in touch with her.



FRIDAY SPORTS CLUBS FOR THE REST OF THIS ACADEMIC YEAR

Bookings for our Friday netball/basketball club, are now open on ParentMail. This will again have restricted numbers, to ensure safety for all.

Spring 1	Netball/Basketball
Spring 2	Tennis
Summer 1	Cricket
Summer 2	Athletics

UP-DATE ON TOMMY – GUIDE DOG IN TRAINING

The Somerville family wanted to share the good news with the school community, that Tommy recently passed his 4 week assessment in Atherton. He has now moved onto his official training to be a fully qualified or buddy dog and the Somerville's will be kept up to date with his progress. We are all very proud of him!



KEY DIARY DATES

**Monday 16th February to
Friday 20th February 2026**

Spring Half Term

SOME ITEMS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST:





What's on Ludlow Early Help Coffee and Chat

19 th January	Who can I talk to today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Help • Special Guardianship Support team • Health visitor clinic • 0-5 support team • Breastfeeding support – Bex Bromley • Shropshire Domestic Abuse Services • Employment & Support advice 	What's on today at Stay and Play: Craft activity: Decorate a mitten Baby Area Toys Books
26 th January	Who can I talk to today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Help 	What's on today at Stay and Play: Craft activity: Make a paper snowman globe Baby Area Toys Books
2 nd February	Who can I talk to today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Help 	What's on today at Stay and Play: Craft activity: Decorate a snowflake Baby Area Toys Books
9 th February	Who can I talk to today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Help 	What's on today at Stay and Play: Craft activity: Decorate a wreath Baby Area Toys Books
16 th February	Who can I talk to today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Help • Health visitor clinic • 0-5 support team 	What's on today Craft activity: Painting – explore colours & different printing shapes Baby Area Toys Books

Free sessions

You do not need a child to attend the session to access family help.

Safe, comfortable, confidential and informal space to talk.

Early Help Family support workers available to chat to every week.

We look forward to seeing you



Helena Lane Community Centre, 20 Hamlet Road, Ludlow, SY8 2NP

9.30 until 11.00



Rainbows

1st Church Stretton Rainbows

Every Monday
5.30-6.30 (Term
time) @ URC Hall,
Church Stretton,
SY6 6BY

Spaces available
from January
2026 for all girls
aged 4-7

Contact Sophie for
more information
07527 033510
csdistrictcommissi
oner@gmail.com

HELPING YOUR CHILD THRIVE IN THE EARLY YEARS



BY REDUCING SCREEN TIME

You are not to blame

Phones and tablets are everywhere, and they are designed to grab attention. But did you know that too much screen time - for both parents and children - can make it harder for little ones to develop key skills they need to **grow, learn, and connect?**

Too much screen time can:

- 1 **Delay speech and communication**
Young children learn to talk by hearing real voices and taking part in conversations. Screens often reduce these important moments of connection.
- 2 **Make it harder to handle emotions**
If screens are used often to calm a child down, they may miss out on learning how to cope with frustration, boredom or big feelings in other ways.
- 3 **Impact feeding**
Screen use during feeding can make it harder for babies to connect with their parents and for their needs to be noticed. It can also affect how children learn to try new foods and recognise when they're hungry or full.
- 4 **Reduce active play**
Children need to move, use their hands, and explore. Long periods of screen time can limit this, affecting coordination, strength and posture.
- 5 **Impact focus and attention**
Fast-moving videos can make it harder for children to focus on slower, real-life tasks, such as playing, reading, or listening.

Why this matters

In the first five years, your child's brain is growing faster than it ever will again. These years lay the foundation for how they think, move, talk, and build relationships, which are important for being ready for school.

What can help:

You do not need to do it all at once
Small steps matter. This isn't about guilt, it's about giving your child the best chance to grow and thrive. What your child needs most is you: your attention, your voice, your time.

- 1 **Make time for screen-free activities** like play, outdoor time, or reading.
- 2 **Keep screens off** during mealtimes and before bed.
- 3 **Watch or play alongside** your child when screens are used - this helps support learning.
- 4 **Keep screens out of bedrooms** overnight - yours too, if possible.
- 5 **Be a role model** - children copy how adults use phones and tablets.

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR SAFER SCREENS

This leaflet has been developed by experts at Health Professionals for Safer Screens, led by Dr Kelly Brown, Consultant Neonatologist and Olivia Dann, Paediatric Speech and Language Therapist.





Royal Academy of Dance Ballet school

Join our **Royal Academy of Dance Ballet Classes** and develop poise, flexibility, and confidence with Miss Jamie a Qualified RAD Teacher.

FOR CHILDREN
AGE 4 AND ABOVE

Register Now

MISS
JAMIE

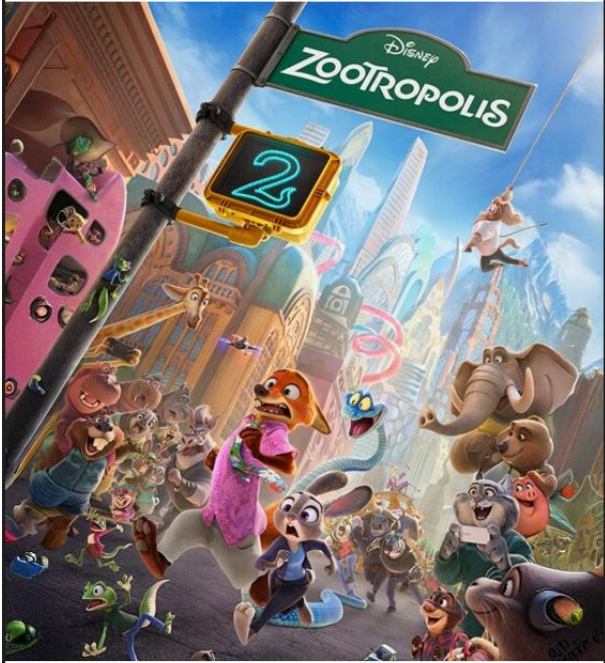


HIGHFIELD HOUSE, PRESTFELDE, OFF PRESTON STREET
SHREWSBURY

BALLE

07487741605 missjamie.balletteacher@hotmail.com
www.missjamieballet.com

PICTURE HOUSE



17, 24 & 31 JAN @ 2PM

ludlow
assemblyrooms

Tickets: £7
Box Office: 01584 878 141
www.ludlowassemblyrooms.co.uk

Art Exhibition at LAR

Ludlow's Rich History - in stitches

28 November - 10 January





