

Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery Newsletter



We nurture every child to reach their potential without limits.



A message from Miss Harbridge

14th September 2026

As we come to the end of our first full week of the new academic year, I would like to thank all of our children, families and staff for helping to make it such a successful and positive start. It has been a busy week across the school, with children quickly settling back into routines and engaging enthusiastically in their learning.

Our Year 6 pupils have had a fantastic time on their residential visit to Avon Tyrrell, while the children who remained in school have also enjoyed an exciting programme of adventurous activities. Both groups have taken part in climbing, canoeing and a range of team-building challenges, developing confidence, resilience and cooperation along the way. These shared experiences have provided wonderful opportunities for children to challenge themselves, support one another and create lasting memories.

Back in the classroom, children have been immersed in exciting curriculum experiences. Year 3 enjoyed a history immersion workshop focused on the Stone Age, bringing their learning to life through engaging, hands-on activities. Year 5 travelled back in time to explore the fascinating world of the Ancient Greeks, building their knowledge through an inspiring workshop that captured their imagination and curiosity.

This week we also introduced our new lunch service arrangements. I would like to extend a huge thank you to our school kitchen team, who have been absolutely amazing in implementing these changes and ensuring that lunchtime continues to run smoothly for all children.

Our new Reception children have made a wonderful start to school. They have settled quickly, are happy and confident, and are already developing greater independence in their learning. They have done particularly well at lunchtime over the last two days and are learning to use their "big voices" when making their lunch choices. We are very proud of them and look forward to seeing them continue to flourish.

Senior Leadership Team

We will always endeavor to have a member of our senior leadership team available on the gates each morning. This is our Senior Leadership Team.

						
Miss Harbridge Headteacher/ DDSL	Miss McArdle Deputy Headteacher/ DSL	Mrs Kimber SENDCo/ DDSL	Miss Freeland EYFS Leader	Mrs Atkins KS1 Leader	Miss Bartlett Lower KS2 Leader	Mrs Gilkerson Upper KS2 Leader

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Key Messages

- A reminder to families that smart watches are not allowed in school. If children are wearing a smart watch they will be asked to take it off and their teacher will look after it until the end of the day.
- Please read our updated Mobile Phone Policy in line with new 2026 government guidance.
- Voluntary One-Way System for Vehicles: Just a reminder regarding our voluntary one-way system for vehicles travelling to and from school. Please enter the Barnsbury Estate via Acacia Avenue (next to the bus stop on Egley Road when approaching from Turnoak Roundabout). At the end of Acacia Avenue, turn right onto Hawthorn Road and continue until you reach the top of Almond Avenue. Please then proceed down Almond Avenue with Barnsbury on your left-hand side.
- Please park considerately during drop-off and pick-up times, as these can be particularly busy. Barnsbury is surrounded by residential homes, and we ask all members of our school community to demonstrate our Barnsbury Values by being respectful of our neighbours. Where possible, please consider walking to school or parking a little further away and walking the remainder of the journey. Please do not park across driveways, on double yellow lines, or on grass verges.

Attendance

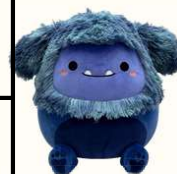
The Importance of Good Attendance

Good attendance at school is one of the most important factors in supporting children's learning, wellbeing and future success. Research and national guidance are clear that the more time children spend in school, the more they learn, build confidence and make progress. Every day in the classroom matters, as learning is carefully planned and builds step by step over time.

Regular attendance supports positive friendships, strong routines and good learning habits, all of which are essential for success both in school and beyond.

As a school, we are aiming for 96% attendance. Please see below each year groups attendance for the past two weeks.

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
-	-	90%	98%	97%	98%	99%	94%



We will include Nursery and Reception from next week when they are full time.

Well done to Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 for all having attending above 96%!

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Awards - week commencing 07/09

Star Award, Effort Award and Values Award			
Butterfly	-	-	-
Dragonfly	-	-	-
Rabbit	Maisie	Noha	Evie
Hedgehog	JJ	Jasper	Sofia M
Seal	Isra	Ruben	Harry
Dolphin	Isla	Oscar	Lottie
Puffin	Charlie	Ava	Jake
Barn Owl	Liyana	Carter	Tristan
Woodpecker	Sammy	Azhaan	Aliza
Kingfisher	Saharsh	Connor	Hannah
Pine Marten	Emily R	Poema	Ella
Red Fox	Saph	Mike	Caitlin
Shark	-	-	-
Eagle	-	-	-

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Awards - week commencing 07/09

Congratulations to our Super Speller of
the Week:

Vishnu - Pine Marten



Congratulations to the recipients of a
WOW certificates this week:



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Dates for your diary 2026 - Autumn Term

September 2026	
Monday 14 th September	Woodpecker Class swimming
Wednesday 16 th September	Year 4 Curriculum meeting for parents @14:30
Wednesday 16 th September	PTA AGM @19:00- 20:30
Thursday 17 th September	Year 6 Curriculum meeting for parents @9:00
Friday 18 th September	Year 6 Intergenerational project
Monday 21 st September	Woodpecker Class swimming
Wednesday 23 rd -25 th September	Year 4 Residential Trip
Thursday 24 th September	Reception Curriculum Meeting and PSED/ C&L workshop for parents @13:30
Friday 25 th September	Year 6 Intergenerational project
Monday 28 th September	Woodpecker Class swimming

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Dates for your diary 2026 - Autumn Term

October 2026	
Friday 2 nd	Woodpecker Class Assembly
Friday 2 nd	Year 6 Intergenerational project
Monday 5 th	Woodpecker Class swimming
Thursday 8 th	Year 1 Phonics and Reading Workshop for parents (with your child) @13:30
Monday 12 th	Woodpecker Class swimming
Thursday 15 th	Year 2 Phonics and Reading Workshop for parents (with your child) @13:30
Friday 16 th	Year 3 Harvest Assembly @9:00
Monday 19 th October – Friday 30 th October	Extended half term break

November 2026	
Monday 2 nd	First day back at school
Monday 2 nd	Kingfisher Swimming
Monday 9 th	Kingfisher Swimming

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Dates for your diary 2026 - Autumn Term

November 2026 (continued)

Wednesday 11 th	Individual and Sibling Photos
Monday 16 th	Kingfisher Swimming
Monday 23 rd	Kingfisher Swimming
Monday 30 th	Kingfisher Swimming

December 2026

Monday 7 th	Kingfisher Swimming
Friday 18 th	End of Term - 1:15pm

DESIGN OUR CHRISTMAS CARD

We're inviting children to design the
St Mary of Bethany Church Christmas Card!

Winning designs will appear on the front of our
card which goes to nearly 4,000 local homes.

Design theme 'The Gift of Christmas.'
Age categories: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11

To Enter

- Draw a design which FILLS an A4 or A5 page.
- Return designs by Monday 2 November to a drop-off box or the Church office.
- Please paperclip a separate piece of paper with the child's name and age, parent/carer's name and email address. (Do not fold or write on the back.)

Child first name and age will appear with their artwork on cards and displays.

Winners will be notified by email in mid-November.

Any questions please contact the team by emailing
office@stmaryofbethany.org.uk





WOKING FC ACADEMY

FOOTBALL CAMPS

OCTOBER HALF TERM

RELAUNCH 2026/27

Due to the new 2 week half term, we are making our new football camps more accessible to the local community as we relaunch our football camps for the 26/27 season.



DATES

20TH, 21ST, 22ND,
27TH, 28TH, 29TH
OCTOBER



TIME

10AM - 3PM



PRICE

£18
PER DAY



GOALKEEPER CAMPS

22ND & 29TH
OCTOBER
£25 PER DAY



EARLY DROP OFF
& LATE COLLECTION
30 MINS EITHER SIDE
£5 PER DAY



MARTIN TYLER PERFORMANCE CENTRE
WOKING COLLEGE, GU22 9DW

BOOK NOW!

CONTACT [SUZANNE@WOKINGCITC.ORG](mailto:suzanne@wokingcitc.org)



GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Join the Barnsbury Primary School & Nursery

PTA

Open to all Parents and Carers

WHY JOIN?

Your Child Benefits

The PTA is an important part of the school and **helps to enrich your child's learning** and make every student's experience at school better.

Its Totally Flexible

Anyone can get involved. **It's less commitment than you think and you don't always have to attend meetings.** Small jobs such as designing a poster or running a stall, keeps everything running smoothly.

Create Lasting Memories

Children will learn using resources we fund, cherish the activities and trips we organise and fund. As well as remember the events we hold.
Keep the PTA going so future pupils can benefit too.

Because its fun!

Be part of a team which organises the best fundraising events. Suggest new ideas, gain new skills, meet new people. **But most of all, have fun and be your children's biggest fan!**

To get involved please speak to a class rep or email the PTA
pta@barnsbury.surrey.sch.uk