

Bidbury Junior School NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th July 2026



In the news...



Year 6 visit to Paultons Park

Last week, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed an exciting and memorable trip to Paultons Park as part of their end-of-year celebrations. The children had a fantastic day exploring the park, experiencing a range of thrilling rides and attractions and spending quality time with their friends.

From the excitement of the rollercoasters to the fun of the family rides and visiting the wide range of animals, there were smiles all around as pupils embraced every opportunity to make lasting memories. Throughout the day, the children demonstrated excellent behaviour, enthusiasm and maturity, making us incredibly proud. The trip was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of their primary school journey and recognise all of their hard work and achievements this year. A huge thank you to our staff and volunteers for helping to make the day such a success.



Rocksteady Concert

This week the children who attend Rocksteady performed their end of year concert. The children have been learning a range of skills for their chosen instrument and this was an opportunity for each group to show off what they have learnt. Each band took to the stage to perform their own chosen song and get the whole audience rocking along.



Year 6 performance of Giggibox

On Wednesday we were treated to two spectacular performances of 'Giggibox'. The show follows the Parker family through an evening of school-themed TV programmes, including *Playtime Casualty*, *Our School's Got Talent*, *The Primary School Cake Off*, *The Repair Shed*, *Supervisors*, *Strictly Fun Dancing* and *Assembly Time*. There were plenty of laughs, celebrating the fun and memories of school life. Our Year 6 pupils showcased tremendous talent, teamwork and skill throughout the production, including the creation and management of props, costumes, lighting and sound. The whole team worked brilliantly together to create a truly entertaining and memorable show. Huge thanks go to our Year 6 teachers and LSAs, who coordinated every aspect of the production and gave up so much of their own time to support the children. Well done Year 6 – it was a show to remember!



What's on?



Friday 17th July

- 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

Term dates for 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026

Development Day 1: Tuesday 1st September 2026

Back to school: Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Last day of half term: Friday 23rd October 2026

Half Term: Saturday 24th October - Sunday 1st November 2026

Development Day 2: Monday 2nd November 2026

Back to school: Tuesday 3rd November 2026

Last day of half term: Friday 18th December 2026

Holidays: Saturday 19th December 2026 – Sunday 3rd January 2027

Spring Term 2027

Development Day 3: Monday 4th January 2027

Back to school: Tuesday 5th January 2027

Last day of half term: Friday 12th February 2027

Half Term: Saturday 13th February – Sunday 21st February 2027

Back to school: Monday 22nd February 2027

Last day of half term: Thursday 25th March 2027

Holidays: Friday 26th March 2027 – Sunday 11th April 2027

Summer Term 2027

Development Day 4: Monday 12th April 2027

Back to school: Tuesday 13th April 2027

Bank holiday: Monday 3rd May 2027

Last day of half term: Friday 28th May 2027

Half Term: Saturday 29th May – Sunday 6th June 2027

Back to school: Monday 7th June 2027

Last day of half term: Tuesday 20th July 2027

Development Day 5: Wednesday 21st July 2027

CONGRATULATIONS!

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

Year 3 - Janice and Jack
Year 4 - Nova and Ossie
Year 5 - Ellie P and Isla
Year 6 - Davey and Mitchell



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



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



Our learning this week...

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We can't believe that the end of the school year is so close - and what a year it has been!

In **Maths** this week we have been working on statistics, interpreting data in pictograms and bar charts. The children also spent time collecting their own data and creating their own.

In **Writing**, we have spent some time this week consolidating some of the skills we have learnt this year like contractions, conjunctions and sentence punctuation. In **Reading**, we have been reflecting on the books we have read during this year, creating bookmarks and designing a game of 'Guess Who' for our favorite characters.

In **PSHE**, we learnt some basic first aid and discussed what we would do in an emergency. In **Science**, we tested the properties of rocks to help us group and classify them. Finally for **Design Technology**, we used an online sketchpad to design a point of sale logo for our wearable technology product.

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This week, in Year 4, we began writing our final first-person narrative pieces in our **Writing** lessons. The children have stepped into the shoes of Sir Edmund Hillary to document his brave ascent up Mount Everest, considering the challenges that he and his team faced and the emotions felt along the way. In **Maths**, we completed our unit on statistics by exploring how to accurately interpret and plot line graphs. This linked well with our **Geography** lesson, where the children applied their recently learnt mathematical skills to plot grid references onto a map.

In **Science**, we held a thoughtful debate about whether plastic bags should be banned, considering their long-term environmental impact, while our **PSHE** session focused on the important difference between a secret and a surprise.

Finally, the children have thoroughly enjoyed continuing their **History** work on the Vikings; this week, they became historical detectives, learning the difference between primary and secondary sources to infer what these clues can tell us about life in the Viking era.

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What a fantastic week as we come towards the end of an amazing year in Year 5! The children have continued to work incredibly hard and should be proud of everything they have achieved.

In **English**, the children planned, drafted, edited and published their own exciting battle scenes inspired by *Beowulf*. They worked hard to develop their descriptive language, sentence structure and editing skills, producing some fantastic pieces of writing.

In **Maths**, we explored volume, comparing and measuring the capacity of different shapes while developing our reasoning and problem-solving skills. The children showed great resilience when tackling increasingly challenging questions.

The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in an **Art** workshop with Susannah, where they had the opportunity to explore their creativity and develop new artistic techniques. Finally in **Computing**, they completed their stop-motion animation projects, using clay models to create imaginative short films.

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Year 6 have had a lot of fun in our final full week at Bidbury! Of course, the highlight of the week was the incredible performance; all of the adults were blown away by the commitment and courage of all the children who took part in the show. And it would not have happened at all without the focus and diligence of the backstage crew, including the lights and sound people. To say we were all impressed is an understatement!

Alongside the rehearsals and performances this week, we managed to fit in one final **English** lesson, studying the romantic ballad, *The Highwayman*, written in 1906 by Alfred Noyes. The children read the poem out loud, making predictions each step of the way and were shocked by the tragic, gruesome ending!

Most of the rest of our time this week has been spent in preparing for next week's leavers' assembly and talking about the children's favourite memories of their time at Bidbury. It's all getting a little real that there are only two days left!!!



Sports News

This week in **Tennis**, all year groups focused on sustaining a rally. The children worked on their footwork and movement to position themselves early behind the ball. The lesson emphasised shot consistency, control over depth and shot variation to maintain a continuous exchange with a partner.

In **Football**, Years 3 and 4 focused on finishing techniques in front of the goal. The session isolated key variables in shooting, including choosing between power and placement depending on the goalkeeper's positioning, striking the ball cleanly under pressure and tracking rebounds.

In Year 5 **Swimming**, children returned to the front crawl to improve efficiency in the water. The lesson concentrated on the over-arm recovery phase, high elbow positioning and aligning head rotation with the body's natural roll to optimize oxygen intake without disrupting forward momentum.

Year 6 continued with **Rounders**, looking at the strategic elements of the sport. Children analysed match situations to implement specific tactics, such as base-running decisions on offense and coordinated fielding positioning on defence, to minimize the opponent's scoring opportunities and maximise their own.



Attendance

Average whole school attendance:

Week beginning 6th July 2026 - 94.4%

Since 3rd September 2025 - 95%

Year 3 Beech Class - 95.2%

Year 3 Willow Class - 96.7%

Year 4 Chestnut Class - 98.1%

Year 4 Birch Class - 97.2%

Year 5 Oak Class - 96.3%

Year 5 Rowan Class - 91%

Year 6 Maple Class - 91.1%

Year 6 Alder Class - 92.8%

Class Award: Chestnut Class

Number of children late: 14

Learning days missed due to unauthorised holidays: 10



ClassCharts

Congratulations to our first Platinum Award winners - Roux D and Maya

Positive Points this year:

Year 3 - 31,309

Year 4 - 25,691

Year 5 - 32,048

Year 6 - 29,818

Total: 118,866

Can you help?

Bidbury Junior School is seeking one Parent Governor and two Co-opted Governors to join our Governing Body. This is a fantastic opportunity to support the school and help shape its future. No previous experience is needed, as full training, mentoring, and support are provided.

The Governing Body meets eight times a year, usually on Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm-8:00pm. For more information, please see the email sent home or contact the school office.