

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope Courage Creativity

28 November 2025

Issue 11

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

We hope you've had a good week. Last week, we welcomed a representative from the Southampton Local Authority's SEND department, who visited to see how we support inclusion across the school. They observed a range of lessons and met with Mrs Gear and Mrs Bailey. They were pleased to see strong practice and praised teachers for their hard work in adapting lessons so everyone can take part and feel successful. They also commented on how polite, well behaved and welcoming our children were as well as noting our inclusive classroom environments that support children with a variety of needs. They also recognised the positive impact of our Lunar Lounge and Forest Lounge, noting how these spaces offer valuable support for children who need this. As always, we received some helpful next steps, and they will return in January to work with teachers to continue supporting us as we develop further.



Our guinea pigs, Roy and Bruce, have also settled in very well and are adjusting to school life. They have been working very hard supporting children in a variety of different ways. Roy and Bruce have enjoyed visiting classes, and it's been lovely to see how respectful and considerate the children are with them when they see them coming. Soon, children will be taking more responsibility for their care, such as feeding them and helping to maintain their cage. Please don't forget to complete the google form giving consent for your child to handle and care for them: <https://forms.gle/M9afmxGyEEm6DF369>

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Gear

Year 3&4 Phase Leader Update

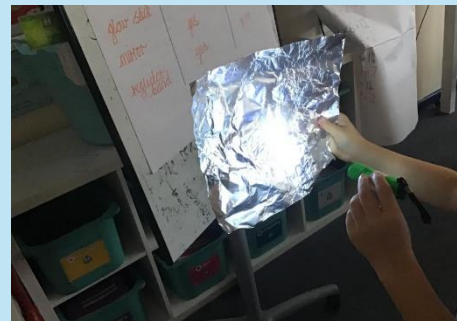
We've had a wonderful few weeks of hands-on learning, creativity and curiosity across both year groups. Year 3 enjoyed an exciting trip to Southampton Art Gallery this week, where they had the opportunity to explore clay in greater depth as part of their



Ancient Greece topic. The children sculpted, experimented with techniques and observed different styles of pottery - linking beautifully with their learning back in school. We were incredibly proud of their exemplary behaviour throughout the visit. In Science, the children have been investigating light. They carried out experiments to discover how light



reflects and how shadows are formed, using torches, mirrors and everyday objects to test their ideas. Their curiosity and scientific thinking have been fantastic to see. In Year 4, Science has been wonderfully messy and full of questions as we explored solids, liquids and gases. The children created their own non-Newtonian fluids using cornflour and water to investigate whether a substance can be both solid *and* liquid at the same time. There was plenty of amazement - and a lot of oobleck!



In English, the children have been learning about Roman gods. After studying their roles and powers, the class designed their own original Roman god and used this to create an information page. The creativity and imagination on show were outstanding, with each child developing unique characters and fascinating mythical details. It has been an inspiring and energetic few weeks across both year groups.

Well done to all the children for their enthusiasm and brilliant attitudes to learning!

Best wishes

Mrs Wood

Collective Worship

We have been exploring our Christian value of Hope and how the symbol of the Christingle shows hope.



What does the bible say?

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." *John 1:5*

Think as we make the Christingle. How does it show hope?



This week the children have been learning all about advent and "Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost". Advent is a time to wait for Jesus, the light of the world. We remember that even when things feel dark, God's light is coming.

At this time of year, many churches will have wreaths. Many wreaths have five candles, four on the wreath and one in the middle. On the first Sunday of Advent, one candle is lit and on the second Sunday, two candles are lit. This carries on until on Christmas Day, all five candles are lit.

The children also enjoyed practising their Christmas worship songs.

Update from Mr Thomas on the Basketball Tournament

Another fantastic week of basketball! All the children are developing their teamwork and communication skills and playing really well as a result. They have also shown courage to shake hands after each match regardless of the score.

Well done everyone and looking forward to next week!



Reminder: 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. Thank you, and we hope the children love this magical experience.

Reminder: 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>

Reminder: 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>

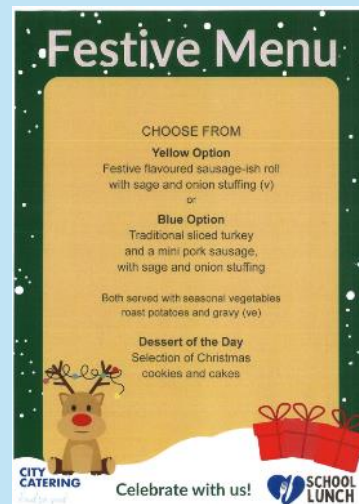
Reminder: Christmas Lunch: Thursday 18 December 2025

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.



Holy Saviour Church Update

Christingle tickets for Christmas Eve are available from 8am on Monday at www.holysaviour.church/Christmas-2025



Facebook

A reminder to follow our new Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BitterneCEPrimary>



Dates for your Diary

- **3 December:** Christmas Pantomime – Snow White and the Seven Dwarves – at Holy Saviour, 9.15am – please drop your child to school as normal.
- **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 Brook House.
 - Congratulations to these children who have been awarded Star of the Week: Emily; Isabella; Kason; Ayda; Clara; Tilly; Elis; Seb; Anna; Florence; Bobby; Imran and Hector
 - Tidy Year Group Award goes to: Year 4 Carmine and Sapphire Class
 - This week's best attendance goes to Talisman Class with 98.4%
- Well done everyone!**



fieldpalmer

Christmas Fair



Saturday, 29th November
2:00 – 4:00 pm



**ENTRY VIA BROWNLOW AVENUE
LINK CORRIDOR DOOR**

TOKEN PRE-SALES

**Morning Drop Off – Tuesday 25th &
Thursday 27th November**

Look for the stand on KS1 & KS2
playground (volunteer dependant)

<https://bfu.sumupstore.com/product/10-x-fair-tokens>



DONATIONS NEEDED

- Quality **books** for the library stall, particularly adult fiction.
- Pre loved **Christmas Jumpers**.

Hand into class or at the PTA
Token Stand, Tue 25/Thu 27 Nov



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Join the BFU Xmas Fair WhatsApp
group by CLICKING or SCANNING the
QR code

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/K8uUi4sgbaWBKIJLXq9cO>



Tokens are available to pre order: <https://bfu.sumupstore.com/product/10-x-fair-tokens>

Volunteer sign up: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/K8uUi4sgbaWBKIJLXq9cO>

Streetbeatz: Spring 1 Sign Ups

Please sign up your child for Streetbeatz using this link:

<https://streetbeatzbooking.as.me/?appointmentType=85313350>

streetBEATZ

WORKSHOP - Anxiety

Workshop on supporting young people who struggle with Anxiety by Southampton Neurodiversity Multidisciplinary Team.

They will give you some practical ideas to help your young people and also have open conversations with them about the challenges they are facing which causes them anxiety.

They will give you hints and tips to identify early on possible points they might struggle.

When: Tuesday 16th December

At: 10 to 12

Where: Harbour Lights, Southampton
SO14 3TL



Influencing Positive Changes



Hampshire and Isle of Wight



Southampton Parent Carer Forum CIC

www.montys.org.uk | facebook.com/MontysCommunityHub | 07862 320025

MONTY'S SANTA TRAIN!

14th December 3pm!

This year Santa will be visiting Monty's Community Hub - arriving on Trigger the Train at 3pm!

Children can meet Santa and receive a small gift, other children's activities and hot chocolate (small charge) will be available.



Donations to Monty's Community Hub appreciated via cash or card.

NON CONTACT KARATE
TAUGHT BY fully
QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS



EVERYONE WELCOME
FROM 4 YEARS OLD



WE TEACH TRADITIONAL KARATE
ENCOURAGING CONFIDENCE, RESPECT,
DISCIPLINE, SELF AWARENESS AND AGILITY IN
A FUN & CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT. All
classes are friendly, informative & cater to the
individual needs of the student.



BITTERNE CE PRIMARY

FRI 3.15PM – 4.15PM

£6.00 PER CLASS – pay as you go
membership required after first class £27 per year

MANY MORE CLASSES TO CHOOSE FROM, FIND THEM ALL AT: WWW.SOUTHERNKARATE.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

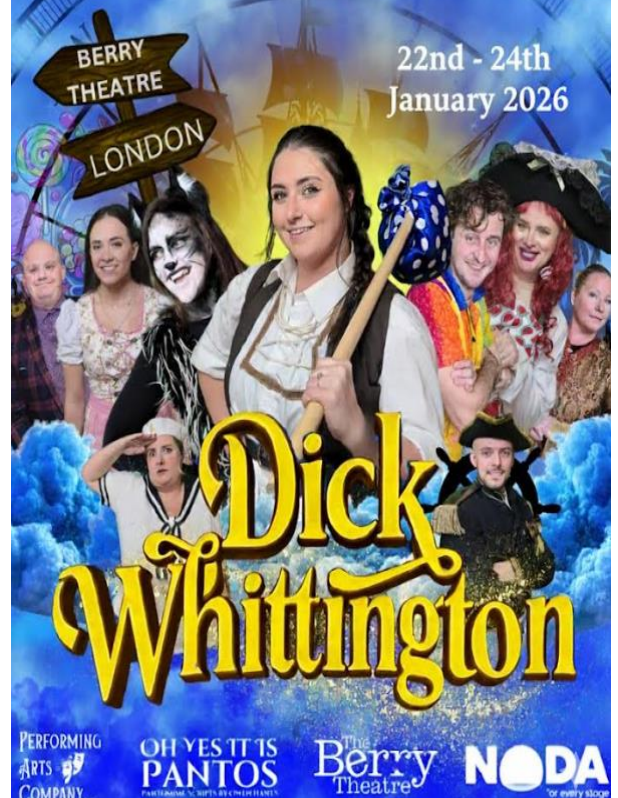
EMAIL: info@southernkarate.org

Tel: 07764 478507



THE PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY
PRESENTS

22nd - 24th
January 2026



PERFORMING
ARTS
COMPANY

OH YES IT IS
PANTOS

The
Berry
Theatre

NODA
for every stage