



The Beacon

Church of England (V.A.) Primary & Pre-School *Living life in all its fullness. (John 10:10)*

Dear Families and Friends,

We have had a lovely last few days spending time making wonderful memories to treasure and thinking about how very proud we are of our children. As well as saying goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 children and wishing them well on their journey to their new schools, we have also said 'au revoir' to Miss Brunwin, who has decided to retire from teaching. In Worship this morning, she revealed that she had a dream to write and illustrate children's books – we wish her well in her journey, and hope to see her again – maybe doing an author visit one day! All the best Miss Brunwin, and thank you for all you have taught us!



I am sure you join me in sending the biggest of THANK YOUs to our staff team who have worked so incredibly hard all year to support all our children and families to live life in all its fullness. I know the teachers, our Admin Manager, our caretaker and cleaning team will be busy working away throughout the summer to prepare for next year – but I wish the whole staff team a wonderful break.

Updates and reminders for next year.



Reception and Pre-School will be the **Little Egrets** class. They will be in the room currently used by Reception class. The teaching team are Mr Edmunds, Miss Ridgway and Mrs Morton.

Year 1 will be the **Lapwings** class. They will be in the room that is currently Pre-School and the 'red' room next door to it. They will also use the current Pre-School garden. The teaching team will be Mrs Pow, Miss Clements and Miss Chalmers.



Year 2 will be the **Oystercatchers** class. They are in the room that is currently Y4, at the bottom of the main block corridor close to the Reception class. The teaching team will be Mrs James and Miss Butcher with Miss Fisher and

Miss Pavey.

Year 3 and Year 4 will be the **Cormorants** class. The children will remain in their current classroom. The children who were in Y1 but were Y2 age will fully join the class. The teaching team will be Mrs Holman, Mrs James, and Mrs Hughes.



Year 5 will be the **Avocets** class. They will be in the current Y5 classroom. The teaching team will be Mr Johnson and Mr Pope.

Year 6 will be the **Ospreys** class and will be in the current Y6 classroom. The teaching team will be Miss Ebbutt, Mr Wright and Mrs Messenger. Mr Chalkley will teach across the school.



Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Good Shepherds

YR: K-K **Y1/2:** Seth **Y2/3:** Violet

Y4: Nyah **Y5:** Oscar **Y6:** Vika



School finishes today, Wednesday 22nd July!

New term starts **Monday 7th September**

Y5 & Y6 who are going on residential can attend a team building session on Friday 4th September from 1.30pm-3.30pm at school.

Open gate We invite anyone to 'walk through' the school gate between 4pm-4.30pm on Friday 4th September, to remind themselves of where their new classroom is. Teaching staff will not be available for conversations.

Half term Monday 26th October – Monday 2nd November inclusive (please note the additional day holiday)

Christmas holiday Monday 21st December 2026 – Monday 4th January 2027 inclusive (school starts 5th January 2027)

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Open Gate session I would like to invite everyone to bring their child/ren to school between 4pm and 4.30pm on Friday 4th September for a 'walk through'. Mr Edmunds will be in the FSU. Across the rest of the school, staff may or may not be available (it's not their working hours). The intention of this is to 'walk the walk' that your child will do on the Monday morning so that they know what everything looks like and can feel more confident on Monday morning when term starts. We usually have many families joining us for this, they tell us it helps both adults and children have a calmer, more peaceful end to their holidays as it reduces their anxiety about returning.

Start and end of the day. Which gate you will use depends which class/year group your child is in. For most children who are arriving and leaving at the **standard start and end of the school day** (8.50am and 3.30pm), everyone will enter the main playground gate on Bicton Place at 8.45am. We will not be using the lower (FSU) gate because we will have our Pre-School children in that space.

If your child is in **Pre-School** and is arriving or leaving at 9am, the middle of the day or being collected at 3pm, please use the FSU gate (lowest gate on the hill of Little Bicton Place). There will be a bell to attract our attention and a second gate for security.

If your child is in **Year 1**, we will trial drop off and collection from the Garden gate next to the old blue door on Little Bicton Place (that's the middle of the three gates we have on Little Bicton Place).

Meet your teacher sessions in September. We will be holding these for every class, dates will be published in September.

School dinners If your child has any dietary restrictions, please consider this when you select meals from the menu. Where there is an allergy, your child will be provided with an allergen free dish, but if you select chicken korma and your child is vegetarian, or sausages when you don't eat pork, there's not a lot we can do. It is your responsibility to select the most suitable dish for your child. You can see the allergens via the [Cornerstones website](#): this also gives you the ingredients for each dish.

Please place your orders for the week starting 14th September by 9am on Monday 7th September (first day of term). Orders made on the system after the advertised deadline will not be included on the order sent to our supplier.

We wish you all a super holiday.

Mrs Anne Billington,
Headteacher