

February 2026 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

What a wonderfully busy February we've had at BWIS! Despite the rain and lingering winter bugs, our children have been full of smiles, curiosity and enthusiasm. Here's a look back at the lovely learning, special events and exciting news from across the school.

🌟 **A Fabulous Visit for Year 2 – Historic Dockyard Trip**

Year 2 had an absolutely brilliant day at the Historic Dockyard!

They returned *buzzing* with excitement and overflowing with new historical facts — they were like little encyclopaedias!

Both our helpers and the Dockyard staff commented on how polite, engaged and eager to learn our children were. They truly were a credit to their families, and we are incredibly proud of them.

🎉 **Celebration Assembly**

Our Celebration Assemblies shine a spotlight on some brilliant achievements across the school — from excellent multiplication learning to adventurous vocabulary choices and impressive handwriting improvements.

Our children love sharing their successes, and it is always a privilege to celebrate them together.

Year 1's Victorian Adventure – Manor Farm

Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Manor Farm, learning all about life as a Victorian child. The staff praised the children for their impeccable manners and curiosity.

A special well-done goes to Molly in Robin Class, who produced what the staff called *"the best guinea pig impression they had ever heard!"*

A wonderful day of learning and laughter — well done, Year 1!

Year R's Traditional Tales

Year R have been immersed in the magical world of Traditional Tales. Each day their classrooms (and outdoor areas!) have been buzzing with imaginative activities.

One highlight has been the ingenious **"pecking worms"** activity, designed to improve pencil grip — featuring peg birds and pipe-cleaner worms. The children have absolutely loved it!

Year 2's 'Eggcellent' Wacky Wheels Project

Year 2's Wacky Wheels challenge has been a triumph of creativity, teamwork and resilience. The children worked interdependently on their designs and tackled challenges with determination. What an inspiring display of problem-solving and perseverance!

Keeping Well

It's certainly been a season of sniffles! We've seen several viruses circulating, and chicken pox has now made an appearance too.

We continue to maintain high levels of cleaning throughout the school.

Please remember:

- If your child has a temperature, they should stay home until it has settled.
- A mild cold without a temperature is fine for school. For more guidance, please visit the NHS page: *"Is my child too ill for school?"*

Car Safety Reminder

The Hampshire Road Safety Team has asked all schools to share guidance for parents on safe car travel with children.

The leaflet is available on the **Keeping Safe** page of our website.

🤸 **Bounce and Boogie – A Huge Thank You!**

Our sponsored **Bounce and Boogie Day** was a huge hit, and together we raised an incredible **£4,057**!

A massive thank you to everyone who supported the event — what an amazing achievement for our school community. We look forward to resourcing our curriculum with the money received

💖 **PTA Sweet Treats & Valentine Roses**

Thank you to our wonderful PTA for running another hugely popular Sweet Sale.

The Valentine roses in particular were a big hit (and sold out very quickly!).

🧠 **PTA Quiz Night – Friday 20th March**

Get your teams together and join us for a fun-filled Quiz Night! Early booking really helps with planning — we'd love to see you there.

The PTA continues to work tirelessly for our school, and their next exciting fundraising project is the creation of a **sensory play and learning area** in the Courtyard. Watch this space!

🐣 **Easter Egg Hunt – Thursday 26th March**

Another PTA favourite returning this year! Always a joyful event — do book early so the PTA can cater for the right numbers.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

This year's theme is **Bedtime Stories**.

Children are invited to come to school in their pyjamas and bring their favourite bedtime story to share.

Every child will also receive a *World Book Day book token* to spend on one of this year's special titles.

🍫 Wonderful Chocolate Bars – On Sale o World Book Day!

Back by popular demand — and just in time for World Book Day!

Will *you* be lucky enough to find a golden ticket?

Please see the poster sent today for more details.📘

👩🏫 Parents' Evenings – Monday 2nd & Thursday 5th March

Appointments are now available to book on Arbor.

A reminder that:

- Our crèche will run **until 6pm** only, due to staffing.
- Crèche spaces must be booked via the school office.

Friday 27th March-Annual Easter Competition School

This year all of the children are invited to make/decorate an Easter Egg. The Eggs will be judged in Year Groups, and all children will receive a prize, if they enter an egg. It must be egg shaped (not a drawing). It can be as creative as you like! We would appreciate chocolate egg donations so that we can give more bigger prizes to the children, and they can come in at any time. Please bring your eggs to school on Friday 27th March (not before). One year, every single child entered-it was amazing and the children loved seeing what their friends had made! Children can have help from their parents, but we do want to see their work too. We will look forward to seeing your entries!

📝 Government White Paper

Some of you may have seen the Government's new White Paper, *Every Child Achieving and Thriving*. As it is not yet finalised, parents wishing to share their views can do so via the consultation process.

Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/every-child-achieving-and-thriving

So far the sun has come out for March-long may the sunny days continue!

Best wishes

Mrs Riches

Headteacher

PTA Update

Welcome to our sixth PTA update for this school year. We hope you had a lovely February break and are looking forward to the spring term - we have lots of exciting events planned!

The latest events for this Term to keep in your diary are :

- Wonderful Bars Chocolate Sale - Will you win a golden ticket? at school pick up; Thursday 5th March.

- Quiz Night in the School Hall; Friday 20th March 7pm for a 7.30 start. Ticket prices are £10 per person and include a shareable food platter. Tickets can be purchased via this link; https://forms.gle/h4jhem9N8a586Jv96.

- Easter Egg Hunt after school; Thursday 26th March - £5 per ticket - details to be released soon!

Regards,

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Bishops Waltham Infant School
A World to Discover, Learning Together
& BWIS PTA
CELEBRATING
WORLD BOOK DAY
PRESENT ....
Wonderful Bars
Chocolate Sale
40 GOLDEN TICKETS MUST BE FOUND
£2.50
per bar
Congratulations!
You've found a gold ticket!
Thursday 5th March
pick up time in the turning circle
Card & Cash accepted
Will you find a
golden ticket
in our wonderful bars?



Governor Update

In February we met as a governing body to discuss the school budget, staffing and health and safety at the school. We recognise the tremendous job Mrs Palmer, our senior admin officer and Mrs Riches, our headteacher, do of keeping all the finances in order, ensuring the school does not go into a deficit budget. We would like to congratulate them on their astute budget planning, as always. Our new budget comes into school soon, and the team will be planning for the next year's expenditure. We recognise that the school has had a higher than usual level of staff absence this term, and all the teaching staff have been helping with lunchtime cover. It is a credit to the school that this has not had a knock on effect on the children's wellbeing and safety.

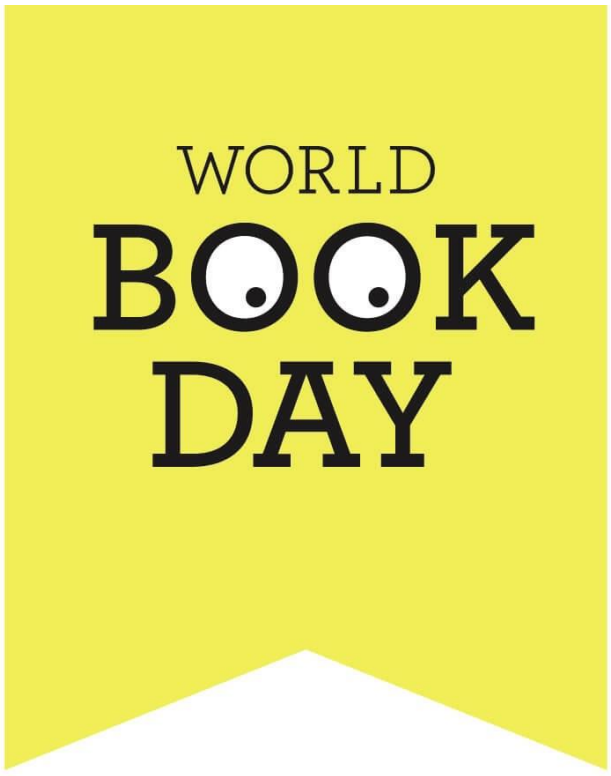
Going into March we are looking forward to build on our school's sustainability wth our new sustainability plan and launch led by Miss Martin and Miss Daniels-King. BWIS will all be launching Mrs Moth's 'Ordinarily Available Provision' pamphlet, to help parents understand the provision school makes for all of their children. Exciting times are ahead, for our school, that is

constantly striving to further enhance and improve every child's learning experience during their time with us.

Bishops Waltham Governing Body

World Book Day

This year we'll be celebrating with bedtime stories and pyjamas! Children are invited to come to school in their PJs, and every child will receive a book token to spend on a special World Book Day book. Our PTA are also helping us celebrate World Book Day this year with their 'Wonderful Chocolate Bars'. They will be on sale next week. Will you be luck enough to win a golden ticket?



Red Nose Day

We would like to let you know about a small change to our charity fundraising events this year.

To help reduce costs for families, we will be limiting the number of whole-school charity events that take place. This means that we will not be holding Red Nose Day activities in school this year, due to us already supporting Christmas Jumper Day and Children in Need.

We hope this approach helps to ease financial pressure while still allowing our pupils to take part in meaningful fundraising activities and learn about helping others.

Thank you for your continued support.

Year Group Updates

Year R

After discovering that the Gingerbread Man needed help escaping the fox, the children designed and built their own boats, experimenting with different materials and testing which would float or sink. They then used their boats as inspiration to write their own alternative endings to the story. The children also enjoyed baking their own gingerbread men, carefully measuring, mixing and decorating their creations. The project ended with the children proudly sharing the stories they had learnt with their parents, showcasing their growing confidence in speaking and storytelling. Well done, Year R!







Year 1

Year 1 had an absolutely fantastic day at Manor Farm, stepping back in time to discover what life was like for Victorian children. From the moment we arrived, the excitement was clear to see as the children explored the farm and took part in a range of hands-on activities designed to bring history to life.

Throughout the day, the children learned about the differences between schools in Victorian times and today. They experienced what a Victorian classroom might have been like, found out about the chores children were expected to complete, and explored how families lived and worked on the farm. The visit gave them a wonderful opportunity to deepen their understanding of our history topic in a meaningful and memorable way.










Foam







Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed a truly fantastic day on their visit to the Historic Dockyard! From the moment they returned, they were brimming with excitement and keen to share the fascinating historical facts they had discovered.

Both our parent helpers and the dockyard staff were full of praise for the children, commenting on how polite, enthusiastic and eager to learn they were throughout the day. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school, a real credit to their families, and we couldn't be prouder of them.







Dates for your Diary

- Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
- Tuesday 10th March - 2.30pm Year 1 project outcome
- Wednesday 11th March - Year R trip to Hiller Gardens
- Friday 20th March - PTA Quiz
- Tuesday 24th March - 2.30pm Year 2 project outcome
- Thursday 26th Match - Easter Egg Hunt
- Friday 27th March - Design an Easter Egg Competition



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