



BCS NEWS

31st October 2025

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

Head's News

With autumn well and truly underway, multi-coloured leaves rustling under our feet as we walk, rain drizzling and early sunsets, it was a pleasure to open our doors to everyone on Monday morning ready for the start of term 2. It was the loud excited chatter, the beaming smiles and raucous laughter that lifted the atmosphere of the corridors and the hall as children eagerly made their way in, sharing tales of half term adventures or antics, and friendships reunited. It was our youngest members in Early Years who caught my eye as they confidently strolled into school and waved at those who dropped them off, each clutching a large brown bag with a tick list carefully stuck to it. Curious to know more I took myself down to Early Years to see the children one by one share their autumn treasure trail finds: each child excitedly sharing the contents of their bags which held everything from maple leaves to conkers, acorns to seeds. It wasn't so much the content but the children's confident speaking and listening skills and the excitement of their peers to hear about what each person had found – for the opportunity to speak and listen is such an important part of our development and one that can bring so much joy. Talking is a little like reading; there is so much that being able to read can offer us - not just access to learning, but access to the world, access to being able to travel to different places without moving if you lose yourself in a book. Speaking is similar – it offers us the opportunity to express ourselves, our emotions, our perceptions and our opinions. It also helps keep us safe. We recognise how well-developed vocabulary, speaking and listening skills can support learning so we offer many opportunities to help children develop this through careful questioning, the chance to meet and greet new people, and moments to perform. Hearing the voices develop from EYFS to Year 6 is poignant for staff who take your children on their primary school journeys; and we take as much pride in hearing confident tales of holidays and treasure trail finds as you do as parents and carers.



Year 6 were presented with their specially made ties on Monday – see more on page 3

Key Dates

Monday 3rd November
Own Clothes Day for St Andrew House

Weds 5th November
9.30am: [Managing Sleep](#)

Thursday 6th November
Year 5 trip to Wakehurst

Friday 7th November
Own Clothes Day for the Christmas Fair, bring:

Pre-loved soft toys



Bishop Chavasse Day – activities at school

Year 5 Wonderdome

Mon 10th November
Odd Socks Day and the start of anti-bullying week

Tues 11th November
Remembrance Day
Individual and sibling photographs at school

Thurs 13th November
Own Clothes Day for the Christmas Fair, bring:

Elfridges - New unwrapped Gifts



Fri 28th November
Own Clothes Day for the Christmas Fair, bring:

EY/KS1 - Bottles
KS2 - Sweets



Fri 5th December
Own Clothes Day, bring:
Christmassy cakes (nut-free)



3.45pm: Christmas Fair

Weds 10th December
PTA Santa's grotto and Christmas lunch at school

In other news

Lost property

As the weather gets chillier, children are coming to school with more layers and accessories. Please ensure each item is carefully labelled - we have already accumulated an inordinate amount of clothing which children readily discard on the playground when they run around and get warm, but then don't collect despite cries of 'don't forget your coats and lunchboxes, hats and gloves' called repeatedly by staff. We remind the children there is no secret tidy up fairy who reunites clothing with their owners, especially unnamed clothing. We are trying our utmost to support children to independently take care of their belongings, but, as we sweep the school each evening, we acknowledge we do need support from home too. Please can you ensure items are labelled and your child knows what they have come to school with and you check they have it when you collect them. We have limited capacity to store lost property and it is a shame to see expensive and useful items with no home. Unnamed and unclaimed lost property will go to the charity shop or recycling once a week.



Poppy Appeal

Our heads and deputies and House captains will be on the gates in the mornings next week selling items for this year's Poppy Appeal.

You can also pop into the office to purchase items, with all proceeds going to the Royal British Legion.



Mrs Nicholas

We are delighted to share that Mrs Nicholas is expecting her first baby. Mrs Nicholas will welcome her bundle of joy in early February and so will be with us until mid-January before going on maternity leave. For Badgers' parents, we are currently in the process of recruiting and making plans to ensure your children's first year at school continues to be successful and full of exciting learning opportunities.



Early Years learned all about the festival of Diwali this week

Year 6 tie service

On Monday, our most senior children were presented with their special Year 6 ties to wear with pride during the remaining months of their primary school journey. Many thanks to Rev. Thorndike of St Peter and St Paul church for so warmly conducting the service and presenting the unique ties, which were designed especially for our school and manufactured at DHJ Weisters in Lancashire.



Year 6 Mayan Workshop

On Thursday we had an all day workshop in school. Year 6 has been learning about the Maya people and their impact on our current way of life. This includes learning their customs, such as pok-ta-pok, where you can only hit the ball with your head, waist, knee, or right elbow. Year 6 also tried playing the game themselves, and was found to be difficult but fun. We also learnt about their language, hieroglyphics, using pictures and shapes instead of letters. We learnt our names in hieroglyphics, and found their meanings. We then tried writing our names in their language using a quill and ink, and though it seemed hard with the feather, it was fun to know our Mayan names. Everyone's favourite part was designing Mayan masks and tokens out of chocolate. This involved spreading the melted chocolate across the paper, and then adding optional toppings for decoration. While we waited for the chocolate to set, we went over to Forest School to make our own hot chocolate drinks. We made them by putting a table spoon of cocoa powder in a cup with some hot water. Then we mixed it in to a paste and added milk and sugar. After that, we mixed and added optional spices (cloves, cinnamon, mixed spice and nutmeg). These drinks were interesting but palatable, and were not like the ones we were used to. In Maya tradition chocolate was regarded as a food of the gods and was only for those who could afford it. We did these different activities in groups of 10-13 rotating the different activities. Some people have said this has been the best day at school ever and we are very thankful to all the teachers for organising it! *By Xander Serfontein and Jacob de Ferrars*



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

1A – Theo
1BF – Cody
2F – Willow
2A – Evangelina
3A – Lizzie
3F – Myles



4R – Mason
4G – Teddie
5N – Azad
5H – Savannah
6C – Leni
6S – Bethel



Times Tables Rock Stars – highest scores this week:

3A – Alex K
3F – Olly
4R – Harper
4G – Finley W
5H – Lara
5N – Charlie
6S – Phoebe
6C – Olly

Gold book

Olivia and Tiger (6S) – wrote superb balanced arguments about their class book
River (3A) – finishing her Maths and English and making the right choices all day
Fiire (6C) – English work predicting what was going to happen next, written in rhyming couplets
Sadie (3A) – amazing progress in her Maths work – pages of additions
Dulcie (5H) – incredible writing about Shackleton
Amelie (5H) – for her contrast poem using impressive vocabulary
Arabella (5H) – excellent equivalent fractions
Mary (5H) – writing an absorbing story
Charlotte and Duru (5N) – fact files about animals in the Antarctic
Poppy (6S) – beautiful drawing of a robin using scaling
Teddy (2F) – writing a great simile poem

Attendance cup

This week's winners with 99.25%: 5H! In second place with 98.55% is 2A, and in third place with 98.21% is 4R.



Bishop Chavasse Shield winner

Well done to Amelia (5N) - she wins a £7 book token for supporting her buddy.



Out of school achievements

Ella (5H) – stage 7 in swimming

Austin (Badgers) was awarded a prize in Tonbridge Library last weekend for all his reading over the summer. He was awarded a £10 voucher for completing the Summer Reading Challenge in the library.



Please email office@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk with your child's achievement and a photo (if available) for publication in the newsletter



PTA update



It's open! After four weekends of labour sawing, nailing, sanding, painting, sorting, laundering, painting and more painting, our hardy crew of PTA volunteers have finished the preloved uniform shop. The biggest

thanks must go to our incredible PTA Chair Annemarie for masterminding the whole project from start to finish, with particular mentions to Martin, Pierre, Thanasis, Alexander, the Horan and Crowe families, and Sarah P-U. The shop has been financed with a £500 contribution from PTA funds and the remainder from generous individual parent donations. Every item has been carefully washed and selected so that only the best quality is on sale. The shop is just through the KS2 gate, and we will be opening every Thursday, with further opening times to be publicised. *Please continue to bring your preloved uniform donations to the school office where they will make their way to the shop for onward sale.*



Join us! Our half termly PTA meeting is at 8pm on Tuesday 4th November – please do [join us online](#).

Own Clothes Days! The first donation day for the Christmas Fair is coming up next Friday 7th November – please bring a preloved soft toy donation. It will be an Own Clothes Day for everyone.



The next Own Clothes Day will be on Thursday 13th November (not Friday 14th November as previously publicised) for optional donations of new gifts for an adult or child for our hugely popular 'Elfridges' stall at the Fair where children can wrap a lovely gift to give to a loved one at Christmas.

