Bridport Primary School Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2026

Our value for this half term is: **KINDNESS**

DIARY DATES

17 & 19.11.26
Parents' Evenings

18.11
Hockey Tournament

19.11
Earthrise Day
Bronze Ambassador Training
Y4 Mental Health Workshop

20.11
Odd Socks Day for Antibullying Week

24.11.26
Kenway Cup

26.11
Geography Dress Up Day







Dear Parents and Carers,

Our BPS children have been very busy lately, not just in their lessons, but in lots of other ways too. In sports, we have participated in the Bridport Rugby Club Tag Rugby festival, a netball tournament and cross country at Colfox. So many of our children took part, showing our school values, commitment and great attitudes. We are very proud of them.

The Space Dome visit was amazing! Last half term, the whole school experienced the Space Odyssey's Space Dome, where every child got the chance to take part in a workshop and learn some amazing facts about space. We are so thankful to the FOBPS for funding this wonderful experience.

We had a fantastic music assembly with one of the team from Rocksteady- I am sure the children came back talking about it! Egytian Day was also a massive success- great learning from our year four children.

We had our Remembrance assembly with Revd John and we were joined by Kevin and Rachel, carrying the standards. We held a two minute silence, shared songs, poems and stories as part of this important service.

All the children enjoyed talks from an author as part of the local Bridlit event. The organisers also commented on how enthusiastic and well-behaved our children were- a pleasure to take.

What a HILARIOUS Children in Need assembly on Friday. For more details and photos, please see over.
Ms Kite

Learning today for our tomorrow

St Andrew's Rd, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3BJ

Headteacher: Michaela Kite, Deputy: Felicity Le Gassick

Our **netballers** from Year 5/6 enjoyed a morning at Colfox, competing in six matches against different local schools.

They won two matches, lost two and drew two!

Well done to all of the team for their enthusiasm and for representing BPS so well!



Mr James would like to celebrate all of the children that participated in the **tag rugby tournament** at the weekend.
All the children played brilliantly as a team, showing many of our school values throughout. These values were reflected in your fantastic results against Bridport St Mary's and Greenford.

SPORT

The Year 3,4,5 and 6 **cross- country runners** participated at this year's first competition at Colfox.

Everyone who took part represented BPS brilliantly showing determination, resilience, responsibility and most importantly teamwork.



All of these skills were represented in the results, as the year three and four girls and boys teams both came in second place. The year five and six boys came in third place and the year five and six girls came 1st place.

Also a huge 'well done!' needs to be given to Teddy B for individually finishing 3rd overall in the year five and six boys race. Well done everyone!

THANK YOU

FRIENDS of BRIDPORT PRIMARY SCHOOL

MASSIVE THANKS to our FOBPS

The discos were a great success. They also do SO MUCH behind the scenes. The school would not be able to participate in events or trips without them.







BBC Children in Need



Our teachers pledged to do silly activities depending on how much money was raised...

we have had dance-offs, karaoke, cream pies, makeovers, mummification and an eating challenge (think Marmite, olives, jalepenos and sprinkles!), all in the name of charity!

We managed to raise over **£300** so Ms Kite, Mrs Fowler and Miss Bowles all agreed to wear fancy dress on Monday!

















Attendance Reminder

You will remember last year, I asked for your partnership in an area that is crucial to your child's success and happiness at school: their attendance.

Currently, our whole-school attendance figure has improved but still sits below national average and other comparable schools. We have a number of holidays requested, which unfortunately we are not able to authorise.

Why does this matter?
93% attendance equals roughly 13 days of missed school a year.
Over a child's primary school career, this adds up to missing an entire term of education.

Gaps in attendance lead to gaps in learning, particularly in subjects like maths and phonics which build on previous lessons day-by-day.

The likelihood of a Year 6 pupil reaching the expected standard in assessments is 1.5 times greater in pupils with 95-100% attendance compared to children with 90-95% attendance, and 2.4 times greater than pupils with 85-90% attendance.

When to send your child to school
We know that children contract significant illnesses (such as vomiting bugs or flu) and must stay home to recover. However, a significant portion of our lost days are due to minor ailments, or children feeling anxious.

If your child is not feeling 100% but does not have a fever, vomiting, or diarrhoea, please send them to school. We are well-placed to monitor children who are feeling unwell, so if you are unsure, bring them in and let the office know. If they are too unwell to remain in class, we will call you to collect them. We now have an **'under the weather' form** you can fill in, to let us know they feel unwell in the morning.

We can also help if they feel anxious about something- often they feel better when they are in and we can help to support them, rather than worrying at home. We know that worry and anxiety can be a natural part of life: practising coping with these things, with support, can help them to grow and develop resilience.

We are striving to bring our attendance back in line with National standards, but we cannot do it without your help. Your support is needed and gratefully received.

Attendance

Our aim: **97%+**

Last week: 92.8%

Currently: 94%



New Staff

After half term, we added to our team. We welcome Mrs Davies-Coates, Mrs Gamwell, Miss Sullivan and Mrs Hall (lunch team). They have already settled in brilliantly.

Bridport Primary and Bridport St Mary's are also delighted to announce the appointment of Alice Waterman to the position of SENDCo, from January 2027. Mrs Waterman will be the strategic leader across both schools, bringing a wealth of leadership experience and expertise.

We are currently looking to recruit for Mrs Waterman's teaching position; we are grateful that her ongoing presence and leadership will enable a smooth transition, with effective support.

Is Someone in Your House a Young Carer?

A young carer is someone under 18 years of age who provides regular and ongoing care to a family member who, due to a condition, illness, disability, serious injury, mental health condition or addiction, are reliant upon them for support.

A young carer will take on additional responsibilities to those appropriate to their age and development. Young carers may be primary carers, e.g. if caring for a parent, or a secondary carer, e.g. when helping to care for a sibling.

Young carers are recognised by the DfE and the school as children who are vulnerable. This is because the level of care-giving and responsibility to the person in need of care is often inappropriate for that child's age and stage of development, and risks jeopardising their emotional or physical wellbeing, educational achievement and outcomes.

A young carer may undertake some or all of the following:

- Practical tasks
- Physical care
- Personal and intimate care
- Emotional support
- Household management
- Looking after multiple individuals as a result of the primary dependant's condition, e.g. a child taking care of their parent as well as their siblings due to their parent's impairment in doing so
- Interpretation
- Administering medication

If the answer to this is **yes**, please contact us through the school office, so that we are aware and can give support.