

BCS NEWS

5th September 2025

*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 Church of England School Policies are all underpinned by our school parable 'The Wise and the Foolish Builder.'

Jesus is at the heart of Christianity. As a church 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.

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope all of you were able to enjoy summer breaks that took a different pace to school time, allowed you to visit and spend time with those you may not see often during term time, and soak up the warmth, colour and vibrancy of the long summer evenings.

As staff completed their final preparations of classrooms and corridors on Monday and fulfilled statutory training needs, there was a palpable air of enthusiasm and excitement to welcome the children back, and my, was that sated on Tuesday morning when we opened the gates - the sparkle of fresh uniform and the creaking of shiny new leather, the squeals of glee and excitement at reunions with friends and staff members; a few sleepy eyes but big smiles joined the welcome cacophony of noise so familiar to schools on the first day of the school year. It is quite honestly one of the most memorable and special times for school staff when we start the journey of a new school year.

And we know that whether those first steps into a new classroom for pupils are excited and confident, or nervous and tentative, those steps are starting a path that will, for each pupil, change their life completely. That same spirit of discovery fills our hallways every day of the school year, as pupils and staff work together to build something extraordinary. As the year goes on, long-lasting, trusting relationships will be built, a quiet, nuanced understanding of each member of the class will embed itself in the minds of pupils and staff, and we will work together to change your children's lives on an individual basis. The nerves of Tuesday make way for a calm, curious, confidence that flourishes each day as the school year progresses.

As we prepare to welcome 60 new children to our community next week, when our Early Years classes start, we share a reflective reminder that Bishop Chavasse is a wonderful school and our commitment to forming positive trusting relationships with the children and working together with you, our parents and wider community, coupled with high quality, experience rich teaching and learning means our children will fulfil their potential.

We don't just teach subjects here. We teach children how to think, how to solve problems, and how to care for others. These lessons will stay with them long after they leave our halls. By combining our efforts and talents throughout our community we will achieve amazing things and make a difference to every pupil's lives.

Key Dates

Weds 10th September
6pm: Years 1-6 Meet the Teacher

Thurs 11th September
8pm: PTA meeting – join online

Thurs 2nd October
Year 6 trip to Temper Temper

Thurs 2nd October
Year 6 trip to Temper Temper

Mon 6th October
8.45am: Harvest Festival service at St Stephen's church

Tues 14th October
3.30pm – 6pm Parent consultations

Weds 15th October
4.30pm – 7pm Parent consultations

Fri 17th October
HALF TERM

Mon 27th October
Start of Term 2



Team building at Carroty Wood today – see page 2

In other news

Worship this week

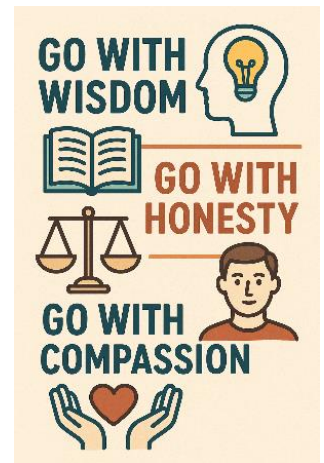
We have made changes to the format of worship this academic year helping children to clearly recognise the different parts to a meaningful worship: **gathering together** where we light the candle and open the bible, **learning together** where we share a bible passage, reflecting offering pupils and staff to **respond to and reflect** on their learning and ending with **leaving together** where we remind ourselves of our school values and how we carry them with us through the school day in our learning and interactions with others. This week we focussed on reminding ourselves of our school vision and values, our expectations for behaviour and work ethic to ensure we all fulfil our potential and on Thursday we invited pupils to think about why there are rules at school and in the wider world using readings from Matthew 7.

New faces

We have warmly welcomed two new members to our staffing team this week. Mrs Billing has officially joined the leadership team now, as Assistant Headteacher and SENDCO. She has spent considerable time this week meeting pupils and many parents. In Year 4, we have welcomed Miss Gardner. Miss Gardner is an experienced teacher who has brought many skills and a passion for making a difference to our team. Both Mrs Billing and Miss Gardner are looking forward to getting to know our community as the term goes on.

Team Building

Our newly formed Year 3 and 5 classes have enjoyed a special team building day at Carrot Wood. Staff led a host of activities designed to foster new friendships, team spirit, resilience and perseverance. Reports back during the day shared that compassion was demonstrated in abundance and laughter and good humour carpeted the day. In school we held our first House event- children participated in STEM and sports activities as well as playing sleuth in our close-up quiz; here new friendships started to form across year groups, reminding our children they are part of a community and not just one class. A fantastic end to a wonderful school week. Visit [our Facebook page](#) for more!



The rest of our newsletter this week draws your attention to some key policies and procedures that are useful to refer to, to ensure our working relationships are open, positive and trusting for the benefit of the children. This information will be distributed in paper format to all children early next week so you can have it to hand.

Communications

As a school we work very hard on our communication with parents. You can contact teachers by:

- catching them at the classroom door at the end of the day;
- emailing teachers via offica@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

We want to ensure our lines of communication are open, as this supports the development of good relationships between home and school, which are key for ensuring the children have the best possible education at our school. All staff are committed to this. We will endeavour to respond to emails within 48 hours, and will always ensure meetings are held in a timely manner and with the privacy they warrant. Regarding trips and excursions or extra events, we will try to give at least 2 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. Where an issue cannot be addressed within 48 hours, we will inform you as quickly as possible that we are addressing a matter and will ensure it is addressed within five working days. 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 the news in individual year groups.

Arbor

Please visit your child's Arbor profile to check that all the details are correct and update them as needed, particularly home address, phone numbers, allergies/dietary requirements – please do this by Fri 12th September.

Medication reminder

We have copied the most pertinent part of the policy here for you to read. From the start of Term 2 (after October half term), in line with our policy, we will not be able to administer over the counter medications during school time unless agreed by a senior member of staff.

Introduction

The school recognises its general duty of care towards pupils, however the administration of medicines remains the responsibility of parents/carers.

The school aims to support children with long term medical conditions and those with short term illnesses that may require medication during school time, **however we strongly urge parents to administer medicines at home. Time-release medication can be requested from GPs to facilitate this.**

In general terms **if your child has to be administered medication 4 or more times a day, we are then happy to administer one dose or more. If the dose is three times or less a day, we suggest for example a dose before School, a dose after School and a dose at bedtime.**

If your child is unwell at school, you will be contacted and asked to collect them.

The following guidelines which give information about school policy and procedures should a child need medication during school hours.

Procedures for medicines in school

1. **Written agreement/forms** – Written permission and clear instructions are required for all medicines. A form is available at the school office.
2. **Storage of medicines** – medicines are kept in the school medical room and a locked 'medicine safe' is available for use where appropriate. Medicines which require storage at a particular temperature/refrigerated can be administered in school and will be stored in a specific medicine fridge.

The image shows a mobile application interface for adding information. It features a green header bar with the text "Add Information" and an upward-pointing arrow. Below the header, there are seven white rectangular input fields, each with a green border and a label: "Add Allergy", "Add Another Spoken Language", "Add Guardian/Contact", "Add Immunization", "Add Mode Of Travel", "Add Medical Condition", and "Add Previous School". At the bottom of the screen, there is a green navigation bar containing three icons: a hamburger menu icon, a person icon, and a profile icon.

3. **Asthma** – inhalers are kept in the individual classrooms for all pupils needing one. All pumps and refills must be named and pupils must only use their own pump and medication. A medical form must be completed by parents.
4. **Regular and short term prescription medicines, prescribed by a doctor** must be handed in at the school office or to breakfast club staff in a named original medicine container. An administration of medicines form must be completed and signed and handed in with the medication. This form can be found on our website or copies are held in the office. Please make your child aware that they need medicine and at what time so that they can help to remind staff if necessary. Medicines will be administered by a trained first aider.
5. **Emergency medicines** such as Epi-pens and Antihistamines are kept in the school medical room and require a medicine form to be completed.
6. **Over the counter medicines are generally not encouraged and should be administered at home.** Where an over the counter medicine is necessary e.g. travel sickness pills, short term pain killer for toothache etc. the procedures outlined above for other medicines must be followed.
7. **Long term medical needs – where a child has a long term/more serious medical need such as diabetes, an individual written Care Plan will be agreed** and completed with parents/carers and where appropriate medical professionals. Care Plans are reviews with parents/medical professionals regularly, according to individual need.

Driving on school site and parking

Please remember that the speed limit throughout the car park is **5 mph** and that we have a responsible duty to ensure we remain respectful to our local neighbours and the residents and do not impinge on their right to enter and exit the resident's estate safely and park on their own drives.

Tailgating

We appreciate the need to collect your children promptly at the end of the day and we open our vehicle gates with time to allow for parking and prompt collection. We always have a number of visitors coming to the school throughout the school day, and we kindly request you do not tailgate someone coming in through the gate prior to 3.10pm. This ensures those on site are able to arrive promptly for their appointment and that if children are arriving back from an excursion, or workmen are on site, there is a considerably smaller risk of accident within school hours.

Coats, uniform and accessories

Please make sure your child's uniform and accessories - including water bottles and lunch boxes - are clearly labelled. We collected an inordinate amount of lost property last year and despite our best efforts to reunite it with owners, were left with an enormous load at the end of term. This year, unnamed lost property will be taken to the charity shop if not claimed by the end of each week when we leave it out and uniform will be put in the PTA uniform shop.

School meals

This year, the price of school meals has increased from £2.58 to £2.65: an increase of just over 2.5%. Please be assured we have negotiated the lowest possible increase whilst maintaining the quality of the offer. The increase is a result of increasing food and staff costs. For children who join our breakfast club, we have improved the breakfast offer to include a selection of cereals, toast, fresh fruit, yogurt and milk plus a different hot option every day.



BREAKFAST CLUB
EVERY DAY
CEREALS 1,2,3,6 FRUIT OR YOGHURT 3,7 TOAST WITH JAM OR HONEY 1,3,6 FRUIT JUICE OR MILK 7

SPECIALS

MONDAY
Toasted Crumpet & Jam 1,6, VG

TUESDAY
Hash Browns & Beans VG

WEDNESDAY
Beans on Toast 1,3, VG

THURSDAY
Sausage – meat or Quorn - & Beans 1,6

FRIDAY
Pancake with Jam or Honey 1,6,7,9

VG Vegan V Vegetarian
1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soy/bean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur
Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg 10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins
15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten

Headteacher Heroes – winners this week for showing a *Growth Mindset*:

1A – Elijah
1BF – Huda
2F - Louie
2A – Nella



Year 3 and Year 5 heroes will be announced next week after Carrotty Wood

4R – Cian
4G - Grace
6C – Albie
6S - Maddie

Gold book

Phoebe (6S) – for writing an amazing persuasive letter to Mrs Hood using incredibly high quality vocabulary.

Bishop Chavasse Shield winner

Well done to Grace (4G) – she wins a £7 book token for being kind and going above and beyond to help others.

Out of school achievements

Lia (4R) – football trophy for the ‘world cup finals’ at Premier Football holiday club

Austin (6S) – medal for scoring a hat-trick in a football tournament.



PTA update

Welcome back to the new school year! We are brimming with ideas and plans for the coming year, which we will be discussing at our first meeting next **Thursday 11th September at 8pm** – it will be a Teams meeting, and everyone is very very welcome to join, either to participate or just to observe with your camera and mic switched off!

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

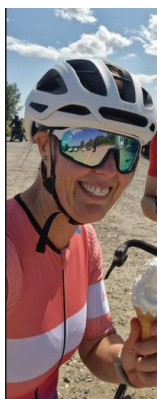
Meeting ID: 386 634 792 424 5

Passcode: 9f2JZ9R6

One of the things we'll be discussing is the forthcoming AGM on Fri 5th October, which will double up as a quiz night. We will be welcoming nominations for [any of the committee roles](#) – if you'd like to put yourself forward, please email pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk.

Please come along and support our school boat at the Dragonboat races on Sunday from 9am!

And finally, as part of the school and PTA's ongoing support for [Matongoro school in](#)



[Tanzania](#), Annemarie, the chair of our PTA will be doing a half iron triathlon on Sunday 14 September to raise funds. She has set herself the goal to finish this challenging event which comprises a 1.9km swim, 90km cycle and 21km run. Any donations will be greatly appreciated, please donate here:

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/mpwapwa2025>. To make sure the donation goes to our partner school, please type in 'Matongoro' when you donate. Thank you!

DRAGON RACE BOAT



SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
9 AM - 4 PM
AT TONBRIDGE CASTLE

COME ALONG AND SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL BOAT.
VISIT OUR PTA STALL ALONG THE RIVER FOR
FACE PAINTING AND MORE!

