

BCS NEWS

13th February 2026

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

Head's News

The power of parental collaboration

As we finish Term 3 and gasp at the acknowledgement we are now half way through the school year, I am taking a moment to reflect on our parent community. It seemed that everywhere I turned this week, I was greeted by the presence of committed and supportive parents helping bring our school to life. Each week in the corridors are volunteers who offer 1:1 reading with the children and who guide small groups to success in maths problems and reasoning. In Forest School, come rain or shine, parent volunteers are keen to help the children explore, create, reflect and perfect new skills. Our calendar of parent courses, offered throughout the year, this week featured a collaborative course about understanding your child's behaviour delivered by NHS NELFT; others grew their understanding of English teaching in our KS1 English parent workshop. And in recognition of Safer Internet Day, we were fortunate to welcome a parent with particular expertise in computing and AI to present an informative, engaging and interactive information session to our children to help them understand and navigate AI safely in the world they are growing up in. Of course, throughout the year we are blessed with our energetic, enthusiastic, passionate PTA committee and volunteers who ensured the discos last Friday were a resounding success. Each and every moment we have parents in and around the school helps nurture our children in different ways: from confidence in building relationships with trusted adults, to developing oracy skills in a conversation, to being expertly supported in a particular subject. More importantly, the children see home and school as a collaboration: adults in their lives working together to ensure they flourish and thrive in every aspect of their lives. And when the children see this, so they can understand just how important they are to us all; how brightly each and every one of them shine in our worlds. As a school, we cannot ask for more than that.

And so, as we close our gates for a week, I thank you - a committed, cooperative, supportive parent body - for your collaboration, your trust in us to take your children on their school journey and your partnership in helping every pupil to shine as brightly as they do. I wish you all a half term filled with time at a different pace, time with friends and family, time to shine brightly in whatever the week may bring.



Happy to be back in a mud-free Forest School this week, with some first signs of Spring!

Key Dates

Fri 13th February
3.15pm and 4.30pm: cake sale for Matongoro - staff
END OF TERM 3

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February
HALF TERM

Monday 23rd February
INSET day – no children at school

Weds 25th February
9am: KS2 English workshop

Fri 27th February
3.30pm: Year 6 Matongoro cake sale



Mon 2nd – Fri 6th March
BCS Book Week

Fri 6th March
3.30pm: Year 5 Matongoro cake sale

Weds 18th March
6pm: Year 6 Heatree and SATS parent meeting

Mon 30th March
9am: Easter service at St Stephen's church

Thurs 2nd April
END OF TERM 4

Mon 20th April
Start of term 5

Weds 22nd April
PTA 26 for 26 sponsorship money due in



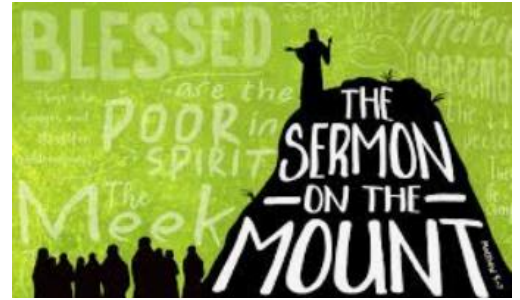
In other news

Worship this week

In worship we read from Matthew as we thought about Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and the Beatitudes; we took time to reflect on each Beatitude and lived experiences of each one in our lives today. Following on from this, our readings helped us think about how we can shine from the inside out and how Jesus welcomed children.

Thought of the week

How can we respect and care for others?



INSET DAY Monday 23rd February

A reminder that school is closed to pupils on Monday 23rd February as we have a staff training day off site. The office email and phone line will also not be monitored until our return to school on Tuesday 24th February.

KS1 English workshop

Miss Scott hosted an English workshop for KS1 parents earlier this week exploring how reading and writing are taught in Years 1 and 2. For those who were unable to attend, the PowerPoint is available on the [English section of the website](#). The **KS2 English workshop** will take place at **9am on Weds 25th February**.

Safer Internet Day 2026 – using Artificial Intelligence

On Tuesday, the children learned all about Internet Safety Week 2026, which focused on the safe use of AI. On Wednesday, Mr Beard, a parent in our school community, led a whole-school assembly about using AI safely. Mr Beard uses AI every day in his job. He showed the children how AI can help him create images, write code, and even support him with presentations. He explained how AI is created and how it works, reminding everyone that AI is simply a computer tool. He also talked about the different ways we might find AI in our homes, such as voice assistants, smart speakers, tablets, games, streaming services, and even some toys and appliances. The children learned that although AI can be helpful, it doesn't always get things right and cannot think or feel like humans do. Finally, Mr Beard reminded us that if we ever feel worried, confused, or upset about something we see or use online, we should always speak to a trusted adult or teacher. AI can give information, but it cannot replace real people who can help and support us. We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Beard for taking the time to come in and share his knowledge and experiences with the children. We really appreciate his support in helping our pupils learn how to use technology safely and responsibly. Find out more at [Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#).

This year for Safer Internet Day, we are shining a light on how young people can use AI safely, responsibly, and thoughtfully.

From chatbots to image generators, AI is becoming part of everyday life.

Understanding how it works, where risks exist, and how to stay in control online is key to keeping young people safe.

Let's start conversations that empower, not scare.



Times Tables Rock Stars tournament

This week each class in Years 2 – 6 took part in a Times Tables Rock Stars tournament to see who could complete a series of multiplication questions on the ipads the fastest and most accurately. Well done to 3A, 4R, 5H and 6C for making the semi-finals. The final was between 6C and 5H – congratulations to 6C for winning a tightly fought end battle! They win an own clothes day on Weds 25th February. Most valuable player certificates awarded to Kaya (6C), Ella T (5H) and Nysha (6C) who can complete over 2 sums per second (pictured left)!

Forest School: Holiday Challenge

We have exciting plans in the pipeline: we are planning to extend our Forest School area. This half term, we are inviting children and families to take part in a fun optional challenge helping us **imagine the future of our Forest School!** We would love children to design the extension area.

It could be:

- A woodland shelter
- A mud kitchen
- A wildlife area
- Or something completely different!

How to take part - children can:

- Draw a picture or map
- Build a small model (using natural or recycled materials)
- Write a short description of their idea



We encourage children to think about how their design helps learning, protects nature, and could be built using natural materials. Please bring entries in to your class teacher by Friday 27th February so we can share all the wonderful ideas together. If you have built a model please send in a photo not the model. We can't wait to see your creativity in action – there will be a nature-themed prize for the winner!

Year 5 author visit

Local award-winning author Teddy Keen visited 5N and 5H today to talk about his book *The Lost Book of*



Adventure and answer questions from the children about his experiences as an author and how he writes his books. He has explored the Amazon extensively to research his books, discovering many artefacts which he showed the children including a fossilized piranha and the bone from a suspected bitten off finger! More about his books is at: www.theunknownadventurer.com.



Early Years: people who help us

Early Years were excited to welcome Farmer Bex from Mote Farm. They learned about wheat, different types of tractors, cows and sheep and what farmers do for the community - and loved getting up inside the tractor too!



Headteacher Heroes – winners this week for showing this month's value of COMPASSION:

Badgers – Ava
Squirrels - Thea
1A – Josefien
1BF – Nicholas
2F – Meryem
2A – Iona
3A – Elizabeth



3FW – Jess
4R – Hanani
4M – Aadya
5N – Jasmine
5H – James
6C – Nysha
6S – Katalyn



Times Tables Rock Stars – highest scores this week:

2F – Cecilia
2A – Ada
3A – Phoebe
3FW – Keira
4R – Shiloh
4M – Julia
5H - Maneet
5N - Archie
6S – Kenisha
6C - Tolga

Gold book

Evie (3A) – accurate measuring in Maths
Toby (3A) – informative, well-researched writing about foxes
Ivy (3A) – clearly written paragraphs about the different parts of a fox
Enoch (6C) – projecting his voice beautifully in Celebration Worship

Bishop Chavasse Shield winner

Well done to Rosie (6S) - she wins a £7 book token for helping 4R in PE.

Attendance

In third place with 97.35% is 4M; in second place with 98.49% is Squirrels, and in first place with 99.26% to round off the term is 5H – well done!

House points

St Andrew – 174
St David – 281
St George -378
St Patrick – 474

Winning House overall this term is St Patrick with 2,242 points – they win an Own Clothes Day on Friday 27th February.



PTA update

Thank you to everyone who came to the disco and particularly our groovy volunteers! We raised over £800!



Back in the autumn, PTA Chair Annemarie Roberts completed a half Iron triathlon and raised £630 for Matongoro school in Tanzania. They have since spent the funds on their first ever computer and photocopier to help prepare lessons, copy materials and national exam papers! They also spent the money on desks and materials pictured here.



After half term, we will be moving the opening of the PTA pre-loved uniform shop to Thursdays – before and after school. The shop will be open every Thursday and we hope that having a regular opening time will help parents to know they can always pop in at drop-off/pick-up. If you need a specific item of second hand uniform outside of these hours you can email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk.

**PTA UNIFORM SHOP
IS OPEN**

EVERY THURSDAY

8:45 - 9:15 AM
15:15 - 15:30 PM

PAYABLE BY CASH OR CARD

Your child will have come home with a sponsorship form for the '26 for 26' fundraiser yesterday. More sponsorship forms are on the [PTA page of the website](#).

We can't wait to see what the children do to raise their £26 – please send any photos in to pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk for us to publish over the coming weeks!

£26 FOR 2026
RAISE £26 FOR OUR SCHOOL

Be creative – think 26!
(chores, reading, washing cars, baking, or a sponsored challenge)

Year Group Events

- EYFS: Bubble-a-thon
- Year 1 & 2: Balloon Challenge
- Year 3: Move-a-thon
- Year 4: TTRS Marathon
- Year 5 & 6: Score-a-thon / Keepie-uppies

Donations can be made via JustGiving or by sending cash to the school office in a named envelope.
Sponsorship forms have gone home.

Donations due: Wednesday 22nd April

A prize will be awarded to the class that

- raises the most money.

Thank you for helping us make a difference!