Barwick and Stoford Community Primary School

Newsletter 2026

Welcome to the June 2026 Newsletter

Staffing and class structure for the academic year September 2026/ 27

The school is on a very exciting journey, implementing changes to continue to improve the education for your children. We are sadly saying goodbye to Danni Cocks and Jacob Davies, who are moving on to new adventures. Both Ms Cocks and Mr Davies have worked tirelessly for many years in our school and we would like to thank them for their dedication to the children and community. They will both be greatly missed, but we wish them well in their new positions.

In September, we will have three classes, Chestnut, Oak and Sycamore. To ensure high quality teaching for all our pupils, the preschool children will join reception to make Chestnut Class. This will be run by a fully qualified teacher, Miss Claire Hartopp, assisted by our current early years team of Mrs Tash Chubb, Mrs Pam Goodwin and Mrs Lesley Fay.

Claire is a very experienced early years teacher, who will be shaping our new early years unit. We are very lucky, as few schools are in a position to run an early years unit, with specialist provision for this specific age range and curriculum.

Oak Class (Years 1, 2 and 3) will be taught by Mrs Corinna Churchill, who again is a highly experienced teacher and understands the needs of this particular age range. She will be assisted by Mr Matt Travers and Mrs Sam Trott. In order for the younger children in this class to continue to benefit from outside learning through play, they will be in the current Sycamore classroom, for easy access to the Chestnut outside space. It also means that Mrs Churchill and Miss Hartopp will be able to work closely together to ensure the needs of individual children are met across the two classes.

Sycamore Class (Years 4, 5 and 6) will be taught by Mrs Caitlin Firth, who knows the families and children well and also has expert knowledge of the Key Stage 2 curriculum, so you can be reassured that your child is being taught by experienced professionals who get the best from every child. Sycamore will be taught in the outside hut (currently Oak classroom). This is a perfect space for this class as the extra annexe will allow the Year 6 pupils, or any other year group, to be taught separately when the curriculum demands. Mrs Dee Porter, Mrs Stacey Love-Duffy and Mrs Mo Wright will support this class.

Mrs Rebecca Cawley will continue as Interim Headteacher for the Autumn Term.

Mrs Yvonne House – School Business Manager

Mrs Vikki Smout – Admin assistant and Teaching assistant

Mr Fred Shead – Caretaker

If you have any questions about the structure for the next academic year please do speak to Mrs Firth or Mrs Cawley.

Congratulations to Kerie Reith, our lovely lunchtime supervisor, and her family on the birth of a gorgeous baby boy called Halo. We will miss Kerie and wish her well as she cares for her growing family.

Transition Day

Wednesday 1st July will be our transition day, where the children will get to spend time in their new classes and meet their teachers.

SATS

A big well done to all the Year 6 children who pulled out all the stops and worked so hard towards their SATS tests. The results will be released in July.

Reports

Your child's report will be sent out next month. When you receive the report you will then have an opportunity to speak with the class teachers if you would like to discuss your child's progress further.

Attendance - our school expectations

Pupil attendance and punctuality is a key focus and priority within our school. Individual attendance will be monitored and reviewed on a bi-weekly basis. We would like to kindly remind parents that the school's expectations on individual pupil attendance is 95% and above, with the aim of having 100% pupil attendance. Should your child fall behind the school's expectations a monitoring process is triggered, and we may ask you to come into school to discuss your child's attendance with us. Should you have any questions or concerns relating to your child's attendance please do not hesitate to contact us.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of everybody. In terms of keeping children safe, please don't think 'What if I am wrong Think… 'What if I am right'. If you have any concerns about a pupil, you should report this to a member of staff immediately. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Cawley and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Firth. The school Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Ryall.

PE kits

With the better weather, the children will be making the most of the field and the good weather. Please can you ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day.

Water Bottles and sun screen

Please can you ensure that your child brings a water bottle into school every day. Hydration is essential for children to stay healthy and make the most of their learning. As a healthy school we encourage water not juice or squash.

Online Safety News

All families will be sent a dedicated online safety newsletter once a month. There is a link to a very informative video on our school website under the online safety section.

One of the items in the June newsletter is about scams directed at children. Scams can include:

· Offering in game currency.

· Befriending your child, which can then lead to requests for money or account details/personal information.

· Phishing links, with the intention of sharing malware or requesting account details/personal information.

Friends of the School

Hope you can all join us on Friday 10th July for our music event. The Moonshine Hillbillies will be playing. The events runs from 6pm to 9pm. £8 per couple or £10 per family.

Mrs Firth is also organising a cake raffle to raise funds for the school. Raffle tickets cost 50p each and one ticket will be drawn out of the hat each week. The winning ticket wins a cake. A new raffle starts each week.

A big thank you to the Friends of the School who have purchased new sports equipment for the children and refreshed the library by buying nearly £500 worth of books for all ages and classes.

Summer Term Events and Activities

Our summer term is bursting with lots of exciting learning opportunities. We have had our Arts Week with our exhibition tomorrow at 2.30pm, a Healthy Living Week, Sports Day, play performances, trips to the Tutankhamun Exhibition, a Victorian Day at Radstock Museum, Bovington Tank Museum, Yeovil Islamic Centre and a trip on the train to Weymouth. Our visitors include nurses, the Police, the mental health charity, Young Somerset, a renowned landscape artist (Kate Lynch), the library service, Network Rail, a Paralympian alongside our amazing regular visitors Revd. Dan and Dan England.

Reading expectations

At Barwick and Stoford Community Primary School, we seek to ensure that children are supported to be confident, life-long learners with a love of reading. Reading plays an especially important role in developing children culturally, emotionally and socially and we believe literature plays a key role in such development. Reading enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and build on what they already know. In school children in KS2 are heard reading on a 1:1 basis at least once a week by their class teacher and Learning Support staff and this is much more frequently in Foundation Stage and KS1. Those pupils not at an expected reading level are heard daily.

The EYFS and Key Stage 1 reading books follow a clear progression of banding, ensuring fluency is developed. This academic year, you may find your child has a book sent home that they have already read at school, and this is something that is now promoted in all schools. The more a child reads, the larger their vocabulary becomes. When a child reads or hears

the same book multiple times, they become familiar and comfortable with a greater number of words. Fluency is the ability to read text "accurately, quickly, and with expression." Repetitive reading allows a child to read without stumbling or stopping, and reading time becomes more pleasant for everyone. Once a child masters one book, it makes moving on to another more appealing.

Reading comprehension is the ability to understand all the components of a story — from plot to character development to symbolism. Comprehension is "the essence" of reading. Each time your child reads or hears a book read to them; they learn more about the story itself. Each pass through the text or illustrations allows them to dive deeper into the story's meaning, preparing them for more complex narratives down the road. Children who progress from the banded scheme to 'free readers' are able to access the class library, and the school library, and can be supported to select appropriate books by staff. Pupils are encouraged to take home fiction and non-fiction texts.

Children are expected to read at home five times a week, ideally daily, as this helps to develop confident and fluent readers. We would recommend 20 minutes of reading a day. Children's reading logs are checked to ensure this is taking place. Where children are not reading the required amount at home, they are invited to attend a lunchtime reading club.

Dates for the calendar – more dates will be added as we finalise further activities!

Friday 5th June -	2.30pm Art Exhibition – All parents, carers and grandparents welcome
Thursday 11th June -	Sycamore Class to Bovington Tank Museum as part of their World War II learning
Friday 12th June -	Sycamore Class to the Yeovil Islamic Centre as part of their RE topic
Tuesday 16th June -	Revd. Dan Assembly
Thursday 18th June -	Community Coffee Morning – Year 6 to attend to perform memories from their time at primary school
Thursday 18th June -	Library Service assembly
Tuesday 23rd June -	Chestnut Class – Year 1 – Trip to Radstock Museum learning about the Victorians
Wednesday 24th June -	Young Somerset Mental Health Charity – Year 6 transition workshop
29th June to 3rd July -	Healthy Living Week
Monday 29th June -	Young Somerset workshops for all classes
Tuesday 30th June -	Oak Class trip to the Tutankhamun Exhibition
Tuesday 30th June -	Assembly taken by Dan England
Wednesday 1st July -	Workshop with the school nurse – Year 5 and 6
Wednesday 1st July -	Paralympian visit and workshops
Wednesday 1st July -	Dental nurse workshop
Wednesday 1st July -	Year 6 transition day and move up day for all children
Wednesday 1st July -	New reception children taster day
Friday 3rd July -	Sports Day
Thursday 9th July -	Young Somerset – Year 6 transition workshop
Friday 10th July -	The Friends – music event
Tuesday 14th July -	Sycamore Performance – Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday 15th July -	Sycamore Performance in the school hall
Thursday 16th July -	Sycamore trip by train to Weymouth
Thursday 16th July -	Community Coffee Morning – Year 1 to attend
Friday 17th July -	Pre-school trip to Kingston Maurwood
Tuesday 21st July -	Leavers' Service 9.30am in the church
Tuesday 21st July -	Last day of term
Wednesday 22nd July -	INSET day

We look forward to welcoming the children back after the summer holidays on Monday 7th September. Staff will be in school the previous week for staff training