

17TH APRIL 2026

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 15

Term Value
perseverance

Believe to achieve!

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

Message from Mrs Butt

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 5!

It has been a real joy to welcome everyone back after the Easter break. As I shared with the children this week, April often brings weather that can't quite make up its mind! The showers remind us that, while sunshine lifts our spirits, the rain also brings growth and renewal. We reflected together on how this is often true in life too — that times of challenge can help us appreciate moments of joy and strengthen us for what lies ahead.

I received a wonderful welcome back this week through the beautiful singing of our children during collective worship. Hearing those timeless songs, many of which I remember from my own primary school days, was a very special moment and a powerful reminder of the importance of worship at the heart of our school community. We have also enjoyed welcoming a number of visitors into school this week, all of whom commented on the children's excellent manners and their friendly, articulate nature. It is always a pleasure to open our doors and to share just how special our pupils are — they are truly a credit to the school and to you as families.

We have a busy and exciting term ahead. We have begun the process of recruiting an Assistant Headteacher for September 2026, and it has been lovely to meet a number of prospective candidates visiting the school. I have also met with Brinkworth and Dauntsey Parish Councils as we continue to strengthen our links with the wider community and look for ways to work together. Next week, we are delighted to welcome Rocksteady into school. They will be showing us how teamwork and creativity come together when working as a band, as well as introducing an exciting opportunity for band lessons here at school. April is also the Month of the Military Child, and we will be marking this on Friday 24th April with our Purple Up! Day. Please do look out for more information later in the newsletter.

Looking ahead to May, our Year 6 pupils will soon take their KS2 SATs. This is their opportunity to show all that they have learned over the past four years, building on the firm foundations laid in Key Stage 1. It truly is a team effort. As we make these final preparations and work to build confidence, we ask for your continued support in reminding children that doing their best is all that is ever expected — and that everyone's best looks different, and that is absolutely okay. Further information about SATs breakfast during SATs week (11th–14th May) will be shared shortly. Finally, we have been delighted to send out offers to our new September cohort and look forward to welcoming our newest members of the school family. If you know of anyone who did not apply but may still be interested, we do have spaces available and would be very happy to show them around.

As always, thank you for your continued support and encouragement. We look forward to the term ahead as we learn and grow together.

Warm wishes,
Mrs Butt

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

The following children have been recognised for their achievements in celebration assembly in the last two weeks. **Well done everyone!**



STAR OF THE WEEK

Millie, Phoebe, Jack O, Ada S, Eve, Connie, Sefton, Aubrey and Harry I.



ATTENDANCE

Beech & Elm Class - 99.5%
Rowan Class - 99.64%



GOOD MANNERS



Aala, Carina, Skylar, Alex and Keegan.



GREAT READING

Kingsley, Jack G, Arlo, Connie, Eve, Sophie O, Ollie P, Darcie, Sefton, Molly G, Molly M, Eliza, Ed, Aubrey, Isla B, Iliana, Lexi, Pippa, Rafe, Ben, Yuma, Oscar and Ruari.

125 Reads - Elsie
150 Reads - Cybele
175 Reads - Millie, Kieran
200 Reads - Eva, Lockie, Phoebe, Lily



A graphic featuring two blue spotlights on the left and right, casting yellow beams of light towards the center. The text 'Spotlight on attendance!' is written in a large, bold, red font with a pink outline, arched across the top of the page.

Spotlight on attendance!

Regular attendance is essential for children to make strong progress, build friendships and fully take part in school life. We closely monitor attendance across the school so that every child has the best possible access to learning.

To support our attendance policy (available on the school website), we will now send termly attendance letters to families where a child's attendance falls below 95%. These letters are designed to keep you informed and to offer support where needed.

- Families may also receive an early alert if attendance drops below 96%, helping us address concerns before they develop.
- If a child's attendance falls between 90–95%, parents may be invited to a School Attendance Meeting (SAM) to discuss how we can support improvement.
- Where attendance falls below 90%, further meetings may take place and external support, such as an Education Welfare Officer (EWO), may be involved if required.

We recognise and appreciate the efforts families make to improve attendance. Where we can see attendance rising, parents will not be asked to attend meetings unless support is requested.

Even small drops in attendance can add up over time. For example:

- 95% attendance equals nearly two weeks of learning missed each year
- 90% attendance means a child misses almost 10% of the school year

Strong attendance makes a real difference, and early communication helps us work together positively. If you have questions or feel you need support with your child's attendance, please contact the school — we are always happy to help.

Please look out for an update on your child's attendance next week to help keep you informed of their current percentage.

Click [HERE](#) for our attendance policy.

Spotlight on attendance!



Currently our whole school attendance is just below the county's target of 97%. We want to help reach that target with your support. **Please read the Wiltshire approach to attendance [HERE](#).**

Attendance %	Days Missed per Year	Approx. Hours of Learning Lost (based on 5 hours/day)	What This Means
100%	0 days	0 hours	Full access to learning
95%	9–10 days	45–50 hours	Nearly two weeks of lost learning
90%	19 days	95 hours	Almost 10% of the school year missed
85%	28–29 days	140–145 hours	More than half a term missed
80%	38 days	190 hours	Over a full term missed

SENDCO UPDATE

Hello,

As part of the upcoming Autism Awareness Week (Monday 27th April - Friday 1st May) and our theme “We are all different, we are all amazing,” we warmly invite parents and carers to a relaxed coffee catch-up.

Thursday 30th April
2.00pm to 3.15pm
At Lower Site

This will be a friendly space to meet other families and celebrate the diversity within our school community – not just autism.

If you will be attending, please send a quick email to SENDCO@brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk, however, drop-ins are also very welcome!

I hope to see you there,
Mrs Pocock

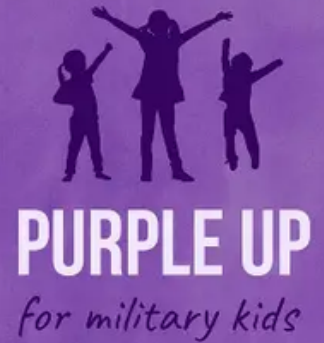
PURPLE UP! DAY - CELEBRATING OUR MILITARY CHILDREN (24 APR)



On Friday 24th April, we will be taking part in Purple Up! Day as part of the Month of the Military Child. This special day is an opportunity for us to recognise, thank and celebrate the strength, resilience and sacrifices of children who have parents or family members serving in the armed forces.

Children are invited to wear purple on the day, as purple represents all branches of the military coming together as one. We understand that purple can sometimes be a tricky colour to find at home, so children are also very welcome to wear red and blue together to make purple!

There is no cost to take part — we simply invite everyone to join us in showing support, kindness and appreciation as a school community.



DANDELIONS

Did you know the official flower of the military child is the dandelion?

Dandelions put down roots almost anywhere they grow, and it's almost impossible to destroy. It's a survivor in a broad range of climates. Military children bloom everywhere the wind carries them. They are hardy and upright. Their roots are strong, cultivated deeply in the culture of the military, planted swiftly and surely. They're ready to fly in the breezes that take them to new adventures, new lands, and new friends.



WINDS OF CHANGE



Poetry & Art Competition

1 APR - 1 MAY

Prizes: Poetry and Art: £25 Amazon Card and Goodie Bag

Open to young people 8-18 years old

All entrants receive a personalised certificate

Winners are invited to London for a special award ceremony and a trip to the Tower of London



NEVER SUCH INNOCENCE.COM/MONTH-OF-THE-MILITARY-CHILD



The Robert McAlpine Foundation

[Click for the entry form](#)

KEEPING YOUR CHILDREN SAFER ONLINE – 27.04.26 – 7PM

A 90-MINUTE INVESTMENT FOR A LIFETIME OF PROTECTION!

THE ONLINE WORLD IS A HUGE PART OF OUR CHILDREN'S LIVES — FROM GAMING AND SOCIAL MEDIA TO SCHOOLWORK AND CHATTING WITH FRIENDS. FOR MANY PARENTS, IT CAN FEEL DIFFICULT TO KEEP UP.

TO SUPPORT OUR FAMILIES, WE ARE INVITING PARENTS AND CARERS TO JOIN AN ONLINE "KEEPING YOUR CHILDREN SAFER ONLINE" PRESENTATION DELIVERED BY RICHARD FROM THE STAY SAFE INITIATIVE CIC.:

[HTTPS://THESTAYSAFEINITIATIVE.ORG.UK/OUR-WORK/ONLINE-SAFETY/KEEPING-CHILDREN-SAFER-ONLINE/](https://thestaysafeinitiative.org.uk/our-work/online-safety/keeping-children-safer-online/)

IN THIS 90-MINUTE ZOOM SESSION YOU WILL:

- BETTER UNDERSTAND YOUR CHILD'S DIGITAL WORLD
- LEARN ABOUT THE REAL RISKS YOUNG PEOPLE CAN FACE ONLINE
- DISCOVER SIMPLE, PRACTICAL STEPS THAT HELP KEEP CHILDREN SAFER
- FEEL MORE CONFIDENT GUIDING AND SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD ONLINE

THIS SESSION IS NOT ABOUT FEAR OR BLAME — IT'S ABOUT GIVING PARENTS PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE.

PARENTS ARE THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON A CHILD'S ONLINE SAFETY, AND SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE.

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR THIS IMPORTANT AND INFORMATIVE SESSION.

ZOOM INVITE:

RICHARD POMFRETT IS INVITING YOU TO A SCHEDULED ZOOM MEETING.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/81409071206?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81409071206?)

[PWD=KAOAAB7PGSSLHFYPLLANUGCJE2NLLA.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81409071206?pwd=KAOAAB7PGSSLHFYPLLANUGCJE2NLLA.1)

MEETING ID: 814 0907 1206

PASSCODE: 911311



Brinkworth Earl Danby's School Association



bedsacontact@gmail.com

FUNDRAISING

Click images for links



EASY FUNDRAISING

Sign up, buy online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - and raise free money for BEDSA.

And it won't cost you a penny!



SCHOOL LOTTERY

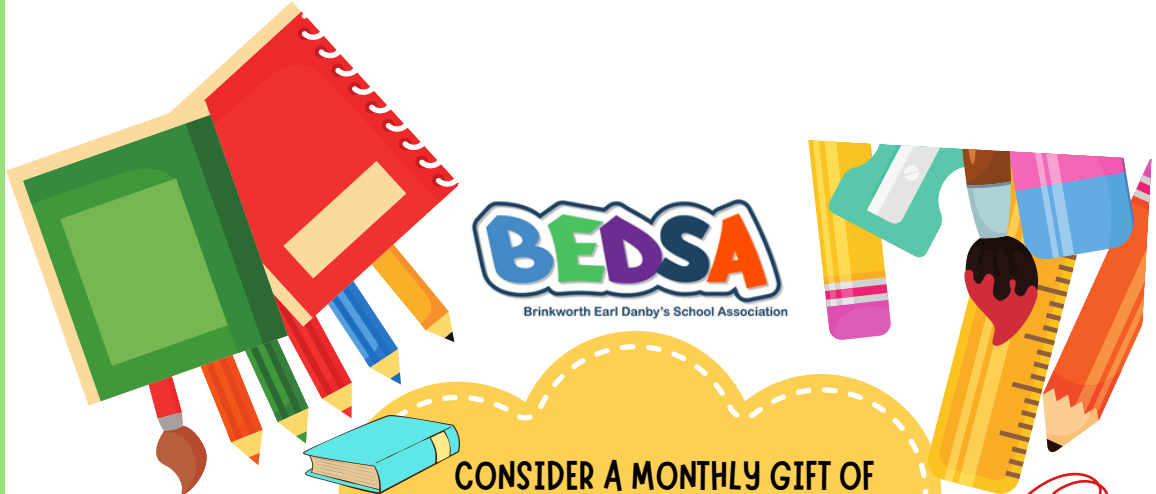
Sign up to purchase weekly lottery tickets, boost school funds, win cash prizes.

At least one winning ticket per school per week!



STIKINS

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



Brinkworth Earl Danby's School Association

CONSIDER A MONTHLY GIFT OF
£5 = A READING BOOK FOR THE LIBRARY
£10 = BREAKTIME PLAY EQUIPMENT

£50 = 1/10 COACH HIRE FOR
CHRISTMAS THEATRE TRIP



SET UP YOUR STANDING ORDER TODAY

BEDSA 30-98-41 04752547

SO FAR THIS YEAR BEDSA HAVE ALREADY FUNDED OVER

£4800

ON IPADS, THEATRE TRIPS, CLASS BUDGETS
AND MORE!
YOUR PARAGRAPH TEXT



CONSIDER REDIRECTING THE COST OF ONE
£4.50
COFFEE PER WEEK TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL



DATES FOR THE YEAR

Updates in red

PE DAYS	Beech	Mondays & Wednesdays
	Elm	Tuesdays & Wednesdays
	Birch	Tuesdays & Thursdays
	Rowan	Mondays & Fridays
	Willow	Mondays & Thursdays

TERM 5			
Mon 27 Apr	Parent Online Safety Session	Zoom	7pm, limited numbers, first come first served.
Fri 24 Apr	Purple Up! Day		Wear something purple (or red & blue) to support military children
Thu 30 Apr	SEN Coffee Meetup	Lower Site	14:00 - Focus on ASD
Mon 4 May	Bank Holiday		School Closed
Thu 7 May	Parent Forum 5	Lower Site	
Mon 11 May	Y6 SATs Start		4 days
Wed 20 May	Elm Class Assembly	Lower Site	9:10am (was 11 Feb)
Thu 21 May	Birch Class Assembly	Upper Site	9:10am
Fri 22 May	End of Term 5		

TERM 6			
Mon 1 Jun	TD Day		No children in school
Tue 2 Jun	Start of Term 6		
Tue 2 Jun	NSU 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	Parent Forum 6	Lower Site	

DATES FOR THE YEAR

Wed 8 Jul	Beech Class Assembly	Lower Site	9:10am (was 20 May)
Thu 9 Jul	Shuffle Up/Transfer Day		
8 & 9 Jul	Malmesbury Year 6 Induction Day		
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
Tue 21 Jul	End of Term 6		
Wed 22 Jul	TD Day		No children in school



COMMUNITY NEWS

Mrs Hall from Upper Site will be running the next Wildlife Watch session. To book a place, email lmfwatchgroup@gmail.com

Join Wildlife Watch at Lower Moor

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

Fun wildlife activities every month for families to discover the wonders of the natural world!
For primary-aged children and accompanying adults.
Join us on the first Saturday of every month

THIS MONTH
SATURDAY 2nd MAY - 10am - 12noon

Mini BioBlitz
Find and count as many different plants, animals, and insects as possible!

Please wear suitable clothing as this is an outdoor event!

BOOKING & COST
Meet at Lower Moor car park - Somerford Keynes Road, SN16 9TW
Booking essential - please email lmfwatchgroup@gmail.com
Suggested donation £2.50 per child
Adults go free

monitors.compounds.grapevine

= Brinkworth 2026 =

CHURCH FÊTE
RECREATION GROUND
SATURDAY 20th JUNE
12.30pm - 3.30pm

Enjoy a delicious **BBQ** for lunch with burgers from **JGK Butcher & Delicatessen** (formerly Crumps) Plus a fully stocked bar, ice creams, homemade cakes, plant stalls, bric-a-brac, raffle, tombolas, traditional games and maypole dancing – plus lots more to explore!

- Live music from Oxymoron**
Fun, toe-tapping tunes all afternoon
- Find and meet Where's Wally**
A little extra fun for the children
- Dog Event**
A guaranteed crowd favourite!

We can't wait to see you there!

Everyone's Welcome!
Bring the whole family – including your dog!

There are no cash machines on site, so please bring cash with you on the

Village Cafe



Every Tuesday 2pm - 4:30pm

Post Office open 1:30pm - 3:30pm

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE HALL
Starting 17th September 2024

Recycle your used postage stamps and old spectacles at the

Brinkworth Post Office

Tuesdays 13.30 - 15.30 hrs



COMMUNITY NEWS



Time Out for Parents programmes April-June 2026 SPACES

We still have spaces left on our TOFP (Time out for Parents) programmes for April-June 2026. Virtual sessions are delivered by using MS Teams. (Families will be offered support to join if needed). These are relaxed and non-judgmental workshops where we share tools and strategies for family life, and where parents and carers are encouraged to share their experiences and challenges. We also signpost and share information on other services and offer families 1:1 opportunities to discuss further support needs with our facilitators.

Monthly Newsletter

Please visit our website [here](#) for our most recent newsletter which spotlights our Parenting Courses.



April 2026 Timetable

All regular 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

Understanding Anger	6 April 10am
School Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained	13 April 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	20 April 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm



FREE online talk by
Jane Keyworth
FACE family Advice Lead Facilitator

Decreasing Depression

23rd April 7-8pm



Book online
www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Parents - Live Talks page