



Church of England Junior School

No: 18
12th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had a good half term and enjoyed the sunshine - it seems an age ago now!

Thank you for your understanding with the change to sports day last week – after weeks of dry weather it is typical it rains when we had planned sports day.

Sports day, when it eventually happened today, was a success. I don't think I have ever spent so much time looking at so many different weather apps! Today saw many examples of teamwork, sportsmanship, resilience and perseverance well done everyone! It was lovely to welcome ex-students from Costello to help; they were a credit to Costello; thank you Miss Lewis for bringing them along.

Year 5 enjoyed trips to the Gordon Brown Centre last Friday and this week despite the damp weather for two classes! They had a fantastic time learning some key survival skills which might be useful in a rainforest! This links to their topic and also to their reading text 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. They enjoyed den building (especially being squirted to check how water tight they were), archery, climbing (including the infamous 'death drop' which everyone tried) and their day finished with a campfire and more importantly marshmallows!

Year 4 children have had a busy two weeks. Last week they enjoyed a session with Folk Active learning about the traditions of maypole dancing and folk music – there were a few tangled ribbons but they did really well! We look forward to seeing some of them dance at the summer fair.

This week Year 3 have visited QMC to enrich their science learning. The Science Centre at Queen Mary's College is a specially designed science laboratory for use by primary school pupils. Their visits this week focused on materials and their properties.

Year 6 are well underway with rehearsals for their end of year production, however they are still working really hard in their learning to ensure that they are ready to transition to secondary school in September. Over the next few weeks, the Year 6 teachers will be talking to staff from all of the secondary schools our pupils are transitioning to so that they can share any important information.

We are looking forward to our summer prayer space next week. All pupils will have an opportunity to visit this space. Prayer spaces give children and young people, of any faith or none, a way to explore personal reflection and prayer for themselves using a selection of engaging and creative activities. Our pupils always enjoy their visit to prayer space!

End of year family picnic, joint with OB infant school – 17th July 12:45pm-2:00pm

We are pleased to share plans for an end of term family picnic to mark the end of the academic year! We have enjoyed several joint events this year and these activities and links are really important for our school community and relations.

On Friday 17th July you are invited to join your child/children for lunch at the junior school.

Details will be confirmed nearer the time, but infant parents will be asked to join their infant school child/children at school at 12:30pm in order to then walk over to the junior school with their class at 12:45pm.

Junior children will meet their family on the junior school field.

Any child who does not have a parent/relative in attendance will enjoy their picnic with their class.

At the end of the picnic, children will be able to leave with their parents/carers. For safeguarding reasons **pupils will only be able to leave after the picnic with their own family – children will not be allowed to leave with any friends.** There will be no exceptions to this for pupils at either school.

Mrs Lillywhite and Mrs Denning

Water Safety

We are pleased to share that next week staff from Kim Chapman's Swim School will be leading an assembly for all of our pupils on water safety. This is really important as we head towards the summer holidays when more of our families may be heading to pools, beaches and other areas where there is open water. Please do remind yourself of, and share with your children, the water safety poster that was sent out last week from the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. You can find this at the end of this week's newsletter.

Safeguarding – June Newsletter and Hampshire Domestic Abuse Partnership

Please find attached to this newsletter this month's Safeguarding Newsletter. The focus of this month's newsletter is 'Understanding Harmful Sexual Behaviour' in Children' and 'Helping Children to Attend School.'

Class Photographs – Tuesday 16th June

Class photographs will take place next Tuesday 16th June. There will be no PE on this day so all children should come to school in their normal school uniform. Summer uniform is ok, but please can all children bring their school jumper or cardigan.

A whole Year 6 leavers photograph will be taken on the morning of Thursday 18th June. Please can all Year 6 children be in uniform with their jumper/cardigan on this day too. Thank you.

Summer Reading Challenge - 2026

Hampshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge 2026 – Read to the Beat!

It would be great to see lots of our pupils signing up for this summer's Hampshire Libraries reading challenge. Sign up at your library or online from Saturday 11th July to Saturday 12th September.

This year the challenge theme is 'Read to the Beat!'

[Kids Zone | Leisure and culture | Hampshire County Council](#)

Staffing Update

Please make sure you have read the letter sent out on Monday about staff changes for September.

New book recommendations



Back of the Net!

By Paul Cookson (author), Martin Chatterton (illustrator)

7+ Readers

If football is your game, then *Back of the Net!* is a sure-fire winner. Selected by Paul Cookson, Poet in Residence at England's National Football Museum, this fantastic collection brings together 50 football poems from a dream team of soccer-mad poets including Roger McGough, Michael Rosen, Coral Rumble, Joshua Seigal and Paul Cookson himself. Brilliantly complemented by Martin Chatterton's zany, energetic illustrations, this really is the GOAT in football poetry collections. Whether you play every weekend on a proper pitch or use jumpers for goalposts in the park, there's something here for every football fan. Goalie, winger, striker, defender - whether you're perfecting your Cruyff turn or simply love watching the beautiful game, these poems capture all the excitement, drama and emotion of football. The highs, lows and

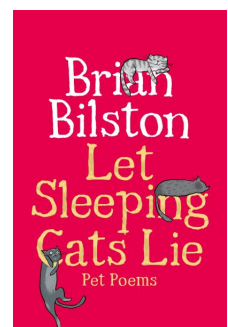
heartbreaks of the game are all here.

Let Sleeping Cats Lie: Pet Poems

By Brian Bilston (author)

9+ Readers

A hilarious collection of pet poems by wordplay wizard Brian Bilston. When you've got a bad case of the 'mews' and are in desperate need of a 'pup'-lifting read, this book is the 'ulti-mutt' remedy. The perfect gift for a dog person, cat person and every pet lover in between.



Let Sleeping Cats Lie is a collection of poems following the funny lives of our furry - and not so furry - friends. Stars include Wilf, the hypnotist Labracadabrador, a philosophically inclined goldfish penning a profound haiku, a hen named Barbara receiving an adoring tribute, and an 'octopussy' cat that seems to have all its paws in plenty of odd little pies.

Do you know anyone with a child due to start Year R in September 2027?

Old Basing Infant School will be holding open mornings on:

Thursday 24th September

Wednesday 14th October

Friday 6th November

Monday 23rd November

Please call the infant school office on 012556 325704 to book in for one of these mornings.
For more information, please contact Old Basing Infant school: adminoffice@oldbasing.hants.sch.uk

Talk Point

What ideas will you all have for this week's talk point?

'Would the world be better if everyone was the same?'

This question will help build speaking, listening, and sharing skills.

Attendance

As of today, the school's overall attendance is 97.5%. In recent weeks we have seen fewer pupils arriving late in the mornings, thank you for your support with this.

F.O.O.B.S. News

Hello from F.O.O.B.S. Firstly, a big thank you for all the TBU donations last week and also the jar donations you have brought in this week, we very much appreciate it!

Please continue selling those raffle tickets and send the stubs back in by Friday 19th June. Please also return any unsold tickets so that they are available for others to buy on the day.

Advance sales are now open for Summer Fair tickets via the website www.foobs.weebly.com where you can buy tickets for £2 for adults (children are free and don't need a ticket)

Electronic sign up sheets for the class stall have also been sent out recently, your support is greatly appreciated, even half an hour is a massive help!

Coffee Mornings and Parental Support

Our half-termly coffee mornings are an opportunity for parents to get together, share ideas and challenges over a cup of coffee (and biscuits!) Join us for the last one of the year. Mrs Medlin (our SENCo) and Mrs Thompson (OBI SENCo) will be attending alongside the Primary Behaviour Service.

**Meet us 9am to 10.30am on:
8th July**



**Gemma Lillywhite
Headteacher**

Dates for your Diary

1st-12th June 2026 Year 4 Multiplication Tests
16th June – Class Photos (whole Y6 photo on 18th June)
16th June - Year 3 Church visit (parents welcome) 1:30pm
18th June – Whole Year 6 Photo
18th June – Year 4 trip to Ufton Court
19th June – BPSM Rehearsals all day, Christ Church Chineham 9:30am-2:30pm
23rd June – BPSM Rehearsals all day, The Anvil 9:30-2:30pm
23rd June – BPSM Evening Performance 7pm The Anvil
24th June – BPSM Evening Performance 7pm The Anvil
24th June – Year 5 trip to Costello
24th June – Year 6 Diocese Leavers Service – Winchester Cathedral
25th June – Year 2 Parents briefing (1:45pm-3:00pm)
29th June-1st July – Year 6 Enterprise week
30th June - Year 5 Church visit (parents welcome) 1:30pm
3rd July – Shuffle up morning
w/c 6th July – No after school clubs this week
5th July – F.O.O.B.S Summer Fair
8th July – Parent & Carer coffee morning 09:00-10:30
8th July – 2nd Shuffle up (pm)
w/c 13th July – No after school clubs this week
13th -16th July – Year 6 Show Week (evening performances 14th, 15th & 16th 6pm)
17th July – Family Picnic, joint with Old Basing Infants
20th July – Year 6 Leavers Service - St Mary's Church 2pm
21st July – Year 6 Leavers Party pm
22nd July – End of term Church Visits – times TBC
22nd July – Last Day of term

Inset Days 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Monday 2nd November 2026
Friday 18th December 2026
Monday 22nd February 2027
Friday 28th May 2027

WATER SAFETY

Stay safe. Have fun. Enjoy the water. 

DROWNING IS ONE OF THE LEADING CAUSES OF ACCIDENTAL DEATH IN CHILDREN IN THE UK.

MOST INCIDENTS ARE PREVENTABLE.



As the weather warms up, children and young people spend more time around water – at home, on days out or on holiday. Let's keep them safe.



Almost half of drownings occur during the summer months when temperatures are higher – especially when 25°C or above.

THE HSCP WATER SAFETY TOOLKIT FOR PARENTS & CARERS INCLUDES:



EVERYDAY RISKS AT HOME

Including bath time safety and garden hazards.



STAYING SAFE OUTDOORS

Such as the beach, around rivers and in open water.



PRACTICAL SAFETY ADVICE

Including the Water Safety Code and how to "Float to Live".



AGE-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

For babies, young children, older children and teenagers.



WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

Including simple first aid steps and where to find further support.

Small actions, big difference 

- ✓ Keep children within arm's reach of water.
- ✓ Choose safe places to swim.
- ✓ Talk to your children about water safety.



Together, we can help prevent tragedies and keep our children safe this summer.



For practical advice and resources, download the Water Safety Toolkit:
www.hampshirescp.org.uk/parents-and-carers/water-safety/



Enjoy the water
Stay safe
Look out for each other



HSCP

Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Safeguarding children together



Do you have a child starting school in September 2027?

Old Basing Infant School is holding Open Mornings for prospective parents...why not come and have a look around?

We would love to see you on either:



Thursday 24th September 2026

Wednesday 14th October 2026

Friday 6th November 2026

Monday 23rd November 2026

Presentations begin at 9:15am with a Q&A session followed by a tour of the school with our Year 2 guides.

Please call the school office on **01256 325704** where one of our admin team will be happy to book you in and answer any questions you may have.

Scan this code to visit our school website

