



Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

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Mr G Stanley, Headteacher

Friday 11th September 2026

New Staff

It has been a pleasure to welcome some new staff members to school this term. We have got a new site manager, Mr Bourke, who has made a fantastic first impression on the school and grounds. We have also strengthened our team of Teaching Assistants with Miss Hunt, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Vos. They are all enjoying getting to know the children in their care.

Buddies AGM

It was a pleasure to attend the AGM last night. The committee are planning some great events for our school community. These events will need support from non-committee members to go ahead safely so please do volunteer to help if you are able to. Buddies are focussing their fundraising on installing air conditioning in the classrooms. This will cost upwards of £25,000 so we need to have a stellar year.

Collective Worship, Vision and Values

As always, we have started the new school year by taking time to revisit our school vision and values. Last week, I shared our vision with the whole school: 'Be the best version of ourselves, living life in all its fullness.' We also reflected on our four values of Wisdom, Hope, Community and Dignity, and how they help to shape the way we learn, behave and treat one another at Bishop Wood. We believe that by putting these values into practice, every member of our school community can flourish and become the very best version of themselves. Over the coming weeks, we will explore each of our values in more detail.

Woodrow

We were absolutely delighted to be able to reschedule our Year 4 (now Year 5 pupils!) residential trip to Woodrow this week. The children have been absolutely brilliant, throwing themselves into every activity with enthusiasm, resilience and a real sense of adventure. They have represented Bishop Wood superbly and we could not be prouder of them. A huge thank you must also go to our fantastic staff and parent helpers, who gave up their time (and quite a lot of sleep!) to make the trip possible. Residential trips simply could not happen without adults being willing to go the extra mile, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped to give our children such a memorable experience.

Attendance

Following the message in the newsletter last week, some parents have asked for more info regarding Fixed Penalty Notices:

There is a national threshold for when schools must consider requesting a Penalty Notice for unauthorised absence. This is reached when a child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school-week period. As there are two sessions in each school day, this is usually equivalent to 5 days of absence.

The absences do not need to be consecutive and can be made up of different types of unauthorised absence. For example, 5 days of unauthorised holiday during term time would meet the national threshold. The 10-week period can also run across different terms or even across two school years.

For a first Penalty Notice, the fine is £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days. If it is not paid within 21 days, this increases to £160 per parent, per child, which must be paid by day 28.

We appreciate that there can be genuine reasons why children are unable to attend school, and we will always work with families where there are difficulties affecting attendance. However, we also want parents to be aware of the national rules and the potential financial consequences of unauthorised absence.

Term Dates 2027/2028



He came so that we can 'be the best version of ourselves, enjoying life in all its fullness.'



Autumn Term

1st September - INSET
2nd September - Autumn Term Begins
25th October - 29th October - Half term
26th November - Occasional Day
17th December - End of Term

Spring Term

4th January - INSET
5th January - Spring Term begins
14th February - 18th February - Half Term
31st March - End of Term

Summer Term

18th April - Summer Term Begins
29th May - 2nd June - Half Term
5th June - INSET
20th July - End of Term
INSET- 21st July
INSET- 24th July

End of Day Dismissal Survey

A few people missed the annual [end of day dismissal survey](#). It has been opened again so that parents can complete it. Every child needs a password even if they walk home on their own!

Collection Arrangements

If you have completed the survey above (fully!) then you do not need to notify the office of changes to collection arrangements. The person collecting your child should either be on the approved list or and/or have the password you have chosen.

Meet the Teacher – September

The sessions start after registration and will involve a short presentation by the class teacher followed by a question and answer session.

Year 5 – Friday 18th September

Year 4 – Friday 25th September

Year 3 – Friday 2nd October

Celebration

Congratulations to the following pupils who were celebrated in school this week

Stars of the Week

3PS – Thomas W and Alice GY

3C – Euan T and Esme DD

4A – Leo B and Eve B

4F – Marty W and Ella WG

5DR – Woodrow

5M – Woodrow

6T – Alice G and Seb W

6I – Thea H and George W

Other Honours

Lunchtime Leader Award – Freddie C

House Points – Jupiter

Pom Poms – 4F

Diary Dates

Please find below a detailed look at the dates for next academic year!

Autumn

Date	Event
Wednesday 16 th September	Individual/Family photos
Friday 18 th September	Year 5 Meet the Teacher
Friday 25 th September	Year 4 Meet the Teacher
Friday 25 th September	Buddies Disco
Tuesday 29 th September	Nasal Flu 1
Wednesday 30 th September	Year 3 Chiltern Open Air Museum
Friday 2 nd October	Year 3 Meet the Teacher
Friday 9 th October	Harvest Festival
Sunday 11 th October	Worship for All – Harvest
Wednesday 14 th October	Come Dine with 3PS
Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd October	Fun Fit and Fruity Week
Wednesday 21 st October	Come Dine with 3C
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Friday 6 th November	Year 5 Anglo-Saxon Day
Sunday 8 th November	Remembrance
Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 13 th November	Buddies Disco
Monday 16 th November	Nasal Flu 2
Monday 16 th November	Parents' Eve
Wednesday 18 th November	Parents' Eve
Friday 20 th November	Year 4 Greek Day
Monday 30 th November	Reverse Advent Calendar
Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th December	Christmas Jumper Week
Monday 14 th December	Carol Service (2pm and 5.30pm)
Wednesday 16 th December	Pupil Christmas Lunch
Thursday 17 th December	End of Term Worship at 11.30 (St P and P)
Friday 18 th December	Christmas Golden Time
Friday 18 th December	End of Term at 1.30

Spring

Date	Event
Monday 4 th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 5 th January	School open to pupils
Thursday 28 th January	6I Class Collective Worship
Friday 29 th January	Buddies Disco
Thursday 4 th February	6T Class Collective Worship
Monday 8 th 1 Friday 12 th February	Science Week
Wednesday 10 th February	Ash Wednesday Worship at St P and P
Thursday 11 th February	5DR Class Collective Worship
Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th February	Half Term
Thursday 4 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 11 th March	5M Class Collective Worship
Friday 12 th March	Year 4 to St Albans
Sunday 14 th March	Worship for All - Lent
Monday 15 th March	Parents' Eve
Wednesday 17 th March	Parents' Eve
Friday 19 th March	Lenten Bazaar
Thursday 25 th March	Easter Service at St P and P

Friday 26 th March	End of Term at 1.30
Friday 26 th March – Sunday 11 th April	Easter Break

Summer

Date	Event
Thursday 22 nd April	4A Class Collective Worship
Friday 23 rd April	Buddies Disco
Thursday 29 th April	4F Class Collective Worship
Thursday 6 th May	3C Class Collective Worship
Sunday 9 th May	Worship for All
Monday 10 th May – Thursday 13 th May	SATs Week
Friday 14 th May	3PS Class Collective Worship
Thursday 27 th May	Year 5 to Lee Valley
Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June	Half Term
Saturday 5 th – Sunday 13 th June	Great Big Green Week
Monday 7 th June	INSET Day
Wednesday 9 th June	Class/Group Photo Day
Thursday 17 th June	Sports Day
Saturday 19 th June	Buddies Fayre
Sunday 27 th June – Weds 30 th June	Year 6 PGL
Monday 28 th – Weds 30 th June	Year 4 Green Park
Friday 9 th July	Moving On Up BBQ
Monday 12 th July	Year 6 Production
Monday 19 th July afternoon	Year 6 BOSCARs
Monday 19 th July evening	Year 6 Party
Tuesday 20 th July	End of Term Worship 11.30
Tuesday 20 th July	End of Term at 1.30

Thank you and best wishes
Mr Stanley