



BCS NEWS

6th September 2024

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

Head's News

"The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock." (Matthew 7:25)

Bishop Chavasse School policies are underpinned by our school parable 'The Wise and the Foolish Builder.' Jesus is at the heart of Christianity. As a Church of England school we believe that, like the wise man, those who are guided by the word of God in the Bible and trust in him will become wise, compassionate and honest; be empowered to weather all storms, help one another flourish and make a difference in the world.

And just like that the first week of the new school year draws to a close. How truly wonderful it was to open our doors to you all again on Tuesday. Throughout the school there is a palpable new anticipatory enthusiasm, excitement, and energy, and also, some natural trepidation about the year ahead, as pupils have wondered what the new year will bring and what their school days will look like.

But, in every classroom, worship and playtime, we have reminded each child that we are here to give them an education that will enable them to thrive, to flourish and to fulfil their potential and achieve excellence, offering a plethora of moments, experiences and opportunities that will help shape children's lives and create wonderful fond memories, foster curiosity, resilience and kindness in each and every one of them, and in each other, and fill their days with unforgettable moments of learning that will form everlasting knowledge, inspiration and memories in a supportive and kind manner... and the children have smiled all week, they have laughed, they have settled in seamlessly again, and demonstrated, unequivocally, that they are the cogs that keep our wheels moving, keep the staff here so passionate and dedicated to their roles and make us such a wonderful school community to be a part of.



Our new 'Drop and Go' Walking Bus at Hendy Ford got off to a fantastic start this week! You can drop your child between 8.20am and 8.30am – visit the [website](#) for more details.

Key Dates

Monday 9th Sept
Early Years start

Tuesday 10th Sept
Year 3 and Year 5: team building at Carroty Wood

3pm – Year 6 talk: transition to Year 7

Wednesday 11th Sept
6pm – Meet the Teacher

Thursday 12th Sept
Kent Test (Year 6)

Tuesday 1st October
9.30am: Supporting Your Child's Anxiety – Kent Adult Education course

Monday 7th October
9am Harvest Service – St Stephen's church

Friday 25th October
Flu immunisations
END OF TERM 1



Our stunning new banner in the hall, created by students from Bennett Memorial School

Mon 28th Oct – 1st Nov
HALF TERM

Monday 4th November
START OF TERM 2

In other news

New leadership structure

Every school year brings changes to a school – whether learning projects, staffing or timings. This newsletter will focus largely on some of those changes, starting with staffing.

The **Leadership Team** for this year consists of:

Mrs Hood, Headteacher

Mr Lucas, Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Abdullah, SENDCO

Mr Ley, School business manager

On the **Wider Leadership Team** we have:

Miss Scott leading KS2

Mrs Cochrane leading KS1

Miss Adams leading Early Years.

The **Designated Safeguarding Team** are:

Mrs Hood, Mr Lucas, Mrs Abdullah and Mrs Ley (Behaviour and Learning Mentor)



We are all here in different capacities to work positively with our pupils and families to ensure every child gets the best possible education they can.

Communication

It is our duty to care for your children. Staff diligently and passionately plan lessons and nurture your children through their school journey. Positive and open, trusting, communication with parents and families is critical to ensuring a truly successful journey. All staff are committed to this. We offer an open door policy and staff are always keen to talk to you about your children at times that are mutually convenient.

Who can you talk to and how can you contact them?

Class teachers are always the first port of call to talk about your children's behaviour and learning needs. You can:

- *catch them* at the end of the day and they will suggest a suitable time to meet; that may not be then and there as sometimes staff have pre booked meetings or training to attend.
- *email teachers* via office@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

We aim to respond to emails within 48 working hours, and will always ensure meetings are held in a timely manner and with the privacy they warrant. Please email members of staff to the school office email address, marked for the attention of the appropriate staff member.

In addition to having an open door policy and the ability to book meetings via the office, class web pages and the newsletter are the best ways to find out what is going on or to catch up on any other news in the different year groups.

Urgent safeguarding – our DSL@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk is a dedicated email address to inform us of **urgent safeguarding** concerns. This is monitored by the school safeguarding team during school hours. If you have an urgent concern out of school hours, we recommend you contact the police or local children's services – details can be found on our [website](#). Emails regarding any other focus should be sent to the office marked for the attention of the appropriate member of staff and will be forwarded on.

Trips and excursions

Regarding trips and excursions or extra events, we will try to give at least two weeks' notice for parents, particularly when payments or different drop off or pick up arrangements are necessary. On some occasions, we are presented with events for us to participate in at very short notice, but which are too good to turn down. We understand this can be difficult sometimes, but we want to open our children to as many events and activities as possible so will always try to help with changes to arrangements where we can, if they do come at short notice.



Meet the Teacher

A reminder you are warmly invited to attend our Meet the Teacher gathering on **Wednesday 11th September at 6pm**. We will meet in the Hall for a short meeting, where Mrs Abdullah will share some exciting developments about our curriculum before you go to classrooms to meet teachers. The teacher meeting will then be repeated at 6.45pm to accommodate parents with two children. Parents should attend the eldest child's meeting first.

If you aren't able to make the meeting next Wednesday, or have three children in school, and have something specific you need to discuss with the teacher, please get in touch with the office.

Meeting local Headteachers – Year 6

Parents of children in Year 6 are invited to attend a meeting with two local Headteachers to learn a little more about what we are preparing our Year 6 children for in Year 7 - trust me, the year goes quickly, and as much preparation as we can do for the children the better secondary school they will be when they leave us.



The meeting will be in the hall at **2.30pm on Tuesday 10th September**, and will be finished by 3.30pm. All Year 6 children will attend. We will bring younger siblings due to be picked up directly to the hall to meet their parent in time for the end of the meeting.

New House group names

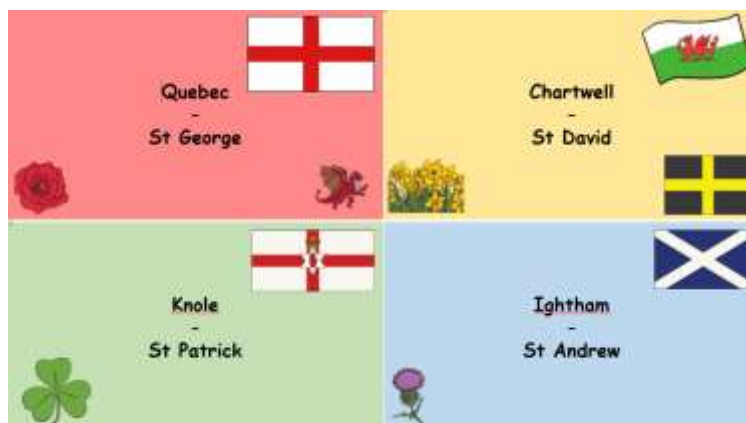
We are excited to start a new year and welcome the children back with a variety of House group activities. As our school continues to grow, we always consider ways to further the children's learning in the most impactful way. One of our latest adaptations will be to our House group names, in order to make them more relevant to the children's learning and our school community. Therefore, the House groups will now be named after the British patron saints: St George, St David, St Andrew and St Patrick. The children have been introduced to these changes today during worship and we will continue to embed them throughout the year in our House group activities. We will have lots of events throughout the year so please look out for calendar updates. We understand that it may take time to get used to the changes but when we make a change, it is for the benefit of the children and to make links between school and the wider community and world around them.

Quebec will become **George House**

Knole will become **Patrick House**

Chartwell will become **David House**

Ightham will become **Andrew House**



Pencil cases

We invite pupils in KS2 to bring small pencil cases to school to use for playtimes or golden times in classrooms only. We provide all the equipment children need for their learning. Pencil cases will stay in school bags, and children can access them when they go to play or during golden time. Please note, we cannot take responsibility if items get lost, broken or given away to friends, so be mindful of this if purchasing a pencil case and equipment for your child. Please can we stress that it is not a requirement for your child to have their own pencil case at school.

Supporting your Child's Anxiety – free course on Tuesday 1st October 9.30am


The wonderful Kent Adult Education will be returning to school this term. They will be delivering a free course on Supporting your Child's Anxiety on Tuesday 1st October from 9.30-11.30am.

This will be a supportive workshop designed to increase understanding and provide practical strategies for parents and carers in helping children manage anxiety. In this two-hour session, learners will engage in open discussions facilitated by the tutor and fellow parents, sharing experiences and learning effective ways to support children experiencing anxiety.



This course will be for parents/carers only; we regret that no younger siblings may attend. Please email office@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk if you would like to attend – spaces are limited.

Headteacher Heroes – winners this week for showing GROWTH MINDSET:

Ronnie – 1PU Rocco – 1A William R – 2F Evie – 2CS Finley W – 3A Isabelle – 3LT		Charlie – 4R Azad – 4C Erin – 5N Katalin - 5H Cairo – 6S Archie G – 6C
---	---	---

Golden book

Brooke (4C) – for showing perseverance in her writing, using high quality editing skills.

Bishop Chavasse shield winner

Zachary (5N) wins a £7 book token for showing initiative in litter picking and returning lost belongings.

Out of school achievements

Brooke (4C) - Level 5 swimming certificate

Evie (1A) – lots of badges at Rainbows

Archie (1A) – football certificate

Soren (1A) – won penalty shoot-out at football club

Ella (4R) – Stages 4 and 5 in gymnastics



FOBCSA update

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our parent Dragonboat team last Sunday at the Tonbridge Lions Dragonboat race – Bishops on the Chase came a truly impressive 5th place in the finals! Well done Bishops!

