

Bidbury Junior School NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th June 2026



In the news...



Birch Class visit to Goodwood Farm

Last Friday, Birch Class visited Goodwood Farm near Chichester and had a wonderful day experiencing life on a working farm. They learnt how wheat is ground into flour and even tried grinding it themselves, which was quite a challenge. The children also discovered how milk is churned into butter, made their own, and enjoyed tasting it on crackers. They sampled fresh milk and two types of cheese, including a soft brie-style cheese and a blue cheese that split opinions! The class explored the forest and meadow, learning about badgers and wildflowers along the way. They met many of the farm animals, saw a newborn calf just hours old, and learnt about modern farming methods such as robotic milking, silage-making, and the use of "moo monitors." It was an enjoyable and educational trip, and Chestnut Class are already looking forward to their visit in July.



Water Safety Assemblies

Last week, former Commonwealth champion and Olympic swimmer Katy Sexton came in to talk to the children about water safety. Being that we live near to the coast, it is especially important for us all to learn how to respect the water and to enjoy it safely. Katy talked about the dangers of rip currents and the importance of swimming on a lifeguarded beach between the designated red and yellow flags. She also showed us how we can best assist if somebody gets into difficulty in the water.



Water Safety Event

Last week, six Year 5 pupils attended a Water Safety Event at Barncroft Primary School, where they learned essential skills for staying safe around water. They explored risks in different environments, including rivers, lakes, and the seaside, and practised identifying safe areas, avoiding hazards, and recognising changing conditions. A key focus was helping others safely using the "Reach, Throw, Don't Go" method, using everyday items as rescue aids. The children also learned how to signal for help by staying calm, floating, and calling out. The event was engaging and informative, and the pupils represented Bidbury Junior School exceptionally well with their excellent behaviour, enthusiasm, and respect. Our thanks to Mrs Hill and Mr Macintyre for accompanying them.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done to the children that were awarded a **Golden Leaf** this week for showing all of our school values!

Year 3 - Primrose and Roux

Year 4 - Jan and Oakley

Year 5 - Jaxon and Freddie G

Year 6 - Isaac and Carl



Well done to Harrison for winning our **Golden Sports Award** for outstanding effort and attitude towards PE and sport.



Mr Macintyre says well done to Willow Class who are the winners of the **Golden Broom** this week!



What's on?



Monday 15th June

- Year 3 visit to Marwell Zoo
- Year 5 MHST workshops

Wednesday 17th June

- Sports Day - families are welcome to join us from 9:10am to 1:00pm. School day finishes at 3:10pm as normal.

Thursday 18th June

- Y6 MHST Transition Workshops
- Sports event: Tennis Tournival

Friday 19th June

- Year 3 workshops with our Resident Artist Susannah
- Closing date for Parent Governor vacancy

Monday 22nd June

- Year 5 swimming lessons begin

Tuesday 23rd June

- Welcome meetings for parents/carers of children joining Year 3 in September 2026 - 2:15pm or 5:15pm

Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June

- Year 5/6 Relationships and Health Education Workshops

Thursday 25th June

- Sports event: Hampshire School Games

Friday 26th June

- Year 5 workshops with our Resident Artist Susannah

Tuesday 30th June

- Year 6 workshops with our Resident Artist Susannah
- Sports event: Year 5/6 Rounders Fun Festival

Wednesday 1st July

- Whole school transition morning

Thursday 2nd July

- Year 4 Matilda performance at Park Community Theatre 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Friday 3rd July

- Year 4 workshops with our Resident Artist Susannah

Monday 6th July

- Year 6 Fiver Challenge begins

Wednesday 8th July

- Reserve Sports Day

Friday 10th July

- Year 6 visit to Paultons Park

Wednesday 15th July

- Year 6 performance - 1:30pm and 6:00pm

Thursday 16th July

- Year 4 Chestnut Class trip to Goodwood Farm

Friday 17th July

- Big Me Day

Monday 20th July

- Book Look at 2:30pm - please bring a large bag so that your child can take all their books home.

Tuesday 21st July

- Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9:10am-10:00am
- Last day of term for pupils

Wednesday 22nd July

- INSET Day 5

Summer Holidays - 22.07.26 to 01.09.26

Tuesday 1st September

- INSET Day 1

Wednesday 2nd September

- Back to school

Our learning this week...

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In Year 3 this week, the children have shown great resilience in **Maths** during our time topic. We have been learning about days, weeks, months and years and completing some tricky calculations!

In **Writing**, we started our new learning journey based on the wonderful book *The Barnabus Project*. The children will be writing their own dilemma stories and have started planning their ideas by designing their own creature and generating vocabulary to describe it. In **Reading**, we have been working on our comprehension skills, looking at a range of different question types and how to answer these questions.

In **Science**, the children completed an investigation about how moving a light source affects the size of a shadow. They worked together to create a prediction, order a method, test and evaluate. The children showed excellent collaboration! In **RE**, we continued our learning on sacred places, taking a virtual tour of a church and seeing which sacred features we could spot. In **PSHE**, we learnt about the importance of respecting each other's personal space using the NSPCC PANTSASaurus song.

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It has been another busy week in Year 4. In **Maths** we have continued our unit linked to shape. The children have looked at properties of shapes including identifying properties of triangles and quadrilaterals. In **Writing**, we completed our final piece in our poetry unit and created our own acrostic poem about a dragon. The children had to try to include a range of features including similes, metaphors and alliteration.

In **Reading**, we have been looking at our new book *First to the Top* which retells the story of Edmund Hillary's journey to the summit of Mount Everest. The children have unpicked the vocabulary and discussed author choice of language.

In **Science**, we have finished off our unit linked to electricity. We tested different materials to identify which were insulators that stopped the flow of electricity and which were conductors that allowed electricity to flow. In **Geography**, we started our new unit 'Are mountains easy places to live?'. The children used google maps and atlases to find Asia and explore what the land is like. They found key features such as mountains and capital cities.

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Year 5 have been working really hard this week. In **Maths**, we have started our new topic which focuses on decimals. This week specifically, we have been developing our knowledge on adding and subtracting numbers with the same decimal places. We were so impressed with the children whilst they were doing this as they showed fantastic ability to apply their prior learning.

In **Writing**, we continued our focus on the story of *Beowulf*. This week the children looked at the characters of Grendel and Beowulf and compared their characteristics. We then built on this by specifically describing Beowulf. It has been so lovely to see how much all of the children have become engrossed in this text.

In **Design and Technology**, we spent some time creating our own labels for our Spaghetti Bolognese that we will be making at the end of the year. The children really took their time with this and it is clear how excited they all are about cooking their own Spaghetti Bolognese. All the adults in Year 5 hope you have a fantastic weekend.

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Year 6 have continued to work very diligently on their extended **Writing** pieces: editing, re-drafting and publishing the non-chronological reports on their mythical creatures at the start of the week. The children have also begun the first of two learning journeys based on a new stimulus, the short film *Alma*. Over this week and next, they will write a persuasive letter to a Film Festival and their own version of a spooky story with a twist!

In **Maths**, the children have looked at calculating mortgages and house decorating costs as part of our *Futures* unit.

In **RE**, we've considered how Humanists use the technique and symbolism of a River of Life and in **Geography**, the children have learned about the sustainability of water production in the UK.

We've also continued practising scenes and songs for our end of year production of *Gigglebox*.



Sports News

This week, Years 3 to 6 continued their introductory **Tennis** unit. The primary learning objective for this session was to develop placement of the ball using a backhand stroke. The children focused on body positioning, grip adjustments and controlling the direction of the ball from the non-dominant side.

In their second **Football** session, Year 3 focused on attacking mechanics without the ball. The specific lesson objective was to develop movement skills to lose a defender and move into space. The children practiced changing pace and direction to create passing options for their teammates.

Year 4 returned to the **Swimming** pool this week. The focus of this session was to develop the backstroke. The children worked on maintaining a horizontal body position, efficient arm rotation and a consistent leg kick while navigating the lanes on their backs.

Years 5 and 6 advanced their striking and fielding unit in **Rounders** by focusing on the delivery of the ball. The learning objective was to develop bowling accuracy and perform the skill within the rules of the game. The children practiced consistent delivery into the bowling square while ensuring their technique adhered to official regulatory standards regarding height and release.



Attendance

Average whole school attendance:

Week beginning 1st June 2026 - 94.4%

Since 3rd September 2025 - 95.6%

Year 3 Beech Class - 97.2%

Year 3 Willow Class - 90%

Year 4 Chestnut Class - 97.4%

Year 4 Birch Class - 99.3%

Year 5 Oak Class - 97.7%

Year 5 Rowan Class - 94.5%

Year 6 Maple Class - 93.1%

Year 6 Alder Class - 91%

Class Award: Birch Class

Number of children late: 16

Learning days missed due to unauthorised holidays: 26



Positive Points this week:

Year 3 - 988

Year 4 - 849

Year 5 - 986

Year 6 - 753

Total: 3,576

Our menu



Week 1 - commencing 15th June 2026

Monday	Margherita or Vegetable Pizza or Sweet Potato Curry & Rice
Tuesday	All Day Breakfast or Veggie Breakfast or Dolce Gardener's Brunch
Wednesday	Sports Day - Filled Rolls
Thursday	Pasta Bar or Creamy Chicken & Vegetables
Friday	Fish Fingers or Crumbed Vegetable Grill or Cheesy Leek Parcel

Lunches are available for £3.19