

Friday 14th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all those who contributed to our CHAT collection of dried and tinned foods for our Harvest Festival service at the end of last half of term. It was wonderful to see so many parents and friends in the church to support the children's singing. We are now preparing for our Christmas Concert which, I am certain, will be just as brilliant.

Thank you also to those children and parents who joined in with our line dancing at Bampton Fair during half term. I feel so privileged to lead a school whose commitment to community is so strong and I was thrilled to see so many children and parents joining in. The PTFA did a tremendous job in the Kids Zone and Silent Disco, and I am very grateful to them for their dedication and hard work to provide the extra funds for us.

Our new term started as we mean to go on, with Stag, Squirrel and Hedgehog Classes out and about in our community. Stag class visited Tiverton Museum and town as part of their new inquiry into the Industrial Revolution. This term Squirrels are looking at local history in Bampton and they paid a visit to local shops and the Motte and Bailey Castle. The children in both groups were engaged, polite and keen to learn. These trips are not possible without volunteer support and I would like to thank all our volunteers who come into school and support reading or go out and about with us on trips. They are incredibly generous with their time and are very much appreciated.

Just before half term, the Mental Health Support Team came in to lead a parent workshop on how to support children's mental health and prevent anxiety. On the 25th November, teachers will be hosting maths, phonics, reading and handwriting workshops during our Open Afternoon which will be followed by a Parent Forum meeting in which I would welcome feedback and ideas as to how we can improve our offer to your children. A full programme of the afternoon will be sent out separately.

Best wishes,

Lully Newman Head teacher

Attendance up until Thursday 13.11.25. Please note the Trust target is 97% attendance. Whole school:98.4%

Hedgehog-96.6%

Squirrels - 96.3%

Fox - 98,4%

Stag -94.6%

After School clubs - 1st half of Autumn term

There is a paid after school club every night which will run from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. In addition to this below is a list of clubs run by Teachers from 3.30pm until 4.40pm. These clubs are subject to change at any point depending on staff illness or training.

Monday - Cuppa Club (yr 6) - Mr Narramore

Tuesday -Football Fun Factory Club - KS1

Wednesday - Sewing Clubs KS2 - Miss Johnstone and Mrs Newman (children in KS1 requiring after school club may attend)

Thursday -- Recorder Club KS1 and 2 Mr McCutcheon

Friday - Woodland Club -Mrs Newman, Chess Club KS2 Mr Narramore

### Dates for your Diary:

Monday 17th November - Dulverton Literary Festival Lauren Child KS2 Yr 6
Monday 17th - Friday 21st November - Parents evenings week
Thursday 20th November - Library Van visit
Monday 24th November - KS1 School based Museum visit
Tuesday 25th November - Open Afternoon, Parent Workshop and Parent Forum
Wednesday 26th November - Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 4th December - Nativity and Christmas concert in the Church 2.00pm
Friday 5th December - School Christmas Disco (PTFA)
Monday 8th - Friday 12th December - Care Home Visits
Friday 19th December - End of term

#### **Our Learning**

Fieldmice and Hedgehog Class -Hedgehog class have been enjoying our new topic 'What makes Bampton Brilliant'. We have been on 2 walks around Bampton, looking at the shops, the old Motte and Bailey castle and then having a session at the Heritage centre. We learned lots about Bampton and what makes it Brilliant! In literacy we have been looking at the story Rosie's Walk and we attempted to do some writing about the characters in the story. In maths we have been doing comparison, using the language more than, less than and equal to. In P.E. we have been using the large apparatus to practise climbing and balance.

**Squirrel Class** After learning about the different shops and the Motte and Bailey castle in Bampton we went for a walk with Hedgehog class to find each location. We had already talked about what each shop might sell and enjoyed looking in the windows. In literacy we wrote an account of our walk in the past tense. All children are working hard on learning 6 more winter poems to recite at local care homes and practising our nativity. In maths we have working doubles and near doubles.

Fox Class have been historians. They have been exploring the life and death of the Ancient Egyptians. On Friday Fox class were investigating the death of a pharaoh looking at sources of evidence to work out his name, how he died and how the ancient Egyptians cared for their dead. We are working towards writing our own adventure stories using 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx'. The Foxes have been really interested in learning about the different Egyptian gods. In maths we have been looking at the formal written method for adding 3 and 4 digit numbers.

**Stag Class** have loved learning about the Industrial Revolution and the working conditions of children in the mills and factories at the time. They were fantastic on our trip to Tiverton Museum where we learnt

about the Heathcoat Factory and what life was like in the Victorian Era. We have also now finished our class story, Wonder, which the class have really enjoyed and been incredibly engaged with. It has really brought out their sense of empathy, their ability to look at situations from lots of different perspectives and increased their understanding of how everyone should have equal opportunities.

#### **Ambassador Awards**

#### **Eevee in Hedgehog Class**

Eevee has been a star in class, using her confident voice to articulate her ideas. She has also been a star doing Fred talk, read the word in phonics. Eevee is a great friend to all. Well done Eevee!

#### **Harriet in Hedgehog Class**

Harriet has been a super star in phonics, knowing all of the sounds taught so far and also beginning to blend sounds into words. Harriet is also very kind to her friends and has been showing the character virtue of compassion on a daily basis. Well done Harriet!

#### **Jack in Squirrel Class**

This week we have noticed how inspired and enthusiastic Jack has been in Maths. He has been using his critical thinking to solve number problems and has been fantastic at verbalising his reasoning. In literacy he has been writing extended sentences completely independently using his phonics skills and shown great progress this term in Year 1. Jack is always a kind and thoughtful friend and can be relied upon to make good choices and set the example to others.

#### **Aaron in Squirrel Class**

We have been impressed with how Aaron has become more mature in Year 2 by taking on responsibilities such as collecting and charging the laptops and always ensuring his table is tidy. This week we were really impressed with the vocabulary and the grammar he used in his independent writing to recount our walk around Bampton. Well done Aaron!

#### **Bobby in Fox Class**

Bobby has been an absolute star this week! He has been trying really hard to make positive choices with his behaviour and has shown great effort and focus in all subjects. I am particularly proud of how confidently he has been sharing his ideas during group work and how thoughtfully he listens to and respects the opinions of others.

#### **Violet in Fox Class**

This certificate is proudly awarded to Violet for being such an excellent and kind member of our class. Your ability to notice when someone is feeling lonely and ensuring they have a friend shows your wonderful compassion. I can always rely on you to do the right thing, and your dedication to every task you undertake is truly impressive. Keep being the fantastic role model you are—your efforts inspire everyone around you!

#### **Lucas in Stag Class**

Lucas has made me very proud recently with the effort he is putting in to certain areas of his work, particularly his writing. He is using the tools around him to improve his sentence structures, he checks his work carefully for spelling and punctuation mistakes and he also takes his time to make sure his handwriting is as neat as he can. He is also regularly improving his times tables speed on TTRS which is helping him a lot in class. Keep up the good work Lucas!

#### **Cora in Stag Class**

Cora has worked so hard on her writing since the start of the year, showing real determination to improve her speed and accuracy. This is a real challenge for Cora but instead of giving up she has pushed herself onwards showing lots of courage as she knows how important this is for her. The improvement she has

made has been excellent and I am really excited to see how much further she can take it. On top of that she has just been a wonderful presence to have in class, always ready to help others if they need it and ready to cheer them up if they aren't feeling their best.



The PTFA is made up of parents, carers, teachers, and friends of Bampton School with a shared interest in raising funds for equipment, resources, and activities to enhance the children's learning experience.

We meet monthly to discuss how we as a school community can develop and improve school facilities and students' opportunities, through planning fundraising events such as Bingo events, the Christmas Community Evening, Easter Extravaganza etc.

We welcome new and old members and are hoping for more support in the coming months. If you can help in any way, or would like more information on the work we do then please contact <a href="mailto:bamptonptfa@gmail.com">bamptonptfa@gmail.com</a> or look out for meeting dates on the school website, posters around the school or for notes in your child's book bag.



## Do you receive any of the following?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by the Inland Revenue) is less than £16,190
- Universal Credit
- Receiving support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- In the Armed Forces

# If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for free school meals/Pupil Premium

The school office will help with your application. If your application is successful not only will your child receive free school meals, but our school will receive £1,300 additional funding (per child). This is called Pupil Premium.

All applications are confidential.

