

BISHOP RIDLEY

NEWS

Issue #5 | 8th October 2026



Messages from Mr Keep

Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed to our Harvest Festival. We are very grateful for our school community's support and kindness towards families experiencing difficult times. We will deliver our donations to the Trussell Trust early next week, helping provide much-needed food and support to families in need. If you would still like to contribute, please bring final donations into school on Monday.

During collective worship this week, we have been learning about Jesus feeding the 5,000. We reflected on what we are thankful for and also thought about how sharing is not always about giving something material. Sometimes a kind word, encouragement, listening or showing compassion can make just as much difference to someone needing support. This brings us back to our school vision: 'One Community, Learning and Growing Together, Sharing the Love of God.' Through our Harvest donations and everyday kindness, we are putting this vision into practice. Even small acts of generosity and compassion can make a meaningful difference, helping us build a community where everyone feels valued and supported.

Have a great weekend,
Stuart Keep
Headteacher



Parents' Evening

Our first parents' evenings of the year will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October. This is a fantastic opportunity to discuss your child's progress with his/her class teacher. Each meeting will last for 10 minutes and as usual, we will ring the bell at the end of each meeting so that appointments do not over-run. Appointments will go live at 6pm this evening and can be booked via your ParentMail app, under 'parents' evening'. If you wish to book an appointment to speak to our SENDCO, Mrs Coles please contact the school office, who will arrange this for you

Upcoming Events

- 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 - Pyjama Day - Salvation Army
- 23rd October - End of term
- 2nd November - Term 2 starts
- 3rd November - Year 5 Solar System webinar
- 3rd November - Year 5 Cedar swimming begins
- 9th November - Reception Tour (9am)
- 11th November - Remembrance Day
- 12th November - Individual and sibling photos
- 16th November - Anti-Bullying Week

Oracy

One of our key priorities this year is to develop Oracy across the school. Oracy is the ability to express ourselves clearly through speaking, while listening carefully and responding thoughtfully to others. We want children to talk more about their learning, sharing ideas, asking questions and developing their understanding through discussion. Most importantly, we want to ensure that every child's voice is heard and valued. Parents and carers can support us by encouraging children to talk about their learning, asking questions and giving them opportunities to explain their thinking. To help get conversations started, look out for our new 'Question of the Week' posters displayed in the windows by the Year 2 classroom. These are designed to spark discussions between children and their families at the beginning and end of the school day. We hope you'll enjoy sharing your ideas together!

Oxleas Woods Visit

Year 2 enjoyed an exciting visit to Oxleas Wood this week, exploring different habitats, including the field, pond and woodland. The children became nature detectives as they searched for minibeasts and investigated how different creatures live in their natural environments. They looked closely at their surroundings, discovering where minibeasts might make their homes and why creatures prefer particular habitats. Despite the rainy weather, the children showed great enthusiasm and curiosity throughout their visit. Although many minibeasts were hiding away from the rain, there was still plenty to discover!



Bikeability

This week, some of our Year 6 pupils have been taking part in Bikeability training, developing their cycling skills and learning how to stay safe and confident on the roads. Despite one group having to brave some absolutely torrential rain, the children showed fantastic resilience and enthusiasm throughout. The instructors were extremely complimentary about the children's excellent behaviour, positive attitudes and willingness to learn. We are incredibly proud of them all – well done, Year 6!



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

All children (and their families) are welcome at Bishop Ridley Church! Sunday Club is Bishop Ridley Church's Sunday School for children aged 3-13. It takes place during the 10:30am service.

During each Sunday Club session the children hear bible stories, play games and take part in other activities such as arts and crafts. [Find out more about Sunday Club and when it's on - along with our activities for younger children too.](#)



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/>



Attendance League

Our whole school attendance this week was **95.2%**



Points

→	1st - Ash	50
↑	2nd - Cherry	47
↑	3rd = Olive	43
↑	3rd = Redwood	43
↓	3rd = Maple	43
↓	6th - Willow	41
→	7th - Pine	33
↑	8th - Oak	28
↓	9th = Cedar	23
→	9th = Elm	23
→	11th - Hazel	19

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

Rajvi in Year 6 was given the Kindness Award this week. Rajvi is always polite and has a smile for everyone, showing our value of Friendship perfectly. The award was also given to Miss Donaghey this week, for the kindness she shows to everyone and for the inclusion of all across our school community. Thank you both!

Pupils of the Week

Hazel – Keshav
Olive – Bobby
Cherry – Theo
Willow – Kassie
Ash – Zachary
Maple – Annie
Pine – Nikos
Cedar – George
Elm – Morgan
Oak – Tayla-Mae
Redwood – Jake
Blossom – Liana



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 – Isla and Bobby

Year 2 – Mia

Year 3/4 – Annie, Eric, Kerim, Emmanouel, Harrison, Emmanuel, Nicoleta and Brody

Year 5 – Sanjala, Fifi, Ashlee, Joey

Year 6 – Kayla

House Points

Normans

8

Romans

9

Saxons

7

Vikings

6

