



CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

18th September 2026

Dear Parents,

We have had another fantastic week in school, filled with exciting learning opportunities and wonderful achievements across all year groups. It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents to our Open Classroom event. These occasions provide a valuable opportunity for families to spend time with their children in their learning environment, celebrate the work they have been doing and speak with staff about their experiences in school. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the event such a success. Looking ahead, we will be holding our formal Parents' Evening next term, providing a further opportunity to discuss your child's progress and development. Dates and further details will be shared with you shortly.

Those of you who were able to join us for the Open Classroom event will also have noticed how lovely our playground is looking. We are delighted that Phase One of our playground development has now been completed, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed using the renovated play trail and spending time on the improved grassed area. These enhancements have already had a positive impact on playtimes and outdoor learning opportunities. We are now continuing our fundraising efforts so that we can move forward with the exciting second phase of the project. Recently, I met with our Pupil Leadership Team to discuss fundraising ideas and the children shared some fantastic suggestions about how we can work together as a school community to help bring the next stage of our plans to life. We look forward to sharing more details with you in the coming weeks.

We are incredibly fortunate to once again to have Mrs Askew, who leads our music provision and Wendy, who delivers gymnastics and dance, working with us this year. The expertise, passion and enthusiasm they bring greatly enriches our curriculum and provides our children with valuable experiences beyond their everyday classroom learning. Through high-quality music, gymnastics and dance opportunities, pupils are able to develop new skills, build confidence and discover talents and interests that they may not otherwise have the chance to explore. The enrichment they provide is truly invaluable, and we are delighted that our children will benefit from their knowledge and experience throughout the year.

We would like to remind all parents of the importance of following our school uniform policy. Wearing the correct uniform helps to create a strong sense of belonging, promotes equality and allows children to feel proud of being part of our school community. It also supports our high expectations and ensures that children come to school ready to learn. Please remember that trainers should only be worn for PE lessons; school shoes should be worn as part of the daily uniform. We understand that uniform can be an expense for families, and we are fortunate to have a well-stocked supply of good-quality second-hand uniform available through the Friends of the School. If you require any support, please do make use of this fantastic resource. A full list of uniform requirements can be found on the school website. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain the high standards that make our school such a positive place to learn.

As part of our continued support for the wonderful work of Macmillan Cancer Support, we are delighted to be holding a Macmillan Afternoon Tea on Friday 25th September at 2.30pm. All parents and carers are warmly invited to join us in the hall for a cup of tea, a slice of cake and an opportunity to come together as a school community while raising money for this worthwhile cause. Donations of cakes would be very gratefully received. In line with our allergy policy, we kindly ask that any homemade cakes are accompanied by a list of ingredients. Thank you, as always, for your support and generosity.

We are delighted to announce that we will be holding an Open Day on Saturday 10th October 2026 for prospective parents and families. This is a wonderful opportunity for those considering a Reception 2027 place, as well as families who may be moving into the area and looking for an in-year admission, to come and see our school in action. Visitors will have the chance to explore our learning environment, meet members of staff and find out more about the caring, nurturing and ambitious education we provide. We would be very grateful if you could help us spread the word amongst family, friends and neighbours so that we can showcase and celebrate all of the fantastic opportunities our school has to offer. We look forward to welcoming new families and sharing what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best Wishes

Mrs Hale

Photos of the Week



House Captains and Vice Captains



Craft Club



Oak Class music with Mrs Askew



Oak



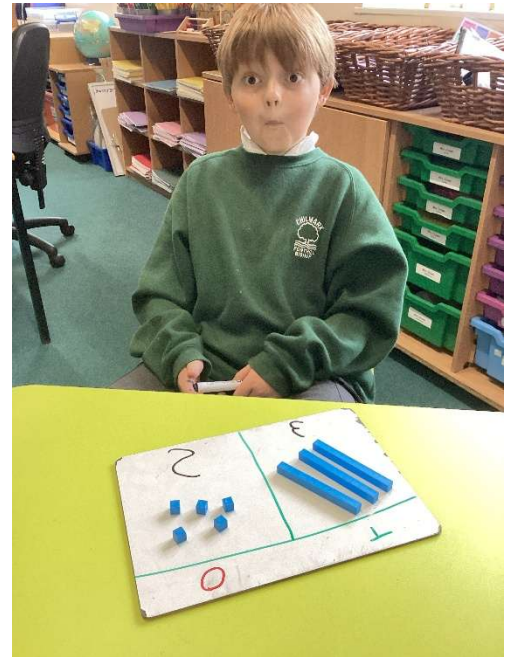
Oak Class enjoyed their first village walk of the academic year this week. The walk to see the church supported the beginning of our Reception RE unit, as the children begin to build their foundational knowledge and explore why the word 'God' is important to Christians. This was also an opportunity for year 1 and 2 to revisit their prior knowledge of the features of the church. Our Year 1 and Year 2 children were fantastic role models, demonstrating excellent road safety and showing our reception children the behaviour, we expect when learning beyond the school grounds.

The children also enjoyed their second music lesson with Ms Askew, developing their musical skills and confidence. This may be the highlight of the week for many of the children.

It has been particularly lovely to see friendships continuing to grow across the year groups, with the children playing, learning and supporting one another

Sycamore

In Sycamore this week, we have been delving deeper into our class text – Song of the Dolphin Boy- and hearing about how the main character, ‘a magical, miraculous boy’, can swim like a dolphin and understand them. We have been using ambitious, expanded noun phrases to write eye witness accounts of a terrible sea storm and thinking ahead to writing our own narratives based upon The Mousehole Cat. In Maths we have been looking at different ways to partition numbers. In Geography we have learnt how settlements vary in location , size and shape – comparing photographs with maps. We have been in full voice in Music singing an African song. In Science, children used data gathering skills to measure human bones (pictures, not the real thing!). I am delighted with their attitude to homework and reading; with many managing the 3 times per week. Soon I will be showing them Timestables Rockstars in class time so they feel more familiar and inspired to practise at home. I have been pleased with their resilience in keeping up with the pace of learning and having open mindsets to correct, improve or neaten up work.



Elm



It has been another busy and successful week in Elm Class! In Computing, we started our new unit using the new Chromebooks we are lucky to have in school. The children were introduced to coding and had great fun putting their new skills into practice by creating their own animations. In PE, we continued our Football unit, with the children demonstrating fantastic teamwork alongside some impressive passing and movement. In Maths, we are coming to the end of our Place Value unit, where the children have worked incredibly hard and made some great progress. Over the coming weeks, we will be moving on to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. It has been a really positive week, with the children continuing to approach their learning with enthusiasm and a willingness to challenge themselves.



Special mentions

Daisy – Friendship

Daisy has been an incredibly kind friend towards the new reception children. She is taking on the role of supporting and encouraging them in settling into our school.

Harper – Resilience

Harper has returned after the summer with a can do attitude across her learning but especially in Maths!

Kathleen – Love

Kathleen wrote an excellent, dramatic eye witness account which seemed very authentic - Super vocabulary, beautiful handwriting and accurate. She shows enthusiasm across the whole curriculum.

Harry – Resilience

Harry has coped very well with a different timetable this year. He has been joining in whole class lessons and sharing answers. He has also shown more maturity and focus when some learning has been tricky.

Eric – Kindness

For showing wonderful kindness when working with and supporting the younger children in our school.

Max - Resilience

For showing resilience and a fantastic attitude towards learning, always being eager to contribute and giving their best in every lesson.



Congratulations to those who joined me on the top table this week – Kathleen, Harper, Sasha, Finley, Max, Eric and Joshua.

These children have been shining their lights all week and have been demonstrating our words of power.

Key Dates

Friday 25th September – Macmillan coffee and tea event – 2.30 pm

Wednesday 14th October – Full Governors Meeting 5.30pm

Thursday 22nd October – Halloween Disco

Half Term – 26th - 30th October

Friday 6th November – Non-uniform (please bring a bottle for the stall at the Christmas market)

Thursday 12th November - Sycamore Class attending signing event in Salisbury Cathedral (parents will be able to attend – details to follow)

Tuesday 17th November – Flu immunisation

Friday 20th November – Wear your pyjamas to school (£1 - Friends Donation for Christmas Market)

Friends' Movie Night

Saturday 28th November – Friends' Christmas Market

Tuesday 1st December – Whole school trip to pantomime at Salisbury Playhouse

Friday 18th December – Break up for Christmas Holidays

2027

Monday 4th January – INSET day

Tuesday 5th January – Back to School

Half Term – 15th – 19th February

Thursday 25th March – Break up for Easter holidays

Monday 12th April – Back to School

Half Term – 31st May – 4th June

Friday 16th July – Break up for summer holidays (INSET days – 19th ,20th & 21st July)

SAFEGUARDING - We take the safeguarding of our children very seriously. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Hale and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Miss Murphy. Our safeguarding governor is Caroline Marking. If you have any concerns about a child, please speak directly to either Mrs Hale or Miss Murphy email – safeguarding@chilmarkfonthillbishop.wilts.sch.uk . Or you can ring MASH on 0300 456 010



CHILMARK AND FONTHILL BISHOP



CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Open Day
Saturday 10th October 2026
10.00 - 11.30am



Chilmark & Fonthill Bishop Primary School

Come and experience what it's like to be a pupil at Chilmark.

meet the team - classroom activities - tours of the school

'I look forward to welcoming you, and sharing how we shine our light'.

Mrs Hale - Head Teacher

Please contact the school for further details, and to register your interest.



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