

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope

Courage

Creativity

21 November 2025

Issue 10

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Good attendance and punctual starts to the day play a significant role in children's learning and overall progress. While our **official registration time is 8:40**, children are welcome to arrive from **8:30**, when gates and classroom doors open. Between 8:30 and 8:40, teachers provide valuable learning tasks that help children revisit prior learning and prepare for the day ahead, so arriving early is a real benefit. All children are expected to be in their classrooms by 8:40, when doors close and registration and learning begin. The gates also close promptly at 8:40. If you arrive after this time - or too late for your child to reach their classroom door - you will be asked to take your child in via the office. Please make sure you accompany your child, as they should not enter the office alone. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring children arrive on time and are ready to make the most of their school day.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Johnson

Christmas Panto at Holy Saviour Church 03.12.25

Our whole school will be enjoying a festive treat this Christmas with a special pantomime performance of *Snow White* on Wednesday 3rd December at Holy Saviour Church. The show, performed by M&M Theatre Productions and kindly funded by our PTA, is a wonderful chance for the children to experience live theatre. The performance will begin at 9:15am, so please ensure your child arrives at school on time; we will register the children before walking over together. If you are able to help with walking pupils to and from the church, we would be very grateful—please note you may be supporting a different class or year group depending on volunteer numbers. You are, of course, welcome to stay and enjoy the pantomime with us. Thank you, and we hope the children love this magical experience.

Please complete the google form if you are able to help: <https://forms.gle/6mRubdjuTQdgN7KW7>

Year 1&2 Phase Leader Update

It is a very exciting time in Year 1 and 2 at the moment as we are starting to prepare for our Christmas performance in December. The songs and actions are in full swing and the children are already learning the words beautifully. There's a wonderful sense of excitement growing each day as the music becomes more familiar. Mrs Wicheard and Miss Parker are busy preparing the budding actors in Year 2 to re-tell the story of the first Christmas. We cannot wait to join together with Year R to bring some festive cheer to all who are coming to watch.

In Year 2, the children have also been creating some great writing over the last couple of weeks. They have been using the alternative fairy tale *Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs*, and even designed their own dinosaur characters to add to the story. Their teachers were very proud of the imagination and effort that went into their writing. Year 2 have also been time travellers this term, going all the way back to the Ancient Egyptians. They have been learning all about mummification and were both fascinated—and slightly disgusted—to discover that brains were pulled out through the nose!

This term's highlight for Year 1 has been the trip to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens. The children were really well behaved and thoroughly enjoyed exploring the gardens. They had a fantastic time building homes for animals, discovering the bamboo tunnel, walking across the wobbly bridge, and searching for minibeasts in their natural habitats.



A big thank you to all the parents and grandparents who volunteered to make the day such a success—your support is truly appreciated.

We look forward to sharing more of the children's wonderful learning

and achievements with you soon.

Best Wishes, Miss Barry

Collective Worship



This week the children have been learning about Creativity and how we can use creativity to spread kindness.

“Let all that you do be done in love.” – 1 Corinthians 16:14

When we use creativity with love like sharing, helping, or solving problems – we bring joy to others.

The children focussed also on how we look after the world we live in. They talked about the following questions:

- What small things can we do every day to make a difference?
- What are you going to do today?



Hampshire Games Basketball Tournament

Children from across Year 5 and 6 took part in a Basketball league tournament at Cantell School last week! We played 6 matches in total, winning 2 and losing 4. We will be completing over the next few weeks so hopefully we can bring more fantastic play. Well done everyone!



School Councillor Visit to Parliament: 13 November

Last week, the School Councillors enjoyed an exciting visit to Parliament. They had the opportunity to observe both the House of Commons and the House of Lords in action while learning about how legislative laws are made. Afterwards, the children took part in an engaging workshop where they designed their own version of the House of Commons and presented their ideas to the rest of the group. We were delighted to receive several lovely comments from fellow commuters about the children's excellent behaviour on both train journeys.



Children in Need

Thank you for all your generous donations for Children in Need last week – we are delighted to say we raised £280.29!



Thank you so much for all your support!

Laptop Donations: A massive thank you to Mrs Puckett and Quilter

We are delighted to share that the school has received a generous donation of 60 laptops from Mrs. Puckett and Quilter. This incredible contribution will greatly enhance our digital learning resources and provide valuable opportunities for all our children.

We extend our sincere gratitude for their support and commitment to enriching our pupils' education.

Reminder for Photo and Multimedia Permission Update 2025

With the launch of our new Facebook Page and continued use of Class Dojo, we kindly ask all families to update their Photo and Multimedia permissions for their children.

Some permission categories have changed, which is reflected in the updated form. Even if you have recently provided us with your preferences, **please complete the form again** to ensure we have the most up-to-date information on file.

Thank you for your continued support.

If you have not already done so, please complete the form here:

<https://forms.gle/RyMLS9MYebJUQPh86>

Are you able help as a parent helper to the school?

Thank you to all our parents for your continued help and support with school events and trips — we are so grateful for our wonderful school community.

From time to time, we need a little extra support, which may not always be for your own child's class. If you would be happy to be added to a pool of parent helpers that we can contact for trips and events, please complete the Google form.

You do not need a DBS to register; we will organise this for you.

Thank you in advance for your support.

<https://forms.gle/zbuwyzXEQdh3VYwm6>

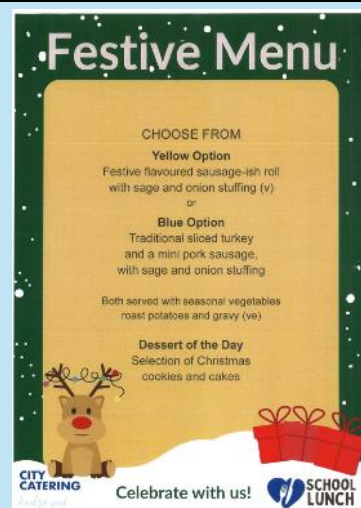
Christmas Lunch: Thursday 18 December 2025

KS2 (Years 3-6) Children: Please remember to book your child's Christmas dinner using the form

<https://forms.gle/1CdJzXbr9xJVxkD37>

EYS and KS1 (Years R-2) Children: Your child will be booked a Christmas dinner – if you would like to opt out of this, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/RdtSdyv9BWqo67gbA>

Specialist diets will be catered for.



Flu Mop Up Sessions

If your child missed their flu vaccination there is still time this winter. You can register on the portal at:

<https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

Our School code is CW116339. You will then be sent details of local mop up clinics that you book onto.



Southampton City Council Parking Permits

We have had a delivery of parking permits, please collect them from the school office.



Facebook

A reminder to follow our new Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/BitterneCEPrimary>



Lost Property

Aside from the lost property boxes in reception, we have two cuddly toys missing their owners. Miss Phillips has been looking after them very well but if they belong to you or someone you know please pop into the office to collect them.

Many thanks.



Dates for your Diary

- **26 November:** Parent Forum 9-10am – **POSTPONED** – A new date will be sent out soon

- **3 December:** Christmas Pantomime – Snow White and the Seven Dwarves – at Holy Saviour
- **11 December:** Christmas Jumper Day
- **11 December:** Years 3-6 Christmas Songs in the Playground 2.30pm
- **12 December:** Year R Parent Afternoon, 2.30pm
- **17 December:** Year R and KS1 Christmas Show 10-11am and 1.30-2.30pm
- **18 December:** Christmas Lunch
- **18 December:** Christmas Church Service at Holy Saviour Church 9.30am-10.30am – Refreshments will be available from 8.45am

Weekly Celebrations

- This week's House Cup awarded to Pound House.
- Congratulations to these children who have been awarded Star of the Week: Aubree; Huxley; Beau; Yahiya; Marshall; Maisie; Bailey; Arya; Hafsa; Seth; Aria; Isaac, Beatrix and Thomas
- Tidy Class Award goes to: Year 5 Harlequin and Olden Class
- This week's best attendance goes to Carmine Class with 96.7%

Well done everyone!

CHRISTMAS

JUMPER DONATION

DONATE YOUR JUMPERS FROM

3RD – 21ST NOV

**BY BRINGING THEM TO CLASS
FOR COLLECTION**



**JUMPERS COLLECTED WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE**

CHRISTMAS EVENT ON THE

29TH NOVEMBER

IN KS1 PLAY GROUND

