

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope

Courage

Creativity

17 April 2026

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Welcome back to the summer term – we are all hoping it will be a sunnier one than the last! I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break.



It has been lovely to see the children back in school this week, settled and ready for the term ahead. Year 2 had a fantastic trip to Butser Ancient Farm on Wednesday, and it has been wonderful hearing their enthusiastic stories about what they saw and learned on their return. I have also been very impressed by some beautiful artwork in Year 3 this week. The children have been learning how to draw an eye using shading techniques, and it is clear we have some very talented artists in the year group. In Year 5, pupils have been exploring Rites of Passage in RE. It was great to see such a thoughtful range of ideas, with children identifying events from birthdays to graduations as important milestones in life.

There is lots to look forward to this term, including our school performance of *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, sports days, the summer fair, and the school disco. Alongside these events, there will be plenty of exciting learning opportunities in class, as well as chances for the children to meet their new teachers for next year.

Further information about upcoming events will be shared nearer the time. Please continue to refer to the weekly newsletter for key dates and updates.

Have a lovely weekend. Best wishes Mrs. Johnson

Collective Worship

This week we have been thinking about the Diocese Bags of Hope which draws on inspiration from a very famous traveller: Paddington Bear. Most of us know the story of the small bear from Darkest Peru who arrived at Paddington Station with nothing but a suitcase and a tag around his neck. Paddington is perhaps the world's most beloved refugee. His story reminds us that behind every person seeking safety is a story, a hope for a better future, and a need for a "Brown family" to welcome them in. Paddington's journey mirrors a much older story. We remember that Jesus was also a refugee. As a young child, his family had to flee to Egypt to escape a king who meant them harm.



Just as the Browns opened their home to a lost bear, and Egypt provided a sanctuary for the Holy Family, we are called to be a place of refuge for others., these small acts of kindness say the same thing: "You are welcome here".

Update from EYFS Phase Leader

This half term, our exciting topic is Adventures! We'll be diving into a range of much-loved stories, including *We're Going to Find the Monster*, *Whatever Next!*, *The Snail and the Whale*, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, and *Hansel and Gretel*. Towards the end of term, we'll also be setting sail on some swashbuckling pirate adventures!



The children have settled back in beautifully after the Easter holidays and have come back ready to learn. On Monday afternoon, they were surprised to discover a mysterious map and note waiting for them after lunch. Following the clues around the playground, they discovered a kind and caring monster who introduced us to our new Drawing Club story, *We're Going to Find a Monster*. The children were so excited!

Since then, the children have been fully immersed in their learning. They have particularly enjoyed creating "monster mud" recipes in the mud kitchen, mixing up silly soups, and designing their own imaginative maps.



Our rhymes and poems this half term will include *Pirate Pete* by James Carter, *Five Little Monkeys*, *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*, and *The Grand Old Duke of York*. We are looking forward to lots of singing, actions, and fun along the way.

Reminder:

Year R Pirate Day – Thursday 21st May 2026

Year R children are invited to come to school dressed as a pirate for a day full of pirate-themed fun and learning. We can't wait to walk the plank, create pirate hats, and learn sea shanties!

We are looking forward to a busy but exciting half term. Thank you all for your continued support!

With best wishes
Miss Scriven



Facebook

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



Dates for your Diary

- **21 April:** Year 3 History of the Page Workshop: Tudor England
- **22 April:** Year 4 History of the Page Workshop: Great Fire of London
- **23 April:** Year 5 World War 2 Workshop
- **20 April:** SENCO Drop in session from 3.15pm.
- **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 Brownlow House with 2500 points, Brook House with 2445 Points, Pound House with 2120 Points and Maytree House with 2052 points.
- Tidy Year Group Award goes to: Year 3 Emerald and Navy
- Star of the Week certificates awarded to: Grayson; Jake; Llewelyn; Eva; Tayah; Margo; Liana; Hiba; Oliver; Kieron; Isabelle, Ava, Ruby and Maia.
- This week's most improved attendance goes to: Talisman Class with 97.5%

Well done everyone!



BE WILDFIRE AWARE

AND HELP PROTECT THE COUNTRYSIDE

PACK A PICNIC
NOT A BBQ

DON'T
START CAMPFIRES

EXTINGUISH
CIGARETTES
FULLY

DON'T
DROP LITTER

SCAN ME
OR VISIT
bit.ly/Wildfire-Aware

IF YOU SEE A FIRE
CALL 999



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!!!



Streetbeatz – Sign-Up for the Summer Term!

Streetbeatz classes will resume this week! Please sign your child up using the link below:
<https://www.streetbeatzdanceacademy.co.uk/>

Session Dates (Thursdays):

- 16th, 23rd, 30th April
- 7th, 14th May (*No class on 21st May*)
- 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th June
- 2nd, 9th, 16th July

street **BEATZ**

We look forward to welcoming everyone back!