



# WEEKLY

Week 4 – 28<sup>th</sup> November

newsletter

## Message from Miss Hughes

Christmas is now in full swing at school, with rehearsals beginning for this year's production, The Great Christmas Talent Show. The sounds of Christmas carols are already echoing down the corridors, adding to the festive atmosphere.

Teachers spent time in this week's meeting reviewing English books, and it has been wonderful to see the children's writing shining through and the huge progress they've made since last year.

Kestrels enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Milestones Museum, and the Swifts had a successful local walk.

A huge thank-you to everyone who supported the PTA disco - the atmosphere was brilliant, and we were overwhelmed by the generosity of hamper donations.

Looking ahead, we have our Church Service on Monday at 4pm and would love to see families there. The stage goes up in the hall on Wednesday as rehearsals really get underway, and children will also be taking part in several sporting events, including athletics and a netball/handball festival, as well as Year 4's trip to The Living Rainforest.

Another wonderfully busy week completed! It's hard to believe we're already more than halfway through the term with just three weeks to go!

## Trips

Year 6 had a fantastic trip to the Milestones Museum, exploring what life was like during WWII and seeing history brought to life. Year 2 also enjoyed a local walk, mapping the features of our school's surrounding environment as part of their geography learning.



## Staffing Update

Mrs Martin has now headed off on maternity leave – a little earlier than planned. We wish her enormous love and luck for her new adventure.

But there is clearly something in the water here at Bitterne Manor! In exciting news, Mrs Southwick is expecting her first child in April. We are delighted for her and her husband at this exciting time.

## Dojo Champions

**Ducklings** – Mary and Sombiri

**Kingfishers** – Henry and Oscar T

**Robins** – Sebi and Felip

**Swifts** – Kuba and Joudy

**Skylarks** – Mia and Ava

**Jays** – Keeva and Max

**Owls** – Karol and Amara

**Kestrels** – Honour and Laura

The winning house this week is...

**HEROES!**



## Golden Book

Congratulations to our Golden Book winners this week. Our winners are...

Robins – Ilia and Amirah

Swifts – Marley and Jubilee

Skylarks – Lida and Ella

Jays – None as trip next week

Owls – Ruby and Elliot

Kestrels – Oscar N and Bridget





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## newsletter

### Lockdown

We have had a number of questions recently from parents about 'lockdown drills' in school. We have liaised directly with Southampton District Commander, Superintendent Alex Charge about this. There is no risk to schools at the moment and we would be notified if there was.

However, we are preparing for the introduction of Martyn's Law which requires schools to have enhanced preparedness plans for attacks, including risk assessments and evacuation, invacuation and lockdown.

We already have risk assessments in place and ensure all of our staff are prepared, knowing what action to take. However, at this time, be conducting lockdown drills with children. If the risk to schools increased, we will review this.

### Donations

We have had some donations to school recently from two of our families and want to extend a heartfelt thank you!

Ella and Evie's dad recently helped us by donating money to the Year 6 trip to Milestone Museum, ensuring that it went ahead. We are very grateful to him for his generous donation as trips sometimes cannot happen if we do not have enough contributions.

Wilf GC's parents donated some money to the school which we are hoping to use on some new playground equipment. Enormous thanks to both families – it makes a huge difference to the children.

### PTA Volunteers Needed

The PTA needs volunteers and is currently looking for a treasurer and a secretary. All volunteers welcome! [pta@bitternemanor.net](mailto:pta@bitternemanor.net)

### PE Days

Mondays – Kestrels  
Tuesday – Kingfishers  
Wednesday – Jays / Robins  
Thursdays – Owls / Swifts  
Fridays – Skylarks



### Upcoming Dates

- 1<sup>st</sup> December – Church Service for the start of Christmas
- 1<sup>st</sup> December – Y5/6 Group to Athletics @ Woodlands
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Y3/4 Group to Netball/Handball festival @ Solent Uni
- 4<sup>th</sup> December – Year 4 Trip to Living Rainforest
- 8<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Sports Taster Day for group @ Woodlands
- 11<sup>th</sup> December – PTA Christmas Fair and Christmas Jumpers and Christmas Carols
- 15<sup>th</sup> December – Coffee, Cake and Christmas Carols for Grandparents
- 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Performance: Dress Rehearsal for parents with young children
- 17<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Performance 1:45 and 5:00
- 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch Day and Christmas Hamper drawer
- 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Presents for Parents sold by PTA in school hall
- 5<sup>th</sup> January – all children return for Spring Term
- 5<sup>th</sup> January – Bikeability for Year 6
- 12<sup>th</sup> January – Year 5 swimming starts
- 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Parents invited in for a **See and Celebrate** to have a look at children's books

