Busbridge CofE Junior School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026 No: 3
9th October 2026

Our school vision… To be a school that reflects the love of **Christ**: **cherishing** each other as unique individuals & **challenging** all to achieve and succeed.

Term Dates 2026/27

Autumn Term	
Tues 13th Oct	Year 3 Trip to Butser Farm
Mon 19th Oct	Parents Evening—4pm to 6.30pm
Wed 21st Oct	Parents Evening—4.30pm to 7pm
Mon 26th Oct to Fri 30th Oct	Half Term
Mon 2nd Nov	Inset Day - staff only
Thurs 5th Nov	Year 5 Trip to Preston Manor & Hove Museum
Wed 11th Nov	Remembrance Service at Church (children only)
Thurs 12th Nov & Fri 13th Nov	DoubleDay
Tues 17th Nov	Flu Vaccinations—all years Year 6 Height & Weight Check
Wed 18th Nov	Year 6 Trip to Haslemere Museum Young Musicians Orchestra Day (invite only)
Thurs 19th & Fri 20th Nov	Year 3 Feet First Training
Fri 20th Nov	6W Class Assembly
Fri 27th Nov	PTA Winter Wonderland Event
Mon 14th Dec	Y3 Visiting BIS to Watch Xmas Play
Tues 15th Dec	Christmas Church Services—Y5/6 at 9.15am. Y3/4 at 10am.
Wed 16th Dec	Lower School Xmas Play—9.15am Upper School Xmas Play—1.45pm
Thurs 17th Dec	Upper School Xmas Play—9.15am Lower School Xmas Play—1.45pm

Safeguarding / Child Protection Policy

Our Safeguarding / Child Protection Policy can be found on our school website. It outlines roles and responsibilities in the school and who to speak to if you have a concern about a child. Just to remind you, Mr Catchpole, Mrs Barker and Mrs McPhail are our Designated Safeguarding Leads, and Mrs D Baker, Mrs A Watson & Martin Hanak-Hammerl are our Safeguarding Governors.



It has been a busy two weeks in school, with the brilliant Year 6 Residential to Windmill Hill last week (more on this below!) and our Harvest Festivals at the church - a huge thank you for all of the generous donations that were brought into school. With only two weeks left of this half term we still have lots planned, including a Year 3 trip to Buster Farm next week, and our Autumn Term parents evenings.

Please remember that we are a NUT FREE school!

Just a gentle reminder to please remember that we are a NUT FREE school, so please make sure that all food items brought in from home are nut free and do not contain nut traces. This includes any food donations in the Community Store basket and any brought in for other events, e.g. Christmas hamper donations etc. We do have a number of children in school who are severely allergic to nuts, so we need to stay extra vigilant at all times. Thank you for your help with this.

Parents Evening

Thank you to those of you who have signed up for Parent's Evening. Please do look for the email sent on 1st October with details on how you can book and sign up if you haven't done so yet. Please note that on both evenings, we will be using a **'timer'** on the screen in the hall to start appointments in unison and at the time that you booked for. We know how frustrating it can be to turn up on time and have appointments running late! In order to help keep everyone to time, and receive the full 10 minutes of your appointment, **please ensure that you arrive in the hall a few minutes before your appointment** so that you are ready to start on time. Unfortunately we won't be able to add on additional time for anyone who misses the start of their appointment.

'HomeTalk'

Attached with this newsletter is a family 'thoughtful conversation' resource on the theme of 'competition'. Over the year we will issue more of these discussion starters, as part of our work on philosophical thinking.

Class Assemblies

Friday 20th November - Class **6W**; Friday 29th January - **5W**; Friday 5th March - **3B**; Friday 19th March - **5E**; Friday 30th April - **4GT**; Friday 14th May - **4S;** Friday 11th June - **3BF**; Friday 25th June - **6S.** (All class assemblies start at 9.15am: an invite will be sent nearer the time of each assembly).

Year 6 Windmill Hill Trip

Year 6 had an absolutely brilliant time at PGL Windmill Hill last week - we have all just about recovered from the late nights and early mornings! Everyone challenged themselves and achieved some fantastic things, including conquering the trapeze, abseiling, scoring a bullseye on the rifle shooting and reaching the very top of the giant swing. All of the adults were really proud of the children's resilience and determination to conquer their fears.

Parent Governor Election

We are looking for a new Parent Governor to join our Governing Body from January 2027. No special qualifications or previous governance experience is needed to be governor, as induction, free training and mentoring will be provided. Nominations must be from parents (or carers/guardians) with children registered at the school on the day that nominations close (Saturday 7th November). Most will be eligible, however parents/carers who have paid employment in the school for 500 or more hours per academic year or who are elected members of the Local Authority, are not eligible to stand in these elections. If you are curious and wish to know more about school governance at BJS, please contact the office and I would be happy to arrange an in-person chat. If, at the cut-off date for nominations on 7th November 2026, there are more nominations than vacancies, a ballot will take place.
How to self-nominate: Complete and submit this online nomination form by 12 noon on Saturday 7th November 2026.

Art Club

Sadly, Art Club Creations is no longer able to provide an after-school art club from January next year. If you know of a provider who would be interested in running an art/creative club from 3.30pm until 4.30pm, please ask them to get in touch with the school office.

Reading Books

Thanks to your generosity and the hard work of the PTA, we have purchased £1,000 worth of new take-home books. From exciting fiction to fascinating non-fiction, these high-quality titles are already proving popular with the children. Many offer extra stretch and challenge as children progress towards chapter books. We hope these new additions inspire lots of enjoyable reading at home.

Lunchtime Activities



This week at lunchtime the children have been having a great time making conker spiders. Mrs Greatbatch (mum to Teddy in 3BF) came in to help out with the fun - a huge thank you to Mrs Greatbatch!

If there are any other parents/carers who would be happy to spend a lunchtime crafting with the children and have an activity idea, then please contact Mrs Barker at rbarker@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk. Parents/carers will need to have a Busbridge Junior DBS, however this can be arranged, if necessary.

PTA Update

This is a note from Mrs Barker: In PE today, year 3 used the wall bars after watching a short video on the interactive screen in the hall showing them ideas for their balances. We also used the mats. It struck me during the lesson that none of this would have been possible without the amazing PTA fund-raising for all of this equipment. I know there is a core of people who do so much. Thank you. It is so appreciated! Mrs Barker and Year 3.

Please find attached the new 'Who's Who' following multiple of you stepping forward and volunteering for various sections and events etc. It really is so appreciated and makes such a difference.

We are still in need of a Chair to take over facilitation of the PTA. This is the perfect time to take over, as most of the roles for the year ahead have been filled.

PTA Men's Football on the MUGA

Calling all men! If you would like to join a friendly PTA football group, then look no further than the PTA Men's Football Team who meet each week on the MUGA. The group usually meet on a Monday or a Tuesday (they send a poll every week to see which day works best) and they are always on the look-out for new players.

If you are interested in finding out more, then please contact Lewis Taylor at l_b_taylor@yahoo.co.uk .

MUGA Hire and Bookings

Following on from the above, if you would like to hire the MUGA for a private event (e.g. a sports party) or are keen to set up a weekly sports night, then please get in touch with our School Business Manager at finance@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk. Perhaps we can start up a women's sports night on the MUGA?!

Pedestrian Gate Release Buzzer

Please do not let your child press the gate release buzzer by the main pedestrian gate. As part of our safeguarding procedures we do not want children to get into the habit of using the release button.

Superstars Board

Our SuperStars board in the entrance hall is a brilliant way of celebrating out of school achievements, such as competitions, sporting achievements, volunteering and more. Do email in a photo and a brief outline of your child's achievement if you would like them to feature on our SuperStars board. Our new Superstars are: India F & Melodi A. Do pop in to reception to see what they have achieved!

Richard Catchpole - Headteacher

Busbridge Breakfast & After-school Club (ASC)

Spaces are available in the Breakfast & After-School Club.
Session costs from 1st September 2026 will be as follows:

Breakfast Club 7.50am - 8.45am - £6.80
ASC half session 3.30-4.45pm - £8.60
ASC full session 3.30-6.00pm - £17.20

Bookings can now be made via Arbor, however if you have any queries please contact Mrs Jackie McPhail at email: club@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Terms & Conditions are available on our website -

Breakfast & After School Club - Terms and Conditions

Sports Dates

Unfortunately, the traditional Tillingbourne Football Tournaments are unable to take place at Tillingbourne School this term due to the conditions of their pitches post the dry summer. The sports association is currently looking at alternative venues, which may have an impact on the number of schools able to take part. When dates/venues are confirmed, due to logistics there is a possibility that parents/carers wont be able to spectate.

We will send out information and confirm dates as soon as possible.

Our sporting calendar encourages inclusion and wide participation. Events are categorised as per the descriptors below, to encourage broad participation.

**HIGHER Event - For children who are experienced, confident and regularly represent their school in the sport.*

***ASPIRE - For children with some experience who are developing their skills and confidence.*

****INSPIRE - For children who are new to, or less experienced/confident in, the sport.*

Autumn 2026	**Sports Calendar**
Mon 5th Oct	Year 5 Sports Crew Training at The Spectrum (invite only)
Mon 12th Oct	Year 4 Hockey Festival at Charterhouse School—ASPIRE** (invite only)
Wed 14th Oct	**Years 6 Football Tournament at The Chandler (invite only) HIGHER Event***
TBC	Years 4 Football Tournament at Tillingbourne Junior School (invite only) - HIGHER* POSTPONED
TBC	Year 3 and 5 Football (invite only) - HIGHER* POSTPONED
Sat 7th Nov	Matt Kemp Cross-Country Competition at Broadwater — **open to all year groups and places are unlimited**
Mon 9th Nov	Year 5 and 6 Hockey Festival at Charterhouse School (invite only) - ASPIRE**
Thurs 19th Nov	Years 3 and 4 Basketball Festival at Rodborough School (invite only) - ASPIRE**
Mon 23rd Nov	Year 5 and 6 Broad-Rox (Taster) New Hyrox-inspired event
Wed 25th Nov	Years 5 and 6 Basketball Festival at Rodborough School (invite only) - ASPIRE**
Mon 30th Nov	Year 3 and 4 Football Festival - INSPIRE***/ASPIRE**
Tues 1st Dec	Year 5 and 6 Football Festival - INSPIRE***/ASPIRE**
Thurs 3rd Dec	Year 5 & 6 Sportshall Competition - HIGHER*

Cross Country *- An email was sent out yesterday (Thursday 8th October) with more details about the Waverley Schools' Cross Country Competition. Please let Mrs Parsons know if your child would like to take part at* *sport@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk*



The Children's Commissioner is undertaking a national survey, The Big Future to gather the views of children in every school and college, in every community, across the country. Without hearing from your child, their experiences, views and aspirations risk being missing from the national picture that will help shape future policy.

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TheBigFuture/

We would be extremely grateful if you could support your child to complete the survey at home.

Schools and colleges with the highest response levels will be invited to attend the final Festival of Childhood, celebrating the voices and contributions of children and young people from across England!

For further information please visit— https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-future/