



Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children made me so proud last week when they performed so brilliantly to a packed congregation in the church. The programme was magical and certainly set the tone for the build up to Christmas. Sadly we had to postpone the evening performance last week due to illness but I am crossing every finger and toe that we can reconvene in the Church on Tuesday 16th December at 5.30pm. Many thanks to staff for planning such wonderful Christmas performances, particularly to Mr Narramore for accompanying them on his guitar.

We also had to postpone our visits to the Care homes in Bampton and am very much hoping that we can do these this coming week. Some members of Stag Class children entertained members of the public in the Toucan Cafe yesterday, singing Christmas Carols - quite daunting in such a small group but I am reliably informed that they did themselves proud! .

While we are on the Christmas theme, I would also like to thank Morebath Christmas Tree Farm for their kind donation of our beautiful Christmas trees outside the school and in the hall as well as the beautiful wreath on our school gate.

Thank you too to the members of the PTFA who organised and manned the school disco last Friday. The children had a marvellous time and enjoyed their sparkles and glow sticks as well as all the sweets and treats that were on sale.

Visits from the Exmoor Game School to Squirrel Class to teach them about where our food comes from and how sustainable it is, and from Judi and Colin from Bampton's conservation group to talk to the children about what creatures can be found in the graveyard, were warmly welcomed by the children who impressed me and our visitors with their knowledge and their enthusiasm to learn about our environment in our community.

Very well done to our musicians who performed beautifully to the rest of the school during Collective Worship this week. Their confident playing of Ukuleles, recorders and flute was impressive and I was so thrilled to see them take such pride in their performance - it was very impressive. Also, many congratulations to the children who took part in the Wellington Maths Challenge. Mr Narramore relayed that it was a particularly challenging competition and they held their own admirably!

Our Sponsored Read week has begun and we are aiming for 1000 hours of reading across the school. The money raised will go towards new books for our library. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter and on our facebook page for details.

The past couple of weeks have been blighted by a variety of nasty bugs which have affected children and staff in school. This is a national picture but has decimated our attendance data. Notwithstanding the flu bugs circulating, I am duty bound to inform parents if attendance dips below 95% and will be looking at attendance again next week to send out letters. This is an information exercise and I am happy to discuss any concerns you may have.

I wish you a very happy Christmas and new year and a restful break. I look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on **Tuesday 6th January 2026!**

Best wishes,

Lully Newman  
Headteacher

Attendance up until Thursday 11.12.25. Please note the Trust target is 97% attendance.

**Whole school: 95.7%**

**Hedgehog-95%**

**Squirrels - 96%**

**Fox - 97%**

**Stag -94.5%**

After School clubs - 1st half of Spring 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 - To be decided

Thursday -- Film Club KS1 and 2 Mr McCutcheon

Friday - Yama Martial Arts Club

## Dates for your Diary:

Friday 19th December - End of term

Monday 5th January - INSET day

Tuesday 6th January - Children return to school

February 16th - 20th - Half term

February 25th 1.30pm -EY Parent workshop - toilet training - run by Bladder and Bowel Nurse

## Our Learning

**Fieldmice and Hedgehog Class** -We have been very busy performing in the Nativity at the church in Bampton. The children were amazing and showed that all the practice was worth it! In RE we have been learning about the Christmas story and what all the symbols on Christmas cards represent. In maths we have been learning about counting and the 'stopping number' and how numbers can be represented in different ways.

**Squirrel Class** had yet another visit last week, this time from Exmoor Game. The children learned a lot about where their food comes from, how to prepare partridge and taste samples of meat. In Literacy we have been learning the well known tale, The Gingerbread Man. We acted out the story in a story square, recited it by heart from a story map and then wrote the tale. Next we will be adapting the story and retelling our own versions of the story. All the staff were very proud of the children performing our nativity 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel', singing so beautifully and remembering each other's lines due to illness!

**Fox Class** have been learning about Charcoal drawings and how they can show movement and gesture. They have been inspired by the work of Edgar Degas to create their own charcoal and chalk ballet dancers capturing their movement and thinking about how to portray light and shade. In Maths we have been finishing off our unit of work on addition and subtraction by looking at estimating and choosing efficient methods to reach an answer.

**Stag Class** have been working hard on fractions over the last few weeks, getting used to finding common denominators and then doing operations like adding, subtracting and comparing them. They have been very resilient with this and are even now doing all of the above with mixed numbers. In RE this week we have had some great discussions about what kind of King Jesus is and comparing him with other monarchs both modern and historical. We are now busy writing biographies on Jesus which is no small task!

## **Ambassador Awards**

### **Osian in Hedgehog Class**

Osian has settled in remarkably well since joining the school. He has made lots of friends and has impressed us with his knowledge of the world and his fun sense of humour. Osian has coped brilliantly with the Nativity, learning all the songs quickly. Well done Osian!

### **Evie in Hedgehog Class**

Evie has had an amazing week, showing perseverance and amazing learning. Evie has impressed with her phonics work and also amazing counting, despite not feeling 100%. Evie is always a very kind friend who constantly does the right thing. Well done Evie!

### **Ella Rose in Squirrel Class**

In Squirrel class we have been doing lots of storytelling based on pictures as our morning task. We have been really impressed with Ella Rose's creativity and writing skills. Ella shows a natural flair for reading and writing and her story knowledge is shining through as we work more independently creating our own tales.

### **Effie in Squirrel Class**

This week staff have been really impressed at the reading and writing skills that Effie has demonstrated. Effie excelled in her phonics assessment and read with great confidence and fluency. In writing I was impressed with Effie's focus, thinking carefully about her sentences and wrote a fantastic set of instruction of what she would do if she found Santa stuck in her chimney.

### **Ron in Fox Class**

For showing a positive attitude and working hard, especially since returning after half term. Ron persevered through challenges and successfully completed his reading test. Ron has demonstrated a strong enjoyment of our recent creative activities and engages in them thoughtfully and carefully.

### **Sophia and Edith in Fox Class**

Thank you for stepping in during the Christmas church service with signing and helping the Squirrels to be heard. It was a real help to everyone and we appreciate your help and confidence greatly.

### **Jasmyn in Stag Class**

In Stag class recently we have been doing lots of tasks that promote the idea of working independently and Jasmyn has made some fantastic progress with this. She has really grown in confidence and is starting to push her work all the way to the finish without needing to regularly check that it is ok. She is also becoming more creative and using the flexibility that they have had in tasks to create some wonderful pieces of work. Keep it up Jasmyn!

### **Isaya in Stag Class**

Isaya only joined our school at the start of this year and he is really starting to settle in well to Stag Class. He is very knowledgeable and is starting to grow in confidence as he is contributing to our class discussions much more with some really good points. He also really impressed me with his singing and has managed to memorise the words to all of our Christmas songs. We are really glad to have him in our

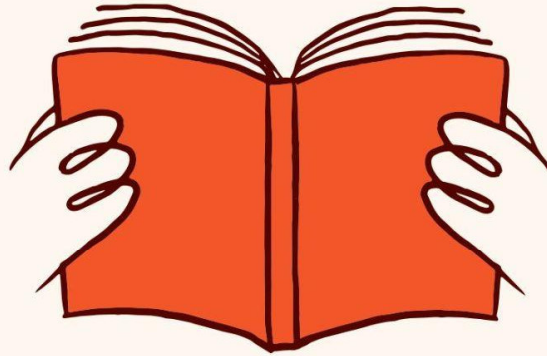
class and I look forward to seeing how much more he is capable of.



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 [bamptonptfa@gmail.com](mailto:bamptonptfa@gmail.com) or look out for meeting dates on the school website, posters around the school or for notes in your child's book bag.



- *The children of Bampton Primary School will be reading for a combined 1000 hours over the next week!*
- *We aim to raise much needed money for the school library.*
- *If you can, please sponsor them here and support a very worthy cause!*



*[//pay.sumup.com/b2c/QDQ9161M](https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QDQ9161M)*





## 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.

