



# 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

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2026**

Dear Parents & Carers,

A huge well done to all of the children who have worked so hard over the past eight weeks. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved, from the progress they have made in the classroom to the resilience, determination and positive attitudes they have shown each day.

Thank you to all of our families for your continued support and encouragement. We truly value the strong partnership we share and appreciate everything you do to help your children thrive. By working together, we can ensure that every child feels happy, supported, challenged and inspired to achieve their very best.

We hope you all have a wonderful and well-deserved half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the next exciting term.

## **Fond Farewells and Congratulations**

This week, we say a very fond farewell to two valued members of our support staff, who will be leaving us at the end of term.

**Mrs Wendy O'Connor**, who has been working in Year 6 this year, has been a much-loved member of our school community since 2020, supporting

children across the junior school with kindness, patience and dedication.

We also say goodbye to **Mrs Louise Dye**, who, during her two years with us, has made a wonderful contribution across both the infant and junior schools, building positive relationships with children, families and staff alike.

Both ladies have played an important role in helping our children grow in confidence, achieve success and feel supported throughout their time at school. Their care, commitment and positivity have made a lasting difference to so many children, and they will be greatly missed by pupils, staff and families. We thank them both for everything they have done for our school and wish them every happiness and success in the future. They will always be a valued part of our school family.

Finally, and very excitingly, **Mr Ashley Sargeant** is getting married over half-term. We know you will join us in wishing him huge congratulations and best wishes for his special day, and for a lifetime of wonderful wedded bliss!

## **Open Mornings**

We continue to invite families of children due to start school in **September 2027** to attend one of our upcoming Open Mornings at Bishopswood Federation. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our friendly team, tour our school and extensive grounds, and discover what makes our schools such nurturing and inspiring places for children to learn and grow.

You will have the chance to see learning in action, find out more about our curriculum, wraparound care and wider opportunities, and ask any questions you may have about joining our school community.

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Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



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## OPEN EVENTS

**Bishopswood Schools Federation**

Book your visit to see our school in action, meet our Executive Headteacher & Early Years team. See overleaf for more details!

**OUR SCHOOL:**

- Individual care
- Wider opportunities
- Broad enrichment & activities
- Every child known and loved
- Every child challenged to thrive
- Academic **and** personal growth

**Book your tour now!**

0118 981 2836  
[www.bishopswoodschools.co.uk](http://www.bishopswoodschools.co.uk)



have been learning this term, the progress they have made. We hope you find them useful in supporting conversations about learning at homes.

## Iron SAM Fundraising

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, the whole school came together to support Sam Dunn in his inspiring *Baton of Hope* five-school relay run in aid of the SAMS charity.



The following day, six members of staff from across the two schools, took on the challenge to complete a marathon distance between them at the **IRONSAMS Community Challenge**. Together, they ran a combined 26.8 miles (over 42km), showing fantastic teamwork, determination and resilience. We are very proud of their efforts and the dedication they showed in taking on this challenge, raising over **£300** as a team. Congratulations to you all!



If you know of any friends, neighbours or family members who may be considering a school place for September 2027, please do share this invitation with them. We look forward to welcoming you.

Please book onto one of our open dates below by calling the School Office on 0118 9812836 or emailing [Bishopswood Schools Federation](mailto:Bishopswood Schools Federation)

## **Remaining Open Morning Dates:**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 9:15am

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 1:15pm

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 1:15pm

## Curriculum Updates

To help keep this end of half term newsletter short, we will be sending out a separate newsletter containing curriculum updates for each year group on Friday. As usual, these updates will provide more detailed information about what the children

We would also like to thank all our families for their generous donations and support for this cause. So far, our school have raised over **£800**. Every contribution will help this wonderful charity continue its important work supporting children and families in our school community and beyond.

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As it stands, Sam and his team have raised an astounding figure of over **£14,500**. If you have not yet had the opportunity to donate, there is still time to do so by following the link below. Thank you for helping us make a difference.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/ironsams-relay-2026>

## **Parking Reminder**

As a reminder, parents are not permitted to park on the zigzags, or double yellow lines outside school, including at the end of the car park near the Infant School gates.



Please do not park in a designated blue badge/disabled parking space unless you have a badge on display, or you may be asked to move your car.

Additionally, parents are not permitted to use the inner school car park at all, including for before and after school clubs.

Thank you for helping to keep our school site safe.

## **Uniform and Jewellery Expectations**

We understand many of you may be buying new uniform or shoes in the next few weeks so thought it would be helpful to give a quick reminder of school expectations on the areas where we see most issues:

- School shoes must be **completely black, with no white or colour** on them at all, including any laces.
- Leggings are not permitted as school trousers
- Shorts must be regular school shorts, **not hot-pant or Nike Pro types of Lycra shorts** – these kinds of very short, tight shorts are not suitable for school, even for PE.

- Only **1 pair of small, plain studs** are **permitted** as earrings – no hoops, large-design studs or dangly earrings. All earrings must be removed for PE or please supply micropore tape to cover them over for your child to take part.
- **No wristbands, festival/event bands, bracelets, rings or necklaces** are permitted to be worn in school.
- **A simple watch without internet access** is permitted.
- **Long hair must be tied back please.**

Thank you for your support with this.

## **VACANCY: Lunchtime Assistant**

We currently have some vacancies in school. If you are interested in applying for these term-time positions, or would like to find out more, please contact the school office.



Many thanks for your continued support for the schools over the year.

Kind regards

Mrs Jo Armes  
Head of School

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## Dates for Your Diary

**26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> October – HALF-TERM**

**1<sup>st</sup> October – PTA fireworks**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 PGL trip**

**3<sup>rd</sup> November – Newbury Observer EYFS class photos**

**5<sup>th</sup> November – Year 1 Outdoor Day**

**6<sup>th</sup> November –September 2027 YR open morning**

**10<sup>th</sup> November –September 2027 YR open afternoon**

**11<sup>th</sup> November – Flu Immunisations**

**13<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need Day**

**20<sup>th</sup> November –September 2027 YR open afternoon**

**15<sup>th</sup> December – RockSteady Concert 2.30pm**

**21<sup>st</sup> December – 1<sup>st</sup> January 2027 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

**4<sup>th</sup> January – INSET day**

**5<sup>th</sup> January – First Day of Spring Term**

**Starting school in September 2027**

If your child is 4 or will turn 4 before 1 September 2027, they can start school in September 2027

Applications open for Hampshire residents on **1 November 2026**

THE NATIONAL CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS **FRIDAY 15 JANUARY 2027**  
DON'T MISS IT!

**BEST START IN LIFE**

For more information go to [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions)

Hampshire

**OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB**

**8:30 till 5:30pm**

**Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October**

**£25 a day**

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**SHOW & SKATE Presents**  
**JACK & THE BEANSTALK ON ICE**  
**24TH NOVEMBER**  
 MATINEE - 1PM & EVENING - 7PM

The festive season is coming around quickly, and it is the perfect time to start planning your group outings. Planet Ice is delighted to announce a brand new spectacular Christmas Show, Jack and the Beanstalk, with a family friendly performance ideal for groups.

Our Christmas Shows are a fantastic way to celebrate the festive season, so get into the Christmas spirit and plan a magical trip for your group.

We are sure your guests will love the show and may even feel inspired to take to the ice themselves. To make the experience even more exciting, we have introduced a great value ticket option. For just £10.50 per person, guests can enjoy the show.

As nobody deserves festive cheer more, group organisers go free. We will also accommodate any special requests wherever possible, so please just ask. Plus, do not forget we offer great value meal deals to complete your visit.

To enquire further about tickets email: [basingstoke@planet-ice.co.uk](mailto:basingstoke@planet-ice.co.uk) or call our reception on 01256 355 266 for more details.

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT  
[PLANET-ICE.CO.UK/CHRISTMAS-SHOW](http://PLANET-ICE.CO.UK/CHRISTMAS-SHOW)

Basingstoke Ice Rink Ltd. Company Number: 773346 - Charity Number: 1140201

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

## The Big Christmas Give

Can you help by donating a new and unwrapped gift this Christmas for a child who may go without across Hampshire and Berkshire?

Last year Spotlight UK donated over 5500 presents to local children via referrals from schools and social workers and we hope to do it again this year.

Visit  
[www.spotlightuk.org/Christmas-appeal-2026](http://www.spotlightuk.org/Christmas-appeal-2026)  
 for local collection points.

Spotlight UK Charity number 1129258

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**SPOTLIGHT UK**  
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### ATMOSPHERE FUNDED/FREE SPACES

Wednesday 30th September  
 6:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Free tickets for children aged 4-14 yrs



Atmosphere, Unit B, Rutherford Road,  
 Daneshill Industrial Estate, Basingstoke,  
 Hampshire, RG24 8PD  
 To book please email [louisa@spotlightuk.org](mailto:louisa@spotlightuk.org)

Scarlett's Smiles  
**SPOTLIGHT UK**  
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 Charity no. 1129258

## The Big Christmas Give

By purchasing a toy for our Christmas toy appeal or making a small donation, you can help Spotlight spread some joy this Christmas

Buy a gift through our  
Amazon Wishlist  
Scan here

Or you can  
donate here





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