



BCS NEWS

11th October 2024

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

Head's News

In what has been a rather wet week as autumn really beds in, our school community has found the bright rays of sunshine in many areas of the school, demonstrating that there is always light to be found. Without doubt, the highlight of the week was the Harvest Festival, celebrated at St Stephen's Church.

Gathering in church for the first time in a school year is a truly poignant moment. The sense of community and closeness of our pupils is palpable as they see one another around the church, a place of worship, out of the familiar environment of the classroom. The confidence with which the pupils shared their reflections of Harvest through song, prayer and drama energised the pupils themselves, brought pride to staff and siblings, and was true testament to the pupils' fulfilling their potential. From Year 6 down to our youngest children in Early Years, the church came alive with a bright, vibrant, caring and considerate pupil body, of whom everyone in the team is so exceptionally proud.



Observing the walk back to school: 360 children, in hi-viz jackets, trailing bookbags and lunchboxes must be a sight to behold for the public, who smile as they witness the chattering, the giggling and the running to close the gap between one set of partners and the next, staff manning the roads and then sprinting up Pembury Road to reach the head of the group before they get to the next crossing. Little legs are weary as we make the final descent into school, but achievement, satisfaction and contentment always override as the familiarity of the classroom and playground are reached at the end...



Our church services take us out into the community and remind us of our Christian roots, the walk is an adventure, a challenge, and a hugely important part of who we are: a close-knit school community where friendships blossom across the year groups, thought is given to those less fortunate than ourselves and memories are made.

Key Dates

Weds 16th October
5N's science afternoon
at Tonbridge School

Tues 22nd October
3.30pm – 6pm parent
consultations

Thurs 24th October
4.30pm – 7pm parent
consultations

Friday 25th October
Own Clothes Day/
preloved uniform sale
Flu immunisations
3.15pm Young Voices
cake sale

END OF TERM 1

Mon 28th Oct – 1st Nov
HALF TERM

Monday 4th November
START OF TERM 2
5pm - PTA AGM

Tuesday 5th November
5.30pm EY + KS1
phonics parent workshop

Thursday 7th November
9am: whole school
service at St Peter and
St Paul – Year 6 ties

Friday 15th November
Children in Need: wear
spotty clothing/accessory

Thurs 21st November
Individual + sibling
photographs

Monday 16th December
Afternoon performance
of EY and KS1 nativity

Tues 17th December
Morning performance of
EY and KS1 nativity
Evening: KS2 carol
concert, St Stephen's
Church

Weds 18th December
Christmas lunch +
Santa's grotto

Thurs 19th December
9am: whole school
church service at St
Peter and St Paul
END OF TERM 2

In other news

New PTA

Those interested in being part of our new PTA met over cake and biscuits on 9th October, with some parents joining via Teams. The Strand room was filled with parents eager to be a part of the exciting new association, with a flurry of ideas shared to help raise money for the school and for charities close to our hearts. There is still opportunity to be a part of the PTA if you wish, either as part of the committee, which will be voted in at the beginning of November, or to help with arranging specific events over the school year. One thing, of which I have no doubt, is that we have a truly creative parent body, keen and raring to go on raising funds, making strong links with the school and arranging a plethora of events that will make even more wonderfully special memories for our children and community. Some key outcomes and requests from the meeting:

- There are **three key roles** for the new PTA committee: **Chair, Treasurer and Secretary**. Descriptions of what these roles might involve is on the new [PTA page](#) on our website, taken from PTA charity [Parentkind](#). Please email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk if you are thinking about putting yourself forward and/or would like to chat them through. Job-shares very welcome.
- Other roles include deputy chair(s), fundraising lead, events coordinator, designer, comms.
- The **first AGM for the new PTA on will be on Monday 4th November at 5pm** at which we will vote in the new committee and agree the governance, constitution and other details.
- In the meantime, we want to kick-start **planning for Christmas!** If you would like to join the **Christmas Fair sub-committee**, which will meet before half term, please email ASAP: pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk. If you would like to help at the **Christmas grotto** on 18th December (during the school day), please also let us know!

Initial dates for your diaries:

- **Friday 25th October – Own Clothes Day and Preloved uniform sale**

We invite all children to come to school in their own clothes. In exchange, please bring an item of school uniform you have grown out of or no longer need (please remember we are moving to grey skirts and trousers, so please do not donate black items or blazers). The new PTA will also be running a second-hand uniform stall where you can stock up on items for your winter uniform which we start wearing after half term. See our [uniform policy](#) for guidance on this if you are not sure what your child needs to be wearing.

Do please also claim any lost property from the area outside the school office next week – unnamed items will be washed and sold.

- **Friday 15th November 2024 - Children in Need –Own Clothes Day with spotty clothing or accessory: £1 donation**

There will be lots more to come, with great appetite for another parent/staff quiz night and other social occasions. Watch this space!

Eco Gardening after school club: enjoying the autumn sunshine on Thursday



Pupils coming to school alone


If you are a parent/carer of pupils who make their own way to school, please ensure they set off in good time and remind them to come straight in to school. We are increasingly finding the children dawdling outside school on the grass or near the concrete bollards at the end of Tudeley Lane and needing a prompt to come into school in order to make the gates before they close. It is not always possible for staff members on the gate to leave their post to get the children to come in. If the children arrive late, they will be asked to sign in and marked late on the register.

Lateness to school

It is incredibly important that all children are arriving to start school on time each day so that they are not missing out on key parts of their education. Lessons start promptly at 8.55am and arrival after this time affects not only your own child but can disrupt other children's learning too. Kent County Council attendance policy has introduced fines which can be issued for 10 unauthorised late marks. These fines are up to £160. Punctuality matters:

Minutes late per day	Equals total days' worth of teaching lost per year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days

Headteacher Heroes – winners this week for showing CURIOSITY:

Daisy – 1PU Sofia – 1A Rory – 2F Kamari – 2CS Finley W – 3A Nevin – 3LT		Exalt – 4R Nikita – 4C Lewis – 5N Tiger - 5H Oscar – 6S Jayden – 6C
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



Times Tables Rock Stars

Congratulations to Key Stage 2 children who have scored the highest when practising their Times Tables this week:

3A – Reggie	5N - Phoebe
3LT – Nathaniel	6C - Bella
4R – Hugo	6S – Isabel F
4C – Frankie	
5H – Nadia	

Golden book

Alexandra (5N) for her owl story produced on the computer

George and Lucia (5H) for their formal language descriptions about going to the moon



Bishop Chavasse shield winner

Well done to Ben for tidying up at the end of play - he wins a £7 book token, courtesy of FOBCSA.



Attendance

In third place this week with 98.2% are 5H, in second place with 99.5% and in first place again this week are 1A with an astounding 100%!

Art and D&T competition

This is a reminder about our exciting Art and D&T competition where children are invited to design, make and create their own representations of our school parable 'The Wise and Foolish Builder'. It was launched three weeks ago and your child has three weeks left until their entries need to be brought into school. **The competition closes on Wednesday 6th November.** All entries can be brought into school between Monday 4th and Wednesday 6th November.

Please email the office if you have any questions regarding the competition. It can either be 2D or 3D.



STLS Public Consultation

Share your views about funding and how the Specialist Teaching and Learning Service in Kent can continue to support children and young people with SEND in mainstream schools and settings. Please scan the QR Code or follow the link [Specialist Teaching and Learning Service | Let's talk Kent](#). The consultation closes 3rd November 2024.

