

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope

Courage

Creativity

Issue 23

27 March 2026

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding half term, we would like to take a moment to reflect on all that has been achieved across the school community.

There has certainly been no shortage of excitement - especially in Year R, where the Living Eggs project has brought great joy and curiosity into the classroom. Watching the chicks hatch and grow has been a wonderful hands-on learning experience for our youngest pupils, and a real highlight of the term.



Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic residential trip to Stubbington, where they demonstrated excellent independence, teamwork and enthusiasm throughout their stay.

Back in school, preparations for our production of *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* are in full swing, with pupils showing tremendous dedication and talent; we are very much looking forward to the performances.

It was also a pleasure to welcome so many parents into school for Parents' Evening. These opportunities to share and celebrate children's progress are incredibly valuable, and we thank you for your continued engagement and support.

Across the school, we continue to see a strong commitment to learning, and we are particularly proud of the moments each day when children visit us to share their work for Headteacher's Awards. Seeing their pride, confidence, and the clear progress they have made over the year is truly one of the highlights of our role.

This term, we were pleased to host our second evaluation visit from the Local Authority and Winchester Diocese. It was encouraging to receive recognition of the continued improvements in provision across the school, particularly in Early Years, writing, and RE - areas that have been key priorities for us.

We ended the term on a wonderful note with our visit to Holy Saviour Church to celebrate Easter. The service, led by Tony and Ruth, was both reflective and uplifting. Our worship team supported beautifully, helping us all to remember the importance of this special time in the Christian calendar. Congratulations also go to Miss Barry, our cream egg rolling champion! We extend our sincere thanks to Tony and Ruth for their warm welcome.



Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all staff and Governors. Our school continues to grow and improve, providing the high-quality education our children deserve. This would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of such a special team, and it is a privilege to lead them.

Thank you also to our parents for your ongoing support, and to our children for their hard work, enthusiasm and positive attitudes throughout the term.

We wish you all a wonderful Easter break and look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 13th April - hopefully with some warmer weather!

Best wishes Mrs. Johnson and the Senior Leadership Team

Collective Worship

It was wonderful to be back at Holy Saviour this week, where we thought about the Easter story- the most significant journey of the Christian faith. As we gathered, we reflected on Good Friday. On the surface, it is a day of sorrow, marking a moment of profound sacrifice.

However, Good Friday is where our hope begins. It reminds us that no matter how deep the shadows or how heavy the burden, we are never alone. While we sit with the weight of Friday, we do so knowing that the story doesn't end in the tomb. Next weekend, we move from the quiet reflection of the crucifixion to the vibrant, life-affirming joy of Easter Sunday.



Whether you are spending this time in quiet prayer or celebrating loudly with family and friends, we wish you a meaningful season.

- On Good Friday: May you find peace in the sacrifice and strength in the hope it brings.
 - On Easter Sunday: May your heart be full as we celebrate the victory of life and the promise of new beginnings.
- Have a wonderful, hope-filled Easter!

Year 3&4 Phase Leader update

Year 4 had a fantastic visit to Stubbington Study Centre at the end of February. After an early arrival, the children tested their map skills while trying to avoid being captured by the farmers. They explored the conservation area and learned how to work together as a team. After settling into their dorms and enjoying a hearty dinner, they all settled down relatively well for a good night's sleep. The next day involved learning how to light a fire, which proved more difficult than we expected! The children also built dens and worked together in small teams to navigate an obstacle course without ending up in the "lava. After a fun evening chasing pirates and solving clues, it was time to go and see the badgers and foxes—the children were the quietest we have ever heard them! Friday came far too quickly and there was

much excitement as everyone went to see who had decided to stay in the animal hotels they had created the day before.



In year 3 they have been getting stuck into an exciting science unit on magnets. They have been conducting a whole range of investigations around how many paper clips different magnets can attract, how far away different magnets can attract one paperclip and how bullet trains are moved by magnets. Year 3 have loved getting hands on with magnets and have been amazed as they have discovered just how powerful magnets can be.

Best wishes
Mrs Wood

INSET Days Academic Year 2026-2027

We are pleased to share our INSET (staff training) dates for next academic year, as agreed by Governors:

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026
- Monday 16th November 2026
- Monday 22nd February 2027
- Friday 2nd July 2027

Summer Term Uniform Reminder

As we move into the summer term, we would like to remind all families of our expectations regarding uniform. PE kits should only be worn on designated PE days. All PE kit must be either school branded or plain, non-branded items in school colours. Please ensure that PE shorts or skirts are of an appropriate length and must be at least mid-thigh.

On normal school days, our uniform standards remain high. Leggings and sports and cycling shorts are not part of our school uniform and should not be worn. Footwear should be plain black at all times.

We would also like to remind parents of our jewellery policy. Children may wear one pair of stud earrings only. Hoops, necklaces and other items are not permitted and children will be asked to remove them. All jewellery must be removed for PE; if this presents any difficulties, please speak with your child's class teacher.

We encourage all children to take pride in their appearance and in representing our school positively through their uniform. If you would prefer not to purchase new uniform at this stage of the year (recognising that our new logo will be launched soon), please do speak to the school office, who will be happy to support with pe-loved uniform.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Streetbeatz Sign up for after Easter

Streetbeatz will continue after the Easter holidays, please sign your child up via this link <https://www.streetbeatzdanceacademy.co.uk/>

Session dates are as follows: Thursday's: 16th, 23rd, 30th April, 7th, 14th May (NO CLASS 21ST MAY) 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th June, 2nd, 9th, 16th July.

The logo for Streetbeatz, featuring the word "street" in a lowercase, sans-serif font and "BEATZ" in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font, both in black.

Facebook

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



Year 6 Leavers Party

We're raising money to give our wonderful Year 6 children a leavers' party to remember as they finish their time at primary school and prepare for their next big adventure. If you're able to donate, no matter how small, it would be hugely appreciated and will go directly towards making the celebration special for every child.

<https://gofund.me/45ecc0e0c>

Please also share this link with your family and friends to help us reach as many people as possible. The more we share, the closer we get to our goal!

Thank you so much in anticipation of your support.

Year 6 Parents



Dates for your Diary

- **30 March – 12 April:** Easter Holidays
- **15 April:** Year 2 Trip to Butser Ancient Farm – **please remember to complete the google form to provide permission if you have not already done so (<https://forms.gle/AaDyeDzshY8aGA1V7>)**
- **21 April:** Year 3 History of the Page Workshop: Tudor England
- **22 April:** Year 4 History of the Page Workshop: Great Fire of London
- **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
- **11 June:** KS2 Years 3 and 4 Sports Morning 9.30am-11am
- **11 June:** KS2 Years 5 and 6 Sports Afternoon 1.30pm-3pm
- **18 June:** KS1 EYFS and KS1 Sports Morning 9.30am-11am

SHOWSTOPPERS
PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY

@ Bitterne CE Primary School!

We're excited to confirm that our popular Showstoppers Drama Club is running at your school!

What the class offers: At Showstoppers, we love to bring out the performer in every child, building confidence and celebrating individuality. Students will explore acting techniques, including improvisation, vocal skills, script work, and perform in showcases, all while having the chance to build new friendships each week.

Club Details:
When: Tuesdays, 3:15pm – 4:45pm
Where: Bitterne CE Primary School

Monthly Cost: £30.00 per month (inclusive of platform fees), prorated and spread evenly across the year to cover all sessions, £8.50 per session. Alternatively, you may choose to pay for the full term in advance. Payments are taken automatically on the 1st of each month (excluding August).

What to Bring: Please send your child with a drink and snack (nothing containing nuts).

How to register:
Sign up online at: <https://showstoppers-performing-arts.classforkids.co.uk>
Select "Bitterne CE Primary School"
Create an account and set up your payment details for your subscription (if you wish to pay for the full term, please email us).
Once registered, your child's place will be secured for the new term.
If your child is already part of the club, their place will automatically be secured for September.

Please note: While class cancellations are very rare, in the unlikely event that a session is cancelled, a credit will be applied to your account, same applies for inset days.

Join us today and let the magic of drama inspire your child!

info@showstoppersacademy.co.uk 07584281994
www.showstoppersacademy.co.uk showstoppers.uk



AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

ComputerXplorers

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



WEDNESDAY
3:15 – 4:15
BITTERNE C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL

BITTERNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

CLUB TIMETABLE

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

CLUBS INCLUDE:
FOOTBALL
PRICE- £5.50 PER SESSION
STARTS 12TH APRIL

BOOK HERE!

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

learningthroughsport.co.uk/bitterne/

SCAN ME



WHAT'S ON January – April 2025

EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Hands on History: Off With Their Heads (6+)
Mon 30 Mar | 10.30am, 1pm
Tutor House | £8

Art for All: Wonderful Wooden Eggs (6+)
Thu 2 Apr | 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm | Art Gallery | £8

Hands on History: Titanic Science! (7+)
Fri 10 Apr | 10.30am, 1pm
Seacity | £8

NEW FOR 2025
Toddler Time: Beautiful Butterflies (under 4s and friends)
Thu 2 Apr | 10.30am
Seacity | £6

Junior Art School: Paint, Paint, Paint inspired by artist Emma Richardson (7 – 13 years)
Fri 10 Apr | 10.30am – 3.30pm
Art Gallery | £26

Drop off your young people
Three days per week | 9am–4pm (drop off from 8.45)
Seacity | £35 per day or £90 for all three days

CULTURE CLUB FOR KIDS ACTIVITY DAYS (Age 6½ – 12 years)
Week 1: Spring Has Sprung
Mon 30 Mar, Tues 31 Mar, Wed 1 Apr
Week 2: Planet Earth
Thurs 2 Apr, Wed 3 Apr, Thurs 4 Apr

Art for All: Perfect Peter Rabbit Puppets (4+)
Tue 21 Mar | 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm | Art Gallery | £8

Art for All: Spring Decopatch Plant Pots (4+)
Wed 8 Apr | 10.30am, 11.30am or 1.30pm | Tutor House | £6

Art for All: Clay Axolotls (5+)
Wed 8 Apr | 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm | Art Gallery | £8

Tour for All: Titanic Walking Tour
Thu 9 Apr | 11am
Tutor House | £10 (accompanying children free)

Art for All: MARVELLOUS Clay Superheroes (6+)
Thu 9 Apr | 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm | Art Gallery | £8

Hands on History: WW2 Ciphers and Spies (7+)
Thu 2 Apr | 10.30am
Tutor House | £8

Tour for All: Southampton and the Second World War
Thu 2 Apr | 2pm | Tutor House | £10 (accompanying children free)

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

Southampton Parent Carer Forum invites you to...

SEND Family Fun Day 2026
Tuesday 31st March - 10am to 2pm

For Children and Young People:
Bouncy Castles, Face painters, Unicorn, Bubbles and lots more...

For Parent Carers:
Range of Local offer Service providers for advice, ideas and support

Refreshments for all drinks, fruit, biscuits and ice cream are all free, there will be a food van with food for sale!

Seacity Academy Way Road, Ashley Crescent, SO15 8PA - Free Parking

For more information follow us on Facebook

Funky Play Bricks After School Club

Our LEGO® After School Club will continue after Easter Holidays. The Funky Play Bricks session will run on Wednesdays. This Club will be open to all children. Our clubs will be run from 15th of April until 15th of July 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 £65.00 (13 weeks)

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!!!



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. £5 for children with an additional ticket.

GO ALL IN! National Year of Reading 2025