

BISHOP RIDLEY NEWS

Issue #7 | 6th November 2026

Messages from Mr Keep

A huge thank you to all of the parents and carers who took part in our survey before half term. We had 82 responses in total and these were overwhelmingly positive:

- *100% agreed that their child was happy at Bishop Ridley*
- *100% said that their child felt safe at school.*
- *99% felt that the school makes sure pupils are well-behaved.*
- *95% felt that they had a good understanding of what their child will be learning during the year.*
- *95% felt that their child does well at school.*
- *96% said that they would recommend Bishop Ridley to another parent.*

If you ever have any concerns or questions, please do get in touch, as we are keen to work collaboratively with parents and carers to support the children.

The class pages on the school website have now been updated with class newsletters for term 2, where you will be able to find out more about your child's learning, as well as important dates. You can also access curriculum maps on these pages, where you can find out more about the year ahead.

Have a great weekend,

Stuart Keep

Headteacher

Upcoming Events

19th November - Reception Tour (9am)
11th November - Remembrance Day
12th November - Individual and sibling photos
16th November - Anti-Bullying Week
18th November - Year 2 and Year 5 Astrodome
20th November - Non-uniform day (see below)
24th November - Flu immunisation catch-ups
25th November - Reception Tour (1:30pm)
30th November - Rocksteady Concert
1st December - Year 5 Cedar last swimming lesson
4th December - Christmas Fair

Anti-Bullying Week

The week beginning Monday 16th November is Anti-Bullying Week, and this year's theme is 'Break the Silence'. Throughout the week, children will explore what bullying is, how it affects others and the importance of speaking up when something isn't right. We will encourage children to use their voices, whether they are experiencing bullying themselves or witnessing it happening to others. We want every child at Bishop Ridley to feel safe, valued and listened to, knowing there is always someone they can turn to for help. To mark the week, children are welcome to ***wear odd socks as part of the non-uniform on Friday 20th November****, celebrating what makes us all unique!*

Christmas Fair

Our new Parent Teacher Organisation (PTO) has been busy organising our ***Christmas Fai****r, which will take place on* ***Friday 4th December, from 3:15pm to 5:00pm.*** *We will have a wonderful range of stalls, including some run by local businesses. There will be opportunities to purchase Christmas presents, enjoy delicious festive refreshments and enter our Christmas raffle!*

To help us gather donations for the fair, we will be holding a ***non-uniform day on Friday 20th November****. In exchange, we would be grateful if children could bring in the following donations:*

- *Nursery and Reception: Bags of sweets and candy canes*
- *Years 1 and 2: Chocolate coins and tubes of chocolates*
- *Years 3 and 4: Selection boxes*
- *Year 5: Large bars of chocolate*
- *Year 6: Cans of soft drinks*



If any families or local businesses would also like to donate prizes for our Christmas raffle, these would be very gratefully received.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fantastic festive afternoon, raising funds to support our school.

Bexley Foodbank

We are delighted to announce that our Harvest festival collection managed to contribute 254.5kg to the Bexley Foodbank. These generous donations were greatly appreciated and have helped to make a significant difference to the lives of people experiencing food poverty in the local areas. Bexley Foodbank gives out on average 5000-6000kg of food every month to those most in need and we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you so much for your generosity towards this worthwhile organisation.

Aquinas Parent Council

We are still looking for a parent or carer who would be interested in representing Bishop Ridley on the Aquinas Parent Council. This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the wider Trust community, share parents' views and help strengthen the partnership between families and schools across Aquinas. The role involves attending meetings which usually take place during the school day (typically in the mornings). If you would like to express an interest in becoming our parent representative, please speak to Mr Keep.

Healthy Snacks



We would like to remind parents and carers about the importance of healthy snacks at breaktime. Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are provided with a piece of fruit each day, while children in Key Stage 2 are welcome to bring in a small snack to enjoy on the playground during morning break. Recently, we have noticed some children bringing in crisps and chocolate, so we would like to remind families that snacks should be healthy choices, such as fresh fruit or cereal bars. Thank you for your support in helping us encourage healthy eating habits across the school!

Bexley Voice

Bexley Voice are running their Tea and Talk Parent/Carer support group on Tuesday 10th November. This is an opportunity for an informal chat about anything related to SEND.
The session will run from 9:30am until 12:30pm, with 1:1 bookable appointments available from 11:10am. You can speak with professionals from Bexley IASS, Speech and Language Therapy, ASD Advisory Team, Dental Services and Benefits Advisors from DWP. These appointments can be booked here.
The session will be held at the Danson Youth Centre on Brampton Road (DA7 4EZ) and you can go to all or part of the meeting.

Bishop Ridley Church

The Church will be holding its Remembrance Sunday Parade Service at 10:30am on Sunday 8th November. During the service, thanks will be given for all those who have given their lives for our peace and safety. The congregation will take part in an act of remembrance and will then observe a two-minute silence.
We hope to see you there.



Attendance League

Our whole school attendance this week was 93.0%

	Points
1st - Willow	12
2nd - Oak	11
3rd - Redwood	10
4th - Ash	9
5th = Olive	8
5th = Cherry	8
7th - Cedar	6
8th - Elm	5
9th - Hazel	4
10th - Pine	3
11th - Maple	2

The class with the most points at the end of term will win the Attendance League and earn a movie and popcorn afternoon for their class.



Let's celebrate!

Kindness

The Kindness Award this week was awarded to Micah for the care, kindness and friendship he shows to others at all times. Miss Cally also got the award for the compassion she shows to others and for always being a positive role model to everyone within the community. Well done and thank you both!

Pupils of the Week

Hazel – Max S
Olive – Ava
Cherry – Millie
Willow – Zayan
Ash – Daria
Maple – Darcie
Pine – Albie O
Cedar – Macey
Elm – Agastya and Charlie
Oak – Anas
Redwood – Vaanya
Blossom – Klay

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:

Nursery – Vomika
Year 1 – Callen, Molly, Ruby, Zachary and Oliver G,
Year 2 – Lara, Ava S and Nusaybah
Year 3/4 – Elliott W, Wystan, Freya, Ciaran, Paige and Blu
Year 5 – Omoghene and Hazel
Year 6 – Evie

House Points

Normans 9	**Romans** 12
Saxons 8	**Vikings** 9

Have a great weekend!

