



BCS NEWS

6th December 2024

*Fulfilling our potential, achieving excellence together
We are a Good school with Outstanding Early Years Provision*

Head's News

And just like that, Christmas has arrived at school: lively rehearsals of the Nativity permeate the corridors and hall downstairs, while upstairs, tuneful carols are being practiced ready for the Christmas Carol service. Classrooms are slowly being transformed into little tributes to Christmas as each day a new decoration or two is added to the room: children eagerly await the register to see if it is their turn to open the advent calendar door and claim their treat. While uniform remains worn, Christmas accessories are a more common sight adorning bookbags, coats and hats: Children are excitedly talking about their hopes and wishes for the big day, and Christmas cards are being made and written for friends and family. These weeks at school are filled with a plethora of activity, a relentless energy from pupils, parents and staff; an effervescent fizziness that consumes every minute of every school day and brings a different atmosphere to a primary school that I am not sure you find anywhere else.

And on the Friday before the school's calendar of Christmas events begins, it is for me to thank you all as parents and carers. Our whole school community has put together an extra-ordinary timetable of events to make the end of term memorable, to give an opportunity to think about the meaning of Christmas, to show compassion and empathy to those less fortunate than ourselves, to spread Christmas joy to each other and to ourselves. I am only too aware of what that effort means for your diaries; remembering what to donate, which festive item to wear, when to book time off to attend an event, what time to pick up and where to collect from. It's no mean feat to keep track, but what we want you to know is how grateful we are for your support; your support for our school community, and for your children. Every event coming up is so meaningful to each and every child and forms such an integral part of them realising that school is a place to be enjoyed, to have fun and make everlasting memories and friendships... as well as for learning. It is these events they will remember in years to come and we thank you for allowing us the privilege to take your children through that journey here with us and make those memories here.

So, to end. Once you have eaten toasties and mince pies, enjoyed a warm drink, played a huge variety of games and perhaps won one of the incredible raffle prizes at our Christmas Fair extravaganza this afternoon, please relax this weekend. Put your feet up and gather some energy as the next two weeks are going to be very busy.

Below: Year 2's trip to Kent Life this week to learn about a Victorian Christmas



Key Dates

Tuesday 10th December
EYFS 2025 open morning

Thursday 12th December



Christmas jumpers with school uniform

3.15pm Christmas crafts session for families (Kent Adult Education)

Friday 13th December
EY trip to St Stephen's

Monday 16th December
2pm performance of EY and KS1 nativity

Tues 17th December
9.30am morning performance of EY and KS1 nativity

6pm: KS2 carol concert, St Peter and St Paul

Weds 18th December
Christmas lunch + grotto + Christmas jumpers



Thurs 19th December
9am: church service at St Peter and St Paul
END OF TERM 2

In other news

Worship this week

Worship this week has followed David's journey as he becomes King, as well as taking time to rehearse our carols for the concert and Christmas service.

Parent Survey

Thank you to all those parents who completed our parent survey. As promised, we have taken time to reflect on the results. Many responses articulated how clear our vision and values are; something we have worked on over the last academic year and continue to do so as this year evolves. There is a recognised growing sense of community and an understanding of how we are encouraging parents and school to work well together to enable and support our pupils to thrive and flourish in a safe and effective learning environment.

Areas for us to think carefully about and reflect on are firstly supporting parents to understand the progress your children are making. We currently hold two face to face parent consultations a year and send out a comprehensive end of year report in July which is standard practice in all primary schools. In addition, we offer an open-door policy and would encourage those who are not sure of the progress your children are making to make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher to give you a deep understanding of how your child is doing and any areas they made need to work on further. All teachers are very open to these conversations and would welcome appointments being made.

Secondly, it is clear not all parents are sure about how to serve as an advocate and champion for our school. As the new PTA grows and develops, we are hoping that this will serve as a wonderfully exciting opportunity for parents to become more involved in our community and be a part of creative ways to champion the school in addition to attending workshops, meetings and events. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

Netball

On Wednesday 4th December, the Bishop Chavasse Netball team played their first ever game against Sir Henry Fermor Primary School. Despite the teams being newly formed, both schools put up a challenging game, in attempt to secure a victory. The referee blew a sharp blast of the whistle to signal that the match had started... The opposition started the match, but fortunately for us, we regained possession. With a determined drive, we pushed up court with Henry Fermor scurrying back to defend. Once in their quarter we made some effective, sharp plays and managed to score a multitude of goals (8) in the first quarter.



With an uplifting team talk, we were hyped to enter the Second Quarter. It started with the other team unfortunately scoring against us (having had a successful team talk of their own), but backing down was not an option for us. We retaliated by banking a few more goals. We subbed on every quarter to build our team's stamina; this was an effective strategy as we had taken the lead by the end of the second quarter. Going into the third quarter, we were re-hydrated and refreshed to continue scoring goals and driving down the court. Swapping goal-scoring ends, was an obstacle on our path, due to the fact that we were now on attacking on an incline. The opponents came back fighting, causing our defense to step up and reveal their true talent of defending the ball. Nicholas, Jack and Nicholas did this superbly.

Our breathing drew hollow and hopeful, the last eight minutes of the final quarter were about to make Bishop Chavasse history... We tried harder than ever, our lungs screaming and our hearts pounding in our chests. We ran as hard as we could, and pushed to our limits, we did not give up. At last...the final whistle blew. We erupted with cheers and tears as we leaped for our first victory of the year. The atmosphere was laced with energy and we were elated about our stunning **21-2** win.

By Oakley and Oscar

Carol singing

On the chilly evening of Tuesday 3rd December, the Year 6 members of choir went carolling around the local estate. Our first stop was unexpectedly outside a resident's house, who asked us to sing Once in Royal David's City (Issy, Olive, Isla and Eliza all sang a solo). Then we moved to a patch of green on Somerhill Road, where we sang carols such as Little Donkey. After that performance, we moved on to the strip of grass by our school, where we sang four more carols, ending with a familiar rendition of We Wish You a Merry Christmas. To end the festive evening, we travelled to Barnes Lodge to sing to the residents after they had eaten their dinner. We had so much fun and we would love to do it again.



Year 2 trip to Kent Life

Year 2 had the most amazing day yesterday at Kent Life! They became Victorians for the day and played parlour games, learnt what the Workhouse was like for the poor and were shocked to realise that children had to get up at 5 o'clock in the morning every day! They also spent time making Christmas cards and learning about Victorian toys. We had the most exciting day and feel as if we have learnt a little more about what life was like for Victorians.



Headteacher Heroes – winners this week for showing HOPE:

Josefien – Squirrels
Harry - Badgers
Teddy A – 1PU
Silas – 1A
Charlotte M – 2F
Elizabeth – 2CS
Aarnaa – 3A



Mason – 3LT
Rhys – 4R
Maneet – 4C
Archie – 5H
Jack A– 5N
Elliot – 6S
Dylan – 6C



Times Tables Rock Stars – KS2 highest scores this week:

3A – Joshua
3LT – Zach
4R – Amelia
4C – Brooke
5H – Poppy

5N - Lewis
6C – Connie-May
6S – Frankie

Bishop Chavasse shield winner



Well done to Nathaniel D (5H) for showing our school value of honesty - he wins a £7 book token.

Golden book

Elodie (6C) – amazing progress in her Maths.

Ronan (5H) – wrote a superb plan for his biography with sub-headings and notes.

Attendance cup: congratulations to the winners with 99.39%: Badgers! In second place is 5H with 99.03% and in third place are Squirrels with 98.61%.



Out of school achievements

Ruvaan (6S) took the Oxford University Bebras Maths Challenge 2024 and received the best in school certificate for his outstanding achievement. Ruvaan also passed Stage 5 swimming and achieved a climbing badge.



Ben H (6S) won gold in a judo competition

Austin (5H) – taekwondo tag on his belt

Ivy (2CS) – taekwondo tag on her belt

Lia (3LT) successfully attained her yellow stripe belt in taekwondo last weekend.

Joshua K (4R) passed his level 9 grading to be awarded his red tag belt in taekwondo.



PTA update

We can't wait to see you at the Christmas Fair this afternoon! Some of the prizes for our amazing raffle – thank you to all of the businesses who have donated. We'll be uploading photos to Facebook and Instagram – do follow us: [Bishop Chavasse Primary School PTA](#) and [Bishop Chavasse PTA Instagram](#). Once we've recovered from the Fair, it'll be all systems go to prepare for Santa's grotto – don't forget to sign your child up on Arbor!



CRICKET SKILLS TRAINING WITH TONBRIDGE CC

BOYS & GIRLS SCHOOL YEARS 2, 3 & 4
SATURDAYS 11 JANUARY - 29 MARCH
9AM TO 10AM
SACKVILLE SCHOOL, HILDENBOROUGH

GIRLS ONLY SCHOOL YEARS 4, 5 & 6
FRIDAYS 17 JANUARY - 28 MARCH
6.15PM - 7.30PM
HILDEN GRANGE, TONBRIDGE

BEGINNERS WELCOME
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