

Bidbury Junior School NEWSLETTER

Friday 3rd July 2026



In the news...



Art Workshops

Carl from Year 6 Maple Class has shared his highlights from a creative outdoor art workshop with our Resident Artist Susannah.

Year 6 took part in an art workshop this week where Susannah took us outside to the outdoor classroom and we placed things like leaves underneath sheets of paper. We then used a crayon or a pencil to rub over the top of the paper to create the pattern of the veins or the bark on a tree. We also used the writing on manhole covers to write our names. We then turned to a fresh page in our sketchbooks and drew something from the landscape around us in pencil. It was relaxing and enjoyable and we produced some fab art work.



Matilda the Musical

Last night, our Year 4 children took to the stage at Park Community Theatre to perform Matilda the Musical, delivering an absolutely breathtaking show that captivated the audience from start to finish.

It was wonderful to see the entire cast working so seamlessly together, supported by our highly skilled and dedicated stage crew. The lead performers were outstanding, and special recognition must go to the young actor in the title role, whose portrayal of Matilda was truly exceptional.



We were delighted to welcome Silva from The Mayflower Theatre, who was incredibly impressed by the standard of the production. A huge thank you goes to Team Matilda – Mrs Clarke, Mr Hooper, Mrs Hill, Miss Philbrow, Mrs Bishop and Mrs Hebditch – whose dedication and countless hours of hard work made this remarkable production possible. Thank you also to Freya for the fantastic photos! It was a truly unforgettable evening and a shining celebration of the talent, confidence and teamwork of our children. Well done Year 4!



Big Me Day 2026

A reminder that our Young Governors are organising Big Me Day on Friday 17th July 2026. Children are invited to come to school dressed as the job or career they would like to have in the future. During the afternoon, pupils will take part in activities exploring different careers and future opportunities. We will also be raising money for ActionAid and kindly ask for a £1 donation, which could help fund two weeks of schooling for a child. We look forward to seeing the fantastic range of future careers represented across the school!

What's on?



Monday 6th July

- Year 6 Fiver Challenge begins

Wednesday 8th July

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

Friday 10th July

- Year 6 visit to Paultons Park

Monday 13th July

- Rocksteady Concert 9:45-10:15am

Wednesday 15th July

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

Thursday 16th July

- Year 4 Chestnut Class visit to Goodwood Farm
- Year 5 workshops with our Resident Artist Susannah

Friday 17th July

- Big Me Day
- Reports sent home to parents/carers

Monday 20th July

- Book Look at 2:30pm - please bring a large bag for your child to take their books home in.

Tuesday 21st July

- Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9:10am-10:00am (Year 6 parents very welcome to attend)
- Last day of term for pupils

Summer Holidays - 22.07.26 to 01.09.26

Tuesday 1st September

- INSET Day 1

Wednesday 2nd September

- Back to school

CONGRATULATIONS!

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

Year 3 - Myles and Harry
Year 4 - Alexa and Wilson
Year 5 - Maya and Henry
Year 6 - Roux and Jayden



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



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

Can you help?

Our popular lunchtime pom pom and crochet club is looking for donations of wool. The club is available to all on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes. It is a safe creative space where children can socialise whilst learning new skills.

In order to run the club, however, we rely on donations of wool. Any weight or colour is gratefully accepted and the children get very excited when new donations come in.

Please could any donations be handed in to reception. Thank you!



Our learning this week...

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Year 3 have had another great week. In **Writing** the children have been planning and writing their dilemma stories. They have been working really hard on these, using their previously planned creatures and dilemma ideas to help them.

In **Maths**, we have started a new topic and have been looking into angles. The children have particularly enjoyed the practical element of this whereby they have practised different turns as well as use a guide a to find as many right angles as they could around the school.

In **Geography** this week we continued our rainforest topic, looking at the different dangers it faces. The children thought about how significant the dangers were and what their effects would mean and then ranked them accordingly. In **Design Technology** the children had a very exciting lesson as part of their unit to design a piece of wearable technology. Building on their Scratch knowledge, they learnt how to programme a micro:bit to follow a set of specific instructions.

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It has been another incredibly busy week in Year 4. The main highlight has most definitely been our final preparations for our production of Matilda The Musical. Our final dress rehearsals and performance in front of the rest of the school were absolutely incredible and we would like to say a massive thank you to all of the children and staff for the mammoth effort that they have made with everything this term.

Elsewhere, in **Writing**, we have begun writing our own biographies on the famous explorer, Sir Edmund Hillary, who famously became the first person to climb to the summit of Mount Everest. Using appropriate, engaging subheadings and the writing devices that we have learnt, the children have enjoyed researching about this famous explorer and then writing his life story in their own words.

In **Maths**, we have moved on to a new unit of work, which focuses on statistics. Finally, in **Science**, we continued with our unit on living things as the children looked at animal classification by identifying and exploring the different types of vertebrates.

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This week, Year 5 have continued their exciting learning journey across all subjects.

In **English**, we explored ambitious vocabulary and powerful verbs to enhance our writing. Using these skills, we began planning dramatic battle scenes inspired by *Beowulf*, focusing on building tension and creating vivid descriptions. In **Reading**, we finished *Beowulf* and discussed the ending, reflecting on the author's choices and suggesting adaptations we would make if retelling the story. In **Maths**, we developed our understanding of negative numbers by finding missing values and comparing and ordering numbers.

In **History**, we explored the importance of the census, created our own class census, and analysed the results. In **Computing**, we designed and created clay models in preparation for our exciting stop-motion animation projects. Throughout the week, the children have demonstrated excellent teamwork, creativity and resilience, while developing their confidence and enthusiasm across a range of engaging learning experiences successfully.

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It's been a busy week for Year 6, with lots of different secondary schools holding their transition days. On the days we've been here, we've crammed in lots of **Geography** lessons on our final unit, *Coasts*.

We've also completed our final **RE** lesson, within the topic of *Humanism*; the children considered how the principles of Humanism might apply to their own lives, thinking of the impact left upon their lives by a significant event or person.

In **French**, the children learned about French vocabulary relating to travel, including road signs and different methods of transportation.

The rest of our time this week has been on making final preparations for the Fiver Challenge, discussing next week's Paultons Park trip and making any final changes to our scenes for our end of year show, *Gigglebox*.



Sports News

In **Tennis** this week, all year groups focused on the volley. Children practiced striking the ball out of the air before it bounced, requiring fast reaction times and short, controlled racket movements. The lesson emphasised maintaining a firm wrist and using a concise punching motion to direct the ball over the net.

In **Football**, Years 3 and 4 focused on the mechanics of shooting. The session isolated the technical steps needed for an effective strike on goal, including foot placement next to the ball, striking with the laces or inside of the foot, and keeping the body over the ball to manage height and maximize accuracy.

Year 5 children continued their **Swimming** unit by focusing on the front crawl. The lesson targeted horizontal body alignment, efficient flutter kicking, and the technical timing of bilateral breathing to minimize water resistance and sustain momentum.

Year 6 continued with **Rounders**, advancing from basic batting mechanics to directional striking. Children were challenged to assess the positioning of the opposing fielding team prior to the bowl, adjusting their stance and swing timing to intentionally direct the ball into unoccupied areas of the field to score.

We are all looking forward to Sports Day next week!



Attendance

Average whole school attendance:

Week beginning 22nd June 2026 - 75.3%
Since 3rd September 2025 - 95%

Year 3 Beech Class - 76.5%

Year 3 Willow Class - 73%

Year 4 Chestnut Class - 71%

Year 4 Birch Class - 81.7%

Year 5 Oak Class - 78.7%

Year 5 Rowan Class - 79%

Year 6 Maple Class - 72.1%

Year 6 Alder Class - 74.8%

Class Award: Birch Class

Number of children late: 7
Learning days missed due to unauthorised holidays: 9.5



Positive Points this week:

Year 3 - 699

Year 4 - 215

Year 5 - 917

Year 6 - 349

Total: 2,180

Our menu



Week 1 - commencing 6th July 2026

Monday Margherita or Vegetable Pizza or Vegan Margherita Pizza or Sweet Potato Curry

Tuesday All Day Breakfast or Veggie Breakfast or Dolce Gardener's Brunch

Wednesday Roast Chicken or Roasted Vegetable Loaf or Cheese & Tomato Panini Melt

Thursday Pasta Bar or Creamy Chicken & Vegetables

Friday Fish Fingers or Crispy Crumbed Vegetable Grill or Cheesy Leek Parcel

Lunches are available for £3.19