



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Bishopswood Infant & Junior School
Barlows Road
Tadley
Hampshire
RG26 3NA

Infant 0118 9812836
Junior 0118 9812738

Executive Headteacher: Mr G Golding
Executive Head of School: Mrs J Armes

Monday 22nd September 2025



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to school! I hope that you all had a pleasant and relaxing summer holiday, and you enjoyed having a happy summer break together!

Every 2-3 weeks, I will send out a newsletter, informing you of the learning and topics your child been engaging in, as well as important whole school and community information. I hope you find these newsletters informative and interesting, but we are always open to suggestions and feedback – just email the school office.

It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back into school – they are all looking very smart and have settled incredibly well into their classes. It has been lovely walking around the school, seeing so many smiles from both pupils and staff. It has also been lovely chatting to the children and hearing about some of the memories they have made during the holidays.

We are looking forward to a fun and busy Autumn Term, and I know staff have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure the children have a host of fun and engaging learning activities planned for them.

A Big Welcome to our New Starters

It's been wonderful to welcome our new Year R children to Bishopswood. Both the children and the parents have been very brave in taking their first steps into primary school life – it is certainly an emotional and exciting time for everyone! We very much look forward to watching them grow and develop as they journey through the school.

We have also welcomed a number of pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 to our school who either have moved into the area or have relocated from other schools, as well as some new adults who have joined the team. They have all started the year remarkably well and settled very quickly into life at Bishopswood.

Finally, I know you will want to join me in welcoming our new members of staff into the schools:

- Miss Phoebe Daly – teacher in Oak class, Year 1
- Mr Hector Mahony – teacher in Kinney class, Year 4
- Mr James Hayden – HLTA
- Mr James Turner – site apprentice

They already feel a part of our school and are very welcome additions to the Bishopswood family.

Curriculum

We will continue to be regularly sharing what the children have been doing in school. From maths and spellings, to school trips and visitors, the children are always very busy! Here are some examples of what has already been happening at Bishopwood since we came back after the summer....

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Miss Russell & Mrs Hunter say...



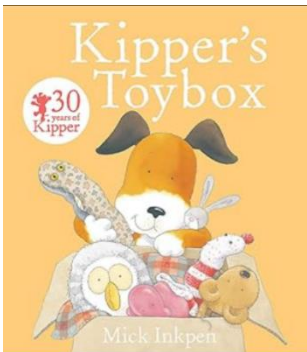
Year R have had a brilliant but very busy first full week at school. They have had the time to learn what fun school can be and are already getting used to the routines in school. We would like to thank all the parents for their support in helping to

make the children's transitions into school as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

such as shampoo, shaving foam, vinegar and bicarbonate of soda! It was so much fun watching it fizz!



Mrs Boyce, Miss Stevens & Miss Daly say...



The children have settled in well to the new routines of Year 1 and have already been working incredibly hard! We have been practising our numbers to 50 in maths, ordering them and using objects to represent these. In English,

we have been reading Kippers' Toy Box and ordering the story. We also made a great start to our topic learning by sharing pictures of our favourite toys and learning a 'robot' dance in PE!

Mr Dale & Mrs Lamb say...

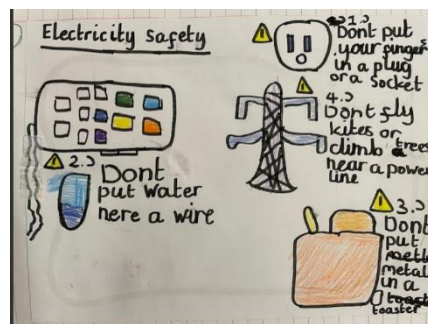


Year 3 have settled well into life at Bishopswood Juniors. We are very proud of all the hard-work they have put in so far. We have started our Geography topic on volcanos by looking at the layers of the earth and how a volcano is formed. They had great fun drawing their volcanoes on the playground! They have also worked hard in writing, and have created their own disaster story about a flood. They have also had their first two Spanish lessons and are loving learning a new language!

Miss Wright & Miss Okey say...

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the year! We have been practising partitioning tens and ones in maths, have been investigating materials in science and have started learning about The Great Fire of London in History! In English we have been looking at books by Roald Dahl. We wrote character descriptions of the BFG, wrote dream recipes and described Granny from George's marvellous medicine. On Wednesday we had a great time making our own medicine and used ingredients

Miss Cushing, Miss Price & Mr Mahony say ...



Year 4 have had a fantastic and busy start to the term! In writing, the children began by writing non-chronological

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reports all about themselves; they loved sharing their interests and talents and we really enjoyed finding out more about each other. In Science, the class became appliance detectives, sorting out which items are powered by mains electricity or batteries, and then got creative making eye-catching posters to remind us how to stay safe around electricity. Music lessons have been filled with creativity too, as the children listened carefully to sounds both indoors and outdoors and then created their very own sound timelines to represent what they heard.

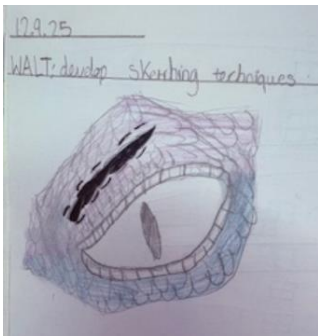
Miss Feather & Mr Sargeant say...



Year 5 have had a fabulous start to the term and keenly embraced their new topic by exploring evolution. They have practised their skills as palaeontologists by 'excavating' chocolate chips from cookies, without damaging

them! They have also already produced some fantastic writing in their retellings of the book 'Gorilla' by Anthony Browne. They have also started learning how to play brass instruments. It is very noisy, but we can already hear progress being made!

Mr Morris, Mrs Ouazzani & Mrs Dreelan say....



What an amazing start to Year 6 we have had! We started our Viking topic by watching the Saga of Biorn and are beginning to design our own dragon eyes which we will be making out of clay. Today was our first

day of Bikeability training as well. It has been an absolute pleasure teaching Year 6 these past 2 weeks!

Uniform Reminder

As start a new year, we would like to remind you of our expectations and request your support. Our expectations on school uniform are explained in the extract below, taken directly from our prospectus:

"We believe wearing school uniform is practical and smart and contributes to a sense of belonging and school pride. Much of our uniform can be bought in the high street shops, but school specific items are available from our school offices and Skoolkit (in Basingstoke). Our uniform for boys comprises grey or black school trousers or shorts, white polo shirt and red sweatshirt. Girls may wear grey or black trousers or school shorts, pinafore dress or skirt, white polo shirt, red sweatshirt or cardigan or a red and white striped or checked dress for the summer."

On non-PE days, shoes must be plain black school shoes with no colour or white on them.

On PE days, children should come to school wearing their school PE kit and trainers or pumps, which can be any colour.

Please note:

- Chains, bracelets, wristbands and smart watches must not be worn in school.
- The only permitted earrings are **one pair of plain, small studs**, which must be removed or taped for PE.
- Skirts and shorts must be of an **appropriate length** and not too short – 'hot-pant' types of cycling shorts are **not acceptable**.
- **Leggings are not acceptable as school trousers**, except on PE days.

Please make sure everything is named clearly!

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Bookbags, NOT rucksacks, in the Infant School please!

A reminder that in the infant school, children should have a **bookbag, not a rucksack**. If children come in with rucksacks we may ask you to take their rucksack home again, as they are tricky to store in school due to their size. A flat bookbag is more than adequate to carry what is needed for the infant school.

Water bottles

Please ensure your child brings a bottle of water, **not squash or juice**, for drinking throughout the day.

Nut-free Site

We have some children and staff with severe nut allergies in school. For their safety, we are a nut-free school. Please ensure your child **does not bring any nuts or nut-products into school**. This includes chocolate spread, peanut butter, and some cereal bars - we ask for your support in checking labels of these to ensure they do not contain nuts. Thank you.

Reminder about Dogs

For health and safety reasons, **dogs are not permitted** on the school site, even if carried. However we do also request that you **do not leave dogs unattended or tied up** outside the school gates. Whilst we understand many families love their pets, some children and adults feel anxious or scared around dogs, particularly when they are tied up and unsupervised. To help ensure that everyone feels safe and comfortable when arriving and leaving school, please make alternative arrangements for your dog at drop-off and pick-up times.

Thank you for your help and understanding in these matters.

Parking Reminder

On the school site, we have two disabled parking bays. These are **solely for use by individuals who have and are displaying a disabled parking badge**. Please ensure these spaces are kept available for those who require them. In addition to this, whilst parking at the schools can be difficult, please park within marked bays at all times. Please also be respectful of local residents' property when parking in the local area. Thank you.



School Facebook page

We are hoping to raise the profile of our school Facebook page and will be using it much more to post useful information and reminders for parents, as well as sharing all of the wonderful things going on in school.

Please follow our page and keep up to date:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565102531523>

Message from the PTA

Our friendly PTA are already working hard, organising fun events to raise much-needed extra funds for the schools, including our ever-popular Fireworks Show. Information regarding events will follow soon.



We are always looking for help so if any parents, relatives or grown-up can offer any time or assistance in anyway, or would like to join the PTA, please get in touch via Facebook or email Bishopswoodschoolspta@gmail.com

Come and make a difference for our schools!

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Iron Sam Challenge

As a school, Bishopswood has been lucky enough to have benefitted from a local charity **SAMS** (Support and Advocacy for Minds and Souls). This charity, led by Sam Dunn, works in local schools offering 1:1 sessions, running a mentor programme called Transforming Lives for Good. The work that they do to support children through positive relationships and promoting mental health, is inspiring.



This year, we're thrilled to partner the Iron SAMS marathon relay challenge to raise valuable funds. A small group of our Year 5 and 6 students have been chosen to run a leg of the relay from our school to Burnham Copse School on Friday 3rd October. Collectively, they will then join Sam to cycle 25 miles in Sainsbury's foyer on Saturday 4th October! It's going to be an incredible achievement and we are so excited.

At Bishopswood, we will be asking our children to come to school in their PE kit on **Friday 3rd October**. Everyone will have the opportunity to join Sam for part of his initial 4-mile run around our playground. We would love to support Sam and his charity by asking you to sponsor your children to challenge themselves and run as much as they choose.

We soon will be sending out a sponsorship form. Thank you in advance for your support.



Applying for a Place for Year R, 3 and 7 for September 2025

If you are applying for a school place for your child or have a child transferring to junior or secondary school, please see application form availability and

deadline dates for applications listed below for September 2025 start dates:-

- Starting school Year R (Reception) or transferring to Year 3 (Junior School): Applications are open from 1st November 2025 to 15th January 2026.
- **Transfer to Year 7 (secondary school): Applications are open until midnight 31st October 2025.**

If you have any queries on your child's transfer to Year 7, please call into the Junior school office.

Year 3 transfer: although we are a Federated School, **you do still need to apply for a place at Bishopswood Junior School**. If you have any queries on your child's transfer to Year 3, please call into the Junior school office.

How to apply:-

- Online at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions or
- A paper application form will be available from the infant or junior school office.

Call the Hampshire Admission Helpdesk on: - 0300 555 1377 (opening hours daily 9:00am to 2:00pm)

2026 Starters - Year R Open Days

This year we are once again able to give prospective parents the opportunity to come and experience life at Bishopswood. We will be having four sessions where parents can see the school in action, meet the staff and ask any questions they may have. These dates are:

- **Monday 6th October 2025 1:30-2:30pm**
- **Friday 10th October 2025 9:15-10:15am**
- **Tuesday 21st October 2025 1:30 -2:30pm**
- **Tuesday 11th November 2025 9:15-10:15am**

Please see the information sheet at the end of this newsletter, or contact the school office for further information.

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The Hurst School Open Evening and Mornings 2025 – for children in Years 5 and 6

Please see the following message from the Hurst School for children in years 5 and 6:

Open Evening

We are delighted to invite you to our Open Evening on **Thursday, 2nd October**, from **6:00pm to 8:00pm**. Come and explore the school, visit classrooms, and meet our dedicated teachers and enthusiastic students. **Headteacher Mrs McLaren** will deliver two presentations at **6:30pm** and **7:30pm**. **Everyone is welcome**—no booking required. We look forward to seeing you there.

Open Mornings

Our Open Mornings, held during the school day, offer a chance to see the school in action, enjoy a prefect-led tour, and speak with a member of our Senior Leadership Team. Each session lasts about an hour and **must be booked in advance**. Our 2025 Open Mornings take place on the following dates:

- **Tuesday, 7th October** - 9:15am-10:00am, 10:15am-11am, 11:15am-12:00pm
- **Wednesday, 8th October** - 9:15am-10:00am, 10:15am-11:00am, 11:15am-12:00pm
- **Thursday, 9th October** - 9:15am-10:00am, 10:15am-11:00am, 11:15am-12:00pm

Please contact Hurst School Reception to book a place on 0118 981 7474.

Contacting Us

We do offer an open door policy at Bishopswood. However, should you have concerns regarding your child and would like to contact the school, unless you have been given a staff email address, please **only** use our **admin email addresses**:

adminoffice@bishopswood-inf.hants.sch.uk

adminoffice@bishopswood-jun.hants.sch.uk

Alternatively feel free to telephone the school office or pop in in person.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Jo Armes
Head of School

Dates for your diary:

19th - 23rd September - Y6 Bikeability

30th September – Y5 Residential Parents' Meeting

1st October- Y6 PGL Parents Meeting 5.30pm

1st October – Y1 Toy Takeover Day

6th October – 1:30-2:30pm - YR 26/27 Open Afternoon

10th October – 9:15–10:15am - YR 26/27 Open Morning

14th October – YR Outdoor Day

17th October – Individual Photos - Fraser Photos

20th - 21st and 22nd – 23rd October – Y5 Sustainability Trips

21st October – 1:30–2:30pm - YR 26/27 Open Afternoon

21st October – Newbury News YR photos

21st & 23rd October- Parents' evening (not Year 5)

22nd October – Year 2 Great Fire of Tadley Day

27th October – 31st October – **HALF TERM**

3rd – 6th November – Y6 PGL Residential

4th and 6th November- Y5 Parents' evening

11th November – 9:15–10:15am - YR 26/27 Open Morning

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BISHOPSWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

Year R Open Days

Is your child turning 4 before 1st September 2026? If so, you have reached that time of looking at schools, which can be both exciting and daunting!

To help you make the all-important decision as to where to send your child, many schools host open mornings. This allows parents to make an informed choice.

At Bishopswood Infant School, our open mornings are:

Monday 6th October 2025 from 1:30 -2:30pm
Friday 10th October 2025 from 9:15-10:15am
Tuesday 21st October 2025 from 1:30 -2:30pm
Tuesday 11th November 2025 from 9:15-10:15am



These sessions are an opportunity for you to see the school in action, meet the staff, pick up a prospectus and ask as many questions as you like to our Executive Headteacher and Early Years Leader.

We appreciate that this is a huge decision for you so, if you would prefer, you can make an individual appointment to view the school and have a tour with the Headteacher.



Please phone the school on 0118 981 2836 to book your place on one of our open days or book an individual viewing.

The application deadline is 15th January 2026.

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Anvil Arts

THE MUSICATION STATION

FREE

at The Link (Formerly Tadley Community Centre)
Sat 25 Oct / 11am-4pm

This free event from Anvil Arts welcomes you to have a go at a variety of musical instruments, from violin to scratching decks, with so much more in between!
Suitable for all ages and any skill level.



For any enquiries please contact ed.adams@anvilarts.org.uk

Scouts Baughurst

Squirrels Taster Sessions

Thursday the 25th of September

Age 4 - 5?

You are so welcome to join Squirrels! Make friends, play games and learn skills for the future. Come for a taster sessions and see how much fun can be had! (Adults stay for the fun).

Can you help?

We need a dedicated team of adults to lead and support our Squirrel Drey. No matter your experience, if you're enthusiastic - we want you! Speak to us at the sessions to find out more.

Come to our Squirrel taster sessions and join the adventure!

Thursday, 25th September
5.30-6.30pm
Baughurst Scout & Guide Group, Ash Lane, Baughurst, Hampshire, RG26 5PW
join@hampshirescouts.org.uk

Please register your interest using this QR code or send us an email.

Scarlett's Smiles **SPOTLIGHT UK**
Creating positive memories

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Last year we were able to donate over 3500 Christmas presents across Hampshire and Berkshire to children who are referred to us from schools and social workers and we hope to be able to do the same again this year.

To help us on our way, we are launching our Christmas raffle to raise money for this Christmas Toy Appeal. Tickets are £3 each.
JUST SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS

OVER 30 PRIZES INCLUDING

A four night caravan break to Somerset, A family trip to 4 Kingdoms christmas Experience, Tickets to a number of our activities including Ninja Warrior, Donutting and more.

Registered Charity 1129258

Scarlett's Smiles **SPOTLIGHT UK**
Creating positive memories

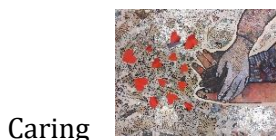
Discounted Family Fun upto half price off

Ninja Warrior Flip Out Donutting
Atmosphere Trampoline Park Cinema trips

High Score Arcade Bowling
Clip N Climb Basingstoke Aquadrome

Days Out including Chessington, Legoland 4 Kingdoms and more
AND MORE...

Gold membership is £7.50 per person per year which gives activities at upto 50% off and then our charity funds the difference.
For more details please visit our website
www.spotlightuk.org or email activities@spotlightuk.org



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HAMPSHIRE
PARENT CARER
NETWORK
enabling voices to be heard



Hampshire wide online Lunchtime SEND Parent carer Get Togethers

25th September - 12-1pm



Zoom Meeting ID: 835 1332 0196 Passcode: GT

- Discuss Local Issues & Topics That Matter to You
- Share Your Experiences and support your peers
- Help us Feedback to help shape Services
- no need to book just join us online

For any queries contact: Participation@hpcn.org.uk

Hampshire SENDIASS will be attending this session. They will be available to offer 1:1 support to discuss your personal journey and will offer in the moment guidance to help your young person 0-25.



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