



Issue #4 | 2nd October 2026



Messages from Mr Keep

We always like to receive feedback from parents and carers, as this is a really important way of use recognising the strengths of the school and ways in which we could serve families better. In the final week of term, we will hold our first parents' evenings of the year and there will be a QR code on the board in the hall for you to answer a short survey to let us know your thoughts and ideas. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance; please can we ask that you carry out these conversations at the end of the day rather than at the start, as the teachers need to be supervising children in the classroom. In the event of needing to speak to a member of staff urgently, please contact the school office or speak to a member of SLT in the playground before school begins.

This week's newsletter photograph features our Leading Lights team for the academic year. These children support collective worship each day, helping to lead prayers and working from children across the school to gather feedback and ideas on our daily worship. They are also currently planning some enhancements to our spirituality space.



Have a great weekend.

Stuart Keep

Headteacher

New Website

We are excited to soon be launching our new website, which will still be found at the same address:

www.bishopridleyschool.org.uk.

If you have any bookmarked pages, you may find that they no longer link directly so please do check these and amend them where necessary.

We hope that you find this an informative and inviting portal to our school and we look forward to sharing further updates with you in the coming days.

Upcoming Events

- 5th October - Year 6 Bikeability
- 5th October - Mental Health Week
- 5th October - World Teachers' Day
- 6th October - Flu vaccinations (Rec - Year 6)
- 7th October - Year 2 at Oxleas Woods (pm)
- 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
- 2nd November - Term 2 starts
- 3rd November - Year 5 Cedar swimming begins
- 9th November - Reception Tour (9am)
- 11th November - Remembrance Day
- 16th November - Anti-Bullying Week

Harvest

Our Harvest Festival will take place on Friday 9th October and, as usual, we will be asking for donations in support of the Trussell Trust, which provides food for families who are struggling to make ends meet.

We will be gratefully accepting donations in school from next week and we are particularly looking for the following items:

- cereal
- soup
- pasta and pasta sauces
- rice
- lentils, beans and pulses
- tinned meat, fruit and vegetables
- tea, coffee and fruit juice
- biscuits



Football Match

Our Year 5/6 football team played their first match at the beginning of the week against a very strong team.

Despite a loss of 6-1, the team really impressed Miss Capey with their enthusiasm and excellent teamwork ability. They showed great determination and never gave up; we are really proud of them. Samuel in Year 5 was awarded man of the match but every member of the team played extremely well. Well done to Macey, Samuel, Sidney, Oliver, James, Suzel, Louie, Jacob, George and Jude and thank you to Miss Capey and Miss Petty for going along to cheer on the team.



Parent-Teacher Organisation

As you may be aware, the school is in the process of setting up a new Parent-Teacher Organisation (PTO).

This week, we held our initial meeting to outside expectations for the group and to start mapping out a calendar for the year ahead. We are hoping to run a Christmas disco on Thursday 17th December and host a Christmas Fair on Friday 4th December. More information will be sent out to confirm in due course so keep your eyes peeled!

Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for two positions at Bishop Ridley.

The first is for an office manager role. This would be suitable for someone with experience of working in a school office and who may have experience of leading a small team. The role is term time only and if you are interested in finding out more, please follow the link [here](#).

We are also seeking a midday supervisor to join our team. The hours for this role will be 11:55am until 1:10pm and again is term time only. For information, click [here](#).

Bishop Ridley Church

This Sunday is Bishop Ridley Church's annual Harvest Festival and parade service at 10:30am. They will be supporting Bexley Foodbank and you can find out more about the items they are asking for [here](#). The October lunch club meal will be taking place this Saturday from 12pm in the church. Open Door Lunch Club is for people who live alone in Falconwood. If you're able to give up some time to go along and help, you'd be very welcome.



Attendance

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/>

100%

Attendance League

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



Points

→	1st - Ash	42
↑	2nd = Maple	36
→	2nd = Willow	36
↑	4th - Cherry	35
↓	5th - Redwood	33
↑	6th - Olive	32
↓	7th - Pine	30
→	8th - Cedar	21
↓	9th = Oak	19
↑	9th = Elm	19
→	11th - Hazel	13

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

Osayi has been awarded the Kindness Award this week for the kindness and friendship she shows to everyone in our community.

Malachi has also been given the award for the care and compassion he has been showing in After School Club, particularly towards the younger children. Well done to both of you!

Pupils of the Week

Hazel – Theo

Olive – Evie

Cherry – Mia

Willow – Dream

Ash – Bella

Maple – Ella

Pine – Nathaniel

Cedar – Akshaya

Elm – Hazel

Oak – Louie

Redwood – Alfie

Blossom – Parker



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 – Joshua

Year 2 – Kayan, Zoya and Kaine

Year 3/4 – Micah, Ava S, Jacob A, Oakley, Abigail and Lily

Year 5 – Ellie

House Points

Normans

7

Romans

9

Saxons

5

Vikings

4

Have a great weekend!

