



# Busbridge CofE Junior School

## Newsletter

Autumn Term 2025 No: 1

19th September 2025



### Term Dates 2025/26

Autumn 2025	
Tues 23rd Sept	PTA AGM and Annual Planning Meeting, 7.30pm
Mon 29th Sept - Fri 3rd Oct	Year 6 Residential to Windmill Hill
Mon 6th Oct	Year 6 Bikeability starts
Wed 8th Oct	Harvest Festival at Busbridge Church
Sat 11th Oct	Parents/Carers 80s and 90 Disco
Tues 14th Oct	Year 3 Trip to Butser Farm
Tues 21st Oct	Parents Evening, 4pm—6.30pm
Thurs 23rd Oct	Flu Vaccinations - all years Year 6 Height and Weight Check Parents Evening 6pm—8.30pm
Mon 27th to Fri 31st Oct	Half Term
Mon 3rd Nov	INSET Day—staff only
Fri 7th Nov	PTA Fireworks Night
Wed 12th Nov	Remembrance Services at church
Thurs 13th & Fri 14th Nov	Save The Planet DoubleDay
Wed 19th Nov	Year 6 Trip to Haslemere Museum
Thurs 20th Nov	Year 5 Trip to Preston Manor— <b>NEW DATE</b>
Mon 8th Dec	Year 3 Choir at Busbridge Church
Fri 12th Dec	PTA Christmas Event - 3-5pm
Tues 16th Dec	Christmas Play—9.15am (LS), 1.45pm (US)
Thurs 18th Dec	Christmas Play—9.15am (US), 1.45pm (LS)

### 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 P Baker and Mrs A Watson are our Safeguarding Governors.



Welcome back to all our families and an extra special welcome to all our new year 3 children and their families!

We hope everyone had a lovely Summer break. It has been brilliant to see all the children back in school—there has been lots of laughter and excitement and everyone seems to have settled back into school life well! As we are only a few weeks back into the Autumn term, I will keep this newsletter brief. However, below you will find some useful information including, class assembly dates, parents' evening and a list of key dates (on the left) that will hopefully come in useful when planning your Autumn term diaries!

### Parents Evenings'

Autumn term Parents' Evenings will be held on Tuesday 21st (4pm—6.30pm) and Thursday 23rd October (6pm—8.30pm) 'face to face' in person in the school hall. The purpose of the meeting is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and discuss your child's progress so far this term. Bookings will be available in early October —details to follow.

### Year 5 Trip to Preston Manor - *Change of Date!*

Unfortunately, due to a glitch in the Preston Manor booking system, we have had to rearrange our year 5 trip in November. The trip will now take place two weeks later than planned on Thursday 20th November. Further information about the trip and a consent form will be sent out in a few weeks.

### A Huge Thank You from All the Staff

Thank you so much for all the lovely messages and generous gifts that were sent into school at the end of last term—we were all thoroughly spoilt! We really do appreciate it.

### Harvest Festival & Harvest Gifts

On Wednesday 8th October Busbridge Church welcomes us for our annual Harvest festival service. This year all gifts are going to the Godalming Community Store. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and not taken for granted.

### Class Assemblies

Friday 7th November - 6W; Friday 28th November - 6S; Friday 16th January - 4S

Friday 6th February - 5W; Friday 13th March - 3B; Friday 24th April - 4GT

Friday 12th June - 3BF; Friday 19th June - 5E (9.15am: an invite will be sent nearer the time of each assembly)

### Please remember that we are a NUT FREE School!

All the children in school are growing at a fast rate of knots(!) and as a result we know that many of them bring in snacks for break time. Many also bring in packed lunches. Please remember that we are a NUT FREE school, so we would be very grateful if you could please ensure that all food items brought in from home are nut free and do not contain nut traces. We do have 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.

### Pick-Up and Drop-Off at School

Just a gentle reminder, that to ease the flow of traffic at drop off and pick up times, we would be grateful if cars could not stop or park on the approach to school (on the roundabout), to let children out or pick them up. This often causes a tail back of traffic on Brighton Road. Parking on the zig-zag lines approaching the pedestrian crossing is also not permitted—this is for the safety of your children and for everyone in the local area. Please can children either be dropped off/collected from the village hall car park (in the allowed times) or alternatively, please park considerably away from school and walk the remainder of the school-run. The **Village Hall car park can be used for dropping off at the beginning (8.30am to 9.15am) and collecting at the end of the school day only (3.00pm to 3.45pm)**, but please be aware that this is a special privilege granted to us by the Village Hall committee for which we pay a nominal charge. Therefore, parents attending **school events in the school day or in the evening must not use the village hall car park** and should park elsewhere and walk. Please also refrain from using the car park when picking up at 4.30pm from after school clubs. Many thanks.

### Busbridge Village Hall Car Park

Following on from the above, please note that the village hall car park may be busier than usual on the following dates: Wednesday 8th October, Wednesday 5th November and Wednesday 10th December. This is due to an external event at the village hall from 1.15pm to 4.15pm.

### PTA Update

- At the end of last term you raised over £420 (plus gift aid) for school science resources - thank you for all donations. Please come along to find out how this, and other funds, will be spent, at the PTA AGM on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 7.30pm, in the school hall. An opportunity to contribute to the school spending plans and social calendar.
- Remember to get your tickets for the disco on Classlist - happening on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October.
- Lower the chances of losing that jumper with Stikins from [www.stikins.co.uk](http://www.stikins.co.uk). The company also contribute to the school if you tick 'yes' to 'Does your school have a fundraising number?' on the first order page. Our school number is 3307.
- Please clear your calendars on FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER for the annual BJS Fireworks spectacular between 6-8pm, with the display at 7pm. Tickets will be on sale via Classlist very soon. Watch this space!"

## Our New School Gates!

After a lot of planning, waiting and digging our new school gate / fence system is in place. We hope you have enjoyed navigating your way through the labyrinth. Any parents found still wandering around the school at 6.10pm will be placed in the lost property bin by the caretaker, ready for collection by their children in the morning.

The gates were funded through a pot of money that the Guildford Diocese Schools Department holds for high-cost capital projects. The cost to the school was 10% of the total project. This pot has various stipulations over use, so cannot be accessed for many of the projects that we have in mind.

Here are some helpful tips to follow:

1. Please do not push or pull the automated gates. Just chillax and let them do their thing.

**2. Breakfast Club and After School Club:**

Please **enter** the school through the 'sub-station' gate (the gate near the electricity sub-station). Use the intercom to contact the staff in the school dining room and they will buzz you in.

Please **leave** by the main pedestrian gate (next to the vehicle gate). This is activated by pressing the green button on the side of the building.

3. **School Drop-Off:** Pedestrians in through the Brighton Road or Sub-Station gates. Bicycles and scooters can enter through the main pedestrian gate. Electric bikes can use the vehicle gate if it's easier (ask the office for the code).
4. **School Pick-Up:** From 3.25pm all the gates will be open (including the playground vehicle gate) to help clear the site asap.
5. **Clubs pick-up:** Please enter and leave through the Sub-Station gate. It will be open from 4.25pm to 4.35pm.
6. **Access during the school day:** Please use the main pedestrian gate and buzz the office to be let in. Then report to the school office.
7. **Leaving the site during the school day:** Please leave by the main pedestrian gate (next to the vehicle gate). This is activated by pressing the green button on the side of the building.

**\*\* If at any time you have an issue with access (e.g. a mobility issue, large pram) do let us know and we will sort something out \*\***

**\*\* If the gate code is given to you for a club, party, etc. please do keep it to yourself as we want to ensure we keep the site as secure as possible, whilst also making it accessible to those who need to get in. \*\***

## Premises Work Over the Summer Holidays

It was a very busy summer holiday in school. Huge thanks must go to our School Caretakers, Mr Steve McPhail and Mr Sandy Smith, as well our School Business Manager, Mr Shajpal for all their unseen time and energy in facilitating a lot of premises improvements and tending to premises incidents (thank you to Mrs McPhail too!).

The Year Six block has been redecorated, and looks amazing. The colours in the Y6 classrooms are epic. In fact, when the painter opened the tin of purple paint he decided to call his boss to see if a mistake had been made with the colour he had been given! The Library has also been painted—thank you for your help funding this part of the project. Staff toilets have also been made like new. Still plenty of jobs to do, but so many improvements over the course of this year.

## Superstars Board

Our SuperStars board in the entrance hall is a brilliant way of celebrating out of school achievements, such as competitions, sporting achievements and more—and wow, what a talented bunch of children we have here at BJS! So far this term we have received an astonishing amount of worthy candidates, so many that we are frantically trying to catch up and get them all on the board! We are in the process of re-siting the board, so this is also delaying things.

By the time the next newsletter is sent out we will have caught up, so please hold on to your child's amazing achievements and send them over to us in a few weeks time. We will report on our most recent Superstars in the next newsletter.

## October 2026 Half Term Break

Many of you will probably be aware that Surrey schools are considering introducing a two week October half term from October 2026 - instead of the current one week. If adopted, this means the summer holiday break will be one week shorter. We are currently in the process of understanding what other local schools are planning to do, and in a few weeks time will be sending out a short survey to collect parental/carers views. There are many factors that our Governors need to consider before making this decision, and your input will be helpful. Our Governing Board will make a final decision at their meeting in December and we will communicate this to you before the Christmas holidays.

## We are now a Smartphone-Free School!

Just a kindly reminder that we are now a Smartphone-Free School for pupils - and parents/carers at drop off and pick up, please! Earlier in the year, we consulted our parents/carers regarding becoming a smartphone free school from September 2025. The responses were overwhelmingly in support and the decision was ratified by the School Governing Body in July 2025. Further information can be found in the letter sent out with this newsletter. We ask that parents/carers help us to support this new policy, by ensuring their children do not bring smartphones into school. We also ask that parents and carers do not use their mobile phones on the playground at drop off and pick up.

*We hope you all have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing all the children back in school on Monday!*

**Richard Catchpole - Headteacher**

### **School Meals:**

The amount for the next half term - Thursday 4th September to Friday 24th October:

Year 3 : £104.40

Year 4 : £107.30

Year 5 : £107.30

Year 6 : £92.80

Amount per day: £2.90      Amount per week: £14.50

Please remember to regularly check and top up your school meal accounts. *We would like to remind you that it is Surrey County Council policy that school meals should be paid for in advance. Please remember to top up your account on Arbor regularly.*



### **Busbridge Breakfast & After-school Club (ASC)**

Spaces are available in the Breakfast & After-School Club.

Session costs from 1st September 2025 will be as follows:

**Breakfast Club** 7.50am - 8.45am - £6.60

**ASC half session** 3.30-4.45pm - £8.35

**ASC full session** 3.30-6.00pm - £16.70

**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](mailto:club@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk)**

**Terms & Conditions are available on our website -**