



Newsletter

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Autumn
Term
Newsletter
Friday 25th
September
2026

Dear families,
If you haven't seen the Bolney Bushcraft area already, do ask your child to take you for a look around. Mrs Booty and her team have done an incredible job of creating an inspiring, engaging, calm and enriching place for our children to be curious, innovative and exploratory. The zones and activities that are planned are bespoke for individuals, groups and classes to best suit their needs and learning objectives and the children LOVE it! Working towards the Bolney Bushcraft badges is the icing on the cake and we are so lucky to have such dedicated staff and a beautiful area to provide our children with this very special outdoor learning opportunity. On a very different note, we are trialling a new 'Withdrawal from Learning' request system which will be an online form that you can access via the [Attendance](#) page under the Statutory Info tab on the website. Once you have uploaded your form, you will get a decision sent via email. Please do think carefully though before taking your child out of school.

WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?					
190 days	180 days	178 days	163 days	161 days	143 days
100%	95%	94%	86%	85%	75%
Good	Worrying	Serious Concern			
Only 1-2 day missed per term	Between 3-8 days missed per term	More than 9 days missed per term			

Willow Class

We have had a lovely two weeks in willow class. It has been exciting to learning about more toys and what they are made from. In science, we have

explored which materials are magnetic. Some of them surprised us!



In maths, we have been finding one more and one less of a number. We used the bears to help us.



Beech Class

In Beech Class we have read Dogger by Shirley Hughes, about a boy who loses his favourite toy. We have described a character and setting and designed lost posters for the missing toy, using adjectives to describe him. We used drama to explore the character's feelings and sequenced the story events. We have also read Stanley's Stick by John Hegley, about a boy with a big imagination. We have looked at the story structure and imagined what Stanley could do with the stick. In Science, we have looked at suitable and unsuitable uses of materials. In Maths we have been counting

and representing numbers between 20-99 and counting accurately.



In Music we have been singing working songs and finding the pulse in the songs. In Art we have continued with adding features to profile pictures.



In PE we have been travelling across equipment and jumping and landing. In RE we have been learning about the importance of doing good deeds in Jewish families. In Learning For Life we have talked about our Rights and Responsibilities and completed Our Class Charter.

Holly Class

Holly class have continued to immerse themselves in the Stone Age. We have been busy acting out and imagining our lives as villagers in the Stone Age. Having left our village we had a discussion about where to go next. We debated what concerned us more – heading north into colder climates or south where there were more rival tribes. We have decided to head north and take a risk. We are writing our diaries to document what has been happening.

In Forest School and DT we have been busy constructing our

wattle and daub house. We cut and hammered large sticks to make the base before trimming and weaving holly stems to make the wall. We've mixed up and created the daub which is now forming the solid wall. Finally, we've been sawing and trimming branches to make a roof. The children have worked collaboratively and are rightfully very proud of it so far!

In maths we're manipulating numbers to make them easier to calculate. We're rearranging hundreds, tens and ones and partitioning in different ways to make mental calculations possible. In science we're learning about teeth – what the different types are for and why humans as (mostly!) omnivores have canines and molars. We have had lots of interest in becoming School, Eco or Rights Respecting council members. The children have put lots of effort into making presentations and speaking aloud to the class about their passions and why others should vote for them.



We are also focusing on being team players in PE. We've played lots of games requiring listening, communication and awareness – as well as losing and winning graciously. We are making up our own games which we will be



testing out on other groups next lesson.



Silver Birch Class

Silver Birch have had a busy and exciting two weeks, we cannot quite believe how quickly September has gone. In English, we have continued writing as Time Travellers, back in Ancient Egypt. There are many skills we have learned whilst writing our narrative; similes, show, don't tell, metaphors, using adverbs or action to start a sentence and using superlatives. I am really impressed with the quality of the writing so far.



Our VIPERS text, The Secrets of a Sun King is extremely exciting, and we have already learned a variety of historical facts. We are starting to find out a bit about King Tut or Kyky, ask your child who this might be!

In maths, we have continued to explore structures using Cuisenaire rods, but we have moved into forming and calculating equations. The children have also been on TT Rockstars to practise their times tables- please continue to do this at home.

In science, we learned about nutrients and the effect they can have on our health. We conducted an investigation using

tights, cereal, banana, and water. We used these objects to function as a model to demonstrate how nutrients and water are absorbed. There were some interesting reactions to this; could not move away quickly enough or they were covered in a very sticky mixture!

We made bookmarks using hieroglyphics and papyrus in art. We will start our clay journey next week.



Friday Celebrations

18.9.26 and 25.9.26

Class leaves went to:



Value awards went to:





Harvest Festival Big Soup and Appeal



The Harvest Festival Big Soup preparation has been rescheduled to after school on Tuesday 29th September from 3:15-4:15pm. Please let Mrs Cheney know if you or your child/ren would like to help. The soup will be served after our Harvest Festival on Friday 2nd October.

Also, we would love to support the Haywards Heath Food Bank as in previous years with donations of tinned and dried foods and nappies. Please leave donations at the school office.

New Hot Meal provider

ISS Education have begun serving their new delicious hot meals. Anyone who has not received an invite to sign up – speak to Zoe. Meals will be just £2.95 per day. To find out more, including menus and how the new ordering system will work, visit www.feedwestsussex.co.uk. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Zoe in the office.

Changes to free school meals

The government has announced that the eligibility criteria for free school meals will change from 1 September 2026. All children who live in a household that

receives Universal Credit can get free meals. If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals, then check the WSCC website and apply

today www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/



Diary Date	Event (Where events are for specific children, it will say 'email')
Tues 29 th Sept	Voting day in school
Fri 2 nd Oct 9am church	HARVEST FESTIVAL
Friday 2 nd Oct	Big soup – all welcome to the hall after church
Tues 6 th Oct	Willow settling meeting - email
Friends of Bolney meeting	8 Bells @7pm All welcome
Thurs 8 th oct	Willow settling meeting - email

Ms Lofthouse

See the website calendar for important dates:

<https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/calendar/223211>

Please also take time to look at our website, which has a lot of information that you may wish to see, including class pages.

<https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/home/223209>

