

# BCS NEWS

26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

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

## Head's News

It was a wonderful Wednesday afternoon this week, as we welcomed 14 Year 11 Tonbridge Boys to school. Our partnership with Tonbridge Boys School is one of the most fruitful of our collaborations. Each class is assigned one Tonbridge Boy for the whole academic year: a role model to listen to children read, play maths games to support learning, and another positive member of the wider community for our children to build relationships with - the boys inspire, motivate and encourage our children of all ages: the cheers and smiles that lit up the classrooms this week as I introduced each class to their new Tonbridge Boy was memorable, uplifting and joyous. The boys quickly knuckled down to their 'work'; getting to know the children in their class and joining in with activities.

As the year progresses, we know how important the weekly visits become for many of our pupils and in return, how important our community becomes to the boys. For some, we provide valuable insights into teaching or caring professions that the boys may be interested in pursuing, and another community for them to get to know as they start to think about their own place in society as young adults.

Today I also welcomed a new group of parent volunteers to the school: parents and carers who bring a variety of experiences to, and interest in, supporting our children. They have an afternoon or two to come in during the week and add more valuable adult interaction and communication with our pupils to help them on their primary school journey. We look forward very much to watching the children flourish thanks to the help of our new volunteers.

Giving the children opportunities to engage with different trusted adults is an important part of the work we do in enabling children to recognise they are part of our community but also part of a wider community-an important understanding to have and often a key contributor to the children developing their hopes and dreams for their own futures, beyond the walls of Bishop Chavasse.



*Smiles, hot chocolate and tyre constructions in Forest School this week!*

## Key Dates

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Sept – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct**

Lunchtime auditions for the Talent Show



**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

PTA AGM and Quiz night



**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> October**

8.45am: **Harvest Festival service** at St Stephen's church

Year 4 trip to Tonbridge

**Weds 8<sup>th</sup> October**

Year 1 trip to Tonbridge castle

Year 3 Ancient Egypt workshop

**Fri 10<sup>th</sup> October**

1.45pm BCS Talent Show

**Tues 14<sup>th</sup> October**

3.30pm – 6pm Parent consultations

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> October**

4.30pm – 7pm Parent consultations

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> October**

**HALF TERM**

## In other news

### Worship this week

We began our worship week thinking more about WOW moments in our lives. Miss Scott led the worship and was deeply moved by some of the moments the children shared.

The remainder of the week in worship gave us NOW moments to think about as we referred to the book of Samuel to help us think about people of faith, including Hannah.

### Thought of the week

*How can we listen to God's voice in our daily lives - when we are at school, at home, or playing with friends?*

### Goodbye Miss Newell



The whole school community came together today to bid a fond farewell to Miss Newell, our longest standing member of staff. We held a special celebration worship where children in all year groups sang, read and recited carefully composed personalised odes to Miss Newell. She has seen the school grow

from 15 children in a portakabin, surrounded by muddy fields, to the vibrant school we are today, hustling and bustling with life and laughter. Miss Newell's friendly face will be missed at the breakfast club door as well as her innate knowledge of all things Bishop Chavasse. We know new exciting pastures await and many folk will be well looked after by Miss Newell in times to come.



### On site driving

A reminder that we have a 5mph limit in school grounds. Adults in cars should be adhering to UK driving rules with regards vaping and being on phones, and children should be in appropriately sized car seats as they enter and leave the site. To keep everyone safe, once we dismiss your children to you, please hold their hands, particularly when crossing the zebra crossing or moving around the car park.

### Parking

Please can all parents and carers dropping off and picking up remember that our neighbouring residents have private parking bays and these are not to be used by our parents. The residents have the right to enter and exit their homes when they wish, and disrespectful parking in their bays is not in line with our school ethos. Many thanks.

### Consultation on admissions policy

Bishop Chavasse Church of England Primary school is consulting on its admission policy for September 2026-27. The purpose of this consultation is so that we, as a school, comply with the DfE (Department of Education) School Admissions Code 2021 and consult with the local and wider community for general review which is required every seven years. Full details of the [consultation](#) and how to take part are on our website.



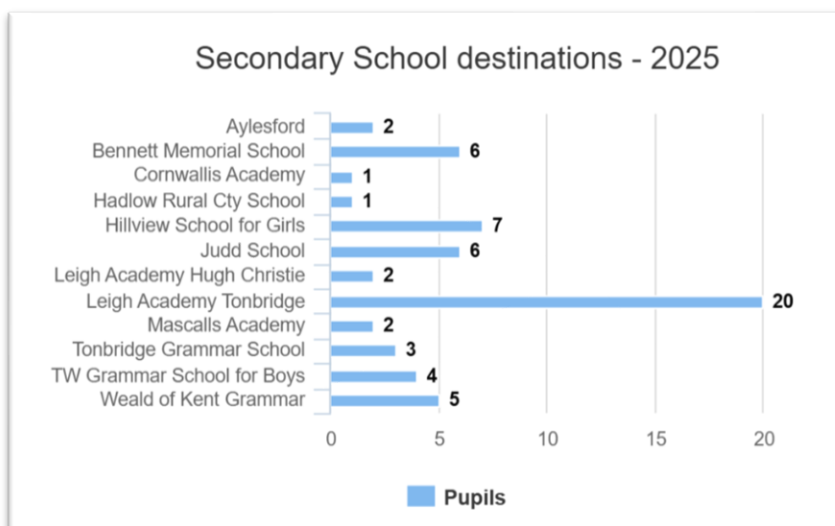
Year 5 are enjoying rugby coaching with Tonbridge Juddians on Monday mornings this term

### Bishop Chavasse data

Many of you, like the staff here, were dismayed at the Telegraph ‘Best Primary Schools’ tool that was published on its website recently. Its analysis of Bishop Chavasse’s data has understandably caused some concern. The Telegraph’s tool uses blunt methodology in its interpretation of the data, and is based on 2022-23 statistics.

The data on which this tool draws does not recognise the incredible achievements of each and every pupil in our school. Prospective and current

parents should be encouraged to look at our school website for the most [up-to-date school data](#), which shows our **Key Stage 2 results above the national average** in Writing, Maths, and combined Reading, Writing and Maths. The graph here shows the impressive variety of secondary schools that our most recent Year 6 cohort have gone on to attend. At Bishop Chavasse, each and every one of our pupils is supported to fulfil their potential. Each and every pupil is nurtured and cared for to ensure they thrive and are inspired to learn about the world, be curious, confident and kind, through our rich, broad and engaging high quality curriculum. I know each and every one of you chose our school because you felt it was right for your children and your family. On behalf of the whole team here, we are incredibly grateful to have you as part of our community, for your unwavering support and for giving us the privilege to take your children on their primary school adventure.



### Attendance

Good attendance at school is incredibly important for children to achieve great educational outcomes and reach their full potential. Good attendance means:

- Children make greater progress academically and socially;
- Children cope better with school routines, work and friendships;
- Children find learning easier because they do not miss out;
- Children feel more confident in themselves.

We understand that there are circumstances where children are unable to attend school but where possible please always try to send your child into school – if they feel poorly during the day, we can always call you to pick them up.

Please report any absences before 8.45am via email: [absence@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk](mailto:absence@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk) or by leaving a message via telephone: 01732 676040. **Absences must be reported daily.**

Attendance During One School Year	Approximate Days Absence	Equals Approximate Weeks Absence	Equals Lessons Missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	80 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	120 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	160 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	230 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	270 lessons

## Lateness

Attendance is not just considered for when children miss full days from school; being late also affects your child's attendance percentage. A reminder that children should be coming to their class ready to learn at 8.45am. The gates will



### Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

#### Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

**Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance**

close at 8.55am and from this point your child will be considered late. From 9.10am if you are bringing your child in late this will be marked as an unauthorised lateness. If your child has 10 unauthorised lates over a period of 10 rolling weeks, this can result in a fine being submitted to Kent County Council.

## Teach Kent & Sussex

Did you know that Bishop Chavasse works with Teach Kent & Sussex to provide exceptional school-based teacher training? Schools like ours play an important role in training new teachers, many of whom hear about us through our community networks. Whether you have spent time working in a school environment, are a recent graduate, or are looking for a complete change in career, teaching could be for you.

Why not join one of Teach Kent & Sussex's free to attend Train to Teach information events to find out more? To register please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/train-to-teach-information-events-4632813>.



Ambition Institute

TEACH Kent & Sussex

Join our

## Train to teach information events

Register

Team your existing skills and life experiences with Teach Kent & Sussex's high-quality teacher training and qualify as a primary or secondary school teacher in 11 months (full-time training) or 20 months (part-time training). Financial help as you train is available, with bursaries and scholarships for up to £31,000 in some secondary subjects. [Teach Kent & Sussex](#) is in partnership with national education provider, Ambition Institute. The programme enables you to learn what makes an effective teacher through evidence-based and subject focused theory. You will then put this learning into practice with your peers and personal mentor in a school environment. This training route aims to give you the best start to go on and support thousands of children and young people over the lifetime of your career. It will provide you with the strong foundation skills to allow you to benefit from the continuity of your professional development, including Ambition's Early Career Framework and National Professional Qualifications.



TENAX SCHOOLS TRUST

Teaching Assistant



Bishop Chavasse Primary School

## Vacancy at school: Teaching Assistant

We are looking for an enthusiastic, caring Teaching Assistant to join our team at Bishop Chavasse.

Please [visit our website](#) to find out more – applications close 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025 at midday.

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

1A – Qhama  
1BF – Mila  
2F - Eloddie  
2A – Sofia  
3A – Ivy  
3F – Max



4R – Danny  
4G – Poppy  
5N – Megan  
5H - Favour  
6C – Jamie  
6S - Austin



## Times Tables Rock Stars – highest scores this week:

3A – Lizzie  
3F – Christiana  
4R – Bea  
4G – Adam  
5H - Ella  
5N - Jeshmika  
6S – Leon  
6C - Xander

## Gold book

Well done to the children entered into Mrs Hood's Gold Book for exceptional work this week:

Digby (2F) – amazing artwork inspired by a piece of music  
Arion (2A) – writing about the class book *The Bog Baby*  
George (1A) – much improved handwriting with superb letter formation  
Lucy (5H) – excellent work in Maths  
River and Ivy (3A) – brilliant work in Maths  
Archie (6S) – improved handwriting and  
Dulcie (2F) – use of adjectives in her writing  
Elliott (3A) – creative writing: retelling of the Iron Man

## Attendance cup

This week's winners with an unassailable 100%...**2A!** In second place is 5N with 99.26% and in third place is Squirrels with 99.21%.

## Bishop Chavasse Shield winner



Well done to Lucie (2A) - she wins a £7 book token for helping to keep the classroom tidy without even being asked.

## Out of school achievements

Soren (2A) – runner of the week at running club

Jessica (3A) – Brownie badge in rugby

Evangelina – Level 1 diving award

Nella (2A) – passed her stage 4 swimming (right), pictured with both her stage 4 and (lately delivered) stage 3 certificates and badges.



# PTA QUIZ NIGHT

WITH OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**FRIDAY  
3RD OCTOBER**

**FROM 6:45PM**

**TEAMS OF 4-8**

**£5 PER PERSON**

**PAY IN THE OFFICE OR EMAIL US**

• **AN EVENING OF TRIVIA,  
LAUGHTER, AND THE CHANCE  
TO BE QUIZ CHAMPIONS!**

**BAR OPEN | FREE SNACKS  
CHIPS AVAILABLE TO BUY**

**REGISTER YOUR TEAM  
BY FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEP TO**

[Pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk](mailto:Pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk)



## PTA update

One week until our **PTA quiz night** (and short AGM) on Friday 3rd October. We will be selling tickets after school today, and next Mon 29th, Tues 30th and Weds 1st October.

Grab the chance to bag yourself a ticket - you can buy in ones/twos/threes if you don't have a team together and we can match you up with others to create a super team. Or you can pay by bank transfer (email [pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk](mailto:pta@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk)) or bring cash to the school office. We can promise it will be really relaxed, a great laugh, with a low cost bar, free snacks, and chips to buy!

At the start of the quiz will be the PTA's **Annual General Meeting**— we promise it will be quick! We'll be voting in the PTA's key positions: Chair, Deputy, Treasurer, Secretary, Events lead(s).

Thank you so much to the hardy crew of DIYers who helped



construct our new **preloved uniform shop** and storage shed last weekend – true heroes! We just need to kit the shop out on the inside and we will be open for business very soon – watch this space.



**MONTHLY**

**ONLY £6**

**5PM-6.30PM**

**ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH  
TONBRIDGE**

**NEXT EVENT  
16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

# ADVENTURE CLUB

**SCHOOL  
YEARS  
5-7**



## 🍁 October Holiday Club at Bishop Chavasse Primary School 🍁

✨ Bookings Now Open! ✨

### 📅 Dates & Activities

- **Mon 20 Oct** – 8am–6pm and 8/9am–3pm available
- **Tue 21 Oct** – 8am–6pm and 8/9am–3pm available
- **Thu 23 Oct** – Open 8am–3pm + 🍳 **Cooking Workshop with Cook for Life** – children prepare & enjoy their own lunch!

### 🍁 Pumpkin Moon Trip (Maidstone)

📍 Departing from the Angel Centre – **Thu 23 Oct, 9am–3pm**

🎃 Limited to **12 spaces** – approx. **£50** (includes club fee, transport, entrance & pumpkin).

👉 Waiting list now open – **no payment required until confirmed.**

👧👦 **Ages: 2–11 years**

✨ **Book now and let the October fun begin!** ✨

👉 <https://playngrowholidayclub.ipalbookings.com/>

🎨🍁 Arts and crafts, sports, laughter, pumpkins, and plenty of fun! 🎨🍁

*Spaces are limited – don't miss out!*

