

Newsletter

April 2026

Hi all,

Apologies for the slight delay in sending out the newsletter; with the merger of our Trust, it has been a busy few weeks.

The summer term is always one of busiest periods in the school calendar. There are always lots of events planned; we have worked hard over the last year to deepen the children's provision here at Shalford, and I am pleased to share some of the learning opportunities that they have experienced recently.

Naturally, children, parents and teachers start to think about the next academic year. We work hard to manage those feelings by ensuring we have a supportive transition period in the Summer 2 term. If you or your child have any specific worries, please just speak to me and we can find a way to support you as a family.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Sports Day in a couple of weeks.

Kind regards,

Mr. Arding.

Chicks + Fire!

Ash Class have enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London over this past term. Last week, we replicated this historical disaster on the playground. On behalf of Miss Neave, I present you the before and after pictures!



Through the generous support of FoSPs, we have enjoyed caring for some eggs in Elm Class recently. They did not hatch into dinosaurs as I thought, rather chicks, and Mrs Locke wanted to share this experience with you.



Statutory Period

Children in Years 1, 4 and 6 are just about to enter their statutory assessment period. We have produced information for parents about these tests that is available on the school website at:

[Statutory Assessment Period](#)

Parent Workshop

I would urge all parents to access the online safety workshop that was shared with the community recently. We are seeing an increase in incidents at school related to online behaviour outside of school and it is important that we work together to navigate this.

[Parent Workshop](#)

Park

I have been asked to share the information below with parents and carers at our school:

We wish to thank the huge majority of parents, carers and the children who visit Shalford Village Hall playing field and equipment who respect and look after it as per its intended use,

We are sorry to report that recently we have had some incidents of unacceptable behaviour and it has been observed on more than one occasion that some are allowing their children to cause damage.

Please can we ask that your children are always supervised whilst using the play area and are not allowed to dig holes in the ground (grass or multi use areas), not to play in the petanque terrain throwing the gravel outside and that no vandalism is allowed on any of the equipment.

Shalford Village Hall is a charity run by a small number of volunteers, it is not funded by the Parish Council or Braintree District Council. The village hall and its grounds face significant costs; not only in its day to running, but also trying to improve its facilities for all to enjoy.

We have recently spent a large amount of money creating the multi surface play area and installing the safety fencing around it. We have also spent a considerable sum of money ensuring the play equipment is safe, so it is disheartening to us as a committee, to see the facilities we provide being treated badly. In the near future we plan to complete another project making the area safer for all with ROSPA compliant fencing. This will not go ahead if we cannot rely on adults to correct their own children's behaviour.

Thanking you for your cooperation.

Kind Regards
Shalford Village Hall Management Committee
(SVHMC)

Breakfast and After School Clubs

Breakfast Club is available from 7.30 every morning. Parents can choose to send their children for the whole hour or from 8.00am. Please speak to the school office for more details.

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE IN ALL CLUBS FOR ALL AGES - YOU DO NOT NEED TO WAIT UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF A HALF TERM TO BOOK

After the Easter holidays, our Wednesday multi-sports provision will become an Athletics club for the remainder of the term – perfect for anyone looking to excel on Sports Day!

Monday	Lego and Fun Club: run by school staff (small snack and drink included). £4.75 per session (book and pay on MCAS APP)
Tuesday	Lego and Fun Club: run by school staff (small snack and drink included). £4.75 per session (book and pay on MCAS APP)
Wednesday	Athletics club: Run by FPG Coaching. Details available from the school office.
Thursday	Lego and Fun Club: run by school staff (small snack and drink included). £4.75 per session (book and pay on MCAS APP) Choir: Please speak to the school office for further details.
Friday	Football training: Run by FPG Coaching. Details available from the school office.

Upcoming dates for your diary:

Below I've tried to include every date that has been confirmed for the rest of the year. A few more dates will be confirmed over the next few weeks. Please speak to me if you have any questions about any of these events.

11th May – SATs week for Y6 children
 22nd May – Sports Day at 10am
 22nd May – End of Term
 1st June – children return to school
 1st June – History competition deadline
 4th June – Elm + Ash class trip to Boydells Farm
 6th June – Shalford Village Fete
 11th June – Chestnut class trip to Henry Moore Foundation
 19th June – Class Photos
 29th June – 1st July – Y6 School Journey
 6th July – Bee Keeping Workshop
 10th July – Meet the teacher afternoon and reports sent home
 14th July – KS2 Performance 1.30pm + 6pm
 16th July – Y6 Leaver's Assembly 2pm
 16th July – End of Term
 3rd September – children return to school