

Bitterne Church of England Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Hope

Courage

Creativity

1 May 2026

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

We are delighted to share with you the launch of our new school logo, which will be officially introduced in September.



“Together we soar...”

This has been a truly collaborative project, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to our parents, children, staff, and Governors for their thoughtful contributions and ideas throughout the design process. Your input has been invaluable in shaping a logo that reflects our shared vision and identity as a school community.

The final design has been created by Karen Carissimi, and we are incredibly grateful for her work in bringing the concept to life. We would also like to thank Mr Tarlton, one of our parents, for his support—his designer worked alongside Karen, helping to develop the finished piece.

Our new logo thoughtfully incorporates the dove from our current emblem, a feature many of our children felt strongly connected to when discussing its meaning. In the new design, the dove is shown flying upwards and away from the school name, symbolising our children’s readiness to move on to the next stage of their learning journey following their time at Bitterne CE Primary. Accompanying this is our new motto, *“Together we soar...”*, which captures both our aspirational outlook and our strong sense of community.

As a Church of England school, the dove also holds special significance within our Christian ethos, representing peace, hope, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We feel this symbolism beautifully reflects our values and the nurturing environment we strive to provide for every child.

We are pleased to share that Skoolkit are working in partnership with the school to produce uniform featuring the new logo. As previously communicated, uniform with the current logo will remain perfectly acceptable. The transition to the new logo will be gradual, allowing families to continue using existing uniform items and to pass them on where appropriate. We hope this phased approach supports both sustainability and affordability for our community.

We are particularly pleased with the simplicity of the new design and hope that it will be more comfortable for children to wear on their uniform.

A reminder that non-logoed uniform items also remain fully in line with our school uniform policy. We look forward to celebrating the official launch of our new logo with you all in September.

Wishing all our families a lovely bank holiday weekend. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Tuesday 5th May.

Collective Worship

This week, in collective worship we have been exploring a very important theme: Using our talents to serve others. We began by discussing how no act of kindness is ever too small. Even the tiniest gesture can create a "ripple effect" that changes the world. A wonderful modern example of this is Captain Tom Moore. By simply choosing to walk laps of his garden with his frame, he used his determination to inspire a whole nation and raise millions for charity. He showed us that you are never too old—or too young—to make a massive difference.



We then reflected on the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000. Even though the disciples thought they had very little to offer, Jesus showed that by serving others with what we have, we can provide for an entire community. It reminded us that when we offer our talents, they multiply in ways we might not expect!

We realized that we don't have to wait until they are "grown up" to serve. Whether it's helping a friend on the playground or using a hobby to raise money for a cause, we can make a difference.

"Serve one another humbly in love." Galatians 5:13

Update Year 3 and 4 Phase Leader

It has been a whirlwind start to the half term for our Lower Key Stage 2 explorers. Both year groups have fully immersed themselves in the past, swapping their school uniforms for the sights, sounds, and—occasionally—the smells of history!

Our recent history workshops brought the past to life right in the heart of our school.

Year 3 traveled back to the 16th century to celebrate a grand **Tudor Feast**. They learned that dining in Tudor times was as much about status as it was about food!



Year 4 headed to the 17th century, investigating the narrow, timber-framed streets of 1666 to discover exactly how the **Great Fire of London** spread so rapidly.

Both year groups took part in an immersive "Market Day," where they rolled up their sleeves to practice authentic period trades. The children didn't just read about history; they lived it: Practicing how to be rat catchers vital (if slightly gruesome!) job that kept the children on their toes and in year 3 we discovered some impressive footwork as the children learned the rhythmic, social dances that would have entertained Henry VIII himself.

In addition to their historical adventures, Year 4 welcomed **Charis from City Mission** for a deeply reflective and creative day exploring the concept of the **Trinity**.

The children used a variety of hands-on methods to represent the "Three in One," including: Building **tetrahedrons** to visualize how different faces can form one single shape and creating beautiful **trptychs** (three-paneled artworks) to illustrate their understanding of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are so proud of how all the children have engaged with these workshops. Their curiosity and enthusiasm have made for a truly memorable start to the term.

Best wishes
Mrs Wood

Pip and Pap Phonics Books

We have noticed that we are missing an increasing number of our Pip and Pap phonics books. We are asking families to have a look at home for any books that maybe hiding under beds and sofas! We would love to get as many books back as possible so we can replenish our phonics reading scheme.

Once again thank you for your continued support with your child's reading.



Bitterne Friends United

Tickets are now available to book for the school disco on Thursday 7 May.

Please book your child/ren's place using this form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfEE-G7Oy0ZHxRPBn7yxeSIYQlkQt5yG5mNoWth-Ci1giJyiw/viewform?pli=1>

Please ensure you complete a form for each child. This provides us with medical and dietary information that we need to be aware of.



Please pay for your child/ren's place via this link: <https://bfu.sumupstore.com/product/school-disco>

Please note the booking forms close on Tuesday 5 May at 8pm. For safeguarding and ratio purposes, if you haven't completed the forms by this time, unfortunately your child/ren will not be able to attend. We will not be able to accept late bookings.

Cost: £3.50* per child

- If you wish to donate a disco ticket, please select the "PAY IT FORWARD" ticket option and add to your SumUp Basket.

- If you qualify for Pupil Premium, please tick "Pupil Premium" when prompted.

Please remember to complete a form for each child attending along with payment.

KS1 (Years R-2): 16:45 to 17:45

KS2 (Years 3-6): 18:00 to 19:00

Location: KS2 School Hall

- DROP OFF at the back door of the KS2 playground (Yr4 door).

- PICK UP from the hall, enter via KS1 playground (Yr3 door).

Drink & snack provided (on entry your child will be given a token to exchange for their snack). The Disco Deals Den will be open, packed with treats, trinkets, and goodies. Please feel free to send your child with a small amount of cash (recommended no more than £5.00) if they'd like to make a purchase.

Volunteer Opportunities: This event can only run if we have enough parent volunteers. If you think you can volunteer to help at either or both disco's, please complete the volunteers section on the booking form. It's a great way to meet other parents, and join in the fun. Types of things we need help with are.... setting up, drinks and snacks station, disco den, temporary tattoo station, and tidy.

Thanks everyone, without your support these events wouldn't happen.
See you on the dance floor!

Whats on locally ...

NAS are running groups for children with Autism, see the below flyer for information.

- **Autism support group**
Monthly on Saturdays, 10am-11am, 1.30pm-2.30pm, 3.30pm-4.30pm, 5.30pm-6.30pm, 7.30pm-8.30pm. For children and adults. Adults, children and adults. Please contact us for more information. Email: autism@nas.org.uk
- **Family youth club and LEGO club**
Meeting on Saturdays, 10am-11am, 1.30pm-2.30pm, 3.30pm-4.30pm, 5.30pm-6.30pm, 7.30pm-8.30pm. For children and adults. Adults, children and adults. Please contact us for more information. Email: family@nas.org.uk
- **Children's and Adults' social groups**
Monthly on Saturdays, 10am-11am, 1.30pm-2.30pm, 3.30pm-4.30pm, 5.30pm-6.30pm, 7.30pm-8.30pm. For children and adults. Adults, children and adults. Please contact us for more information. Email: social@nas.org.uk
- **Parents' support group**
Monthly on Saturdays, 10am-11am, 1.30pm-2.30pm, 3.30pm-4.30pm, 5.30pm-6.30pm, 7.30pm-8.30pm. For parents. Please contact us for more information. Email: parents@nas.org.uk
- **Resource library**
Access to our extensive library of books, DVDs and games.
- **Social events**
Training opportunities and seminars.
- **Links with other local support services and groups**
- **Representation on Hampshire Autism Partnership Board**

For details, prices, times and booking information, visit our website:
www.nas.org.uk
www.facebook.com/nasouthampton
www.twitter.com/nasouthampton

Southampton Parent Carer Forum invites you to...

Transition event

Helping you and your child feel confident about their next step

- Meet to discuss:
 - What to expect
 - What to do next
 - What to do now
- Hear & experience the transition school
- Hear & see the transition school
- Hear & see the transition school
- Hear & see the transition school

Please let us know if you are aware of any other SEN friendly activities

ReMinds now have a variety of courses available for booking including Teen Life, Early Bird, NPP and teen NPP. Please email them for info: courses@reminds.org.uk

Family Trust

Is your child missing at school and crying at home?

FREE ONLINE SEMINAR "Understanding Missing and Bullying in Neurodivergent Children"

Thursday 19th June 2024, 7.30 - 9.00 PM

Southampton Parent Carer Forum

DEAF FAMILY FUN DAY

FREE ENTRY

11AM - 2PM

COCKERMERE LANE

Southampton Parent Carer Forum

Southampton Parent Carer Forum are offering the chance to win of three £20 amazon vouchers by completing the survey.

Young person – <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/cGC6upezcT>

Parents - <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/rHPH1vrriC>

Dates for your Diary

- **4 May:** Early May Bank Holiday
- **7 May:** PTA School Disco KS1 4.45pm-5.45pm and KS2 6pm-7pm – more information to follow
- **19 May:** Year 3 City Mission
- **20 May:** SEND Coffee Meeting 2pm-3pm
- **2 June –** Parents Forum 9am
- **4 June:** Class Photos
- **11 June:** 9.30am-11am: Year 3 and 4 Sports Day
- **11 June:** 1.30pm-3pm: Year 5 and 6 Sports Day
- **13 June:** PTA Summer Fayre 12-3pm
- **18 June:** 9.30am-11am: EYS and Year 1 and 2 Sports Day
- **22 June- 10 July:** Year 5 Swimming
- **30 June:** Year R-5 Transition morning
- **1 July:** Year R- 5 Transition Day
- **9 July:** 1.30pm-2.30pm and 6pm-7pm: Year 6 End of Year Show
- **10 July:** End of year reports
- **13 July:** Year 6 Paultons Park Trip – more information to follow
- **14 July:** All years Parents Open Evening – more information to follow
- **16 July:** 1.30pm-3pm: Year 6 Leavers Service at Holy Saviour
- **16 July:** 6pm-8pm: Year 6 Leavers Party
- **17 July:** PTA Non School Uniform Day
- **17 July:** Last day of Summer term

Weekly Celebrations

- This week House Cup winner is Maytree House with 2150 points, Brownlow House with 2079 Points, Pound House with 2033 Points and Brook House with 2016 points.
- Tidy Year Group Award goes to: Year 4 Carmine and Sapphire Class



- Star of the Week certificates awarded to: Roman; Reuben; Carla; Reyansh; Mimi; Felicity; Harper-Rose; Elis; Thomas; Mia; Melissa; Harrison and Miabella
 - This week's most improved attendance goes to: Orient Class with 96.5%
- Well done everyone!**

FREE MONEY

Cole Palmer
Taylor Smith

Order your **stikins labels** for next term

Use code **2092** at checkout

STIKINS® Name Labels

SIMPLY STICK IN & STAY IN




Save Time & Money
Reduce Lost Property

Quote Our Fundraising Number To Raise Funds For School

WWW.STIKINS.CO.UK






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

We look forward to welcoming everyone back!






Emotionally-Based School Avoidance Virtual Workshop


9.30am Wednesday 20th May

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 and receive support from our team.

To book onto the workshop, please email:

 info@reminds.org.uk




Emotional Regulation Virtual Workshop


**9.30–12.30
Wednesday 13th May**

About the Workshop

We will cover:

- What emotional regulation is and why some children struggle more than others
- What dysregulation looks like in the body and behaviour
- Different types of dysregulation from melt-downs to self-harm
- Practical strategies that support regulation at home and in everyday life
- Supporting recovery and repairing relationships after hard times
- What can help in school and how to talk to school about your child's needs
- Creating a simple regulation plan that works in real life

Come along to share experiences, build understanding, and leave with practical ideas and helpful resources. There will be time to talk with other parents and carers who understand, get support from our team, and explore our book and sensory library.

This workshop has been written and is delivered by the Reminds team, drawing on lived experience, our training in neurodiversity, and our work alongside CAMHS to support families.

To book onto the workshop, please email:

info@reminds.org.uk