



BCS NEWS

28th February 2025

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

Head's News

Half term seemed to speed by for many of us, but I hope you all found time to enjoy a change of pace or scene. The children have come back eager to learn and delighted to see friends again, participate in learning and enrichment clubs. Our school values of *honesty, wisdom and compassion* have permeated the school environment and every classroom. As such, the first week back has been afforded the perfect conditions for starting new themes for learning in areas of the curriculum such as Science, Geography and History, with children sharing their prior knowledge or wider experience of the topics, before we build on those foundations and expand their knowledge repertoire over the coming weeks. Our enthusiastic secondary school volunteers from Tonbridge School and Weald of Kent Grammar School were warmly greeted by all the children on their return too. These visits are such a highlight of the week for so many children; offering a chance to share their reading skills with older children, address their own curiosities about what secondary school is like and compare lessons styles and learning at other schools. The children form such positive relationships with the volunteers, and welcome being supported in their learning by older peers who act as such exemplary role models to our pupils. Equally the feedback from the other schools is incredibly positive, with their teachers sharing that the visits here are the highlight of the students' week; an opportunity to reminisce back to their own primary school days, to think carefully about how to foster good relationships with others in the wider community and how to articulate concepts to younger children. Facilitating such positive experiences between children and young people, learning about themselves as part of a wider community, is a big part of who we are as a school, ensuring we are successful in our commitment to **establishing firm foundations for our children to become resilient, curious, confident, community minded courageous advocates who flourish and thrive.**



A fabulous start to the new term in Forest School

Key Dates

Mon 3rd – Fri 7th March
BOOK WEEK

Mon 3rd March
Launch of Book Week
5pm – PTA meeting in school and on Teams

Tues 4th March
Author visiting school

Weds 5th March
Storytelling day: wear pyjamas to school

Thurs 6th March: World Book Day: dress as a book character

Fri 21st March
6.30pm – 9pm: PTA Taskmaster evening



Tues 25th March
3.30pm – 6pm: parent consultations

Thurs 27th March
4.30pm – 7pm: parent consultations

Mon 31st March
8.45am: whole school Easter service at St Stephen's church – led by Year 3
Year 4 trip to Tonbridge Park

Weds 2nd April
5.45pm Spring Concert: Years 4, 5 and 6

Fri 4th April
END OF TERM 4

Tues 22nd April
START OF TERM 5

Weds 23rd April
5.45pm Spring Concert: Years 1, 2 and 3

In other news

Worship this week

[Fairtrade](#) has been the focus of worship this week; thinking about our neighbours who grow and provide food for us and whether we are paying what is fair for what we buy. This led to conversations and reflections on how we can be courageous advocates and champion those who provide our food across the world.

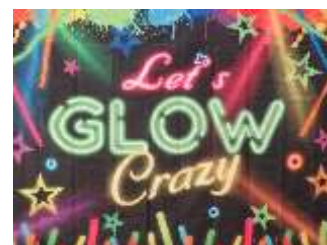
Communicating messages at the gates

Safeguarding is our main priority at school: ensuring that all children arrive safely, are safe on site and are dismissed safely. We take our duty of care very seriously and as such ensure we have staff manning each gate, including the main gate at drop off time and dismissal. We always welcome friendly good mornings and cheerful goodbyes, but are finding a growing number of messages being left with staff on the gate to pass on, by means of conversations, that take our focus off the children coming in and leaving school. Please can we ask that if you have a message that needs to be passed on to a member of staff, you email it in to the relevant staff member before school starts/after pick up and the office will pass it on. If you wish to arrange a meeting, please put this in your email and a meeting will be set up at a mutually agreeable time. Many of the staff members who are on gate go straight into classroom duties or other meetings from the gate, and are not able to pass on messages to multiple members of staff.



Disco

Could there be any better way to finish the first week back than with a glow in the dark school disco?! Over 300 of our pupils are ready to don their dancing shoes and show their moves and grooves on the dance floor tonight in the most highly anticipated event of the Spring term so far. The staff are ready, the parents are ready, the DJ is ready...it's going to be a spectacular night for the BCS disco crew. Keep an eye on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!



Book Week next week

The excitement around the school amongst staff and children in anticipation of Book Week is palpable today. Our brilliantly passionate team have put together an action-packed week of activities to celebrate all things reading, expertly led by Miss Scott who has been working on this since last April! To remind yourselves at home about what we are doing each day, here's a summary, with highlighted reminders of what to bring/wear:

Monday 3rd March – Launch Day

A special collective worship will inform the children of the exciting activities throughout the week.
[Book Swap Shop](#) – on Monday, **please could your child/children bring books for our Book Swap Shop**. The children will receive up to five tokens to spend swapping at the second hand book shop later in the week.

Tuesday 4th March – Author Day

A special author will be delivering a workshop to all year groups. Signed books by the author will be **sold at the end of the day in the Outdoor Classroom**; a card machine will be available.

Wednesday 5th March – Story Telling Day

Children are invited to wear pyjamas for a bedtime story with Mrs Hood and Mr Lucas. Children can stay in their pyjamas throughout the day but may want to wear a spare top underneath and will need to wear their normal school shoes. Year 6 will be creating story telling dens with children from Years 1 and 2.

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day

Children to come to school dressed as a character from a book. Please bring the book that the character is from.

Friday 7th March

[Reading Safari](#) – a chance for the children to share a book with a child from a different year group.

[Book Swap Shop](#) – children will choose new books from the second hand book shop.

Throughout the week:

[Competitions](#) – there will be different competitions linked to Book Week – keep an eye out on our social media!

Outdoor Learning Activities – throughout the week, Mrs Kyte has put together some fantastic outdoor learning activities linked to Book Week for all year groups. **Please ensure your child has a change of shoes** in school that they are happy to get muddy!

Voluntary donation

Some of our Book Week activities bear a cost element which we are largely covering as a school. In order that we can make the most incredible week for pupils, we are asking for a voluntary donation of up to £3.00 per child to cover some costs. This is payable on Arbor under 'Trips'.



Who's heard of a Planetary Parade?

Tonight, Friday 28th February, is a very special day in the calendar for our solar system, when seven of our planets - Mars, Jupiter, Uranus, Venus, Neptune, Mercury and Saturn - will all be aligned. This rare phenomenon is called a Planetary Parade, and will be visible in the night sky tonight. Incredibly this seven planet line up won't happen again until 2040!

The Planetary Parade will start shortly after sunset although not all planets will be visible to the naked eye. Most of the parade will look like extra bright stars, however Neptune and Uranus will require strong binoculars or a telescope to see. Here's [a BBC video](#) you might want to watch to help you spot those planets. What an honour it will be to share this experience!

Uniform

While next week is sprinkled with dress up days, and today we all wore something yellow to mark St David's Day, a reminder to check our [uniform policy](#) to ensure your children come to school in the correct uniform. It really does give a sense of belonging when children wear the correct combination of clothing, and ensures all children are safely attired for their day at school.

Kitchen and ovens

We are delighted that our new ovens are up and running. I have the happiest kitchen staff I have had since January, and those who love jacket potatoes and a Wednesday roast are excited by school lunches once again. Thank you to all who patiently supported our limited menu as we navigated what felt like a very long five weeks of ensuring all children were able to have a hot meal, or a substantial packed lunch, despite not having an oven. A huge thank you to Jacky the chef and her kitchen staff for being creative, compassionate and persistent in their perseverance in the face of adversity. Not having an oven was hard, but coupled with no dishwasher for a time, the team really was under pressure, but never a day went by where they didn't all have a smile on their face and the children didn't get a substantial lunch. Thank you again for all your support and patience. It made the chapter far more manageable and we are very grateful.

Meet the Governor: Lucy Broad

Lucy has just started her Governor journey at Bishop Chavasse as a newly appointed parent governor. Her daughter Ophion started this academic year in Badgers. Lucy is no stranger to education as she is a secondary school teacher with over 20 years' experience, specialising in Art and pastoral care. Outside of work she is busy with family life (including fish!) and is a keen cook, gardener (for the wildlife) and photographer. Always



keen to explore the local environment and further afield, she has travelled to over 30 countries across six continents with just Australasia left to visit. When time allows her passion continues to be art and she has a ceramic studio with kiln at home. She is very much looking forward to seeing the school and all who pass through its doors excel.

Headteacher Heroes – winners this week for showing COMPASSION

Amelia – Squirrels
Mila - Badgers
Jamie – 1PU
Dirgh – 1A
Max – 2F
Eva – 2BC
Finley M – 3A



Isabelle M-S – 3LT
Vritika – 4R
Snigdha – 4W
Olivia T - 5H
Ivan – 5N
Sanvit – 6S
Millie C – 6C



Times Tables Rock Stars – KS2 highest scores this week:

3A – Jess B
3LT – Danny
4R – Lily R
4W – Dulcie
5H – Angel
5N - Rocco
6C – Lily-Rose
6S – Elliot

Golden book

Ronnie (1PU) – lots of sentences about the class book 'Where the Wild Things Are'.

Saksham (6S) – contrast piece of writing using amazing vocabulary.

Adana (6S) – double page piece of writing about World War II.

Attendance cup: congratulations to the winners with 100% - 3LT! Second place this week goes to 2F with 98.5%, and in close third place with 98.48% is 1PU.



Bishop Chavasse shield winner

Well done to Isabelle M-S (3LT) (left) - she wins a £7 book token for helping her classmates. Isabelle is the first pupil to win the 'triple' as this week she is 3LT's Headteacher Hero, Bishop Chavasse Shield winner and a member of 3LT winning the attendance cup!



Out of school achievements

Ophion – awarded a ballroom dancing certificate.

Times Tables Rock Stars: Year 4

Over half term, 4R and 4W had a 'battle of the bands' competition to see which class could complete the most accurate times tables challenges. 4R were the winners!

Pictured here are the pupils with the highest individual scores: Millie I (4R), Jasmine (4R) and Favour (4W).



PTA update

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for the disco this afternoon, and a particular shout out to Mrs Pullen-Underhill for her tireless work behind the scenes popping corn, sorting wristbands and coordinating staff and volunteers. See you there!

Onto slightly less dance-y matters, we will be holding our termly PTA meeting at school and on Teams on Monday 3 March at 5pm. Please come along to share your views and hear what we're up to! The agenda is on the [PTA page](#) of the website and the Teams link is:

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 368 312 013 966

Passcode: QN7Xp6yo

Taskmaster Evening

Many tables have been sold but there's still time to put together a team to take part in what promises to be a hilarious and enjoyable evening. To take part, email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk then payment of £80 can be made at a later date for your table of up to eight players. There will be pizza, free snacks, a bar and the inimitable Mr Lucas on the Taskmaster mic.



TASKMASTER EVENING

Join us for a fantastic evening with parents, carers, staff and friends!

Teams to consist of 8 players.
Tables are £80 (£10pp) including snacks

There will be a wood fire pizza van selling 12 inch pizzas from £10

A bar selling alcoholic drinks at £2.50 and soft drinks at £1

Start getting your team together!
Email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk to reserve a table and for payment details

Come and join us!
Friday 21st March
6:30 - 9 PM

see you there!



INTRODUCTION TO WORKING IN THE BEAUTY INDUSTRY

Looking to start a career in the beauty industry?



Learn how to develop your career in the beauty industry

Find out about the different roles available

Discover which skills are useful for this industry

THIS COURSE IS FREE



kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk
Bringing learning to life

Kent Adult Education – free online course

We have a new 3 week course starting on Monday evening (3rd March 2025) from 7pm -9pm.

This course is an Introduction to Working in the Beauty Industry for adults 19+.

To enrol go to www.kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk and type in this code: ONL/149005/P/PF