WEEKLY newsletter

Week 4 – 27th November 2026

Message from Miss Hughes

It's been another busy week at Bitterne Manor – so many lovely trips this week and our Christmas preparations have begun! We are looking forward to welcoming you all in for our Grandparent Christmas Carol concert and the Christmas performance of the Great Christmas TV Takeover in the last week of term. Please check your emails as Google Forms have gone out to **request tickets** – these are sometimes going to spam. We don't want anyone to miss out on tickets.

Over the last few weeks, we have been inundated with emails from parents and carers. Technology and AI make it easier to write and send emails, but reading, investigating and responding thoughtfully takes time. Emails sometimes arrive late in the evening or early in the morning, with parents expecting an immediate response, and staff have also received repeated calls about the same enquiry during the school day, with response expected during teachers' lunch break. **Our entire team is busy teaching, supporting and caring for your children during the school day and it is essential they are given the time and space to do this.**

The school office is open from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Please allow up to **48 hours during school working days for a response,** unless it is an urgent safeguarding matter. Wherever possible, **please speak to us in person;** a quick conversation can often resolve a concern. A member of the leadership team is on the gate each morning.

Thank you for helping us give your children the time and attention they need.

Trips, trips, trips!

We had lots of lovely trips this week, with some children at a sports event on Monday, Year 4 to Longleat on Tuesday and Year 6 to Milestones and Puffins on a local walk on Wednesday!







School Attendance Matters

Kingfishers – 95%
Robins – 90%
Swifts – 94.2%
Skylarks – 96.7%
Jays – 93.3%
Owls – 96.3%
Kestrels – 93.5%



Whole school

94.2%

If you are planning to take your child out of school during term time, you must complete a leave request form from the school office. Holidays will not be approved and you are likely to be fined.

Dojo Champions

Puffins – Doni and Mohamed
Ducklings – Eurus and Lola
Kingfishers –
Robins – Hendrix and Vivi
Swifts – Alexander and Despoina
Skylarks – Theo and Naomi
Jays – Grace and Suliman
Owls – Eva and Didi
Kestrels – Elsie and Megan



Golden Book

Robins – Anai and Hallie
Swifts – Marley and Aishleen
Skylarks – Kaja and Juba
Jays – Jayden D and Olivia T
Owls – Dawson and Nicolae
Kestrels – Kian and Jessica





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Disco! Disco!

Enormous thanks to all of our PTA and parent volunteers for your help and support at the disco!



Safe Parking

Please do not park on the zig zag outside school. This is making it hard for other families to get through and as a result other children are arriving late. Please park further down the road in an appropriate space.



Calpol

It's that time of year when some children are feeling a little under the weather, but not so poorly that they need to stay at home. Sometimes an over-the-counter medicine is recommended (e.g. Calpol). **To support full attendance, we can administer medication to your child if you request it**. To keep everyone safe, there are some simple rules:

- We need **written consent for each day** that you would like us to administer it
- Medicines must be supplied in the **original container, in-date, clearly labelled** with child's name

We will send you a **Medical Tracker alert** when the medication has been administered. There are forms in the office if you need them.



Upcoming Dates

- 30th November – Y5/6 Athletics Event
- 2nd December – PTA Hot Chocolate Sale 3:20
- 3rd December – EYFS Trip to MAST Theatre
- 7th December – Church Service 4pm at Church of Ascension
- 7th December – Bikeability Week for Kestrels
- 7th December – City Mission in Y3
- 9th December – PTA Christmas Market
- 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
- 16th December – Puffins Christmas Celebration Afternoon
- 17th December – Christmas Hamper draw, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch Day
- **18th December – Last day of term**
- 29th to 31st December – Holiday Camp: Thrive
- **4th January – Start of Spring term**
- 5th January – YR Measurement Checks School Nursing
- 6th January – New Reception Parent Tour 9:15
- 8th January – Spring term overviews coming home
- 11th January – Y5 swimming starts 1:00-2:00pm (10 Mondays)
- 12th January – Kestrels' Class Assembly 8:45-9:00
- 15th January – Year 6 Measurement Checks from School Nursing Team
- 18th January – Owls' Class Assembly 8:45-9:00
- 20th January – City Mission in YR
- 20th January – See and Celebrate Book Look: parents invited to see children's learning from 2:45pm

BAMPONTS