

BCS NEWS

6th March 2026

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

Head's News

What an absolutely jubilant, joy-filled and celebration-soaked week we have had in school! Our Book Week has truly been a radiant festival of reading – a week brimming with laughter, imagination, collaboration and inspiration. From the very first page turned on Monday morning to the final stories shared at the end of the week, the school has been alive with the magic of books and the boundless delight they bring.

The only true way to give testament to how fabulous a week it has been here is to ask you to make a cup of tea and take a comfy seat as I take you on a journey through our week, in words and pictures, to give you some sense of the our marvellous, momentous and merriment-filled week we have had, sharing just some of the highlights from what has been a truly unforgettable, joy-laden celebration of reading. For the full gallery of photos, please take a look at the [digital edition of Book Week 2026](#).



Monday: launch day

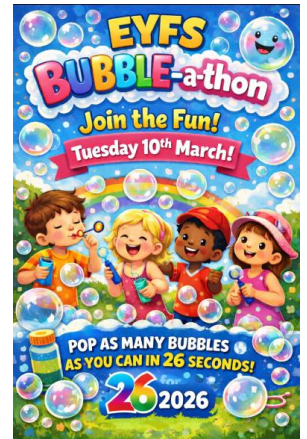
What a surprise the children had on Monday morning as they arrived, not at the school gates, but at the start of the yellow brick road to follow to find an immersive day of activities to fill their hours at school. As children and parents skipped under a huge rainbow and along the road, they were greeted by characters from the Wizard of Oz, the sounds of familiar songs from the soundtrack while also having to escape the Wicked Witch as she scuttled after unsuspecting members of the community with her broom.



Key Dates

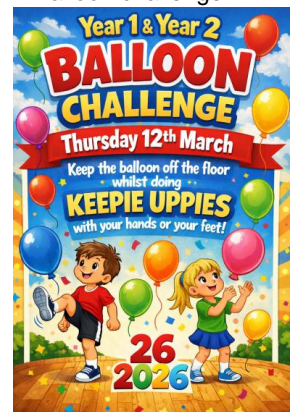
Tues 10th March

PTA 26 for 26: Early Years bubble-a-thon



Thurs 12th March

PTA 26 for 26: Years 1&2 – Balloon challenge



Weds 18th March

6pm: Year 6 Heatree and SATS parent meeting

Mon 23rd March

Early Years Wonderdome

Tues 24th March

3.30pm – 6pm: parent consultations

Weds 25th March

Year 5 trip to Museum of Kent Life

Thurs 26th March

4.30pm – 6pm: parent consultations

Mon 30th March

9am: Easter service at St Stephen's church
11am: Year 4 park trip

Weds 1st April

5.10pm for 5.30pm: Year 4-6 spring concert

Thurs 2nd April

END OF TERM 4

Working around a carousel of seven different activities from riddle solving and art, a flying monkey's escape room PE challenge, a courage building challenge, to movement and music somewhere over the rainbow, the moral of the story punctuated every step of the school day: that the strength, intelligence, and courage you seek are already within you. Forest School was hit by a Tornado, with the children tasked to build a storm safe shelter with the natural materials provided. Dorothy's journey teaches that true fulfilment comes from self-reliance and recognizing your own potential, rather than relying on external "wizards" or quick fixes to solve life's problems.



Through our workshops we shared some key lessons from the story:

- **Self-Discovery:** The characters already possessed the heart, brain, and courage they sought, needing only to believe in themselves.
- **Home and Appreciation:** The experience emphasizes the value of home and loving familiar surroundings.
- **True Friendship:** The journey highlights the power of camaraderie and supporting each other.
- **Question Authority:** The "Wizard" is revealed as a fraud, teaching us to look past false idols and not blindly trust power.
- **"There's No Place Like Home":** Ultimately, true happiness is not found on a distant "yellow brick road" but in appreciating what you already have.

Every corridor seemed to sparkle with excitement, every classroom hummed with creativity, and every child (and adult!) became part of a wonderfully uplifting, memory-making celebration of stories.

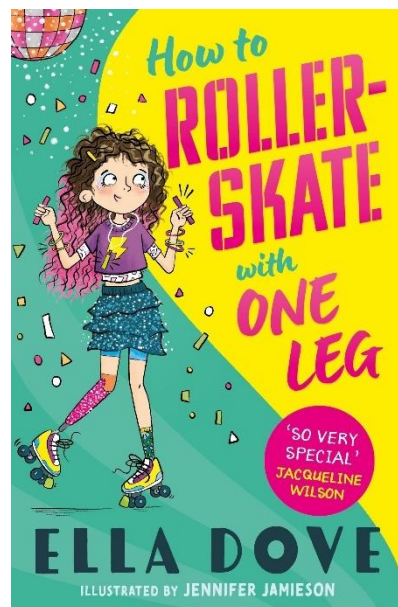
Tuesday - Author Visit Day

What an incredible privilege to welcome talented new author Ella Dove to our school; demonstrating bravery, courage, resilience and perseverance in every way as she shared her own story of how she lost her leg in a tragic accident but has drawn from her own inner strength and from the support and love around her to rebuild her life with a prosthetic leg and lives a life richer than so many. Sharing short extracts from her book about a young girl who learns to roller skate with a prosthetic leg drew squeals of excitement, curious yet tender and thought provoking questions and a host of stories being shared by our children. If ever a



group of children demonstrated love, compassion and wisdom, it was ours on Tuesday. Ella shared with us that she has never been met by such a warm

group of young children with such a sense of care, intrigue and compassion on her visits to schools. We were immensely proud of our bright shining lights on Tuesday. Many families have ordered Ella's books which Ella is signing for you and will be ready to collect next week. Word has it our local library also stocks her titles, so that is another way to get your hands on a copy.



Wednesday - Pyjama day

Never a more welcome day than pyjama day to give us all some time to pause and indulge ourselves in the true wonder of reading. Pyjamas and books for many of us go hand in hand. Memories and tales of being read to in the evening, warm under a duvet, or reading to ourselves, filled the school. Familiar stories, or those that bring back memories to staff were shared in the library, followed by a little nap for all; a chance to reflect and respond to the stories or catch a short dream taking one off to a faraway place, enabling us to travel without leaving our seats, living the true joy of reading.



In the afternoon we were joined by the Tonbridge Boys who arrived in their pyjamas, complete with a book to share with the classes they spend time with.



Year 6 and EYFS children spent the afternoon creating dens to read in around the school; the creativity, the humour, the cries of 'this is the best' and the sighs of disappointment when it was time to go back to classrooms was a wow moment to hold close in our memory book.





Thursday – World Book Day

The most dazzling and delight-filled moments of our Book Week came as the children arrived at school dressed as their favourite book characters. The playground and corridors were instantly transformed into a vibrant parade of colour, creativity and imagination. From the moment the gates opened, there was an unmistakable buzz of excitement as beloved characters from across the world of stories stepped straight off the page and into our school.



What a spectacular sight it was! Capes swirled, hats tipped, wands sparkled and carefully chosen accessories added thoughtful touches that showed just how much care and enthusiasm had gone into every costume. Our classrooms quickly filled with an extraordinary cast of characters — heroes and heroines, explorers, animals and adventurers — each bringing their own splash of colour and personality to the day.



The atmosphere was wonderfully jubilant and celebratory, with children proudly sharing who they had come as and the stories behind their choices. It was truly uplifting and memory-making as the whole school gathered together, united in a joyful tribute to the books and characters that capture our imaginations and inspire our love of reading.



We punctuated the day with our famous 'stop, drop and read' moments; staff ringing a bell signalling to all children and teachers they needed to stop what they were doing, drop to the floor and read until the bell rang again. No part of the day went without a moment including lunchtime!



What a delight to see 300 children sat reading in the lunch hall! The smiles, laughter and excitement were a joy to behold.

And finally Early Years and Key Stage 1 children were treated to a magical visit from Belle and Cinderella (Miss Sage) themselves!



Friday - Reading safari and book swap shop



We ended the week with a vibrant celebration worship where the masked readers who had made an appearance during each worship this week were unveiled. The shrieks of laughter, 'I told you so's' and 'oh my goodness' filled the hall! We may all spend a lot of time together but the hall was full of staff and children alike, beyond surprised by those behind the masks! Together we had time to celebrate the brilliance of the week and ensure everyone holds on to Book Week 2026 as they continue their journey through the school.

All children had the opportunity to visit our book swap shop; having donated books they had read, enjoyed and finished with, every child was able to choose up to a handful of books to take home, to fill their shelves and enjoy with family and friends.

Friday afternoon Reading safari is our favourite activity to end the busy week; children are paired up and can go anywhere within the school to sit quietly and read stories to each other. This is half an hour in our school year, where every child is reading, every child has the opportunity to foster new friendships with children in different classes and year groups, time stands still, the learning of being together, celebrating each other, sharing, community and belonging couldn't be more evident. Many staff felt such a huge surge of warmth that comes with watching a large community of children experience such a rich happy time together, enjoying the magic of reading for pleasure.



The flurry of comments on social media this week has been exceptionally heartwarming, "it's like waking up on Christmas morning at the start of book week - the children so excited to see what the theme will be" to "the kids are so lucky to be surrounded by so much enthusiasm." It has been a week rich with happy moments, gleeful discoveries, and heart-warming connections through reading. The atmosphere has been nothing short of exuberant: a carnival of characters, a joyful parade of pages, and a jubilant tribute to the power of books to inspire, unite and transport us. There has been such a palpable sense of togetherness throughout the week – children sharing favourite stories, teachers bringing books to life, and the whole school community revelling in the simple but profound pleasure of reading. Smiles, laughter and animated conversations about characters, plots and illustrations have filled our days, creating a truly uplifting and celebratory spirit across the school. A huge thank you to all of you – parents, carers and wider family members who share our excitement, who skipped down the yellow brick road, who have sat painstakingly preparing costumes ready for World Book Day; we know life is busy but we hope you have enjoyed hearing about your children's experiences each day, have relished in their excitement and made your own family memories this week. We are truly grateful for your support and hard work to bring books and reading to life. And of course, none of what we have done this week would be possible without a team of staff who are as excited about 'Bishop Chavasse Book week' as the children, who carefully come together to bring the vision to life – special thanks goes to Miss Scott who passionately and with such commitment curates the week, spending months planning, amending and researching to ensure each day is as exciting as the one that came before. Book week 2027 is already in the planning! And on that note, I wish you all a very happy weekend; may you find time to read together, rest a little and gather some energy for a new week next week.

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

Badgers – Henry		3FW – William
Squirrels – Emma		4R – Lexi
1A – Qhama		4M – Finley M
1BF – Billie		5N – Frankie
2F – Jamie		5H – Oliver
2A – Charlie		6S – Leon
3A – Kamari		6C – Aarav



Times Tables Rock Stars – highest scores this week:

2F – Tom B	4M – Jessica
2A – Aidan	5H - James
3A – Sara	5N - Max
3FW – Oliver	6S – Tiger
4R – Lexi	6C - Jamie

Gold book

Seb L (3A) – wrote detailed piece of descriptive writing, and for his stunning drawings of birds

Ephraim (2F) – amazing work building a train using 2D shapes

Heather (Squirrels) – wrote a story about a pixie who went skiing and to the beach!

Nella (2A) – dressed up as a character from a Japanese story and read her book in Japanese too.

Tom B (2F) – descriptive piece of writing about Dorothy's slippers with impressive vocabulary and grammar



Bishop Chavasse Shield winner

Well done to Silas (2A) - he wins a £7 book token for excellent problem solving.

Attendance

In third place with 98.15% is 3FW; in second place with 99.26% is 5H – and in first place with 100% is 1BF – hurrah!

House points

St Andrew – 251

St David – 556: this week's winners

St George -387

St Patrick – 364



Out of school achievements

Olly T (2A) – 28 mins 16 seconds for running 5k

Leni (6C) – trophies for synchronised aerial performances

Lily R (5H) – swimming certificates

Joshua (6C) – reached gold standard in swimming

Tom and Ronnie (2F) helped their football team Tonbridge Juniors to their first win of the season, beating Invicta 1-0.

Zander (6S) (right) passed his recent grading and is now Orange Belt in Military Martial Arts



26 for 26

Next week it's the turn of KS1 to fundraise in school for 26 for 26 – please sponsor your children!

Early Years' bubble-a-thon is next Tuesday 10th March and Years 1 and 2 will have fun with the balloons on Thursday 12th March.



£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!

