

June Newsletter 2025

🌼 **June News – A Joyful Month at School!**

Dear families,

We hope this finds you well. It's been another joyful and action-packed month here at school, full of sunshine, smiles, and so much brilliant learning! The children have continued to impress us with their enthusiasm, creativity, and growing confidence – we are incredibly proud of every single one of them. Here's a little snapshot of all that's been going on…

✨ **Classroom Highlights**

Reception:

Our youngest learners have been superstars this month! From practising their number skills and letter sounds to writing about animals and solving problems with growing independence – they've wowed us!

Year 1:

Year 1 children have been fantastic geographers, visiting Southsea and Portsmouth to explore human and physical seaside features. Back at school, they've created stunning porthole artwork and written some truly beautiful seaside poetry. What a creative and curious group they are!

Year 2:

Year 2 have had a brilliant few weeks – from Ceilidh dancing in the palace ruins to diving into pirate writing and cooling off in the school pool! Their literacy and numeracy work has shone, and we loved seeing their achievements celebrated in assembly. They're also preparing for their Leavers' Assembly, which we know will be a special moment.

🎉 Upcoming Events and Notices

Transition Morning – Thursday 3rd July

On Thursday, children in Reception and Year 1 will find out their new class and teacher for September. We know this can bring a mix of feelings, but we're here to support every step of the way. Our children head home with big smiles and lots to share on this day!

Open Afternoon – Tuesday 8th July, 2–5pm

We are so excited to welcome you into school for our Open Afternoon. Children will proudly share their Records of Achievement and celebrate all they've learned this year. We can't wait to see you there!

Sports Day – Friday 4th July

Our much-anticipated Sports Day is nearly here! Each year group will enjoy fun activities at the following times:

- **Reception:** 9.15am
- **Year 1:** 10.45am
- **Year 2:** 1.45pm

There'll be cakes/sweet treats and cold drinks available (cash donations only). We're keeping our fingers crossed for sunshine! 🌞

🧸 Welcome to Our New Starters!

This month we welcomed our new Year R children for their first 'Stay and Play' sessions – what a lovely group! We also held our Welcome Evening for families. We're so excited to have them join our school family in September.

💛 Thank You!

A huge thank you to our amazing PTA for their continued hard work, from running stalls to planning our upcoming Year 2 Leavers' Disco. We're also grateful to all our parents for helping keep children safe in the sun – your support with sun hats and lotion is much appreciated!

🛠️ **Can You Lend a Hand?**

We'd love some extra help with:

- **Pond maintenance**
- **Bee removal (from our outdoor classroom)**
- **Repairing our Year R teepee**

If you can help, please contact the school office – we'd be so grateful.

🛍️ **Fundraising Success**

Thank you to everyone who supported our 'Bags for Life' initiative – we raised £28 for learning resources. Every bit helps, and we really appreciate your kindness.

June has been filled with joyful learning and community spirit – thank you for being such an important part of it. We're now looking forward to a fun-filled July!

With warmest wishes

Mrs Riches

Headteacher

Sports Day

Our Sports Day is on Friday 4th July. There will be tea, coffee, cakes and soft drinks to purchase on the day (cash only), and the events will last approximately 1 and a quarter hours per year group. Timings are as follows;

Year R

9:15am-10.30am

Year 1

10.45am-midday

Year 2

1.45pm-3pm

Each Year Group will 'parade' around the top playground to start, so please stand around the edge of the big playground when you arrive.

Children in Year R will come to school in their PE kits and Year 1 and 2 will change in school.

PTA Update



We have had an amazing end to the school year with two of our big events - the PTA Quiz and Summer Fayre! We are delighted to announce that these two events combined raised over a whopping £3,000 to put towards our amazing school! A massive thank you to the BWIS staff and volunteers for all your help setting up these events, and for your help manning some of the

Summer Fayre stalls. We'd also like to thank the School Governors who kindly supported us in running some stalls at the Summer Fayre - it was great to have you there!

And to all of you that were able to attend the Quiz and Summer Fayre - we are so grateful for all your support!

As we come to the end of the school year, it's worth mentioning that our AGM meeting will take place in September 2025 when we return from the Summer Holidays and we would love to see some new committee members! There are currently 4 members and, with one leaving this year and the remaining 3 leaving in 2026, we desperately need new committee members willing to take the PTA forward. The PTA is an integral part of Bishop's Waltham Infant school and undertakes events that contributes to three major areas.

Firstly, we help to raise much needed funds towards a number of things at school – construction of the Art Shed, Crows Nest outdoor learning area and the amazing playtrails to name a few. We have partnered with the local church charity to fund the refurbishment of the learning corridor area outside Year R and Year 1; with £5,500 (more than half) coming directly from PTA raised funds through our events. This space has been designed to support children's development with engaging and calming elements that will make a real difference to their daily experience at school.

Secondly, we organise and runs events that bring fun and enjoyment to all the children. The Christmas Bazaar, Easter Egg Hunt and Summer Fayre are all important events that benefit the school as a whole.

And thirdly, we directly fund and/or organise different experiences for the children, such as the Year 2 Leavers Disco (and leaving books for each of the children), Christmas Pantomime, Sweet Stall sales, a visit from Father Christmas (including a reading book as a gift for each child) and more.

If this funding that the PTA provides comes to an end, those areas of improvement and events funded by the PTA would have to stop, or be funded by the school itself, which would drive further pressure on the funding deficit, likely meaning these events wouldn't happen, or other sacrifices would need to be made to fund them. Either way it would be to the detriment of the school, the children and you all as parents, guardians or carers if the PTA ceased to exist, or isn't appropriately supported.

We really do appreciate everyone who has ever helped, supported and encouraged the fundraising and events at Bishops Waltham Infant School and we really hope that we can continue. Your feedback is always welcome as we plan future activities that best serve the needs and interests of our school community; we can be contacted at bwispta@gmail.com.

Please keep an eye out for some upcoming dates in July for our ‘Mega Mondays’ - selling icy treats, sweets and drinks!

Regards,PTA Team

Regards, Your PTA

Governor Update

Firstly I would like to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors for BWIS. My name is George Denman and I am delighted to take on the role as Chair in an already strong and effective group of Governors.BWIS is a wonderful place that does a vast amount for the education and overall wellbeing of the young people that are lucky enough to come here. I have been a Secondary Teacher for nearly 15 years, working in both pastoral and curriculum areas so have a diverse understanding of the world of education which I can bring to the role. The highlight for this month was welcoming the parents and carers of our new cohort of pupils for the 'parent information evening'. This event was well attended and parents were able to meet Mrs Riches as well as look around the Yr R classrooms and meet the wonderful Teachers and Teaching Assistants. Followed by stay and play sessions all this month for our new YrR pupils transitioning to us in September which have been a big success. A lovely start to my role.

Warm wishes

George Denman, Chair of Governors

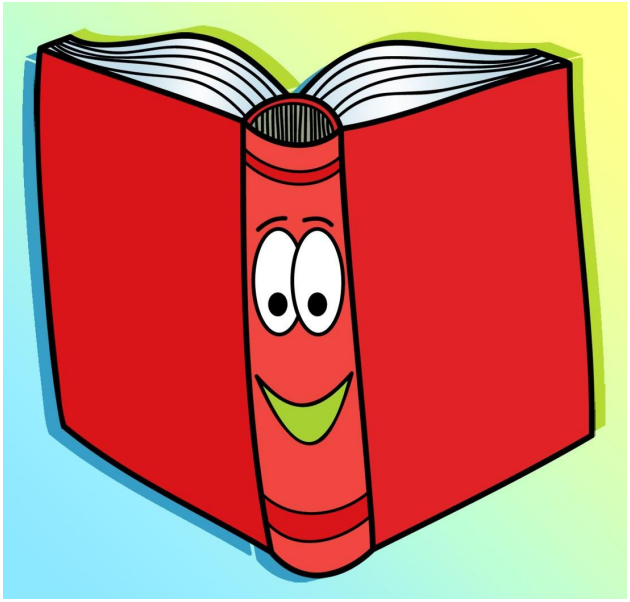
Early bird payments

Please ensure payments for Early birds are made before the end of term so your child's account is not in negative balance. The club operates as a top up system so please ensure you keep enough funds in your account for the sessions coming up.

If you receive universal credit you can claim back up to 85% of the cost of childcare. You have to pay the school upfront then upload confirmation of the dates booked and payments to your Universal Credit portal - screen shots from Arbor are acceptable. Link below has more information:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/universal-credit-childcare-costs

Books



Please ensure all library and school reading books are returned before the end of term. Many thanks

Year Group Updates

Year R

Reception began their new project, *All Creatures Great and Small*, with a special request from Mrs Labram. She shared a video with the children explaining that she would love to get a pet but wasn't sure which one to choose. To help her decide, the children researched various animals and created information posters about different types of pets to help her make her decision. Now, the children are busy making paper paste models of the pet that they researched.

The children have also been diving into the world of minibeasts in our *Minibeast Investigation Lab*. They've been going on exciting bug hunts and have discovered all sorts of fascinating creatures in the Year R playground, including stag beetles, worms, snails, caterpillars, and woodlice!

Year 1

Year 1 launched their new project, *Oh I Do Like To Be Beside The Sea*, with a fantastic field trip to Portsdown Hill, Old Portsmouth, and Southsea seafront. The children explored each location, identifying both physical and human geographical features. They also became familiar with some of our local landmarks, including the lighthouse, the Spinnaker Tower, the Lipstick Tower,

and the historic Old Walls.Back in school, we delved deeper into learning about Southsea and created colourful leaflets to attract holidaymakers. We discovered that Southsea was a popular tourist destination during the Victorian era and had fun comparing seaside holidays from the past with the activities we enjoy today.In art, we've been using our imaginations to picture the Southsea coastline as seen from a boat in the Solent. The children have designed creative porthole views and are busy turning them into beautiful collages. Keep an eye out around school for their finished artwork – and don't miss the lighthouses they're creating for their home learning projects!













Year 2

The children thoroughly enjoyed RE Week, where we explored the idea of *special places* in Christianity and Hinduism. It was a meaningful and engaging topic that sparked some great discussions.

We've now set sail on our next adventure – our *Pirates* project! The children have been introduced to our end-of-year Pirate Performance and are already hard at work learning their lines, practising songs, and designing their very own pirate puppets. There's a real buzz of excitement as they prepare to perform for their grown-ups!

Year 2 have also had the fantastic opportunity to take part in swimming lessons this half term. They've absolutely loved their time in the pool, and we're so proud of how responsible, enthusiastic, and confident they've been. Well done, Year 2!











Dates for your Diary

- Friday 4th July - Sports Day
- Tuesday 8th July - Open afternoon, 2 pm- 5pm
- Monday 14th July -Rock Steady concert at 2.30pm
- Thursday 17th July - Year 2 Leavers Performance at 1.45pm
- Thursday 17th July - Year 2 disco 5 pm- 6.30pm
- Tuesday 22nd July - last day of term

Bishops Waltham Infant School

A World to Discover,
Learning Together

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