



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

Bitterley CE Primary School Newsletter 03.10.25

Attendance

WWC	99%
FFC	95%
MOC	97%



PTA Meeting - 7th October

The next PTA meeting will be Tuesday 7th October, 7pm at The Squirrel in Ludlow. We would love to welcome any new parents along. Anyone who is creative, has great ideas, has been on a PTA before or just generally wants to help out and raise money to benefit the school.



World Mental Health Day

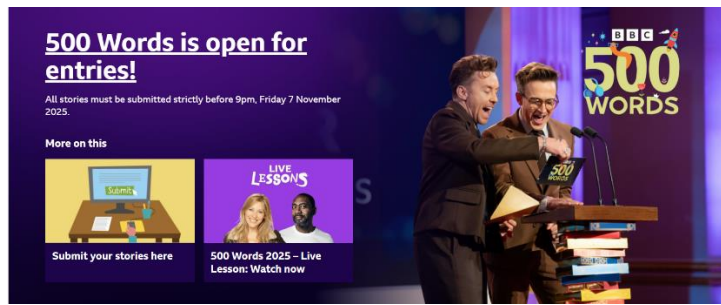
World Mental Health Day takes place every year on 10th October. It's a reminder of the importance of good mental health and the need to prioritise and invest in good mental health.

We invite all pupils to take part in a non-uniform day and wear something yellow on Friday 10th October.

High Sheriff of Shropshire visits Bitterley School



On Wednesday we had a special visit from the High Sheriff of Shropshire. The role of the High Sheriff is as the King's representative for the county, for all matters relating to the judiciary and the maintenance of law and order. Pupils were allowed to ask questions about her role and send messages to the King. The High Sheriff will return to Bitterley on Thursday 16th October. We look forward to this next visit.



BBC 500 Words is open for entries!

There are two age categories: **5-7-** and **8-11-year-olds** and spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - as has always been the case for 500 Words, it's all about our writers' brilliant creativity! There are **prizes** to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners will also win 500 books for their school library.

50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded grand final at **Windsor Castle** in February 2026, which will once again be hosted by **Her Majesty Queen Camilla**. If that's not enough, each winner will also see their story be read aloud by a superstar celebrity on TV, which will be shown as part of a special 500 Words programme with **The One Show** in early March.

Our official panel of celebrity judges, **Sir Lenny Henry**, **Malorie Blackman**, **Francesca Simon**, **Charlie Higson** and **Frank Cottrell-Boyce** will return to crown our next winners.

Why should schools get involved?

- It celebrates a love of stories and writing across your school.
- It promotes the teaching of writing skills and helps children enhance their creative writing ability and enjoyment.
- It fosters creativity and encourages children to use their imagination to explore unique story ideas and concepts.
- It introduces children to the magic of a good story, allowing them to explore other worlds and ignite their imagination.
- It's a great way to celebrate children's writing and to showcase their work.
- It's an opportunity to explore different genres such as adventure, mystery, fantasy and more.
- It's accessible for all, and actively promotes diversity and inclusion.

Pupils will be provided with the opportunity to write at school and enter once gaining parental permission. Pupils can also enter from home. For more information see <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>



TTRS and MTC check

During the first two weeks of June, Year 4 participate in a multiplication check or MTC for short. This is in order to ensure that all children learn and can use times tables by the time they leave their primary school. The MTC is a statutory test, which means all state schools have to administer it.

Children have been learning times tables since year 2, when they learnt to recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables. In year 3 they continued this with the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables and in year 4 they are expected to know all of the times table facts up to 12×12 by the time they take the MTC.

In school the children have taken part in a practise MTC and understand how to complete the check. The official check consists of **25 questions**. Pupils will have 6 seconds to answer each question, with 3 seconds pause between questions.

Children use TT Rockstars at school and are encouraged to do so at home in order to develop their fluency. We encourage pupils to log on regularly to practise recalling the times tables at speed. Thank you for your support.

Cross Country





On Thursday a group of year 5 and 6 pupils represented the school at a cross-country tournament. It was fantastic to see all the pupils supporting one another along the way. A special mention to Millie, who came second, and Caspar, who finished in a fantastic fourth place. Pupils should be really proud of their achievements.

Careers Day Monday 20th October

Just a reminder that we are still looking for volunteers for a special careers' day on Monday 20th October. So far, we have six volunteers, but we are still looking for more. We are calling for anyone from any walk of life to share their educational journey and career paths with our children.

Anger management in children: how parents can help

Why is my child angry? Advice for coping with anger issues in children and young people from our team of experts.

Information for parents

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/arguments-conflict-family-tension>



PTA Easy Fundraising

Bitterley Primary School PTA aims to raise extra funds to benefit the children in their education and school activities. So far, they have raised £2,573.57. How can you support?

How it works

Easy fundraising partners with over 8,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to our school. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

Brands pay commission because when you start your shop from the easy fundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and we turn that into a donation - magic!

How to support Bitterley Primary School PTA, Ludlow

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bitterleyprimarypta/?searchSessionId=0a713f28-6701-4dde-8e64-c8aeea828a0b>

- Sign up Provide a few details to set up your profile with easy fundraising.
- Download our browser extension.
- Our Donation Reminder plug-in pops up automatically when you shop to let you know when a donation is available.
- Track your donations.

You'll be able to see how much you've raised in your account, and you will be sent updates on when Bitterley Primary School PTA gets paid.

School Reading Volunteers



Could you spare a small amount of time each week to become a regular reading volunteer at Bitterley School, and help us with one of our most important activities?

Helping children to become confident, independent readers is one of the most important things that a school can do - and it is an area of our work where parents, carers and other members of the community can make a big difference.

We are looking for volunteers who come into our school regularly and help the children with their reading by listening to them read and talking to them about their books and reading choices.

We are always keen to hear from people who would be interested to help us in supporting the teaching of reading by joining our volunteers. Please contact class teachers or the school office if you are interested.

Bitterley School is committed to safeguarding all of our pupils: we require enhanced criminal record checks (through the Disclosure and Barring Service) and background checks for all regular volunteers.



Wall of remembrance

We would like our school community to come together to mark Remembrance Day by creating a beautiful wall of poppies in the school grounds. The poppy has become a powerful symbol of remembrance for those who lost their lives in World War One, and it now serves as a heartfelt tribute to all those who continue to serve today. We invite everyone to get creative! Whether you prefer knitting, sewing, or crafting poppies out of recycled materials, your contributions will help us honour this important occasion. We've also reached out to members of Bitterley village and the Women's Institute to contribute to this event, making it a true community effort.

Please remember to return your poppies by Tuesday, 5th November, to ensure we have them ready for display. Thank you for your support in remembering those who sacrificed so much for us.

Lost coat

A black Adidas long puffa coat (13 - 14 years) has been lost from the BASC building. If found, please hand it into the school office. Thank you.

In school this week

Little Acorns Class



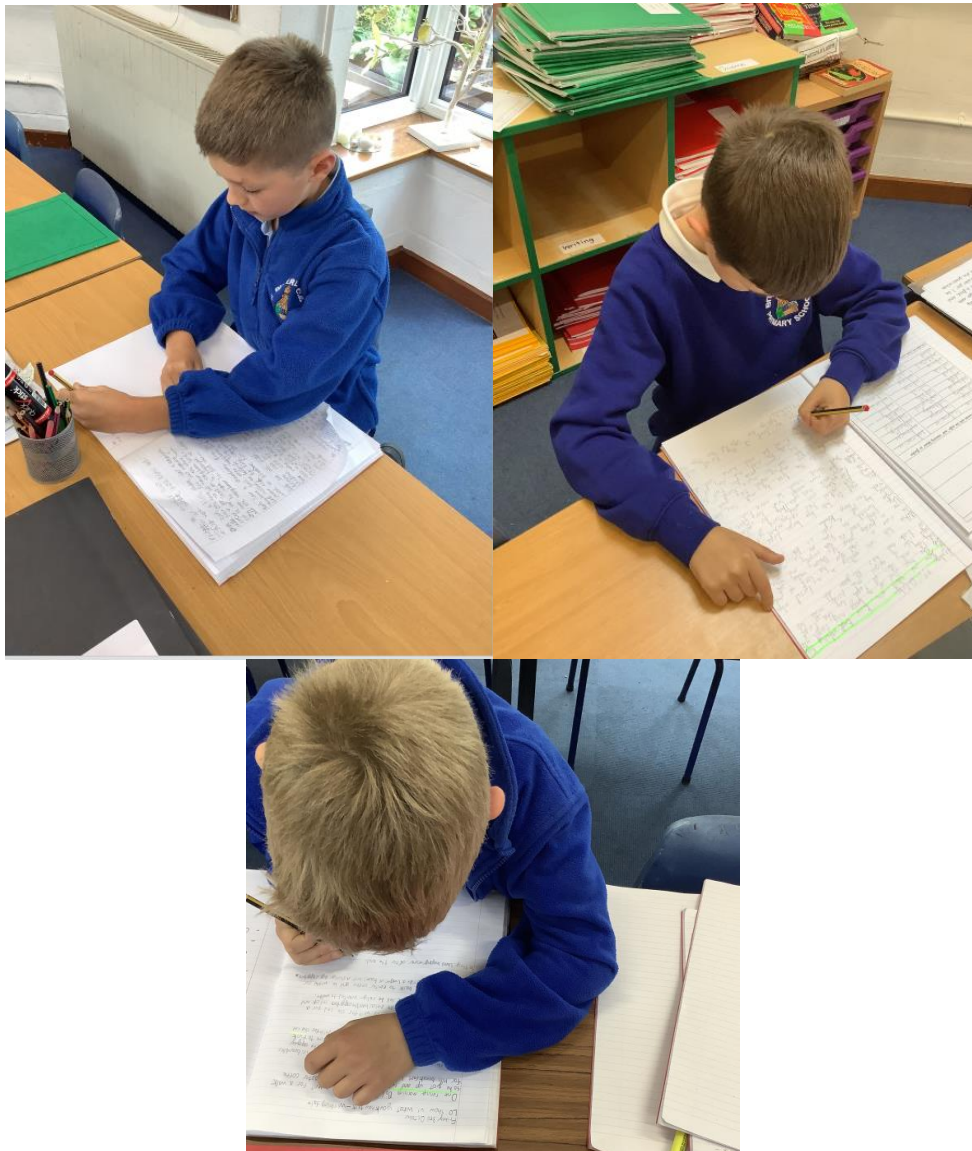
Our Little Acorns have been making the most of the school apple trees by making a DELICIOUS Apple Crumble.

Wondrous Willows Class



As part of our Artwork, WWC have been exploring architecture. We started with an exploration of architects and some of the ways they work and then designed and created our own architectural models.

Fantastic Firs Class



This week in FFC, the children have planned and written some fantastic wishing tales!

Mighty Oaks Class








On Wednesday, MOC class had a video call with the Year 5 pupils from La Garenne International School in Ollon, Switzerland. The children were able to ask questions about the location of the school and leisure activities! The MOC children learned lots of information to support our Geography topic of 'What is life like in the Alps?! We look forward to meeting with the children of La Garenne again!





During English we followed a set of instructions to create sundials. We will use these in science to explore the movement of the earth.

Learning Value Awards

					
	Enthusiasm	Determination	Perseverance	Creativity	Collaboration
Little Acorns	To all of our Little Acorns today who have taken all of classroom challenges in their stride this week. I have been so proud of them all!				
Wondrous Willows	Ada for super enthusiasm and contributions in all of our work. Leila for her collaboration in our geography work when finding the Equator.				
Fantastic Firs	Joshua for showing great enthusiasm in maths. Nova for showing great enthusiasm in maths.				
Mighty Oaks	William for super creativity in English. Effie for showing enthusiasm and perseverance in maths.				

Christian Vision awards

	 BITTERLEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL <i>"Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love" (1 Corinthians 16:13-14)</i>
Little Acorns	To Lottie for showing such courage as she tackles our wobbly balancing beam and jumping straight back up when she falls off!
Wondrous Willows	Sophia H. for being really brave. Zara for helping her peers.
Fantastic Firs	Payton for courage during maths. Charlie S. for showing love at after school club.
Mighty Oaks	Harvey for being helpful. Thea for being a good role model at playtimes.

Handwriting Heroes

Wondrous Willows	Zara
Fantastic Firs	Elsie
Mighty Oaks	Lizzie



Homework

Wondrous Willows	Fantastic Firs	Mighty Oaks
<p>Reception</p> <p>This week homework will be to read your school reading book.</p> <p>Complete page 5 in your Maths books Homework</p>	<p>Y3</p> <p>Maths p10-11</p> <p>Reading comprehension p8-9</p> <p>TTRS 5 minutes a day</p> <p>Reading 15 minutes a day</p> <p>Comment in yellow reading log</p>	<p>Y5</p> <p>The Infinite p8-9</p> <p>Maths workout 3</p> <p>TTRS 5 minutes a day</p> <p>Reading 20 minutes a day</p> <p>Review in green reading log</p>
<p>Year 1</p> <p>Read your school reading book</p> <p>Practise your mental calculations using NUMBOTS</p> <p>Practise for our spelling test on Monday – day, cloud, boy, read, said</p> <p>Complete page 8 in your Maths Homework books</p> <p>Year 2</p> <p>Read your school reading book every day and ask an adult to record your reading in your Reading Record books</p> <p>Practise your mental calculations using NUMBOTS</p> <p>Practise for our spelling test on Monday – gem, freshness, young, author, judge</p> <p>Complete Workout 4 on pages 8&9 in your Maths Homework books</p> <p>Complete page 4 in your Reading Comprehension books</p>	<p>Y4</p> <p>Reading comprehension - p8-9</p> <p>Maths p10-11</p> <p>TTRS 5 minutes a day</p> <p>Reading 15 minutes a day</p> <p>Comment in yellow reading log</p>	<p>Y6</p> <p>Tamarind and the Star of Ishta p8-9</p> <p>Maths workout 3</p> <p>TTRS 5 minutes a day</p> <p>Reading 20 minutes a day</p> <p>Review in green reading log</p>

Please note that YR and Y1 reading books need to be returned to school on Monday morning. Y2 will need their reading books and Reading Records in school every day.

Y1&Y2 Maths books and Y2 Reading Comprehension books are now due in by Thursday.



Christmas Fayre

The Bitterley School PTA is excited to be hosting our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 6th December, 11am-1pm at Bitterley Primary School. 🎄👤🍷

We're on the lookout for talented stallholders to join us! If you create or sell handmade, crafted or festive items, we'd love to welcome you to our event. Stalls are just £10.

The Fayre will be filled with:

- 🎄 Christmas market-style stalls
- 🎄 Mulled wine, mince pies & festive treats
- 🎄 Santa's Grotto
- 🎄 Fun family activities

It will be widely advertised via social media, parish magazines, local radio, and through all our school networks, so it's a great opportunity to showcase your work to the local community. If you're interested in having a stall (or know someone who might be), please contact Melissa Cadwallader on 07532246617 or the school office.

PTA Dates for the diary

- Bake Sale - October 3rd & Nov 7th
- Halloween Disco - 24th October
- Christmas Wreath making - 27th November
- Christmas Fayre - 6th December
- Christmas Movie night - 12th December
- Elfridge's Christmas Shop - 18th December (TBC)
- Quiz at Rugby club - January 23rd



Bitterley School Bake

Sale

Friday 3rd October

3.15pm School Pick Up

Cash Only

A beautiful range of handmade
cakes will be available
including Nut Free, Gluten Free
and Vegan.



Bitterley School
Halloween Disco

£5 PER CHILD

KNOWBURY MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL
SY8 3JL

FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER
6PM-8PM

CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

PARTY GAMES, DANCING & LOTS OF FUN!
 FOOD & DRINK AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON THE NIGHT!



Wreath Making Workshop

at
 Bitterley Primary School
 Thursday 27th November
 7pm - 9pm
 £35 per person

Limited Spaces so book now

Wreath Rings and all foliage will be provided.
 Please bring a set of wire cutters as we have limited sets.

Please feel free to bring along any festive accessories or specific decor you wish to add to your wreath, we fully encourage you to get creative.

You will also get a fabulously festive glass of Warm Mulled Wine & a tasty Mince Pie.



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.

Dates for the diary

October

- 1st October to 31st October - Black History Month
- Friday 10th October - World Mental Health Day - non-uniform & wear yellow
- Monday 20th October - Careers Day
- Monday 20th October - Parent/Carer Meetings Evening - 3:30pm -6:00pm
- Tuesday 21st October - Parent/Carer Meetings Evening - 3:30pm -6:00pm
- Tuesday 21st October - Harvest Service at Bitterley Church, 10.00am

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October - Half Term

November

Monday 3rd November - Swimming commences for FFC.

Monday 10th November to Friday 14th November - Anti-bullying week

Monday 10th November - Odd socks day

Tuesday 11th November - Maths workshop for parents YR-6

Friday 14th November - Children in Need Day

December

Tuesday 9th December - Y4-5 Advent Service, Hereford Cathedral

Wednesday 10th December - Christmas play at Bitterley Village Hall (1.30pm & 5.00pm performances)

Thursday 11th December - Whole school pantomime trip to Ludlow Assembly Rooms

The Staff Team



Bitterley C.E. Primary School
School Term and Holiday Dates 2025/26

Autumn Term

Term Starts Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Half Term Monday 27th October 2025- Friday 31st October 2025
Term Ends Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term

Term Starts Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term Monday 16th February 2026 – Friday 20th February 2026
Term Ends Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term

Term Starts Monday 13th April 2026
Half Term Monday 25th May 2026 – Friday 29th May 2026
Term Ends Thursday 16th July 2026

Staff Development days—children not in school

Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Monday 5th January 2026

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