

Bidford on Avon Church of England Primary School



NEWSLETTER 8 – 23rd October 2026



New Dates for your Diary

Please see below for the latest dates for your diary. Whenever a new date is added, it will be **highlighted in green** so that you can easily spot any updates and keep your calendars up to date.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd November – Children return to school

Tuesday 3rd November – LKS2 Roman Topic Day

Wednesday 4th November - open evening (Reception starting 2027) 5:30pm-6:30pm

Friday 6th November – Bingo evening

Wednesday 11th November – Remembrance assembly (pupils only)

Wednesday 11th November - open evening (Reception starting 2027) 5:30pm-6:30pm

Friday 13th November – Children in Need (more information to follow)

Friday 13th November – School Disco

Thursday 19th November – Reception parents maths workshop 9:15am

Thursday 19th November – Reception parents maths workshop 2:15pm

Monday 23rd November – Reception parents maths workshop 9:15am

Friday 4th December – Non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle donation

Wednesday 9th December – Year 1 & 2 Nativity Performance to parents

Thursday 10th December - Year 1 & 2 Nativity Performance to parents

Friday 11th December – Christmas Event (details to be confirmed)

Tuesday 15th December – Reception Christmas songs to parents 9:45am

Friday 18th December – School finishes at 3:25pm, end of term

Monday 4th January – Teacher Training Day (pupils not in school)

Tuesday 5th January – Children return to school

Notes/Reminders

- If your child has sickness or diarrhea, they need to remain off school for 48 hours from the last episode
- If your child will be collected by another person, please notify the school office by 1:00pm
- Please remember to report your child's absence to the school office by 9:00am via emailing admin3011@welearn365.com, calling 01789 773201, or through the School Gateway app.

Headlice

We have recently had a small number of reported cases of head lice in school. We kindly ask all parents and carers to check their child's hair regularly and treat any infestations promptly to help prevent the spread.

As we come to the end of what has been quite a busy half term, it is lovely to reflect on the progress every child has made. We now look forward to an exciting and busy (but fun!) next half term.

This week, some of our Year 6 children did us proud at the Bell Boating Regatta. Our two teams achieved an impressive 1st and 3rd place out of a field of 17 teams. What an amazing achievement! 😊

We would also like to thank all of our families for their generous Harvest Festival donations. Your contributions will make a real difference to those who need support. It was also wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers to our Harvest Festival assemblies. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their performances with you, and we appreciate your support in making these events so special.

It has been wonderful to see so many of you at our parent consultations over the last two weeks. They provide such a valuable opportunity to celebrate your children's achievements and look ahead to the new targets and challenges that await them in the next stage of their learning.

I hope you all have a restful half term and are able to spend some quality time together as a family. There are lots of opportunities at this time of year to enjoy walks in the woods and make the most of the crisp autumn weather.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the break, refreshed and ready for another exciting half term. 😊

Mr A. Morris



AUTUMN / WINTER MENU 2026/27

Choice/Jkt/Cold

Planet Friendly
Hidden
Vegetables



WEEK ONE

09/11/26
30/11/26
04/01/27
25/01/27
22/02/27
15/03/27

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN	Pork Sausages in Gravy with Diced Potato (G.SB.SU)	Chicken Pie with New Potatoes (G)	Yorkshire Pudding filled with Diced Chicken & Gravy with Roast Potatoes (D.E.G)	(V) Mac 'n' Cheese with Malted Wheat Baguette (G.D)	Salmon Fishcake with Chips (F.G)
	(V) Vegetarian Hotdog with Diced Potatoes (G.SB)	(V) Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread (G.D)	(V) Classic Quorn Fillet in Gravy with a Yorkshire Pudding Roast Potatoes (D.E.G)	(V) Country Garden Vegetable Fingers with Potato Wedges (G)	(V) Cheese and Tomato Pizza Slice with Chips (D.G)
COLD	(V) Cheddar Cheese Petit Pain (D.G)	Tuna Mayonnaise Bap (F.G)	Chicken Mayonnaise Wrap (G.SU)	(V) Cheddar Cheese Crunch Sandwich (G.D.SB)	Ham Sandwich (G.SB)
DESSERT	(vg) Flapjack (G)	(V) Peach Cobbler & Custard (G.D.E)	(V) Cornflake & Apple Flan with Custard (G.D.SU)	(V) Lemon Drizzle Cake (G.E)	(V) Chocolate Orange Sponge (G.D.E)

WEEK TWO

16/11/26
07/12/26
11/01/27
01/02/27
01/03/27
22/03/27

MAIN	Italian Pork Meatball Sub with Diced Potatoes (G.D)	(V) BBQ Quorn Fillet in a Wrap with Rainbow Rice (G)	British Roast Chicken fillet, Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy with Roast Potatoes (G)	Beef Lasagne with Crusty Bread (G.D)	(m sc) Battered Fish Fillet with Chips (F.G)
	(V) Tomato Pasta Bake with Malted Wheat Baguette (G.D)	(V) Vegetarian Chili Taco with Noodles (D.SB.G.E)	(V) Plant Power Toad in the Hole with Roast Potatoes (G.E.D)	(V) Plant Burger in a Bun with Diced Potatoes (G)	(V) Cheese & Baked Bean Pasty with Chips (G.D)
COLD	Tuna Mayonnaise Bap (F.G)	(V) Cheddar Cheese Petit Pain (G.D)	(V) Cheddar Cheese Crunch Sandwich (G.D.SB)	Chicken Mayonnaise Wrap (G.SU)	Ham Sandwich (G.SB)
DESSERT	(vg) Lemon Shortbread (G)	(vg) Ginger Cookie (G)	(V) 'School Favourite' Sprinkles Sponge Cake (G.E)	(vg) Apple Enchilada (G)	(V) Ice Cream (D)

WEEK THREE

02/11/26
23/11/26
14/12/26
18/01/27
08/02/27
08/03/27

MAIN	(V) Cheese and Tomato Pizza Slice with Potato Wedges (D.G)	Chicken Fillet Wrap with Herby Diced Potatoes (G)	Pork Toad in the Hole & Gravy with Roast Potatoes (G.SB.SU.E.D)	Beef Bolognese with Garlic Bread (G) Cheese (D)	(m sc) Fish Fillet Finger with Chips (F.G)
	(vg) Saag Aloo Curry with Rice	(V) Pasta Peas & Sweetcorn with Malted Wheat Baguette (D.G)	(V) Quorn Fillet in Gravy, Yorkshire Pudding with Roast Potatoes (D.E.G)	(V) Vegetable Burrito with Rice (G.D)	(V) Crispy Quorn Dippers with Chips (G)
COLD	Cheddar Cheese Petit Pain (D.G)	Tuna Mayonnaise Bap (F.G)	Chicken Mayonnaise Wrap (G.SU)	Cheddar Cheese Crunch Sandwich (G.D.SB)	Ham Sandwich (G.SB)
DESSERT	(vg) Carrot & Orange Cookie (G)	(V) Caramelised Banana Waffle (G.E.SB)	(vg) Chocolate Cracknell (G)	(V) Apple Crumble & Custard (G.D)	(V) Spiced Pear Muffin (G.E.D)

Available Daily:

Jacket Potato - (V) Cheese (D), Tuna (F.E) or (vg) Baked Beans
(vg) Homemade Fresh Bread Basket.
Daily Salad Selection.
Vegetables of the Day.
Fruit Cordial or Fruit Water from the Hydration Station.
(V) Semi Skimmed Milk.
(V) Yoghurt (D.SB) or (vg) Jelly or Fresh Fruit.

educaterers®
caring is our secret ingredient

ALLERGIES
Please contact your school cook for information regard the content of dishes and products on our menu.

ALLERGEN KEY
VG-Vegan, V-Vegetarian,
G-Gluten/Wheat, C-Celery,
S-Sesame, F-Fish,
M-Mustard, SU-Sulphites,
D-Dairy, E-Eggs,
SB-Soyabean.



THE BIDFORD GAZETTE



A NEW BEGINNING

BY M & BM

In September, 45 new reception children joined our school community. It has been great to see them settling in this half term.

On Wednesday the 2nd of September, the new reception children arrived at school for their first day with happy and excited faces. Whilst some children were more nervous than others, we're glad to report that they've all made a great start to school life.

Mrs Ellwood (who is a Reception teacher) reported that she is most excited about all the fun activities ahead and how well the children have settled in.

A pupil in Reception reported that she likes to play with her new friends, whereas another child reported that they like to play on the wooden play area and rock climbing.

The reception children have already completed a lot of fun activities, including bread making.



THE RECEPTION CLASS OF 2026

They are also looking forward to a gingerbread man hunt and a teddy bear picnic.

A student from Mrs Roberts' class stated, "I am excited for the fun activities, making new friends and to play in the playground." Two other students also said that they like to play with the toys in their new classrooms.

Mrs Roberts (who teaches in Reception) told us that a lot of their new students are curious to learn and already have a good imagination.

As a school, we wish they have an exciting and fun first year.

THE REMARKABLE RETURN

BY L & A

Mrs Sussens has returned to Bidford-on-Avon C.E Primary School. She returned to Bidford in September to become the teacher for Year 5.

Before Mrs Sussens left Bidford, she was a teaching assistant here. However, a change in career led her to Gloucestershire University to learn how to be a teacher.

Mrs Sussens (who is the Year 5 teacher) reported, "I was a teaching assistant and I wanted to be a teacher. I was good friends with Miss Drissell and we kept in touch. She told me that there was a job available."

During her leave, Mrs Sussens worked at three different schools. She also read lots of children's books.



**MRS SUSSENS, YEAR 5
CLASS TEACHER.**

Mr Morris (who is the school head teacher) stated that he had never worked with her before but she is an amazing teacher.

We wish that Mrs Sussens enjoys the year and her new class. We hope she does not regret her decision of coming back to Bidford.

MEET THE WRITING CREW

Introducing your Newspaper Committee Journalists.

We hope you enjoy our articles! We have enjoyed researching and writing each piece. We look forward seeing the happy smiles on your faces when you read our articles and are eager to write about all the exciting things happening around our school!



TERRIFIC TRIP FOR YEAR 6

BY K

In September, the year 6's set off for the yearly residential to PGL (that is in the village of Liddington).

On Wednesday 30th September, the year 6 children arrived at school jumping for joy. At 10:30, the coach departed and swiftly arrived at PGL Liddington around 12:30.

When they arrived, the children had a couple of minutes to organise into their rooms. Each day was filled to the brim with fun. This included: Raft building, zip wire, aeroball, vertical challenge, problem solving and more.

This wonder of a place is 607,300m squared AND 53 reviews have rated it as excellent.

Miss Drissell (the year 6 teacher who attends the trip annually) reported, "At PGL I



BIG SWING, AT PGL LIDDINGTON

felt happy because all the activities were fun and entertaining."

As well as this, one excited student reported that he went for the activities.

Not only is this place excellent, it is 4 stars and the students can not argue because they reported that the food and rooms were amazing. Another student claimed that people falling off the raft was funny. One student reported, "Buggy building was my favourite."

Now that the adventurous Year 6's have returned, the Year 5's are buzzing for their turn. Whilst this trip only lasted from the 30th September to the 2nd of October, it will be definitely remembered forever.



STUDENTS WAITING TO DO THE ZIP LINE.

BRILLIANT BELLBOATING

On Thursday 24th September, children in year 5 and 6 spent an exciting day bell boating along the river Avon. Every year (at Bidford-on-Avon C.E Primary School) children in UKS2 attend bell boating on the River Avon. The school does this because they believe it is an important extra bit of curriculum.

Each class experienced the trip on a different day that week. They began the experience by walking down to the river, representing our school as they marched sensibly through the village.

Once they arrived at the river, the children met Andy Train MBE (who is a former Olympic canoeist). There were three Bellboats, each with 10 seats.

To begin the activity, the children rowed enthusiastically across the river to get the boat moving.

Miss Drissell (who teaches in Year 6) reported that the best seat is the front and back. She added that the front is one of the best seats because you don't get splashed. In her opinion, the best rowers were the girls.

After rowing downstream, the children (who were rowing

desperately for their lunch) turned their boats around and rowed like never before.

The more challenging journey took place rowing back towards the meadow due to weather conditions and rowing against the current.

After lunch, the children returned to their boats and rode gently down the stream back to where they started.

Miss Drissell quoted, "I would love to bellboat on the amazon river!" During the experience, she reported being splashed many times. as well as getting hit by many trees. In her opinion, she thinks everyone should join in because, without people rowing, the boat would not move. She also told us that it is a great extra part of curriculum.

The trip was enjoyed by all of UKS2 and the Year 5's are already buzzing with excitement for their spashtastic adventure again next year.



THE CHILDREN ENJOYING BELLBOATING.

BONFIRE

Night

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5TH 2026

Fire Cracker Burger in a Bun (C,G,SB)

or

(v,h) Campfire Crunch Wraps (G,D)

Sticks of Dynamite Chipped Potatoes
Cascade of Vegetables (carrots & sweetcorn)

or

Sky Rocket Salad

(v) Glowing Gingerbread Biscuit (G)

or

(v) Swirling Strawberry Whip (D)

Allergen Free alternatives are also
available

Allergens
H-Homemade
G-Gluten
D-Dairy
E-Egg
VG-Vegan
V-Vegetarian



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October Half Term

Tuesday 27th Woodland Rangers
8+ 9am -3pm

Wednesday 28th 10 -12noon

Friday 30th 10am-12noon

Spooky Family Fun

Women's Circle Friday 30th
5pm-8pm



www.freedomforestschoollcic.com



Pumpkin carving



Potions



Spooky crafts



Open fire,

with hot chocolate and smores

