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Shiphay Learning Academy Newsletter

September 2nd 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back! I hope you have all had an enjoyable Summer break and been able to make the most the lovely weather.

The premises team have been busy during the holidays and there are lots of improvements to the school building. I will share some photos with you in the next newsletter.

All staff will be in school on Thursday and Friday for essential training and preparation for the year ahead. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Monday 7th September**. Week 1 is "Welcome Week" with activities planned to support pupils to settle into the new school year. We are especially looking forward to welcoming new families to the Shiphay family, including our first group of 2 Year olds in the Nursery.

The purpose of this short newsletter is to draw your attention to some key information ahead of the new term.

Mobile Phone Policy - only Y5 and Y6 pupils who are walking to/from school are permitted to bring their phones to school. Parental permission is required for phones to be brought to school. To date, less than 10 people have completed the form. **Before 1pm Friday 4th Sept, please click on the link on p2 to complete the form.**

Permission to walk home - only Y5 and Y6 pupils are able to walk home unaccompanied (this includes from club). Parental permission is required for us to release pupils at the end of the day. To date, less than 10 people have completed the form. **Before 1pm Friday 4th Sept, please click on the link on p2 to complete the form.**

Use of Medical Tracker - from Monday, we are changing how we report first aid incidents and the administration of medication. Please see the information on p3.

Inhalers and other medication - if your child requires any medication at school, a new "green" administration of medication form must be completed each September. Please pop into the office to do this by **Friday 11th September**.

Meet the teacher meetings - these will take place in Week 1 (w/beginning Sept 7th). Please see p4 for information.

Re-familiarisation session Friday 4th September 2pm - we look forward to seeing our new Reception pupils on Friday.

Mrs Kate Lee
Headteacher

**WELCOME
BACK TO
SCHOOL**

Attendance 2025/2026

96.1%

Just above our 96% target

If your child's
attendance is less than
95%, their learning will
be affected by their
absence.

Should I keep my child
off school poster?



SUGGESTED DONATION: 50P PER ITEM

PLEASE USE HONESTY BOX PROVIDED

Pre-loved uniform

There is lots of pre-loved uniform available in the front reception area. If you are in need of anything, please pop in.



Mobile Phone Policy / Permission to walk home

Mobile Phone Policy

As you may be aware, the Children's Well Being and Schools Act, prohibits children's use of mobile phones during the school day. This is now law.

As our Y5 and Y6 pupils have the option to walk home unaccompanied, the Trust has made the decision that Y5 and Y6 may bring their phones on the days they are walking to and from school. As you can see from the policy poster, phones must be handed in and will be kept safe throughout the day.

We require parental permission for Y5 and Y6 to bring their phones to school.

Please complete the [Google Form](#).





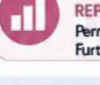
OUR MOBILE PHONE POLICY



BE READY ~ BE RESPECTFUL ~ BE SAFE



Our priority is a safe, focused and distraction-free learning environment for every child.

1 WHO CAN BRING A PHONE?  No phones allowed for children in EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4. Children must be dropped off and collected by an adult.  YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6 May bring a phone only if they walk to / from school unaccompanied AND parental consent has been given.	2 YEAR 5 & 6 RULES  Parental consent form must be completed before bringing a phone to school.  Turn phone completely off before coming onto the school site.  Phone will be stored securely in the classroom all day.  You will get your phone back at the end of the school day. Phones must stay off and in bags until you have left the school gates.	3 WHY WE HAVE THIS POLICY  Keeps everyone safe.  Supports positive friendships and wellbeing.  Helps us stay focused on learning. The school and Trust cannot accept responsibility for loss, theft or damage to any device.
4 MISUSE IS NOT ALLOWED  No pupils' phones seen, heard or used anywhere on the school site (including playgrounds, fields and clubs).  Unauthorised use will be treated as a breach of the Behaviour Policy.	5 CONSEQUENCES  FIRST BREACH Phone taken and returned at end of day. Parents notified.  SECOND BREACH Phone taken and returned to a parent. Meeting with class teacher.  REPEATED BREACHES Permission removed. Further sanctions applied.	6 EXCEPTIONS  In exceptional personal or medical circumstances, the Headteacher may grant special permission.  Requests must be made in writing. A bespoke plan will be agreed.
7 OUR PROMISE  A safe and caring environment  Focused learning every day  Working together for every child		



THANK YOU
for supporting our policy and helping us keep our school a great place to learn.




Permission to walk home (Y5-Y6)

[Please click this link](#)

There has been a change to Trust policy. The decision has been made that only children in Year 5 and Year 6 will be given permission to walk home unaccompanied at the end of the school day. If you would like your child to leave the field without waiting to be collected by an adult, we must have your permission on this form. Without your permission, we will ask them to wait with their teacher until an adult comes to collect them.

Use of medical tracker from September 2026



Headteacher Mrs Kate Lee
September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: First Aid Incident and Medication Administration Notifications

As you know, we try very hard to keep parents regularly informed about first aid incidents and medication administration at school.

To help make improvements in these areas and ensure systems are efficient and accurate, we have decided to use a service called Medical Tracker. Medical Tracker not only allows us to inform parents/ carers of first aid incidents and medication administration by email but it also allows us to analyse the data we record more easily.

Medical Tracker will be beneficial to you because:

- We can record and track first aid incidents that involve your child
- We can record and track medication administration that involves your child
- You can be notified immediately after a first aid incident by email
- You can be notified immediately after medication has been administered by email

To use Medical Tracker effectively we need to be sure that we have the correct email address to use to notify you of incidents. Please use the Arbor App to check that we have the most up to date information for you. Alternatively, please speak to a member of the [Admin](#) team.

Please be assured that Medical Tracker is registered with the Data Protection Registrar and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Important – When we start using Medical Tracker, email messages will be sent from **donotreply@medicaltracker.co.uk**. Please add this address to your email address books (or approved sender list) to prevent messages from being blocked by your SPAM/JUNK filters.

Yours sincerely

|
Kate Lee
Headteacher



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Important Dates

Meet the teacher meetings

Tuesday 8th September	Year 2/3/4
Wednesday 9th September	Year R/Y1
Thursday 10th September	Year 5/6
3:30-4:15pm (Creche for R-Y6 aged pupils provided)	

Meet the teacher - Autumn 2026

During Autumn Term 1, we would like to offer you the opportunity to come into school to meet the teachers and find out more about learning in your child's year group. These "meet the teacher" events will take place in the school hall.

The plan for each session is:

3:15pm	Children are collected as normal at the end of the day
3:20pm	Children and parents/carers come to the hall. Children who would like to use the creche are signed in and will join members of staff in the classroom
3:30pm	Meeting begins
4:15pm	(approx) Parents/Carers re-join their children in the classrooms so they can see their new learning environments.

Celebration Assemblies Autumn Term Y2-Y6 Wednesday, R/Y1 Friday

We love to share good news. Please send in any trophies, certificates, awards etc they have received outside school so that we can present these in assembly. This is a great way to celebrate their achievements and also inspire other children.

During Celebration Assemblies, the house captains give an update on house points, praise postcards are shared and the children who have received "Golden Phonecalls" or "Golden Emails" get their certificates.

Each week, children who have gone above and beyond are recommended to me by the adults in school. I then have the fabulous job of calling or emailing home to share this good news. Sharing this news is the best part of my week!

We also receive updates from our sports teams and children who have represented the school at different events.

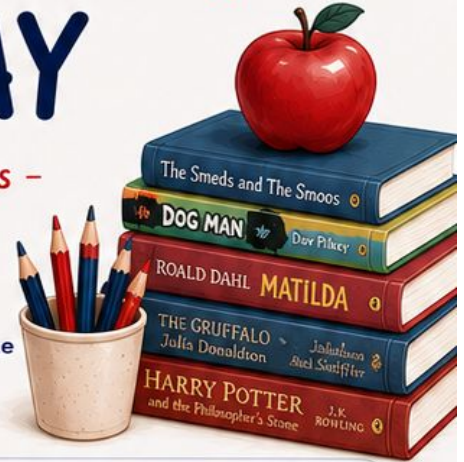




WELCOME BACK TO SHIPHAY

Helping little ones – and bigger ones – settle back into routine ♥

The return to nursery or school after the summer can take a little adjustment. A few simple things at home can make those first days feel much easier.



1 Bring bedtime back

Start edging bedtime and wake-up time towards the usual routine. Well-rested children find busy days much easier.



2 Get them involved

Let children help find their uniform, pack their bag or choose what they need. Even our youngest children enjoy feeling part of the preparation.



3 Talk about coming back

Keep conversations positive and relaxed. Ask what they are looking forward to – and give them space to tell you if anything is worrying them.



4 Keep goodbyes confident

A warm, cheerful and predictable goodbye helps children know that nursery or school is a safe, familiar place – and that you'll be back.



5 Expect tired children!

Those first few days can be exhausting. Your child may be quieter, more emotional or simply need a little more downtime than usual.



6 Give routine time to return

Some children bounce straight back in; others take a little longer. Both are perfectly normal. Familiar routines soon begin to feel familiar again.



7 Tell us

If something is worrying your child – or there is something happening at home that might affect their day – please let us know. Little pieces of information can help us give the right support.



We can't wait to welcome everyone to the new term on

Monday 7th September. ♥

Opportunities to Shine ♥



Top Tips for SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S RETURN TO ROUTINE

Returning to school after the holidays can be challenging for some children and young people, and both families and education settings can play an important role in helping them readjust. Consistent routines, clear expectations, and supportive communication can support children and young people's wellbeing, self-regulation, and academic success. These practical tips can help make the transition back to school feel more manageable.

1 START EARLY

Gradually reintroduce school-day sleep, meal, and wake-up routines around a week before term begins. In education settings, familiar routines and expectations can also be introduced from the start of term to help pupils settle back in. A gradual and predictable approach can make the transition feel less abrupt and give children and young people the time they need to readjust to the structure of school life.

2 REBUILD ROUTINES TOGETHER

Involve the children and young people in your care in the rebuilding of familiar routines at home and in education settings. Having a say in their daily schedule can increase predictability for them and give them a greater sense of control. This might include discussing morning routines at home or reviewing classroom timetables, expectations, and activities together at the beginning of the school day.

3 ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBILITY

Giving children and young people age-appropriate responsibilities can help foster their autonomy and engagement. For younger children at home, this might include getting dressed independently or checking their school bag. In education settings, children and young people could organise their learning materials, complete simple classroom tasks, or follow a familiar morning routine. These manageable responsibilities can help them feel more involved in the school day while developing useful skills.

4 RECONNECT WITH PEERS

Re-establishing friendships can help children and young people feel more confident and connected when they return to school. Families might arrange opportunities for their children to speak to or spend time with school friends, while educators can use group activities, 'buddy' systems, or collaborative tasks to help rebuild classroom connections.

5 SUPPORT HEALTHY NUTRITION

Regular, balanced meals, particularly at breakfast, are linked to improved concentration, behaviour, and academic outcomes. Families can gradually return to familiar school-day mealtimes, while education settings can reinforce healthy eating routines at the start of term and signpost breakfast provision where available. Consistent access to food can help support children and young people's energy levels and concentration throughout the day.

6 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk to the children and young people in your care about how they feel about the return to school and give them the opportunity to share any worries or questions. Anxiety around going back to school, particularly when starting a new year group, can be common, and children and young people may benefit from your reassurance and support. Parents and educators can all help with this by listening calmly to concerns and questions, and sharing relevant information with one another where appropriate.

7 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING AND PEERS

Light educational activities before term begins can help children become familiar with learning routines again without creating any unnecessary pressure on them. In school, low-pressure recap activities and familiar tasks from the previous year group can serve a similar purpose during the first few days back. Keeping learning positive and achievable can help rebuild children's concentration, confidence, and academic motivation as they settle back into their usual routine.

8 PRIORITISE SLEEP

Ensure the children and young people in your care get age-appropriate sleep and begin returning to their usual bedtime habits before term starts. Reducing screen use before bedtime may also support better sleep quality. Educators can also be mindful that tiredness may temporarily affect children's concentration, behaviour, and emotional regulation as they readjust to school routines.

9 PREPARE AHEAD

Organising uniforms, bags, lunches, and other school essentials in advance can reduce unnecessary stress when school mornings begin again. Educators can also help by preparing pupils for any changes to classrooms, timetables, staff, or behaviour expectations. Giving children clear information about what to expect ahead of time can make the return feel more familiar and help build up their confidence and independence.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Children adjust to changes in their routines at different rates, so your patience and flexibility can be important during the first days and weeks back. Some may settle quickly, while others need longer to adapt to earlier mornings, classroom expectations, or busy schedules. Parents and educators can support children and young people's readjustment by maintaining consistent routines, all the while recognising that concentration, behaviour, or confidence may temporarily look different for them.

WELCOME BACK!

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School, and a business development specialist for Minds Ahead, which works with schools to improve their mental health provision.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

See full reference list on our website

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Important Dates

As you will notice, some of the dates are still (tbc). We will be able to bring you an update later this term and also give you the dates for the Spring and Summer Terms. Please note, new / changed dates are in red.

Autumn 2026

Thur 3rd and Fri 4th September
Monday 7th September
Week beginning 14th September
Mon 14th / Tue 15th September
Tuesday 16th September
Wednesday 16th September
Thursday 17th September
Friday 18th September
Thursday 1st October

Monday 5th October
Tuesday 6th October
Wednesday 7th October
Thursday 8th October
Friday 9th October
Mon 12th - Wed 14th October
Tuesday 13th October
Thursday 15th October
Mon 19th - Fri 23rd October
Friday 23rd October

Monday 2nd November
Tuesday 3rd November
Thursday 12th November
Friday 13th November
Mon 16th - Fri 20th November
Friday 27th November
Monday 23rd November
Friday 4th December

Monday 7th December
Tuesday 8th December
Wednesday 9th December
Thursday 10th December
Friday 11th December
Saturday 12th December
Monday 14th December
Tuesday 15th December
Wednesday 16th December
Thursday 17th December
Friday 18th December

Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January Christmas Holiday (no Holiday Hub)
Monday 4th January
Tuesday 5th January

Non Pupil Days
Autumn Term Starts
Autumn Term Clubs start
Y6 to Torre Abbey - Agatha Christie Festival
Flu Vaccination
Bikeability Y3/Y4 (book online - see letter for info)
FOSS Scooter Party N/R/Y1 tbc
Swimming begins - Year 4
FOSS Discos Y2/3 and Y4-6

Flu Vaccination
Reception knife and fork skills with Caterlink
School Photos (individual photos)
Parents' Evening 3:30-6:30
Hello Yellow - wear yellow for well being
Y5 Y6 Bikeability (book online - see letter for info)
Parents' Evening 3:30-6:30
Y5 to London - House of Parliament
Year 6 Residential - Heatree
School closes for half term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th Half Term Holiday

Non Pupil Day (no Holiday Hub)
School opens after half term - Autumn Term 2
FOSS Discos Y2/3 and Y4-6
Children in Need
Anti-Bullying Week (odd socks on Monday 16th)
Mufti for Christmas Fair
UK Parliament Week
Mufti for Christmas Fair
FOSS Christmas Fair
Performing Arts (Y4-Y6) to TBGS
Y1-Y3 Christmas Performance 5pm TBGS (tbc)
Y4-Y6 Christmas Performance 6pm TBGS (tbc)
Nursery Christmas Celebration 2pm (tbc)
Rocksteady Performance 2pm School Hall (tbc)
Performing Arts and Y3 singing club - concert
Reception Christmas Celebration 2pm (tbc)
Christmas Fun Day - N /R/Y1
Christmas Fun Day Y2-Y6
Rudolph Run - Christmas Jumper Day
School closes for Christmas

Non-Pupil Day (no Holiday Hub)
School opens after Christmas - Spring Term 1

Uniform - Key Reminders

Please note the following points. A few things are starting to slip and we want to make sure everyone is Shiphay smart. Persistently failing to meet expectations will result in a consequence - for example missing part of playtime.

Shoes / Trainers for uniform - we know that having to buy shoes and trainers can be costly, especially as children's feet grow so quickly. For this reason, we offer the chance for parents to just purchase **plain black trainers** and for these to be worn with uniform and PE kit.

Jewellery is not permitted - the only exception to this is a watch and a single pair of stud earrings.

Watches that can take photographs, access the internet or receive messages from mobile phones are not permitted.

Long hair must be tied back

Hair accessories - these must be small, discrete and in school colours (red, grey, navy or black)

Under Armour or long-sleeved thermal should not be worn to replace a school jumper. When the weather is cold, we understand that some children may need to wear an extra layer under their polo shirt. However, a long sleeved top under their polo shirt is not a replacement for their jumper since this is not part of uniform. If a top is worn for extra warmth, it should not be visible. If children are cold in class, they should wear a jumper. If children are cold outside, they should wear their jumper and their coat.

PE Kit - should only be worn on PE days.

PE shorts - these must be plain black with no commercial logos. These should be approximately knee length and not very short, hot pant style shorts

PE tops - these must be plain coloured T-shirts with no commercial logos. Football shirts are not acceptable as PE kit

Jumpers for PE - children do not need an extra jumper. They should wear their red school jumper

Full uniform details and ordering information can be found on our [website](#)

Pre-Loved Uniform Shop

The pre-loved uniform is available in the Main Entrance and can be accessed whenever school is open. If you are able to make a donation for items, we would be very grateful. Any funds go straight to Pupil Council who decide how to spend these to improve playtimes and lunchtimes.



Shiphay Learning Academy: Uniform Expectations

Uniform is important to support the children's sense of belonging and pride in their school. We expect children to wear correct uniform including PE kit. Full details can be found on the school website [HERE](#). Our uniform has been designed to be affordable. Whilst Shiphay logo items can be purchased from [Price and Buckland](#), there is no expectation for any pupil to wear items with the Shiphay logo. Alternatives can be purchased from a range of local suppliers.

Uniform:

- Red jacket or round-necked sweatshirt
- Navy blue polo shirt with plain collar
- Charcoal grey trousers, tailored shorts, box-pleated skirt, skort or pinafore
- Red and white gingham dress / culotte dress
- Black, grey or white socks (short or knee length)
- Black, red or grey tights
- Black school shoes with fastening or plain black trainers (no logos or brightly coloured soles please)

Summer:

- White socks can be worn with black/white sandals
- Red knitted cardigan can be worn over Summer dress

PE Kit: (children to come dressed in PE kit on PE days)

- Plain black shorts (no commercial logos please)
- Plain round-necked T-shirt - Team Colour
- Trainers or plimsols
- Black leggings or plain black jogging bottoms can be worn in the colder months
- School sweatshirt to be worn over PE Kit - no sports tops, football tops, hoodies or other non-uniform items please.



Hair Accessories:

- Long hair should be tied back at all times
- Small bows, hair clips, plain hair bands, narrow Alice bands and small "scrunchies" are permitted. These should be in school colours: red, grey, navy or black

Jewellery:

- One stud earring may be worn in each ear
- Watches may be worn
- Smart watches that can take photos are not permitted
- All earring and watches must be removed for PE

Make Up:

- Make up, including nail varnish and tattoos, is not part of uniform and must not be worn.

Term Dates

***** Please note - there is a change at the beginning of the Spring Term 2027**

Monday January 4th is now a Non-Pupil Day

Riviera Education Trust: School Term Dates: 2026-27 Academic Year

	Sep-2026				
Monday		07	14	21	28
Tuesday	01	08	15	22	29
Wednesday	02	09	16	23	30
Thursday	03	10	17	24	
Friday	04	11	18	25	
Saturday	05	12	19	26	
Sunday	06	13	20	27	

	Oct-2026				
	05	12	19	26	
	06	13	20	27	
	07	14	21	28	
01	08	15	22	29	
02	09	16	23	30	
03	10	17	24	31	
04	11	18	25	01	

	Nov-2026				
02	09	16	23	30	
03	10	17	24		
04	11	18	25		
05	12	19	26		
06	13	20	27		
07	14	21	28		
08	15	22	29		

	Dec-2026				
Monday		07	14	21	28
Tuesday	01	08	15	22	29
Wednesday	02	09	16	23	30
Thursday	03	10	17	24	31
Friday	04	11	18	25	
Saturday	05	12	19	26	
Sunday	06	13	20	27	

	Jan-2027				
	04	11	18	25	
	05	12	19	26	
	06	13	20	27	
	07	14	21	28	
01	08	15	22	29	
02	09	16	23	30	
03	10	17	24	31	

	Feb-2027				
01	08	15	22		
02	09	16	23		
03	10	17	24		
04	11	18	25		
05	12	19	26		
06	13	20	27		
07	14	21	28		

	Mar-2027				
Monday	01	08	15	22	29
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30
Wednesday	03	10	17	24	31
Thursday	04	11	18	25	
Friday	05	12	19	26	
Saturday	06	13	20	27	
Sunday	07	14	21	28	

	Apr-2027				
	05	12	19	26	
	06	13	20	27	
	07	14	21	28	
01	08	15	22	29	
02	09	16	23	30	
03	10	17	24	01	
04	11	18	25	02	

	May-2027				
03	10	17	24	31	
04	11	18	25		
05	12	19	26		
06	13	20	27		
07	14	21	28		
08	15	22	29	30	
09	16	23	30	31	

	Jun-2027				
Monday		07	14	21	28
Tuesday	01	08	15	22	29
Wednesday	02	09	16	23	30
Thursday	03	10	17	24	
Friday	04	11	18	25	
Saturday	05	12	19	26	
Sunday	06	13	20	27	

	Jul-2027				
	05	12	19	26	
	06	13	20	27	
	07	14	21	28	
01	08	15	22	29	
02	09	16	23	30	
03	10	17	24	31	
04	11	18	25	01	

	Aug-2027				
02	09	16	23	30	
03	10	17	24	31	
04	11	18	25		
05	12	19	26		
06	13	20	27		
07	14	21	28		
08	15	22	29		

KEY

	School Holidays
	Bank Holidays
	INSET (Non-Pupil Days)

***** Please note - there is a change at the end of the Summer Term 2027**

July 23rd 2027 is now a school day and not a Non-Pupil Day. Children will be expected to attend school as normal. If you have already booked holiday prior to publication of this newsletter, please send confirmation of this so that we can authorise any absence.

2027/2028 Term Dates are available on the Website.

[CLICK HERE](#)