



BCS NEWS

4th September 2026

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

Head's News

What a pleasure it was to welcome everyone back to school on Tuesday! I do hope everyone had a wonderful summer break during which we were so fortunate to be blessed with such vibrant sunshine and warmth.

There are few moments more heart-warming and energising as educators than the very first day of the school year when children arrive at the school gates: there is the dazzling glare of newly polished school shoes and crisp uniforms, but what brings so much joy is the hustle and bustle of chatter and laughter as friends are reunited, catching up on their time apart before settling into new classrooms with their new teaching teams. This year, our new Early Years children and families joined us on the very first day too - laden with treasure boxes and book bags. And now on Friday, it is as if they have been with us for a long time: settled, smiling and radiating a plethora of budding new friendships.

As we begin a new school year, there is something rather special about knowing that our children's fortunes are not yet written. Our job is not simply to prepare them for the next year group, but to create opportunities, experiences and memories that help them discover who they are and who they might become. Often it is the smallest things — a conversation, some encouragement, a new opportunity or simply being noticed — that can make the biggest difference. As a team, this is our passion and this is why we are here. It is an immense privilege to play a small part in shaping their futures, and I can't wait to see what this year brings.



Our new Early Years making new friends during their first ever week at school

Key Dates

Sun 6th September
PTA Dragonboat race



Weds 9th September

Year 3 and Year 5 to
Carrotty Wood

5.30pm Meet The Teacher
Years 1-6

Thurs 10th September

Kent Test for Year 6
participants

Tues 15th September

PTA AGM



Friday 25th September

INSET DAY – SCHOOL
CLOSED

Mon 28th September

Flu immunisations at
school

2.15pm and 6pm: parent
meeting regarding Trust
consultation

Mon 5th October

Harvest service: Early
Years, Years 1, 2 and 6 to
St Stephen's Church

Friday 16th October

END OF TERM 1
October Half term: Mon
19th – Fri 30th October

In other news

Worship this week

'Those who listen to the word of God will grow to become wise, compassionate and honest.'

In worship this week, we have welcomed everyone back to school, introduced new staff and thought about our theological roots; how our school vision and values are deeply rooted in the parable of the Wise and Foolish Builder, Matthew 7:25. We also spent time reflecting on the small changes we can make at school each day to enable us to thrive even more, and how these small changes could change the path and fortune of our school year.



Thought of the week: How can we demonstrate our school values in all that we do?

Keeping You Informed About Your Child

We know how important it is for parents and carers to feel informed about how their child is getting on at school. Your children spend a significant part of their week with us, and it is completely understandable that you want to know that they are happy, learning and making good progress. We have listened carefully to feedback from parents about communication about their child's learning and progress, and we have been reflecting on how we can make the information we already provide as useful and accessible as possible.

Each year, families have two individual parent consultations, where teachers share information about progress, attainment and learning behaviours, followed by a comprehensive written report in the summer. We also update class learning pages termly and offer Meet the Teacher, phonics sessions and English and Maths workshops to help families understand what and how children are learning.

Importantly, communication does not need to wait for these formal points. We have an open-door approach: parents can speak to teachers, email to arrange a conversation or request a meeting. Equally, if we have concerns about a child's learning, progress, behaviour or wellbeing, we will contact you rather than wait for a parents' evening. Our relationship with you is as important as the one we have with your children. We will continue to listen to your feedback and consider how we can make communication even clearer, while balancing this with protecting teachers' time to plan, assess and provide excellent learning for your children.

If there is something about your child's learning or progress that you would like to know, please ask us. **You never need to wait until the next parents' evening to have that conversation.** Ultimately, we share the same goal: for every child to be known, supported and helped to flourish, with families and school working together.



Wonderful new additions to Forest School, courtesy of the PTA

New faces

We have warmly welcomed two new members to our staffing team this week. Mrs Sidaway has joined the team as Family and Inclusion Mentor. Mrs Sidaway has previously worked with families at KCC and in London. She will be spending time in the coming weeks meeting pupils and parents. We have also welcomed Mrs Beaney as midday supervisor to our busy lunch hall and KS2 playground.

Ordering lunches on Arbor

We issued an email this morning explaining the new process for ordering school lunches on Arbor and letting us know the days when your child will be having a packed lunch. **The cut-off time will be 9am each day.**

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

1F – Elsie 1R – Julia 2BF – Amelia 2A – Frankie 3F – Teddy 3BC – Kartik		4UW – Charlotte M 4G – Ivy 5N – Jude 5R – Leland 6S – Jonah 6C – Snigdha
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Times Tables Rock Stars – highest scores this week:

3S – Lucy	5N - Harper
3BC – Oliver T	6C – Favour
4G – Jessica	6S - Seren
4UW – Olly	
5R – No one yet!	

Gold book

Ephraim (3S) – fantastic independent writing about a picture of ducks on a river, describing the scene in full sentences with finger spaces.

Bishop Chavasse Shield winner

Well done to Vritika (6S) – she wins a £7 book token for helping with the phone box. She plans to buy the next in the 'Warrior' comic book series from the US.

Class celebration

This year we are introducing a new weekly award to the class which has achieved something extra special this week such as showing our school values, producing some collaborative work or demonstrating excellent behaviour.



This week, 3S have had a great first week moving upstairs – they've worked hard and showed each other compassion and kindness (below left).

4G looked at the Wise and Foolish Builder, working together to build houses that could stand up to the storm, showing understanding for each other as a team. Well done 4G and 3S!



Out of school achievements

Children will celebrate their out of school achievements in class this school year. Please continue to send in your child's trophies, medals and certificates to their class teacher.

Any out of school achievements (with a photo if possible) that you would like to have published in the newsletter please email office@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk.

PTA update

Last year, the PTA helped raise £24,000, which was invested in all manner of resources for the children. In straitened times, this money is an invaluable contribution.

The PTA is also about bringing our school community together. Events such as the Christmas Fair, Summer Fair, football tournament and discos are absolute highlights of the year.

They can only happen if people get involved. We have a small band of very dedicated volunteers, but we urgently need more people to help

The committee meets a couple of times each term, with a little more activity before events. You don't need to make a huge commitment: even a couple of hours each term could make a real difference.

It can be busy immediately before events, but it is also incredibly rewarding. Putting on great events that the children love is such an important part of school life.

Please consider getting involved — without more parents chipping in, the PTA and the events it organises will struggle to continue, and may eventually have to stop.

We are looking for a **new Chair and Deputy Chair** to take on the phenomenal contributions that Annemarie and Sarah PU have made over the last two years. Experience not required! They will both be on hand to mentor and provide any training as needed. Only enthusiasm, an ability to bring people together and a knack with organisation.

If you'd like to join as a volunteer in whatever capacity or might be interested in one of the roles, please email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk or you can WhatsApp **07872 324692**.



YOUR PTA NEEDS YOU!

WE NEED NEW LEADERS AND VOLUNTEERS TO HELP OUR PTA THRIVE!

 CHAIR	 DEPUTY	 COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Lead, inspire and make a real difference	Support, step up and help shape the future	Be part of the team, share ideas and support our school community

Your school. Your community. Your PTA. Could it be you?

Full training/mentoring will be given by our friendly team

 **AGM TUESDAY 15 SEPT AT 7.30PM AT SCHOOL**

Email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk or call **07872 324692** for more info