

3 OCTOBER 2025

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 3

Term Value
FRIENDSHIP

Message from Mrs Jackson

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy few weeks in school. The weather has definitely taken on an autumnal feel, with chilly mornings but some sunny days! Please make sure you provide your child with a coat for the chillier mornings.

We enjoyed our Harvest Festival in church this morning – thank you to all the parents who brought in donations for the Food Bank. I'm sure Malmesbury Food Bank will be very grateful for your generous donations.

We also welcomed Mr Walton from the Brinkworth Flower & Produce Show to present awards to winners, runners up & those who took part. It was lovely to celebrate so much talent we have in our school!

You will have also seen in recent correspondence from the Governors that the Headship recruitment process is underway. As parents and carers, you bring valuable insights into what qualities and priorities matters most in a Headteacher for our school community. Your views are very important to our Governors so we invite you to share your thoughts by completing the short survey [here](#) by Friday 10 October. All responses will be anonymous and confidential, and your feedback will help shape our shortlisting and interview process.

We strongly encourage you to take a few minutes to complete the survey.

Your input will play a vital role in helping us find the right leader for our school's future. Thank you to all those who have already completed the survey.

With best wishes
Mrs Jackson



- | | |
|------------|--|
| Tue 7 Oct | Y4 Braeside Information Session - 3:40pm Upper Site |
| Fri 10 Oct | BEDSA School Disco - From 3:30pm Lower Site |
| Tue 14 Oct | Y6 Morfa Bay Information Session - 3:40pm Upper Site |
| Thu 16 Oct | EYFS Open Morning - From 9:30am starting at Lower Site |

Believe to achieve!

'Roots will grow down into God's love to keep us strong.' – EPH 3:17



The following children have recently received a certificate at school:

Xanthe, Sidney, Tilly, Ollie T, Hattie, Vienna-Rose, Theodore, Poppy B, Aria, Rafe, Skylar, Ed M, Lev, Olivia L, Josh, Kingsley, Lucian, Poppy D, Phoebe, Rue, Charlie M, Tansy, Effie, Kieran, Jac, Lily F, Elijah, Ada H, Teddy P, Daniel S, Solly, Jesse, Lexi, Tate, Connie, Louie, Iliana, Pippa, Louisa and CC.

Well done everyone!

Congratulations to these children for fantastic reading:

Oakley, Jac, Ada S, Anya, Xanthe, Christopher, Lochie, Lucian, Sidney, Leo, Edward C, Ed McM, Rafe, Iliana, Lottie, Ollie, Skylar, Katrina, Jesse, Eve, Connie, Freya, Joshua W, Aubrey, Pippa, Ted L and Isla D.



Brinkworth Show Winners

Show representative Chris Walton presented children with prizes for their artwork and handwriting in this Summer's show.



THE VALUE OF... FRIENDSHIP

We have seen some wonderful examples of friendship around the school sites this term. Here are some moments we captured, with children giving help to others and bringing joy to their friends in their everyday lives.

Shoelace help



Teamwork



SPOTLIGHT ON... ATTENDANCE

Last year, as you know, the Government introduced new rules around attendance, which are summarised on the next page. Brinkworth Earl Danby's continues to work in partnership with parents and the Local Authority to improve school attendance.

Our aim is for every child to achieve at least 96% attendance.

Overall school attendance is currently 97.51%.

We celebrate attendance in class every week in our Celebration Worship:

	Lower Site		Upper Site		
	Beech	Elm	Birch	Rowan	Willow
Week of 22 Sep	99.58%	98.4%	92.26%	99.67%	97.67%
Week of 29 Sep	97.48%	90.4%	96.45%	97.67%	94.33%

Well done to Beech and Rowan last week and this week! They receive our Buddy Award! Hopefully some of the bugs that have been going around will be blown away by the storm!!

New attendance rules!

The Local Authority and our school are required to implement the new attendance rules. Don't get caught out!

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised, and you must let the school know before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days, they will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days, it will be reduced to £80.

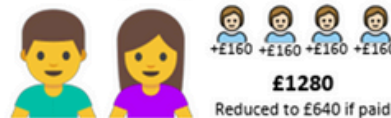


For each child a penalty is given...



4 children & 1 parent = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

For a family of 2 parents & 4 children



£1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

2

What about subsequent absences? Is it still the same penalty amount?

No, not anymore. If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence OR pattern of irregular attendance, then...

2nd TIME
2 parents and...
1 child = £320
2 children = £640
3 children = £960
4 children = £1280
NO DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

3rd TIME
A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child.
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents and 4 children = £20,000

3

What about irregular attendance? Could I get a penalty notice?

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks, and their absences are unauthorised, then the school is required to consider penalty notices / prosecution.



So, a day here and day there could all add up to 10 sessions in 10 weeks. If unauthorised, then would be a penalty notice. Remember, 1 day is 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

YES

4

What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday
Shopping for uniforms
Inadequate clothing for school
Child being used as a carer
Problems with transport

Sickness of parent or sibling
Sibling's school closed
Refusing to attend, but able to
Poor family organisation
Family holidays

Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a GP surgery is given.



EVERY DAY COUNTS – ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

REQUEST FOR ACTIVITY RESOURCES

Hello,

I am in the process of sorting out activities for the pupils to do through playtime and through intervention groups at school.

If anyone has any memory games, card games or threading activities which their children are no longer playing with at home, please could you kindly donate them to the school.

Thank you very much, I would greatly appreciate it.

Many thanks
Mrs Jones

PARENT REMINDERS...

PARKING

This is a gentle reminder to ask that drivers do not drop off or park in the bus stops during collection times, as these marked bays are strictly for buses and taxis.

UNIFORM

Please be reminded that all long hair must be tied up for school. We have seen an increase in long hair being loose and this is not part of our school uniform requirements.

FOOD FROM HOME

Please ensure all snacks and lunch items are nut and sesame free, including hummus. We have children who have severe reactions to these ingredients.

YEAR 4 BRAESIDE RESIDENTIAL - PARENT MEETING (TUE 7 OCT)

We are delighted to announce our two night residential trip to Braeside Education Centre, Devizes from Wednesday 18 to Friday 20 March next year.

Year 4 parents can find out more by coming along to the information session after school (3:40pm) on Tuesday 7 October with Mrs Pocock, the trip lead.

The programme will include:

-A visit to Avebury

-Three days and two nights' accommodation at Braeside. The children will have breakfast, packed lunch, evening meal, supper and additional drinks with biscuits.

-Various outward bound activities organised by qualified Braeside staff.



IMPORTANT BETWEEN SITES ROAD CLOSURES (7 & 8 OCT)

Wiltshire Council have scheduled road closures between our two school sites on Tue 7 and Wed 8 October. Works start at 9am and may be ongoing until 4pm. Please use an alternative route if you need to travel during these times.

The closure and diversion route will be clearly indicated by traffic signs. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works.

Further information can be found on the Wiltshire Council website [here](#) and One Network map [here](#).



Brinkworth Earl Danby's School Association



bedsacontact@gmail.com



Brinkworth Earl Danby's School Association (BEDSA) Registered charity number 1063674 www.facebook.com/BEDSApage



DISCO PARTY

Pay on ParentPay or cash to the office

£3.50

FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER

★ LOWER SITE HALL ★
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

LOWER SITE CHILDREN 3:30 -4:30
UPPERSITE CHILDREN 4:45-5:45

FUNDRAISING

We have various ongoing fundraising streams. Please do sign up / use our codes, it all helps!



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be raising free money for BEDSA with easyfundraising? With over 8000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/brinkwortheardanbybedsa



Sign up to purchase weekly lottery tickets, boost school funds, win cash prizes
At least one winning ticket per school per week!
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM
Donations can be dropped at both school offices. To buy, just drop BEDSA an email. £2 per item, or 3 for £5

Don't forget to order new name labels through Stikins using our code 35318



CHRISTMAS CARDS & GIFT ORDERING

Dear Parents/Carers

Your child will be bringing home their amazing creative Christmas Card designs today. On this card you will find your child's artwork, along with instructions for viewing, approving and ordering online.

Head over to the website shop.classfundraising.co.uk/unlock, where you will be required to enter your unique codes supplied on the card and confirm your child's name and class. It is very important that spelling of names are checked and corrected at this point, as they are printed on the products you buy. Approval of your child's artwork will then link you to the online shop.

Payment is made online at the time you confirm your orders and delivered to school in November.

We recommend you keep hold of these cards until you have received your items and are happy, as Classfundraising may need the codes again in an event of any queries.

Bedsa will be getting 25% commission which goes back to the school.

Prices.

Christmas cards (pack of 12) - £5.79

Gift tags (pack of 10) - £2.55

Wrapping paper (5 sheets) - £5.79

Mugs - £7.99

Tea towels - £9.39

Eco Bags - £7.99

And even more this year including keyring, baubles, cushions, coasters and teddies. Check out all the goodies available online.

The deadline is 15th October 2025.

Thank you for your continuous support
The BEDSA team

DATES FOR THE YEAR

Updates since our last issue will be marked in red for easy identification.

To sign up to our calendar and news alerts, just install the School News app. Download the app using the details on our website [here](#).

TERM 1			
Tue 7 Oct	Y4 Braeside Info Session	Upper Site	3:40pm
Fri 10 Oct	BEDSA School Disco	Lower Site	After school
Tue 14 Oct	Y6 Morfa Bay Info Session	Upper Site	3:40pm
Thu 16 Oct	EYFS Open Morning		9:30-10:30 Lower Site tour 11:00-12:00 Upper Site tour
Thu 16 Oct	BEDSA Meeting	The Angel RWB	8pm
Wed 22 Oct	End of Term 1		
Fri 31 Oct	Y7 Applications Deadline		Apply online via Wiltshire Council

TERM 2			
Mon 3 Nov	TD Day		No children in school
Tue 4 Nov	Start of Term 2		
Tue 4 Nov	Non-School Uniform for T1 House Point Winners		
Tue 4 Nov	Y6 Bikeability Group 1 Starts	Lower Site	2 sessions
Thu 6 Nov	Y6 Bikeability Group 2 Starts	Lower Site	2 sessions
Fri 7 Nov	Birch Swimming Starts	Lime Kiln	6 sessions
Mon 10 Nov	Odd Socks Day		
Tue 11 Nov	Remembrance	Both Sites	Forces families welcome to attend 11am Lower; pm Upper
Fri 14 Nov	Children in Need		
Fri 14 Nov	EYFS Open Morning		9:30-10:15 at Lower Site 11:00-12:00 at Upper Site
Tue 18 Nov	Parents Eve	Lower Site	

DATES FOR THE YEAR

TERM 2

Thu 20 Nov	Parents Eve	Lower Site	
Tue 25 Nov	Flu Immunisations		
Thu 27 Nov	Parent Forum 2	Lower Site	Focus - Maths
Tue 9 Dec	Barn Theatre Trip		
Wed 10 Dec	LS Christmas Production	Lower Site	
Thu 11 Dec	LS Christmas Production	Lower Site	
Thu 11 Dec	US Carol Service	Church	6pm
Wed 17 Dec	Whole School - Christmas	Lower Site	
Wed 17 Dec	Christmas Jumpers & Lunch		
TBC	Y6 Nurse Visit		
Fri 19 Dec	End of Term 2		

TERM 3

Mon 5 Jan	TD Day		No children in school
Tue 6 Jan	Start of Term 3		
Tue 6 Jan	NSU for T2 House Point Winners		
Thu 8 Jan	Rowan Swimming Starts	Lime Kiln	6 sessions
Thu 22 Jan TBC	SEN Coffee Meetup	Upper Site	Focus - Dyslexia
Tue 27 Jan TBC	Parent Forum 3	Lower Site	
Thu 5 Feb	Online Safety		Facilitated by Stay Safe Initiative
Thu 5 Feb	Parent Online Safety Session	Zoom	Evening
w/c 2 Feb	Y6 SATs Info Eve		
Wed 11 Feb	Elm Class Assembly	Lower Site	9:10am
Thu 12 Feb	Willow Class Assembly	Upper Site	9:10am
Fri 13 Feb	End of Term 3		

DATES FOR THE YEAR

TERM 4

Mon 23 Feb	Start of Term 4		
Tue 24 Feb	NSU for T3 House Point Winners		
Mon 2 Mar	Book Fair		
Thu 5 Mar	World Book Day		
Wed 18 Mar	Y4 Residential	Braeside	3 days, 2 nights
Thu 19 Mar TBC	Parent Forum 4	Lower Site	
Fri 20 Mar	Red Nose Day		
Tue 24 Mar	Parents Eve	Upper Site	
Thu 26 Mar	Rowan Class Assembly	Upper Site	9:10am
Thu 26 Mar	Parents Eve	Upper Site	
Fri 27 Mar	Whole School - Easter	Upper Site	Includes church Easter service
Fri 27 Mar	End of Term 4		

TERM 5

Mon 13 Apr	Start of Term 5		
Tue 14 Apr	NSU for T4 House Point Winners		
Thu 30 Apr TBC	SEN Coffee Meetup	Lower Site	Focus - ASD
Mon 4 May	Bank Holiday		School Closed
Thu 7 May TBC	Parent Forum 5	Lower Site	
Mon 11 May	Y6 SATs Start		4 days
Wed 20 May	Beech Class Assembly	Lower Site	9:10am
Thu 21 May	Birch Class Assembly	Upper Site	9:10am
Fri 22 May	End of Term 5		

DATES FOR THE YEAR

TERM 6			
Mon 1 Jun	TD Day		No children in school
Tue 2 Jun	Start of Term 6		
Tue 2 Jun	Non-School Uniform for T5 House Point Winners		
Wed 3 Jun	Class School Photos		
Fri 5 Jun	Sports Day	Upper Site	1pm
Fri 12 Jun	Y6 Residential	Morfa Bay	4 days, 3 nights
Thu 18 Jun	Reception New Parents Info Eve		
Fri 19 Jun	Reserve Sports Day		
Thu 25 Jun TBC	Parent Forum 6	Lower Site	
Thu 9 Jul TBC	Shuffle Up/Transfer Day		
TBC	Secondary Inductions		
Mon 13 Jul	School Reports Out		
Mon 13 Jul	Y2 Second Transfer Day	Upper Site	
Wed 15 Jul	Willow Production	Lower Site	PM & Eve performances
Fri 17 Jul	Leavers' Party	Upper Site	After school
Tue 21 Jul	Whole School - Leavers' Service	Upper Site	AM church service Y6 Parents welcome
Tue 21 Jul	End of Term 6		
Wed 22 Jul	TD Day		No children in school



COMMUNITY NEWS

click images for links

WILTSHIRE SPORTS ACADEMY



After school football and dodgeball sessions are now available to book. Click for the link.

October Half Term Football Camp

2 Day Football Camp
Thurs 23rd Oct & Fri 24th Oct

School years: Reception - Yr11
9.30am - 2.30pm (Drop off from 8.30am)
Only £19 per day! Discounts for siblings & WFA JPL Club Members

- Challenges
- Daily Tournaments
- Skills
- Fun

Gerard Buxton Sports Complex (3G)
Brinkworth Road, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 8DS

<https://www.wiltshiresportsacademy.co.uk/product/october-football-camp>

FACE **October Timetable**
All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Understanding The Teenage Brain	6 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	6 Oct 7pm
Supporting A Child With ADHD	13 Oct 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	13 Oct 7pm
Autism Improving Communication	14 Oct 10am
Improving Family Communication	14 Oct 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	20 Oct 10am
Facing Defiance	20 Oct 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	21 Oct 10am
Understanding Anger	21 Oct 7pm
FREE - Raising Self-Esteem	23 Oct 7-8pm
Anxiety Explained	27 Oct 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	27 Oct 7pm
What Is ACT?	28 Oct 10am
Introduction To OCD	28 Oct 7pm



Are you struggling with a defiant child?



Facing Defiance

A six part online course for parents that you can complete in your own time. A step by step guide through a specific strategy aimed to support parents of children aged between 5 to 12 who are displaying very challenging behaviour, including children with ADHD, ODD and PDA.

go to facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Book online £48
on the **Online Parenting Courses** page



COMMUNITY NEWS

click images for links

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be transferring to a secondary school in September 2026?

You must apply for a secondary school place

Apply online at wiltshire.gov.uk or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is
12 midnight, 31 October 2025

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

WYVERN THEATRE SWINDON

WEST END EXPERIENCE

BACK FOR 2026!

Aged 8-18? Love Musical Theatre?
MARCH 30 - APRIL 3

Whether you're a seasoned performer or simply curious about theatre, West End Experience gives YOU the opportunity to train AND perform with West End Professionals.

Shows include:

Family Hub | **All Together**
Wiltshire Council | Supporting families in Wiltshire

Time Out For Parents - The Early Years

Are you the parent/carer of a child (or more) aged 5 or under? Then this course is for you!

Come and join other parents/carers to discuss ideas and ways that you can boost yours and your child's confidence and self esteem during their early years.

All children deserve the best start in life, and so together we will see how we can understand our children's emotions, learning needs, development and behaviours.

You'll leave with a whole toolkit of ideas and strategies which you can dip into whenever you need!

Join us via Microsoft Teams
Starting on Wednesday 29th October
6:00pm - 8:00pm until
Wednesday 10th December 2025

Scan QR code to register your interest

www.wiltshirefamilyhubs.org.uk
0800 970 4669

Family and Community Learning

Understanding School Anxiety

Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance

Online Course
Co-taught with education psychologist

Booking essential! Booking closes one week before course date

What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance?

- Strategies to support with anxiety and worry
- Strategies to support attendance
- Advice on reasonable adjustments that schools can make

Thursday 16 October 10am - 12pm
or
Friday 12 December 10am - 12pm

Contact familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
Visit <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>
Call the FACL team on 01225 770478
or scan the QR code

Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ on 31 August this academic year; they must have a Wiltshire postcode and meet certain residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick one of the following criteria: on a lower income, earning less than £25,750 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to go into work, now or in the future.

Wiltshire Council



COMMUNITY NEWS

click images for links

Chippenham Junior Strings
for violin, viola, cello and double bass players
From two terms experience to Grade 2
fun filled and informal music making,
with inspiring concerts throughout the year!

Chippenham
Thursdays 3.45-4.45

St Mary's Catholic School, Rowden Hill

for a no-obligation taster, contact:
info@wiltshireyoungmusicians.org.uk

Wiltshire Family Hubs
Support for Families to Build Healthier Relationships

Family Hub Wiltshire Council | All Together Supporting Families in Wiltshire

Issue 8 - 2025
www.wiltshirefamilyhubs.org.uk

At the Family Hub we recognise that there are times when the family dynamic can become increasingly stressful with communication that often ends in conflict.

Why not try Within My Reach?
Within My Reach is a four-week programme offered by Wiltshire Family Hubs, designed to support parents and carers living under the same roof who are seeking help in rebuilding a healthier relationship. This program is ideal for couples and individuals alike—the flexibility allows either joint or solo participation.

Want to Get Involved? Here's How: Request your place online. Sign-up is easy: [CLICK HERE](#)

Why not try - Triple P Family Transitions
Triple P Family Transitions is a five-week programme where co-parents can come along, separately, to learn strategies and skills to manage their emotions, learn coping strategies during separation and divorce and balance play, work and life as you transition through the change. [CLICK HERE](#)

Choking and Strangulation
Did you know?
Asphyxia (which also includes choking and strangulation) is the third most common cause of child accident deaths in the UK. Most of these accidents happen to children under 5.
It takes just a few minutes for a baby to suffocate, and they are too weak to move themselves out of a position where they can't breathe.
For some top tips to avoid risk for your little one click the link - [CLICK HERE](#)



Family Hub Wiltshire Council | All Together Supporting Families in Wiltshire

in partnership with Spurgeons Wiltshire Council

Support We Offer
We are here to help with a whole range of topics including:

- Ideas around implementing routines and setting boundaries.
- Help to understand your child's needs and build your confidence as a parent.
- Help around finances, housing applications, debt support and accessing benefits.
- Supporting you 'back to work'
- Volunteering opportunities

We can help families access:

- Healthy start vitamins
- 3-4 Year old Bookstart packs
- Advice on local childcare and applying for funding.
- Introductions to other services

Facebook
Our Wiltshire Family Hub Facebook page is another way for families to stay up to date with current services. Make sure you like and follow to stay in touch with us.
Simply click here:

Get in touch with us
If you have any questions or would like more information about our services please call us on one of our numbers below or check out our website:

Freephone:
0800 970 4669
wiltshirefamilyhub@spurgeons.org

Other useful numbers:
Health visitor - Single Point of Access
0300 247 0090
National Breastfeeding helpline
0300 100 0212

Fearfree (Domestic Abuse support Service)
01225 775276

National Domestic Abuse Helpline
0808 2000 247

Contact us by email: wiltshirefamilyhub@spurgeons.org Contact us by phone: 0800 970 4669

www.wiltshirefamilyhubs.org.uk