

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope

Courage

Creativity

12 December 2025

Issue 13

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

The festive season has officially begun at Bitterne CE Primary! Yesterday, the whole school celebrated Christmas Jumper Day and the joyful KS2 Songs on the Playground. It was truly lovely to hear and see the children enjoying their Christmas songs. In addition, we had a great performance by the Chamber Choir – what beautiful voices they have! Thank you to everyone who joined us for such a wonderful event – it was great to see so many of you there.



Our Year R and KS1 Christmas show rehearsals are now in full swing, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming you to Holy Saviour next week to enjoy their performance.



On Tuesday, we also welcomed our Local Authority team for their termly evaluation visit. They were able to see the many positive changes taking place in school to support our children's achievement and progress. In their verbal feedback, they noted a radical improvement in the Year R provision, along with continued strengthening in teaching and learning across the school. We will share more information once the written report is received.

We look forward to seeing parents and carers at both the Year R and KS1 show, and seeing everyone at the Great Exhibition next week!

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Best wishes Mrs Johnson

Collective Worship

Our Christian Value this week is Hope. The children have been focussing on the third week of advent and that the first two candles represent Hope, a light in a dark place and Peace, where we can bring hope to others by offering them light. They also learnt about what Joy means and how it differs from happiness.



This week's quote from the bible:

"The Holy Spirit gives us love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness." Galatians 5:22

Joy is one of the many gifts that God gives us.

The children also spent time learning their Christmas Worship songs in preparation for the Christmas Church service next week, Thursday 18th December from 9.30am at Holy Saviour Church in Bitterne. We look forward to seeing all our lovely parents there to celebrate Christmas with us.



Year R Phase Leader Update

What a Wonderful Term!

We have had a fabulous term in Year R, and the children have settled into school life marvellously. Over the last few weeks, they have been busy exploring, learning and growing in confidence each day.

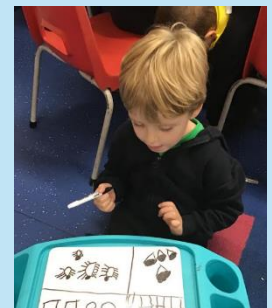
We have begun our local trip experiences into Bitterne, with the first group of children visiting Sainsbury's to buy ingredients for our Gingerbread. The rest of the children will have their turn throughout the year, and everyone will be baking (if they haven't already!) by the end of term. Those who have already baked are so proud of their delicious cookies!



We are seeing fantastic progress in the children's reading and writing. Their letter formation is developing beautifully, and many children are now writing CVC words or even short captions, which is fantastic. Their reading continues to go from strength to strength too, and we are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm and hard work.

In Maths, the children have been exploring early number to 5. They have enjoyed making groups, comparing amounts, and representing numbers to 5 in lots of different ways. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they talk about numbers and show their understanding through practical activities.

Drawing Club and Pen Disco continue to be highlights of our day. The children approach these sessions with wonderful independence, and their imaginations never fail to impress us.



Reception has also been very busy preparing for our Nativity next week. Their confidence is blossoming, their dance moves are brilliant, and they truly are a year group full of superstars!

Today (Friday 12th December 2025), we also held our final Parent Phonics Workshop of the term. Thank you so much to all the parents who have attended and for your continued support and engagement—it is making a real difference to the children's reading progress, and we deeply appreciate it.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are looking forward to a joyful end of term together next week.

Best wishes

Miss Scriven

Reminder: Bitterne CE Primary Christmas Card Competition: Deadline extended to 15th December 2025

We are delighted to announce our annual Christmas card competition. Your child should have by now received a competition template. Please return this to the school office by no later than Monday 15th December. We look forward to receiving all your designs!

Should you need a blank template we have spares in the office.



PLEASE DESIGN YOUR CARD IN THE BOX →

NAME: _____ CLASS: _____

Reminder EYFS, Years 1 and 2: Christmas Performances 17.12.25

The children will be performing their Christmas show at Holy Saviour Church on Wednesday 17 December at 10am – 11am and again at 1.30pm – 2.30pm.

We would like to invite you to join us for the performances at Holy Saviour Church. Due to fixed capacities and meeting health and safety regulations, we are able to allocate each family **two tickets** in the first instance. To reserve your tickets, please complete the Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/x6zxagksdUgr34Yv6>. Tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis. We currently have lots available for the afternoon performance, the morning is proving very popular so please do fill the form in quickly to secure your preference.

Tony and the team at the church are kindly opening the church from 9.15am before the 10am performance and after the 1.30pm performance for refreshments.

The children will walk to and from the church for each performance to ensure that they are able to have their hot meal at lunchtime. If you are able to support with walking the children to and from the church, please do let us know using the form at the end of this letter. If you are able to volunteer, please be aware that we may ask you to walk with a different year group / class from your child depending on the number of volunteers per class. We will reserve seats for all parent helpers.

<https://forms.gle/wYopQaRvAFd7GmdR7>



Reminder: The Great Exhibition Friday 19 December at 1.30pm

We are delighted to announce that, following the success of last year's event, our Great Exhibition will be returning this year! We warmly invite you to join us on Friday 19 December 2025 at 1:30pm to celebrate the children's learning and achievements. This special event gives parents and carers the opportunity to come into school and explore the wonderful work children have created this term as well as work you have produced at home with your child (see letter on Class Dojo dated 7 November)

- Gates will open between 1.30pm and 1.40pm
- Please collect your child from their classroom and then enjoy exploring the exhibition together. In the classroom you will be asked to sign to take responsibility for your child.
- After you have visited the exhibition, you are welcome to take your child home, please leave the school via the office
- The exhibition will close at 2.30pm and last admittance will be at 2.20pm.

Children's work will be displayed throughout the school for you to enjoy and share with them. We are very excited to celebrate their efforts and learning with you.

SENDCO Drop Ins

We understand that parents sometimes wish to speak with me as the school SENDCO to share concerns or seek guidance about their child, and we want to make sure there's an easy, welcoming way to do this. To support you, we will now be trialling SENDCO Drop Ins.

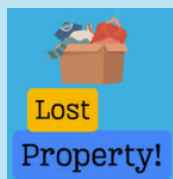
These will take place on alternate Mondays from 3:15–4:00pm. I will be based in a small room just off the library, and you're very welcome to come in through the library to speak with me during this time—no appointment needed.

The first SENDCO Drop In will be held on Monday 12th January, and sessions will continue every other Monday thereafter.

We hope this provides a supportive space for us to talk, share concerns, and work together in the best interests of your children. I look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Gear

Lost Property



We currently have a large amount of lost property in the office. If your child is missing any items, please come and have a look through our collection. To help us return belongings more easily, please ensure all of your child's items are clearly labelled. Occasionally things get mixed up at after-school clubs; if your child comes home with something that does not belong to them, please return it to the office so we can try to identify the owner.

Please note that any unclaimed lost property remaining in the new year will be donated to charity. Thank you for your continued support.

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>

Facebook

A reminder to follow our new Facebook page at

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



Dates for your Diary

- **15 December:** Christmas Card Competition deadline
- **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
- **19 December:** The Great Exhibition, 1:30pm
- **5 January:** Back to School
- **13 January:** Year 1 Phonics Screening Parent Meeting, 9am-10am
- **21 January:** SEND Coffee Meeting, 2pm-3pm
- **30 January:** Year 4 Winchester Science Centre School Trip – further information to follow
- **4 February:** Stubbington Study Residential Parents Meeting, 4.30pm-5.30pm
- **11 February:** PTA Movie Night, 3.15pm-5pm
- **12 February:** Parent Forum Meeting, 9am-10am – more information to follow
- **16 February-20 February:** Half term

Weekly Celebrations

- This week's House Cup awarded to Brownlow House
 - Brook House has won the most House points during the Autumn Term
 - Congratulations to these children who have been awarded Star of the Week: Grace; Caitlyn; Nicholas; Niky; Alice; Everleigh; Reuben; Tate; Charlotte, Henry; Deon; Isaac; Elsie and Izzy.
 - Tidy Year Group Award goes to: Year 3 Emerald and Navy Class
 - This week's most improved attendance goes to Laurel Class with 96.4%
- Well done everyone!**



BITTERNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

LEARNING THROUGH SPORT

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

CLUB TIMETABLE

MONDAY- FOOTBALL YRS 3-6
FRIDAY- FOOTBALL YRS R-2

CLUBS INCLUDE:
FOOTBALL

PRICE- £5.50 PER SESSION

STARTS 5TH JAN
BOOK TODAY!

STARTING MONDAY 5TH JANUARY

MONDAY & FRIDAY
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm

All bookings must be made in advance

learningthroughsport.co.uk/bitterne/



Streetbeatz: Spring 1 Sign Ups

Please sign up your child for Streetbeatz using this link:

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



Funky Play Bricks After School Club

Our LEGO® After School Club will continue after December Holidays.

The Funky Play Bricks session will run on Wednesdays.

This Club will be open to all children.

Our first club back will be on the 7th of January 2026.

This club will be providing funky interactive structured play sessions with an educational twist. Each week will see a new challenge created for the children to solve by building objects, buildings, and vehicles.

It will run from 3:15pm until 4:15pm and will cost £5.00 per week and will be in place for

Half Term fee is £30.00 (6 weeks)

Full Term fee is £50.00 (10 weeks)

There will not be a Lego club on 25th of March due to Staff Holidays. SPACES will be offered on a first come first serve basis. To apply for one of these spaces you will need to complete an online booking form via the Funky Play Bricks website.

Booking details can be found below.

How to book a place for your child

Visit the following website <https://www.funkyplaybricks.co.uk/bitt-ce>

this will bring up the Funky Play Bricks booking form. Please fill in all the details required, add your payment details and then Funky Play bricks will be in touch to confirm the details.

Yours sincerely
Funky Play Bricks

We can't wait to continue building at the After School Club with you!!!



JOY to the WORLD Holy SAVIOUR BITTERNE

OMEGA CAROLS 6TH 10AM
Sing-along carols, mince pies and mulled wine.

NATIVITY SERVICE 14TH 9:30AM
Everyone gets involved in a fun retelling of the Nativity story - costumes optional but encouraged!

BLUE CHRISTMAS 14TH 6PM
Big celebrations don't work for everyone at Christmas - a quiet, reflective service away from all the noise.

CANDLELIT CAROLS 21ST 6PM
Journey through the Christmas story with readings, music, visuals and carols. Followed by mulled wine and festive treats.

CHRISTINGLE 24TH 9:30, 3 & 5
A joy-filled Christmas Eve service for all ages - carols, games and Christingles. Booking required via www.holysaviour.church

MIDNIGHT COMMUNION 24TH 11:30PM
A beautiful and reflective communion service to herald the first coming of Christ.

CHRISTMAS DAY 25TH 9:30AM
A special service to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

<http://www.southernkarate.org>

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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

