

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope

Courage

Creativity

19 December 2025

Issue 14

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

What a fantastically festive week it has been in school! The classrooms have been full of excitement, creativity and Christmas cheer, making it a truly joyful end to the term.

A particular highlight was the amazing Year R, 1 and 2 performances of 'The Nativity Lesson'. The children treated us to a wonderful combination of acting, dance and singing, and they should all be incredibly proud of themselves. It was such an enjoyable show – well done to everyone involved, and a huge thank you to all the staff who worked so hard behind the scenes to make it happen.

Yesterday, we also enjoyed our Christmas service by Rev Tony. Although the weather meant we were unable to celebrate at the church as planned, we adapted and overcame, coming together in school for a reflective and meaningful act of worship focused on the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you to Tony, Ruth and the worship team for leading us so thoughtfully.



Our Christmas lunch was another great success, with lots of festive cheer as staff served the children their special meal. A huge thank you to our kitchen team – it never ceases to amaze me how they produce such a delicious meal for so many children and adults. Thank you also to Mrs. Bax and the lunch team for their fantastic organisation.

There has been much busyness around school this week too, with sewing skills being put to great use as Year 6 and Year 3 designed bags and aprons, while Year 5 have been busy designing pen pots. It has been wonderful to see such creativity and practical learning taking place.

This morning, we came together for our final collective worship of 2025, focusing on the values of love and joy. The children have been challenged to do something for a loved one this Christmas that doesn't cost anything but shows love and brings joy – perhaps making a cup of tea or helping out at home. Please do message me via ClassDojo to let me know what your child does, and we will celebrate these acts of kindness when we return to school.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Great Exhibition this afternoon. It was wonderful to see so many families and to celebrate the fantastic creations the children have made.

Finally, thank you for your continued support and faith in our school. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our staff who have worked so hard this term – I truly feel privileged to lead such an amazing and committed team who strive every day to make our school a happy, safe and high-quality learning environment. And, of course, thank you to our wonderful children for making Bitterne such a special place to be.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you enjoy the festive break, spending precious time with family and friends. I look forward to seeing everyone again in 2026!

Warmest wishes, Mrs Johnson

Collective Worship

Our Christian values this week are **Love and Joy**. The children discussed how we can show love and joy this Christmas time and what this means for them. The children also thought carefully about what they can do to make a difference this Christmas for their families and their school community.



Year 1&2 Phase Leader Update

This term has been a busy and exciting one for KS1, full of learning, creativity and memorable moments. The perfect way to round off the term was our KS1 and EYFS nativity, which was a joy to watch and a wonderful celebration of the season.

It was amazing to see all the children work together to re-tell the story of the first Christmas. From the Year 2 actors, who learnt their lines beautifully, to the Year 1 dancers and singers, it truly was a special performance to behold. All of the rehearsals and singing practice paid off, and I was incredibly proud of every single child who took part.

We could not have done it without the hard work and dedication of all the wonderful staff involved, and a special mention must go to Mrs Wicheard, who stepped in as an understudy for many lines.

Well done, KS1, for such a fantastic end to the term. We hope you all have a restful and happy break.

Best Wishes,

Miss Barry

Bitterne CE Primary Christmas Card Competition: Winners 2025

Thank you to everyone who entered the Christmas Card competition, the response has been overwhelming. The children have really put some amazing effort into their designs and we have found it so difficult to pick the winners!

Congratulations to the following winners who all win a selection box and some copies of their cards to send to family and friends this Christmas.



Florence C; Elliott S; Oscar G and Savanna B

Reminder: 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

PTA Update and Thank you!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the members of our PTA, who have done an absolutely fantastic job raising money for our school. From Christmas jumper sales and discos to doughnut sales and the Christmas fair, their energy, creativity and commitment never fail to impress. They are a wonderfully dedicated group of parents who work incredibly hard to support fundraising for the benefit of all our children.

We are delighted to share that the recent Christmas Fair raised an amazing £1200! This generosity and hard work directly enrich school life. This term, thanks to the funds raised, the children were able to enjoy a brilliant performance of Snow White by the M&M Theatre Company – an experience we simply would not have been able to provide without the PTA's support. The children had a fantastic time and it was a real highlight of the term.

On behalf of the children, staff and the entire school community, thank you to our PTA for everything you do. Your time, effort and enthusiasm make a real difference, and we are so grateful 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

- **5 January:** Back to School
- **12 January:** SENDCo Drop-in Session, 3.45pm-4pm
- **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
- **9 February:** SENDCo Drop-in Session, 3.45pm-4pm
- **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

- Brook House has won the most House points during the Autumn Term!
 - Tidy Year Group Award goes to: Year 4 Carmine and Sapphire Class
 - This week's most improved attendance goes to Emerald Class with 97.9%
- 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

learningthroughsport.co.uk/bitterne/

MONDAY & FRIDAY
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

All bookings must be made in advance



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



<https://www.funkyplaybricks.co.uk/bitt-ce>

Afterschool club

BOOKINGS ARE LIVE FOR SPRING HALF-TERM

Our sessions provide a supportive environment where children can explore new interests, build confidence, form friendships, all while learning technology through fun, hands-on activities.

Computer Xplorers

BOOK HERE!

- LEARN CODING AND CREATE GAMES
- BUILD AND PROGRAM ROBOTS
- DESIGN ANIMATIONS AND DIGITAL PROJECTS
- DEVELOP PROBLEM-SOLVING AND TECH CONFIDENCE



SOUTHAMPTON@COMPUTERXPLOERS.CO.UK

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

