

**Bitterne Church of England Primary School**  
**Weekly Newsletter**

**Love**

**Trust**

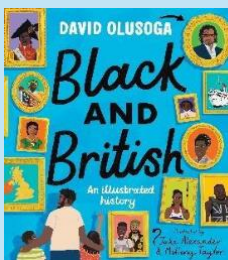
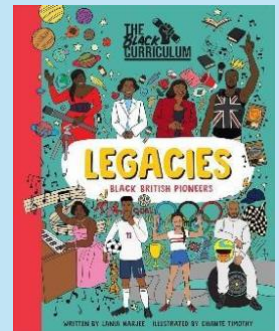
**Forgiveness**

**17 October 2025**

**Issue 6**

**Message from the Senior Leadership Team**  
**Black History Month 2025**

This October, the children have been focusing on the theme 'Standing firm in power and pride'. Through our Collective Worship and discussion within their year groups, pupils have been learning and celebrating key figures across a range of sectors including history and science. The figures have been chosen to engage pupils and stimulate plenty of discussion and learning regarding their achievements in British society and on the global stage and the struggles they faced along the way. In Reception, the children have been discussing what makes each of them unique and special. Through stories, songs, and creative activities, they have explored the idea of belonging, celebrating their own cultures, families, and communities. In KS1, the children have been learning about important Black figures who have made a difference in the world. They have explored inspiring stories of authors and scientists, discovering how their books, inventions, and discoveries have influenced society and helped shape the world we live in today.



In KS2, the children have been learning about Black British figures whose lives connect to the periods and themes they are studying in their history. Through class discussions, the children have celebrated how these individuals' have used perseverance, leadership and moral courage to challenge prejudice and contribute to British society.

As part of this month, we have also used books as a way to deepen their understanding. Some of the titles we have explored include: Coming to England, by Floella Benjamin, Black and British, by David Olusoga, Legacies: Black British Pioneers, by Lania Narjee and Black Stories Matter Series. After half term, these books (and many more) will be available in our library for all pupils to borrow, so that children may continue to build their knowledge.

Best wishes,

Mrs Sullivan, Assistant Headteacher



### Collective Worship Update: Christian Value of Thankfulness

This week we have been looking at Black History Month and how it is an opportunity for everyone to learn about the achievements and contributions of Black and Mixed Heritage people in Britain and around the world. The children were encouraged to think about what it means to be both Black and British.



Continuing the theme of Thankfulness, we thought about Harvest and what it means for us. We look forward to our Harvest Festival at Holy Saviour Church, next Thursday 23 October at 2pm. Please do come and join us, everyone is welcome. Food donations are still be collected in the school office so please do continue bringing them in to us. Many thanks for your continued support with this.

### Years 1 Phase Leader Update from Miss Barry

In Year 1, we have been working incredibly hard on improving our handwriting and presentation skills. The children have been learning their *long ladder* and *curly caterpillar* letters and are making wonderful progress every day!

In Maths, we've really enjoyed investigating the commutative law of addition. We discovered that it doesn't matter which way round you add the parts – the whole stays the same! It was fantastic to see the children working together, discussing their ideas, and using rich mathematical language to explain their thinking.

We've also been developing our computing skills. The children can now independently log on to the laptops and Purple Mash – a brilliant achievement! They used the 2Paint program to create self-portraits, which required great concentration and control using the touchpad. With resilience and perseverance, everyone produced a fantastic piece of digital art.

Year 2 have had a busy couple of weeks!

In Art, they have continued exploring ancient art forms and have completed their impressive Mesopotamia plaques using raised relief techniques. In Computing, the children have been practising their typing skills and growing in confidence and accuracy each session.

In Maths, they have been using concrete resources to explore fact families, applying both their addition and subtraction skills to make connections between numbers.

In English, the children have been using a story map to learn and retell "*The Fixer of Broken Things*" by Julia Patton. They have absolutely loved adding actions and acting out the story—it's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and creativity shine through. We can't wait to see the outcome of their writing!

## 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.

**Please complete the form here:**

<https://forms.gle/RyMLS9MYebJUQPh86>

## Sports Update from Mr Thomas

We kicked off this year's cross country with a fantastic effort from all our runners! They represented our school brilliantly and a fun time was had by all. Looking forward to next week!



AFC Bournemouth are hosting Academy Trials for talented footballers in Year 2 & Year 3 during October Half Term. If your child is interested, please see further information below:

## AFC BOURNEMOUTH TALENT IDENTIFICATION EVENT



Tuesday 28th October 2025



Evening Session



AFC Bournemouth Performance Centre



U7 & U8 (Year 2 & Year 3 boys)

AFC Bournemouth are hosting Academy trials for talented & athletic footballers in Year 2 & 3 during October Half Term.



APPLY TODAY USING THE LINK BELOW



<https://forms.office.com/e/FGdhuyMYNT>

*Spaces are very limited, all applicants will be notified via email at least 3 days prior to the event to confirm your place and time slots.*

## Attendance Letters

Next week, parents will receive an email containing their child's attendance report for the first half term. This report includes a RAG-rated summary of attendance: Green indicates good attendance, Amber means some improvement is required, and Red shows that attendance must improve, as the child is currently classed as persistently absent. While we fully understand that some absences are due to illness and other unavoidable circumstances, we encourage parents to consider

Attendance Matters



attendance carefully when deciding if a child is well enough to attend school. Good attendance is classed as 96% and above, and it's worth noting that each day missed has a greater impact at this stage of the year due to the shorter time children have been in school so far. We value working in partnership with our families to support excellent attendance, which is vital for children's progress and wellbeing. If you are finding attendance challenging, please contact Mrs Davies or Mrs Bailey, who will be happy to offer support and guidance.

### **The Wizard of Oz**

This week, our Key Stage Two children were treated to a fantastic performance of *The Wizard of Oz* by M&M Productions. It was wonderful to see the children completely mesmerised by the show, joining in with the songs, laughter, and interactive moments with the performers. The production brought the story to life in such a magical way — a truly memorable experience for everyone!



### **PTA Christmas Artwork Fundraiser: Deadline Monday 20 October**

Help the PTA raise funds for school by joining in the Christmas artwork fundraiser, and stock up early on Christmas cards and gifts!

Please ensure you return all designs to the school office by Monday 20 October.

For any questions or help contact the PTA at [pta@bitterneceprimary.net](mailto:pta@bitterneceprimary.net)

### **Facebook**

A reminder to follow our new Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/BitterneCEPrimary>



### **Discover the Music: Instrument Lessons**

Our music partners Discover the Music have some spaces available in group lessons for any pupils who might be keen to sign up. Discover the Music are able to offer a taster lesson for these spaces if this would help and spaces will go first come first serve.

If you are interested to sign up **without** a taster session, you simply need to complete this form - <https://discoverthemusichq.com/lessons-d> - **OR** -

email [debbie@showcasemusicschool.com](mailto:debbie@showcasemusicschool.com) to register interest for a taster session.



## Bitterne Friends United School Disco

Please remember to book your child's place at the school disco via the link <https://forms.gle/2YWn9zvKtRpZoz4CA>

Please ensure that you complete the form fully and pay using the SUMUP payment link. Any questions, please contact Bitterne Friends at [pta@bitterneceprimary.net](mailto:pta@bitterneceprimary.net)

## Dates for your Diary

- **23 October:** Harvest Church Service, Holy Saviour Church, 2pm-3pm
- **23 October:** PTA School Disco, 4.45pm-7pm
- **11 November:** Parents Evening 3.40pm-6.30pm
- **13 November:** Parents Evening 3.40pm-6.30pm
- **21 November:** Year R Parent Afternoon, 2.30pm-3.15pm
- **12 December:** Year R Parent Afternoon, 2.30pm-3.15pm

## Weekly Celebrations

- This week's House Cup awarded to Brownlow House with 3392 points.
- Congratulations to these children who have been awarded Star of the Week: Freya W; Alice; Frankie; Logan; Jude; Matthew; Bea; Jake; Reggie; Willow; Frankie; Polly; Mason; Jack
- Tidy Class Award goes to: Year 3, Emerald and Navy Class
- This week's best attendance goes to Emerald 98.3%

**Well done everyone!**



# BITTERNE FRIENDS UNITED

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SCHOOL PARTNERS

## PTA EVENTS CALENDAR

### CURRENT TERM - AUTUMN 1

- 17 Oct Xmas card drawing **RETURN date**  
School Disco  
KS1 4:45-5:45pm  
KS2 6:00-7:00pm  
<https://forms.gle/XNBTDnifgiBKokNj8>
- 23 Oct

### NEXT TERM - AUTUMN 2

- 3 Nov Xmas Jumper donation weeks
- 1-15 Nov Xmas cards online shop **open**
- 11/13 Nov Meet the PTA & Pre-Loved Uniform sales @ Parents Evening
- Postponed** KS2 Movie Night
- 29 Nov Xmas Event (Sat 2-4pm)
- 11 Dec Christmas Carols & 'Event' (TBD)

## COMMUNICATIONS

For the latest PTA event information click the button to join the **PTA Notice Board**.

NOTE: ONE-WAY information - not a chat group. Be sure to enable alert

**CLICK HERE**



## Raise funds for us for **FREE**

with  **easyfundraising**



Join as our supporter today at:

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause)

Just search for:

Bitterne Friends United

8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



Start at the  
easyfundraising  
website or app



Click out  
to where you'd  
like to shop



Checkout:  
prices are exactly  
the same!

The retailer sends  
a % of your spend  
to easyfundraising



They pass  
it on to us  
:)



**BITTERNE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL'S**

# **SAVE THE DATE** **CHRISTMAS EVENT**

**SATURDAY 2-4PM**  
**29TH NOVEMBER**

**GAMES**  
**WARM DRINKS & TREATS**  
**SANTA'S GROTTO**  
**EXTERNAL STALLS**  
**ELFRIDGE'S GIFT SHOP**



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ESTATE AGENTS

# October Holiday Camp

ActiveXplorers



**Monday 27th Oct– Thursday  
30th Oct 2025**

## Location:



Fryern Federation School  
Oakmount Road  
Chandlers Ford  
SO53 2LN

Itchen College  
Middle Road  
Southampton  
SO19 7TB

## Session Price



Prices vary form £25–£30

## Session Times:

**08:30–17:30**

**9–15.30**

**BOOK NOW!**



## THE ACTIVITIES

We cover many  
subjects including:

- Minecraft
- Game Design
- Laser Tag
- App Design
- Robotics
- VR head sets
- Football
- Multi Sports

**AGES 5–16 YEARS**



Computer  
Xplorers