



BCS NEWS

18th September 2026

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

Head's News

This week I bring our link school in Tanzania to the forefront of our minds; to introduce Matongoro to new members of our community and share our thoughts for continuing to strengthen our links with our whole family. Matongoro is a primary school that sits in the heart of the Kongwa District in the Dodoma Regions in Central Tanzania. Through our St Stephen's church link with the Diocese of Mpwapwa, Bishop Chavasse has been linked to the school for many years. Year on year we have shared snippets of daily life at school, heard songs from the children there and sent gifts alongside fundraising efforts to buy much needed resources for the school. You can read more in their [summer newsletter](#). Last academic year, alongside three other members of my team, I travelled to visit the school. The trip was profoundly moving and insightful; we found ourselves immersed in a culture of deep Christian compassion, strength, selflessness and hope. We were struck by the breath-taking beauty of the landscape, and above all, by the warmth and generosity of the people who welcomed us so openly. But what struck us most was the commitment. The dedication of the teachers, doing everything they possibly could for their pupils. And the determination of the children: to learn, to succeed, to build a future. A vision and values so seamlessly aligned with ours. In one school, their motto is: "Education is more valuable than wealth." And you could feel that. It wasn't just words, it was lived out every day. And when you stop and reflect on that, it feels profoundly true.



Our community had been exceptionally generous and fundraising efforts have enabled transformation of a whole classroom block, enabled the school to reconnect to a running water supply and start to build a school kitchen to enable pupils to receive a hot meal at lunchtime. This year, our fundraising efforts will continue as another classroom block is in urgent need of repair. We are working closely with the Diocese and their governing body to identify need and see how we can help. We are planning an evening to showcase some highlights of our trip and have a calendar of events in the diary to raise money – the first of which will be a **cake sale on Friday 16th October**. We are looking forward to the journey ahead and excited to have a community here who are so supportive.



Key Dates



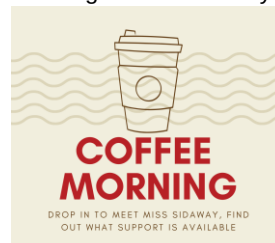
Friday 25th September
INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

Mon 28th September
Flu immunisations

2.15pm and 6pm: parent meetings regarding Trust merger with Mark Cole, Tenax Trust CEO.

7.30pm: PTA meeting at the Vauxhall Inn

Fri 2nd October
8.45 – 10.30am Coffee Morning – Miss Sidaway



Mon 5th October
Harvest service: Early Years, Years 1, 2 and 6 to St Stephen's Church

Thursday 15th October
Year 6 tie service at school: Year 6 parents/carers invited

Friday 16th October
3.25pm: Matongoro fundraising cake sale – Year 6 to bring cakes/cookies



October Half term: Mon 19th – Fri 30th October

In other news

Worship this week

We have spent time in worship considering how Jesus helps us flourish and how we flourish better together, basing our worships on readings **John 10:1-15 and Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

Thought of the week: how can I help someone else flourish today?

Lost Property

Three weeks into term and our lost property bucket is already overflowing! Please ensure all your child or children's belongings are clearly labelled with their name and that they know what they have brought to school each day and therefore what they need to make sure they bring home. While the weather is on our side, we will leave a table with items outside for collection. Items not collected by the end of the week will be donated to our school uniform shop or charity.

Meet Miss Sidaway over coffee

Miss Sidaway, our new Family & Inclusion Mentor, will be hosting a coffee morning in the library on Friday 2nd October to meet parents, carers – younger siblings are welcome too, and there will be activities for them. Please come along for an informal chat, find out what support there is on offer, and what you might like going forward from coffee mornings or other events.

Forest School this week: Year 5




COFFEE MORNING

DROP IN TO MEET MISS SIDAWAY, FIND OUT WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY 2ND OCT 2026
8:45-10:30AM

Taking place in the Library

Come and meet our new Family and Inclusion Mentor who can share support on behaviour, routines, low cost rewards and more!

PRESCHOOL SIBLINGS WELCOME TO JOIN AND EXPLORE FUN ACTIVITIES

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

1F – Albie		4UW – Josie
1R – Henry		4G – Olly
2BF – Henry		5N – Caleb
2A – Marlie-Ann		5R – Lia
3S – Kayden		6S – Henry
3BC – Louie		6C – Dulcie



Times Tables Rock Stars – highest scores this week:

3S – Orla	5N – Varun
3BC – Arthur	6C – Oliver
4G – Phoebe	6S – Edie
4UW – Grayson	
5R – no hero this week 😞	

Gold book

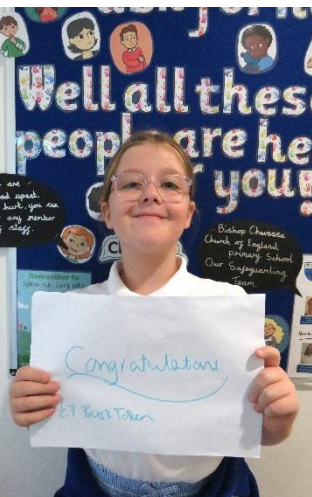
Keira – Maths: place value and portioning, well executed and beautifully presented.

Olivia (4G) – very good Maths, completing it in good time.

Ivy Rose (1F) – amazing writing all by herself

Faith and Albie (1F) – incredibly impressive Maths work, working with high numbers, very well presented

Louis and Ambrose (4G) – wrote newspaper articles about their class book, *The Comet* (right)

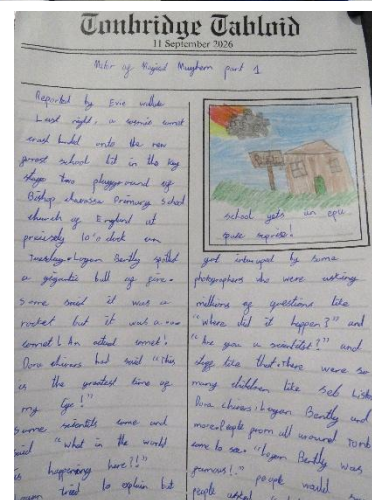


Bishop Chavasse Shield winner

Well done to Bobbi (5R) – she wins a £7 book token for showing kindness and compassion. She plans to buy the next in the Dork Diaries series by Rachel Renée Russell.

Class celebration

The Class Celebration Cup for the class which has achieved something extra special this week goes to **4G** for working extra hard and persevering with writing newspaper articles about their class book, *The Comet*.



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@bishopchavassschool.org.uk.

Sponsor BCS parents!

This weekend, a group of BCS parents and friends are taking on the Walk Tonbridge Marathon to help raise funds for Tonbridge Music Club's family screening of *Wallace & Gromit's The Wrong Trousers* with a live orchestra next February at Tonbridge Parish Church. If you'd like to support the team, donations can be made at www.justgiving.com/page/tonbridge-music-club. For more information about the concert and to book tickets, see www.tmc.org.uk.



Kent Family website

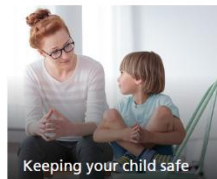
Parents and carers can find support and answers to common questions on the [Kent Family website](https://www.kentfamily.nhs.uk). It brings together information and advice for families before and after birth, through childhood and up to age 19.



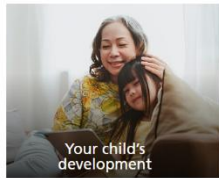
Keeping your child healthy



Supporting your child at school



Keeping your child safe



Your child's development



Supporting your child or teen's emotional wellbeing



School-aged children's health services



PTA update

We were delighted to welcome a record number of parents to our PTA Annual General Meeting this week. You can read the [minutes](#) in full on the website – the headline news is that we have a new PTA Chair: Alexander Woods, dad to Evelyn and Silas. Our Treasurer, Thanasis, and Secretary, Nicola, were re-elected to their positions. Alexander chaired a short inaugural meeting of the new PTA Committee after the AGM, the [minutes](#) of which are also on the PTA page of the website: [Bishop Chavasse Primary School - PTA](#).

Meet our new PTA Chair: Alexander Woods



I'm thrilled to be taking on the role of Chairman of the PTA!

A huge thank you to Annemarie and the previous Committee for everything they have done—and for the time, energy and enthusiasm they have given to the school community. I'd also like to thank everyone who has already signed up to join the Committee for 2026/27. It's fantastic to see such a positive start.

We're already working on an exciting programme of events for the year ahead, with something for everyone. Of course, fundraising remains important, but the PTA is about much more than that: it's about bringing families together, building

our school community and creating opportunities to have fun along the way.

There are lots of ways to get involved, whether you'd like to join the Committee, lend a hand at a particular event or simply share an idea. You don't need to commit to everything—every contribution makes a difference, and many hands really do make light work!

Our next Committee meeting will be held at **7.30pm on Monday 28 September at the [Vauxhall Inn](#)**, and everyone is welcome to come along.

Alternatively, you can email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk, find me at Friday afternoon pick-up, or send us a message through the [PTA Facebook group](#). We'd love to hear from you!