



Be courageous, Be strong. Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:13-14)

Bitterley CE Primary School Newsletter 25.09.26

Attendance

WWC	93%
FFC	100%
MOC	91%



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and positive week at Bitterley, with lots happening both within school and across our wider community.

Our continued focus is on positive behaviour and building a strong sense of belonging and community. We want every child to understand that they are an important part of Bitterley Primary School and that, as members of our school community, we all have a responsibility to show kindness, respect and consideration towards one another.

Staff continue to reinforce these expectations throughout the school day, helping children to understand how the choices they make can affect both themselves and those around them. It has been lovely to see so many examples of children demonstrating our values through their learning, friendships and interactions with others.

A Busy Wednesday!

Wednesday was certainly a busy day! We were delighted to welcome Jam Coding into school to lead an assembly for the children. They will also be running an after-school club following half term, which we are very excited about. Please see the information sent separately for further details about the club and how to take part.

The children were an absolute credit to the school during the visit. They listened respectfully, participated enthusiastically and were thoroughly engaged throughout the

session. It was wonderful to see their interest and excitement, and we were very proud of the way they represented our school.

We also held our latest parent coffee afternoon on Wednesday. Although we were a smaller group than the previous week, these opportunities are just as important. I really appreciate everyone who takes the time to attend, share their thoughts and provide feedback. Your views are valuable to us, and these informal conversations are an important part of strengthening the partnership between home and school.

PTA

I also attended our first PTA meeting of the new school year this week. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm, energy and passion demonstrated by our parents and their commitment to supporting the school and our children.

We discussed some exciting events and activities that the PTA hopes to hold throughout the year. There are some lovely ideas being planned, and further information will be shared soon - watch this space!

A huge thank you to everyone who gives their time to support our PTA. The contribution our families make to school life is greatly appreciated.

Open the Book

On Thursday, we were joined once again by our wonderful Open the Book team.

As always, the children were thrilled to get involved. They particularly enjoyed taking part in re-enacting the stories and helping to bring them to life through drama. These assemblies are always engaging and provide a lovely opportunity for children to participate, reflect and learn together.

Thank you to the Open the Book team for continuing to give their time to our school.

Strengthening our Community Links

Building a sense of community extends beyond the school gates, and I was also pleased to have a productive meeting this week with members of our local community.

We discussed how we can continue to strengthen and develop our links with Bitterley Village Hall and explore opportunities for the school and wider village community to work more closely together.

As a small village school, these relationships are incredibly important to us. We want our children to feel that they belong not only to their school but also to the wider community around them, and I look forward to developing these links further over the coming year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mrs West and the Bitterley team.

Upcoming PTA Events

Non School Uniform day - Friday 9th October (Bingo hampers)

Autumn Bingo - Friday 16th October (more details to follow)

In exchange for Non School Uniform please could children bring in something from these colours:

Mighty Oaks - Red

Fantastic Firs - Blue

Wondrous Willows - Orange

Little Acorns - Green

This could be things such as, bottles, sweets, chocolate and toiletries.

Please could all items be unopened, unused and in date. These items will be used for the bingo hampers.

Learning Value Awards

					
	Enthusiasm	Determination	Perseverance	Creativity	Collaboration
Little Acorns	Emilia for her great listening skills.				
Wondrous Willows	Paisley for great enthusiasm in our adjective use and sentence writing. Kurt for super determination in our place value work.				
Fantastic Firs	Amos for great collaboration and teamwork.				
Mighty Oaks	Rose for a fabulous and positive start to year 6.				

Little Acorns

Eddy the Teddy is going home with Aurora for always making us smile with her wonderful stories.

Handwriting Heroes

Wondrous Willows	Olive
Fantastic Firs	Sofia S.
Mighty Oaks	Elsie

Home School Agreements & GDPR permission forms

Please can all forms be completed and returned to school by Monday 28th September. Thank you.



Car Seat Safety



Each year, thousands of children are injured or killed in car crashes, using car seats correctly can save your child's life.



Car seat **MUST** be used from 0 - 12 years (or until 135cm tall)

Not all car seats are the same – the right one depends on your child's age, size, and development. Always check both the car and seat manuals when installing.

Children **must** normally use a child car seat until they're 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first.

Children over 12 or more than 135cm tall **must** wear a seat belt. You can choose a child car seat based on your child's height or weight.



Height-based (i-Size) Rear-facing seats **MUST** be used until your child is over 15 months.

After 15 months, your child can use a forward-facing seat but **only** if they are tall enough



kg



Weight-based Seats

The seat your child can use (and the way they must be restrained in it) depends on their weight

WHY?

Forward-facing = UNSAFE: In a crash, a forward-facing child is pushed out of the seat. The harness restrains the upper body, but the head is thrown forward, placing intense strain on the neck and risking impact with the front seats.

Rear-facing = SAFE: A rear-facing seat absorbs crash forces and distributes them across the child's back, neck, and head, greatly reducing neck strain and injury risk.



Never forward-facing until 15 months old



Rear-facing **ALWAYS** from 0-15 months

CHECK:

- Age
- Height
- Weight

KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE.

THIS IS THE LAW.

Want more information?
Scan here >



Dates for the diary

Please note that there may be occasions when a date may need to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Further detail about each event will be sent nearer the time.



September

Coffee with Mrs West 3:15pm - 28th September 2026

First aid workshop KS2 - 29th September 2026

Phonics workshop 9am (Reception parents) - 30th September 2026

October

Black history month

Non- uniform day - Friday 9th October

Autumn Bingo night - Friday 16th October

Careers Day - 19th October 2026

Parents Evening 3:30- 6pm - 19th October 2026

Parents Evening 3:30- 6pm - 20th October 2026

Harvest service - TBC

26.10.26 to 30.10.26 - Half term

November

MTC workshop (Year 4 parents) 2:45pm - 11th November 2026

Children in need - 13th November 2026

Anti-bullying week - Break the silence - 16th November 2026

Odd socks day - wear an odd pair of socks - 16th November 2026

Remembrance service -TBC

December

Pantomime Trip Yr R - Yr6 - Tuesday 8th December

Christmas Jumper day - TBC

Christmas Craft Day - TBC

Christmas Dinner - TBC

Christmas Service TBC

End of term - Friday 18th December

The Staff Team



Bitterley CE Primary School

School Term and Holiday Dates 2026/27

Autumn Term

Term starts Thursday 3rd September 2026

Half term, Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2026

Term ends Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term

Term starts Wednesday 6th January 2027

Half term, Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2027

Term ends Thursday 25th March 2027

Summer Term

Term starts Monday 12th April 2027

Half term, Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June 2027

Term ends Tuesday 20th July 2027

Staff Development days – children not in school

Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Tuesday 5th January 2027

Please note: these dates differ slightly from those published by the Local Authority