

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope

Courage

Creativity

13 February 2026

Issue 19

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

It has been a joy to see how much the children have loved spending time with our guinea pigs, Bruce and Roy this half term!

Bruce and Roy have been making their way around the school, spending a week at a time in each year group. The children have thoroughly enjoyed helping to look after them, feeding them lettuce and giving them lots of gentle cuddles. They have also been a wonderful source of comfort for children who have been feeling a little sad — always happy to listen and help children share their feelings.

Bruce and Roy have now gone home for a well-deserved rest with Mrs. Gear for half term (after having their nails clipped by Mrs. Gear and Mrs. Horan which Roy did not enjoy!!). We're sure they're enjoying some well-earned relaxation. We wish you all a very happy half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 23 February.

Best wishes SLT



Collective Worship

This week we have been thinking about our school value of hope. As next week we celebrate Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday these days mark the beginning of the season of Lent in the Christian calendar. Lent is a special time of reflection and preparation leading up to Easter.

Shrove Tuesday, sometimes known as Pancake Day, is the day before Lent begins. The word "shrove" comes from the old word "shrive," which means to confess. It also is a day to use up rich foods like eggs, milk, and sugar before the fasting season of Lent. This is why many people celebrate by making and eating pancakes!



The next day is Ash Wednesday, which marks the first day of Lent. On this day, many Christians attend a church service where a cross of ash is placed on their forehead. The ashes are a symbol of repentance. Lent lasts for 40 days (not counting Sundays) and is a time when many people choose to give something up or take on a good habit.

Year 5&6 Phase Leader Update

Year 5 have been so busy this term! They have been printing in art, studying reversible and irreversible changes in Science, creating paper chains of respectable actions in PSHE, developing team building in PE, writing narratives in English and designing stop-motion animations in computing! I've also noticed a clear, calm and purposeful start to the afternoons in Year 5, where the classes read together. Well done staff and children in Year 5!

Year 6 have been working incredibly hard so far this term as the SATS draws ever closer! They have made really pleasing progress in their recent mock SATS and they all definitely deserve a break before next term. They have also been doing Bangra dancing in PE, learning about pilgrimages in RE and goal-setting in PSHE. I think we're going to have some future world leaders from the cohort!

With best wishes,
Mr. Thomas

Year 4 Need your help!

Please could you collect any junk modelling supplies over the half term and bring them into school on Monday 23rd or Tuesday 24th of February.

We need: kitchen roll tubes, foil or clingfilm tubes, 500ml bottles, pringles tubes and different sized boxes up to large cereal box size.

Thank you.

Parents Evening Tuesday 17 March and Wednesday 18 March 2026

Booking for parents evening will go live on our Scopay system on Monday 23 February. If you are not signed up for a Scopay account please contact the school office and they will provide details of how to do this. Further information on the booking process will be sent in due course.

Home project for Book Week!

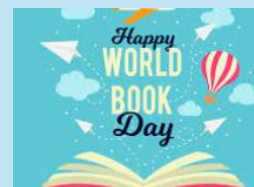
We are very excited to share a fun home project for the children as we prepare for our upcoming Book Week celebrations. Today, your child will be coming home with a paper plate. We would love for them to decorate the plate to represent their favourite book or book character. Children can be as creative as they like — they may choose to draw, paint, collage, or even make their design 3D if they wish! Please bring the finished plates into school on Monday 2nd March so we can begin our Book Week celebrations together. We are really looking forward to sharing their designs and favourite stories and then creating a beautiful display that celebrates our love of reading.

Thank you for your continued support, and we can't wait to see the children's wonderful creations. Happy Creating!

World Book Day – Book Donations Requested

Ms Perrin, our School Librarian, is kindly requesting donations of good-quality, used books in support of World Book Day. Donations may include both children's and adult books, in any genre. We kindly ask that all books are no more than five years old. Please bring any donations to the school office. The books will be used for a World Book Day book sale and all proceeds will go towards adding new books to our library.

Many thanks in advance for your support.



Message from the PTA

We also have a few dates for your diary:

- The School Disco date has changed and will now take place on Thursday 7 May. Further information will follow soon.
- Beyond the Rules Non-Uniform Day will be held on Friday 27 March. All money collected on this day will be returned directly to the school.

Thank you for your continued support.



Sibling Photographs: Tuesday 24 February 2026

Sign up for sibling photos closes at Midnight tonight (13.02.26) and a reminder has been sent. If your child has a sibling photograph and this clashes with a PE day please feel free to send them in full uniform.

Facebook

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



Dates for your Diary

- **16 February-20 February:** Half term
- **23 February** – Booking for Parents evening – more information to follow
- **24 February:** Sibling photographs
- **26 February:** SEND Coffee Meeting 9am-10am
- **27 February:** Year R Trip to Longdown Dairy Farm
- **5 March:** World Book Day
- **10 March:** Parent Forum Meeting 2pm-3pm
- **17 March:** Parents Evening 3.45pm-6pm
- **18 March:** Parents Evening 3.45pm-6pm
- **26 March:** Easter Church Service 2pm-3pm
- **27 March:** Beyond the Rules Non-Uniform Day
- **30 March – 12 April:** Easter Holidays
- **15 April:** Year 2 Trip to Butser Ancient Farm – more information to follow
- **4 May:** Early May Bank Holiday
- **7 May:** PTA School Disco KS1 4.45pm-5.45pm and KS2 6pm-7pm – more information to follow
- **20 May:** SEND Coffee Meeting 2pm-3pm

Weekly Celebrations

- This week House Cup winner is Brook with 2545 points, Brownlow is second with 2322 points, Pound is third with 2318 points and Maytree is fourth with 2111 points.
- Tidy Year Group Award goes to: Year 1 Tahiti and Talisman Class
- Star of the Week certificates awarded to: Toni; Izzy; Bellamy; Tyler; Jaxon; Hannah; Bella; Joshua; and Remi
- This week's most improved attendance goes to Tahiti with 96.5%

Well done everyone!



WHAT'S ON January - April 2025

SOUTHAMPTON
City of Opportunity

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Hands on History: Castles and Catapults (6+)
Mon 16 Feb 10.30am, 1pm
Tudor House: £8

Art for All: Introducing Acrylics - Winter Scenes (8+)
Mon 16 Feb 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm Art Gallery: £8

Tour for All: Saxons, Vikings and Normans Walking Tour
Tue 17 Feb 11am
Tudor House: £10 (accompanying children FREE)

Art for All: Minecraft Mosaic Worlds (7+)
Tue 17 Feb 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm Art Gallery: £8

Art for All: Great Fire of London Clay Scenes (5+)
Wed 18 Feb 10.30am, 1pm
Tudor House: £8

Art for All: Bluey Inspired Pen Pots (3+)
Wed 18 Feb 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm Art Gallery: £8

Art for All: K Pop Demon Hunters Clay Sculpture (6+)
Thu 19 Feb 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm Art Gallery: £8

NEW FOR 2025
Toddler Time: Characterful Doge! (under 4s and friends)
Thu 19 Feb 10.30am
SeaCity: £8

Hands on History: Awesome Egyptians (7+)
Fri 20 Feb 10.30am, 1pm
SeaCity: £8

Junior Art School: Go Wild with Wool (7 - 13 years)
Drop off your young people
Fri 20 Feb 10.30am - 3.30pm
Art Gallery: £26

CULTURE CLUB FOR KIDS ACTIVITY DAYS
(Age 6½ - 12 years)
Drop off your young people
Three days per week | 5am - 4pm (drop off from 8.45)
SeaCity: £35 per day or £90 for all three days
Get creative, explore our collections and learn new stuff while making really cool things at our themed activity days.
Cruise Adventures
Mon 16, Tues 17, Wed 18 Feb

See venue websites for further details on events and to book
seacitymuseum.co.uk | tudorhouseandgarden.com | southamptoncityartgallery.com



WORKSHOP - Keeping your child safe online

Workshop on Keeping your child safe online delivered by the Police.

They will show you a range of ways to keep your child safe on line including parental controls and various options to do this.

They will also discuss how to have conversations with your young people about keeping themselves safe online.

When: Thursday 26th February
At: 10 to 12
Where: High Point, Bursledon Rd, Thornhill, Southampton SO19 8BR

NHS
Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Influencing Positive Changes
Southampton Parent Carer Forum CIC

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 23RD FEB
BOOK HERE!

MONDAY & FRIDAY
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm
All bookings must be made in advance

learningthroughsport.co.uk/bitterne/

SCAN ME



Re: Minds

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

Emotionally-Based School Avoidance Workshop

9.30-12.30 Friday 27th February
Room 7, St James Road Methodist Church, Shirley, Southampton

About the Workshop

We will cover:

- What's really going on beneath school anxiety and avoidance
- How school anxiety presents across different ages and needs
- Small, practical steps that can make everyday school life easier
- Support, shared understanding, and where to go next
- Your legal rights and what schools can do to help

Share understanding, learn practical strategies, and take away helpful resources in a supportive space. There will be time to talk with other parents and carers who are going through the same thing, receive support from our team, and explore our book and sensory library

To book onto the workshop, please email:
info@reminds.org.uk

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

WEDNESDAY
3:15 - 4:15
BITTERNE C of E JUNIOR SCHOOL

Computer Xplorers

Our sessions give children a fun, hands-on way to explore technology, discover new interests, build confidence, and make lasting friendships—all in a supportive, inspiring environment.

BOOK HERE!

THIS TERM SCRATCH IS COMING TO AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS
GET READY TO BUILD, CREATE, AND BRING YOUR IDEAS TO LIFE!

SOUTHAMPTON@COMPUTERXPLORES.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 C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
TUESDAYS 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









SOUTHAMPTON
CITY COUNCIL
Woolston Library
 11.00 AM - 12.00 NOON



09.04.26

Holly Webb

MEET THE AUTHOR





Holly Webb



A writing workshop from the multi-million best-selling author of the Animal Stories and the Museum Kittens. Suitable for ages 6-8. Parents & carers must stay in the library.

Tickets available from Woolston Library. £5 per child. £3 for children with an ESN passport.

GO ALL IN!

National Year of Reading 2020