



# Bethany CE Junior School

Newsletter: February 2026

Empowering children with God's Hope for the future, Compassion for others and the Courage to act.

## Headteacher Welcome

Welcome to our February newsletter. We hope all our children and families had a restful and enjoyable half term break. It was wonderful to see everyone return to school today, and we have been so impressed with how quickly the children settled back into their routines.

During a recent learning walk with an external partner, which both Mrs Blane and I took part in, we were delighted to see how focused, engaged, and enthusiastic the children were in their learning. Their positive attitude and hard work were clear to see in every classroom.

Well done to all our pupils for such a fantastic start to the new half term!

## Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

This half term, we were delighted to welcome the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service into school. They spoke with the children about how to stay safe in the event of a fire and shared important advice in an engaging, age-appropriate way. The children also had the exciting opportunity to explore some of the equipment firefighters use to tackle real emergencies. It was a fantastic and informative visit that the pupils thoroughly enjoyed!

## Oasis Shop

Oasis Class raised an impressive £114.60 for the Dorset Children's Foundation through their class shop, selling a wonderful range of handmade items. A huge well done to all the pupils for their creativity, hard work, and generosity!

## Book Swap


Please remember that we have a 'Book Swap' system in school. Your child is welcome to bring in a book from home that they have already read and no longer want and swap it for another pre-loved book. Please ensure that any book your child brings into school is still in good condition.



## Attendance

Each month, we will update you with the attendance figures for each class from 1<sup>st</sup> September. We aim to have attendance above 96%.

We will be striving to encourage good attendance at school and if you need any help with this, or if there are any barriers you are facing, please let us know.

Class	Attendance
3AH	94.1%
3RH	95.55%
4BD 	97.22%
4PM	96.04%
4RA	95.08%
5BD	94.53%
5EW	94.27%
5MH	97.18%
6DL	93.37%
6SW	95.49%
6VM	96.28%

## Coffee Mornings

Please see dates below for our coffee mornings from 9am at St Clement’s and St John’s Infant School (just so we can get all the children in and settled first). All welcome!



- Coffee Morning - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026 9am - The Young Carers organisation ‘My Time’ will also be there for you to chat to.



## Safeguarding

As part of our INSET day after the February half term, staff completed training on how to understand and spot the signs of Child Criminal Exploitation. We have included some of the key information below to help keep our whole school community informed.

### What is child criminal exploitation?

Child criminal exploitation is a form of child abuse where a child or young person is forced or coerced to engage in criminal activity or commit any type of crime.

Child criminal exploitation does not yet have a legal definition. It has sometimes been used interchangeably with the term 'county lines'. County lines exploitation makes up a large proportion of child criminal exploitation, but there are other forms of criminal exploitation involving children including but not limited to:

- County Lines
- Carrying Weapons
- Shoplifting or Pickpocketing

### What is the impact?

Child criminal exploitation can involve various types of harm. As well as being exposed to danger, threats and violence, children may experience long-term harm impacting their wellbeing, their futures and the way they interact with services.

### Signs that a young person may be experiencing criminal exploitation

- frequently going missing from school, home or care
- travelling to locations, or being found in areas they have no obvious connections with, including seaside or market towns or locations within their urban area that they are unfamiliar with
- unwillingness to explain their whereabouts
- acquiring money, clothes, accessories or mobile phones which they seem unable to account for
- receiving excessive texts or phone calls at all hours of the day
- having multiple mobile phone handsets or sim cards. This might also include smart phones which can use applications for communication that don't need a phone number
- appearing anxious or secretive about their online activities and receiving or sending money, gifts or gaming currency to someone online
- withdrawing or having sudden changes in personality, behaviour or the language they use
- having relationships with controlling or older individuals and groups
- unexplained injuries
- carrying weapons
- significant decline in school results or performance
- being isolated from peers or social networks
- associating with or being interested in gang culture



Hope

Compassion

Courage

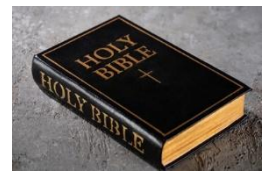
- self-harming or having significant changes in mental health.

### How to Report

- If your child is in immediate danger, call **999**.
- Speak to your child's school
- Contact the NSPCC Helpline **0808 800 5000**
- Contact BCP MASH (Safeguarding Teams) on **01202 123 334**

Information is from: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-criminal-exploitation#skip-to-content>

### Bible Quote



### Diary Dates

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - World book day- Children invited to dress up as their favourite book character

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March -BCP Library Legends assembly (all years)

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Maz Evans (Author) assembly for Y5 & 6 and afterschool book signing for those who purchase her book.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Coffee Morning at St Clement's 9am (My Time - Young Carers Organisation will also be there for you to chat to/ask questions)

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Y3 Easter Party

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Scholastic book fair

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Parents/Carers Evening

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Parents/Carers Evening

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Service at St Clement's Church

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - School finishes at 13:30pm

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Holidays - School Closed

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Inset day - school closed



## Term and Holiday Dates 2025 - 2026

<b>Autumn Term 2025</b>	
First day for children	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
Half Term Holiday Inset day	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025 Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
Last day for children	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
<b>Spring Term 2026</b>	
Inset day	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
First day for children	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Half Term Holiday Inset day	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026
Last day for children	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
<b>Summer Term 2026</b>	
Inset day	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
First day for children	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Bank holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Half Term Holiday	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Last day for children	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2026

As National Curriculum Assessments are taken during the months of May & June it is even more important that your child is in school during this time.

### INSET Days 2025 - 2026

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|---|--|
| 1. Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025 | 4. Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026   |
| 2. Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2025  | 5. Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026 |
| 3. Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025     | 6. Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026    |

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve attendance, and achieve the expected attendance of 96% and above for each child, children need to attend school regularly.