



BTPS News – Friday 22 May 2026



From the Headteacher

Last Saturday saw a wonderful team of children, parents, staff and governors come together to begin the practical aspects of the BIG refresh as we began to tackle the new Key Stage 1 outside area. Thank you to all those who helped – it was amazing how much we achieved in just 3 hours! We will put on another Saturday in June as I know others have said they were keen to come. (More pictures below.)

Thank you too to Jill who gave up two mornings this week helping Mr Johnson to decorate one of five classrooms which we want to refurbish before the summer. If you can spare some time on Friday 5th June to come and pick up a paintbrush and help to brighten up these spaces, we would be so grateful for your support.

Have a lovely half term. Stay safe in the sun and we all look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 1st June.

Mr Chamberlin

In this week's newsletter:

- **Final chance to answer the survey**
- **Message from our new Chair of Governors**
- **Beach trip joy**

Notices

Please [click here for a final opportunity to complete our parent survey](#). Thank you to so many for taking the time to share your views and helping to shape the future of our school for your children. We will close this after half term in case you still wished to share your views.

Date	Time	Event
Fri 22 May	3.15pm	School closes for Half Term break
Mon 1 June	8.30am	School reopens for Summer Term 2
Mon 1 June		Y4 multiplication tables checks start
Tues 2 – Thu 4 June	3.20pm	Book Fair in KS1 Hall (see below)
Wed 3 June		Catshark (Y6) forest school
Mon 8 June		Y1 phonics screening checks start
Tues 9 June		YR visitor – Police visit to EYFS
Wed 10 June		Stingray (Y6) forest school
Wed 17 June		Crab & Lobster (YR) forest school
Thurs 18 June		Y6 FCC welcome day
Fri 19 June	AM PM	School Sports Day (Parents invited) AM – YR, Y1, Y2 PM – Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6
Mon 22 June	PM	Y6 Cathedral Leavers Service
Tues 23 June	6.00pm	New to Reception Parent Meeting
Wed 24 June		Crab & Lobster (YR) forest school
<i>July dates to follow next time</i>		

Message from the new Chair of Governors

I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors at our school. I have been a parent governor for nearly three years, a role I have thoroughly enjoyed and would recommend to anyone interested in becoming more involved in the strategic side of the school behind the scenes. The role has given me a greater insight into just how hard our staff work for the benefit of all the children in their care, and I am excited to be part of the next stage in our school's journey as we begin the BIG refresh. I believe there are many exciting things ahead for our whole school community.



I'm sure you will join me in thanking our previous Chair, Nick Hughes, for his dedication and commitment as both a parent governor and Chair over the past few years as his term now comes to an end. If you would ever like to get in touch, please do contact me on chair.governors@tufnell.org

Hannah McLoughlin, Chair of Governors

Scholastic Book Fair 2nd – 4th June 2026

A reminder about next week's book fair: 2026 is the National Year of Reading and we are delighted to be welcoming the Scholastic Book Fair into school from Tuesday 2nd June – Thursday 4th June. This will take place in the Key Stage 1 Hall between 3.20pm-4.00pm. This is a great opportunity to purchase some high-quality books for your children while supporting school. You can browse the books in advance via the website here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases>

The BIG Refresh in action...



Bike Safety

Please remind your child that they must cycle safely near the school premises. There have been reports from concerned parents and members of the community about children cycling unsafely around cars in the busy moments after school.

Attendance...

A multitude of holidays and absence saw some troubling low attendance across our school over the past week. I appreciate the challenges of holiday affordability during school breaks but I have to mention it as it is troubling and persistent trend in our community.

A quick bit of Maths today: our children have approximately 4 formal lessons each day, so over the course of a week engage in 20 lessons (with lots of other things like reading, spellings, worship, clubs, etc). With 320 children, this adds up to 6,400 lessons a week. This past week alone, 691 lessons were missed by our children. That is now 691 gaps in understanding, 691 missed opportunities, and 691 catch up sessions needed to be found by teachers. And that is just from this week. I am committed to supporting every child to have the best start to life and to flourish during their time here and beyond. We will reflect on how best to support this so that no child misses out on the education they deserve. A sobering but important consideration for our community.

To finish with a positive – our Spring Term attendance winning classes had a wonderful time on their beach trip this week!





Learning Updates

Library Service Visit 16th June

West Sussex Library Service will be visiting the school on Tuesday 16th June to talk to the children about this year's exciting Summer Reading Challenge, Read to the Beat. To help get as many children involved as possible this year, they are going to be available in the playground after school to sign up anyone who wants to take part and answer any questions you may have about the summer reading challenge or any library services.

Our trip to Chichester Harbour, by Daisy, Sanderling Class

On Friday 24th April, Year 5 went to Chichester Harbour on a field trip to learn about rivers.

At around 10am, we arrived at the river and met Fiona and Helen who were our river instructors. Before starting any fun activities, they gave us a safety talk. After the safety briefing, we walked past a house with a roof made from reeds from the river, and a group of swans. We also walked along a stream leading to the river bank.

Shortly after arriving at the riverbank, we learned about the features of rivers. First, we learned about meanders, which are wavy parts of the river that bend round. Then we learned about confluence, tributaries, river banks, and brackish water, which is where river reeds grow.

Soon after this, we measured the river. We threw dog biscuits into the water to see which way the river was flowing and how fast it was going. This was exciting! Exciting because everyone made a bet on how fast the

river would be. One person stepped in the river and the water filled their boots and another got stuck in the stream!

Immediately after this, we headed off to complete a river sketch. First, Helen talked through some instructions. Whilst listening to Helen, we drew the features one at a time. After we had finished that, we played a fun game of Pooh Sticks, which is where you throw sticks into the river to see whose stick goes the furthest. This was fun! Fun because Pooh Sticks is a game that is played in the film Winnie the Pooh.

After studying the river, we walked to Dell Quay. This was one mile away, which was a long way, so we played I Spy. Shortly after arriving at Del Quay, we ate lunch. Lunch was the top priority for some people after that one mile walk! We ate in a classroom and had 30 minutes (half an hour) to eat.

To begin the afternoon, we had a lesson about Chichester Harbour. First of all, we learned about flooding, salt marshes and tides around the Harbour area. We also found out about mud flats, what they are and how they are made. After all of this learning about rivers, we made our own rivers in sand trays and everyone tried hard to include: confluence, tributaries and meanders.

By now, you will know that Year 5 learned a lot! The trip was wonderful and Year 5 learned so much about rivers and about how much wildlife there is around them

Community News

SCHOOL HOLIDAY

Make & Take

CRAFT SESSIONS FOR KIDS

Every Thursday during school holidays

£2 per child
Includes healthy snack



Scan for details and to book

HOW TO FIND US:
The Bognor Makerspace,
58-60 Longford Rd,
PO21 1AG

SESSIONS SUPPORTED BY



Turn over for colouring fun!



Join us for one of our special
Half term boat trips
 in Chichester Harbour

Bird's Ahoy!  Fun bird-spotting for all ages. 1 hr, departing Itchenor.

Seal Safari  Three-hour trip to visit our special seals (age 8+).

Roman History Family Trip  Sail through history! 1.5 hrs, departing Itchenor.

All aboard 'Solar Heritage' our solar-powered, eco-friendly tour boat departing Itchenor

 www.boattripschichesterharbour.co.uk 

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Volunteer with Scouts

Giving back will improve your wellbeing, equip you with skills for the future, and help you make a positive impact on the lives of young people.

1st Middleton-On-Sea Scout Group started in 1972 at a hut on Bishop Tufnell School Playing Field before moving to the current purpose built HQ just off Shrubbs Drive in 2000 after lots of fund raising and grants.

The group has always strived to offer a fun, active and engaging range of activities to young people from 6 years through to 14 and a half years.

Activities offered include:

- Beavers - crafts, games, model making, glueing and sticking.
- Cubs - basic navigation, campfires, simple pioneering and cooking.
- Scouts - camping, backwoods challenges, hiking, driving experiences, team building challenges, abseiling and climbing.

Activities are exceptional value for money. However for this to continue we need help from the community that we are part of.

We need adult help in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. All training and uniform is paid for and we really are a welcoming bunch of people!

Go on, give it a try, don't miss out, be part of our scout group!

If you would like to find out more about volunteering with us, or if your youngster might like to join the fun, please contact one of those listed below.



Scouts Contact: Denis Cooke - 07714 058529 .
 Roger Belton - 07866907075 . Mark Peacock - 07900 555752