



WEEKLY

Week 4 – 25th September 2026 newsletter

Message from Miss Hughes

Can you believe we are half way through this term already?! Week 5 next week! Kim and I have been doing **learning walks** this week, popping in to every classroom to see the wonderful learning taking place. The atmosphere is calm and purposeful, with children are engaged, focused and thriving in their learning. It's been wonderful to see. We also had a **visit from the local authority** this week who recognised the school's clear improvement journey, strong safeguarding, inclusive support for children with different needs, and a clear focus on consistently great teaching.

We also had some of our alumni pop back in to see us this week, with some **Year 7s** visiting our **Year 6s** to talk about secondary school. Children all took their responsibilities seriously and had lots of stories to tell! Thank you to all who came back.

Today is **National TA Day**, which celebrates the amazing support staff working in schools across the country. We have a truly wonderful group of teaching assistants here at Bitterne Manor who care deeply, support generously and inspire daily. They help children grow in confidence, independence and resilience; they help teachers ensure every classroom is a place where children can flourish. I know you'll join me in thanking them for the brilliant job they all do.



Have a wonderful weekend.

Dojo Champions

Ducklings – Ruha and Kobe
Kingfishers – Yazmin and Rowan
Robins – Rose and Oscar T
Swifts – Avayah and Alfie
Skylarks – Kuzey and Miles
Jays – Maia and Oskar
Owls – Amber and Zian
Kestrels – Olek and Kian



The winning house this week is...

HEROES!

House Flags

We launched a competition on Monday to design new House Flags to be flown above the school when the House wins the weekly dojo competition and during other competitions. We've had lots of lovely designs already, but children have until Wednesday to get their designs in!



Football Triumphs!

Our football team played in their first match together! They represented the school so well through showing sportsmanship and supporting each other. They came out with a 1-0 win through a goal from Karol. Well done to the team!



Reminder: School closing

A quick reminder to all parents and carers that **school will be closed to children on Monday 5th October** (a week on Monday) for an INSET day. Staff will be taking part in some training called Total Communication. This is an inclusive approach to communication where staff will learn more about using speech, signs, symbols and visual cues so every child can understand and communicate.

Golden Book

Robins – Henry and Zala

Swifts – Musa and Sebi

Skylarks – Jubilee and Derek

Jays – Oskar and Olivia H

Owls – Janice and Malang

Kestrels – George and Elliot





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Uniform Reminders

Our uniform has been looking lovely. Please remember, children need:

- a white shirt or blouse or a white or bottle green polo shirt
- grey or black trousers
- grey or black skirt or pinafore dress
- bottle green jumper or cardigan
- brown or black shoes (These can be trainers, but must be plain black or plain brown.
- No jewellery except stud earrings or a watch.
- No make up or nail varnish
- No smart watches

PE kit is a plain white, plain blue, plain green, plain red or plain yellow t-shirt and black shorts/joggers.

Any child wearing the wrong uniform or PE kit will be given a clean spare uniform to change into in school.



Please ensure that all uniform is named.

PE Days

Monday – Robins and Swifts
Tuesday – Kingfishers and Skylarks
Wednesday – Jays
Thursday – Owls
Friday – Kestrels



Upcoming Dates

- 25th September – National Teaching Assistant Day
- 1st October – Football Team match 3:15-5:15
- 2nd October – Grandparents for Ducklings and Kingfishers Stay and Play
- **5th October – INSET Day (school closed to children)**
- 7th October-9th October – Book Fair
- 8th October – Football Team match 3:15-5:15
- 9th October – Mental Health Day – wear yellow
- 9th October – Flu immunisations
- 14th October – Year 3 Trip to Stonehenge
- 16th October – Harvest Assembly
- 16th October – PTA AGM at 3:30-4:30
- 19th October – Year 5 trip to Winchester Science
- 21st October – Year 1 Trip to Tudor House
- 22nd October – Football Team match 3:15-5:15
- **26th October – HALF TERM**
- 2nd November – Poppy Sale this week
- 3rd November – Parents Evening
- 4th November – Parents Evening
- 11th November – Remembrance Day
- 16th November – Anti-Bullying Week / Odd Sock Monday
- 20th November – Children in Need Pyjama Day £1
- 7th December – Church Service 4pm
- 14th December – Grandparent Christmas Carols 9:15am-10:30am
- 15th December – Dress Rehearsal for young families and babies of Christmas Performance 1:45-2:45
- 16th December – Christmas Performances 1:45 and 5:00
- 17th December – Christmas Hamper draw, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch Day
- 18th December – Last day of term

PTA AGM

We are pleased to invite you to our PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM), taking place on 16th October from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

The PTA plays an important role in supporting our school and helping to create additional opportunities and experiences for our children. Your support, whether through attending meetings, volunteering your time, sharing ideas or simply getting involved when you can, makes a real difference to our school community.

The AGM is a great opportunity to hear about what the PTA has been doing, look ahead to the year ahead, and discuss how we can continue working together to support our school, staff and, most importantly, our children. We look forward to seeing you there and working together to support our wonderful school community.

