

BISHOP RIDLEY

NEWS

Issue #2 | 18th September 2026



Messages from Mr Keep

This term, our Christian value is Friendship and we are reminded of the Bible verse from Ecclesiastes 4:10: 'If you fall, your friend can help you up.' We have seen some lovely examples of children looking after each other since we have returned to school and each child took some time in collective worship this morning to plan how they might show friendship to someone else during the day today. Every week, you might notice the Kindness Award on the final page of the newsletter and this is a key part of how we recognise and celebrate actions of friendship and living out our vision of sharing the love of God.

Next week, we will be carrying out our first fire drill of the year and this will take place on Tuesday morning at 10:45am. During this time, the fire alarm will sound continuously and the children will be escorted from the building out onto the Key Stage 2 playground. Please be aware that the telephones in the office will not be staffed at this time. Fire drills can be unsettling for some children, so we are letting you know in advance in case you wish to discuss this further at home.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend,



Stuart Keep
Headteacher

Percy Pupdates

This week, Mrs Coles and Mr Catchpole were joined by Ali from the PAWS Therapy Dog team. She was so impressed by how hard Percy has been working with his training.

Thank you to all the wonderful children who have been working alongside him; we are excited to announce that Percy will have his final PAWS assessment at the start of December.

Thank you to those who have completed their Google forms concerning dog allergies or phobias. We will contact individual families next week if we require any further information.

Upcoming Events

- 21st September - NSPCC PANTS week
- 22nd September - Fire Drill
- 24th September - Year 6 TFL Workshop
- 25th September - National TA Day
- 25th September - European Day of Languages
- 30th September - Reception Tour (9am)
- 5th October - Year 6 Bikeability
- 5th October - Mental Health Week
- 5th October - World Teachers' Day
- 6th October - Flu vaccinations (Rec - Year 6)
- 9th October - Harvest Festival
- 12th October - EYFS Paramedic visit
- 13th October - Year 5 Elm last swimming lesson
- 15th October - Book Fair arrives
- 16th October - Bishop Ridley Day
- 20th October - Parents' Evening
- 21st October - Parents' Evening
- 22nd October - Reception Tour (1:30pm)
- 23rd October - Year 1 Animal Day
- 23rd October - End of term

Languages Day

On Friday 25th September, we will be carrying out our annual celebration of the European Day of Languages. The theme for this year is 'Languages Unite!' Each class will spend time during the day learning about a particular country and finding out more about its language and culture.

Children are invited to dress up in colours that represent the flag of the country their class is researching:

- Nursery: Italy (green, red, white)
- Reception and Year 1: Ireland (orange, green, white)
- Year 2: France (red, white, blue)
- Year 3/4: Spain (red and yellow)
- Year 5: British Sign Language (red, white, blue)
- Year 6: Italy (green, red, white)



Year 1 Woodlands Farm

Year 1 had such a brilliant time exploring Woodlands Farm last Friday, and learning all about the animals and nature around them. They enjoyed pond dipping, where they discovered lots of fascinating pond creatures, and we were lucky enough to see lots of different farm animals and insects along the way! They also spotted lots of amazing habitats that the little, brown mouse might have seen on his journey in the deep dark woods like log houses.

Our thanks to Miss Cory for organising such a fun trip for the children at the start of the term, and to the staff and volunteers who supported the visit to make it such a success.



School Council

We are thrilled to announce that our new group of School Councillors have been chosen. These children were voted in by their classmates to represent each class on the School Council, which is overseen by Miss Taylor. Here are the representatives for 2026-2027:

Cherry - Ava and Kaine

Willow - Dream and Colton

Ash - Darcie and Eden

Maple - Blu and Connie

Pine - Nikos and Summer

Cedar - Lena and Jude

Elm - Sanjala and Charlie

Oak - Tayla-Mae and Maddox

Redwood - Hansen and Catherine



The School Council meet regularly to discuss any issues that pupils may have, as well as deciding which charities the school will be supporting throughout the year.

Bishop Ridley Church

Please be aware that the Falconwood Community Fun Day will be taking place on Saturday 26th September from 10am until 2pm, in the Falconwood Community Centre and grounds.

Come along for bouncy castles, face painting, games, arts and crafts and a tombola.

There will be a raffle with prizes donated by local businesses, and all proceeds from the raffle will be donated to Zarach, a charity working to end child-bed poverty in the UK by ensuring as many children as possible have a bed of their own to get a comfortable night's sleep and the chance to thrive. If you are able to donate any prizes to the raffle, please email

info@brchurch.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you there!



Attendance

100%

Attendance continues to be one of our top priorities as we continue through the year, and we are still aiming to meet our end of year target of 96%. For a child to have met this attendance percentage, they cannot afford to have more than 5 days off in the school year. Please support your child's education by ensuring that they only miss school if they are too unwell to attend.

For more information on this, visit the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Attendance League

Our whole school attendance this week was **96.7%**



Points

1st - Redwood	24
2nd - Ash	23
3rd = Cherry	17
3rd = Willow	17
5th - Maple	15
6th = Pine	13
6th = Cedar	13
6th = Oak	13
9th = Elm	11
9th = Olive	11
11th - Hazel	3

The class at the top of the Attendance League at the end of term will receive a movie and popcorn afternoon!





Let's celebrate!



Kindness

Maddox in Year 6 was nominated for the Kindness Award this week for helping younger children in the playground at lunchtime. Mrs Torrance also won the award for the kindness and help she gave to colleagues this week. Congratulations and thank you to both of you"

Pupils of the Week

Hazel - Amuthan

Olive - Ruby

Cherry - Jude

Willow - Anushri

Ash - Kseniia

Maple - Max

Pine - Freddy

Cedar - Harper P

Elm - Ronnie

Oak - Angel

Redwood - Hansen

Blossom - Adyan



Have a great weekend!



50 Reads

Each week, our amazing teaching assistants count up how many times a child has read at home and when a child has achieved 50 reads (this needs to be done on 50 different days!), they get to visit our Book Vending Machine to choose their very own book!

Congratulations to the following children who earned their 50 reads this week:

Year 1 - Zara

Year 2 - Kassie

Year 3 - Kseniia and Jeyla

Year 4 - William, Summer and Freddy

Year 5 - Macey, Noah, Omoghene and Jamie

Year 6 - Freddie

House Points

Normans

4

Romans

4

Saxons

0

Vikings

2

