

# Birch Church of England (VA)

## Primary School

*Guided by the Good Shepherd, we serve as  
compassionate leaders*



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**WB 29th June 2026**

**Edition 37**

|                                   |                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WB 6 <sup>th</sup> July           | Monday                                          | KS2 show afternoon: <b>1:30pm</b><br>Home visit new reception                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                   | Tuesday                                         | KS2 show EVENING <b>6:00pm -please return from 5:30pm for costumes.</b><br>Home visits new reception                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                                   | Wednesday                                       | Y5 Thurstable Taster Day<br>Open Classrooms after school- come in to take a look at your child's books and their work<br>IN THE HALL:<br>ECOBUBBLES SHOP OPEN FOR BUSINESS<br>GREAT SCIENCE SHARE FOR SCHOOLS CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION – COME AND SOLVE THE MYSTERY!!<br>Home visit for New Reception Intake                  |
|                                   | Thursday                                        | New reception visit am<br>Whole school 'move-up morning'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                   | Friday                                          | <b>WATER SAFETY ASSEMBLY FIRE SERVICE FOR ALL CHILDREN</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| WB 13 <sup>th</sup> July          | Monday                                          | 'It's Your Move' for Y6<br>Y6 'Moving on Camp': after school event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                   | Tuesday                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                   | Wednesday                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                   | Thursday                                        | Leavers' Tea for Y6 and Y6 families                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                   | Friday                                          | FINAL ASSEMBLY 2:30 OUTSIDE: ALL INVITED                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| WB 20 <sup>th</sup> July          | MONDAY 20 <sup>th</sup> July is a non-pupil day |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Key dates to note for Autumn 2026 |                                                 | First day of new school year Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September<br><br>Dates for school tours for Reception 27: Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October 9:30 and 11:00, Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 9:30 and 11:00, Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November 9:30, Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 9:30, 11 <sup>th</sup> January 9:30 |

Dear All,

It's been much cooler this week, which is great, as we still have lots of learning and activities to complete before the summer holidays.

Well done to our KS1 cricket team at Wednesday's event. They came home with first-place medals, and Mrs Millbourne tells me they were determined, enthusiastic and demonstrated excellent sporting values throughout.

Classes 1 and 2 have been exploring the creatures in our new pond this week. We have spotted water boatmen, mayfly nymphs, beetle larvae, beetles, water mites, pond snails, ramshorn snails, the unavoidable midge larvae, and hundreds of water fleas. It's all looking very promising!

Mrs Vinters and the Class 1 team have welcomed our new Reception intake and their parents into school and enjoyed an afternoon session with the new children. Next Thursday morning, they will return, and all the children will spend the morning in their new classes to begin getting an idea of what next year will be like.

Also this week, KS2 performed their play to the rest of the school. You're in for a treat at next Monday's afternoon performance and Tuesday evening's performance! All tickets have been allocated and reserve tickets go home this afternoon. There are still people on the waiting list so please let the office know if you cannot use your ticket so that it can be re-allocated.

### **KS2 Play and Photographs**

It is always a challenge to document our school plays, as not everyone has given permission for photographs to be shared. We fully understand and respect the reasons for this. We have taken group photographs of the children to display in school, but we are unable to share these more widely.

Instead, we are asking parents and carers to take photographs of their own child in costume using their own phones after the performances. Cameras and filming cannot be used during the performance, for the reasons explained above.

Monday afternoon: Children whose parents or family members are attending will be invited outside, under the trees, after the performance for a quick photograph before returning inside to get changed ahead of the end of the school day.

Tuesday evening: Children whose parents or family members are attending will be invited outside, under the trees, after the performance for photographs. They will then return to their classroom to change and organise their belongings before leaving through the usual front entrance doors to meet their families.

If no family member is able to attend either performance: Please email the school, and we will do our best to arrange a photograph for you.

### **Assessment Summaries**

Assessment summaries for Years 1 to 6 are coming home today. These provide a summary of your child's attainment in English, maths and science at the end of the academic year. As you know, our full written reports are shared during the spring term. Today's assessment summary will also be shared via an email, which will contain instructions for accessing.

For Reception children, a full report of their Foundation Stage Profile will be shared today via an email link from our tracking system, INSIGHT. Again, there are instructions for accessing in the body of the email.

Year 1 parents will also receive their child's Phonics Screening Check result, and Year 4 parents will receive their child's Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) score, via separate email links today.

### **Coming Up:**

Monday: KS2 afternoon performance. Please queue from 1:15 by the clothing bank. We will sign you in at the office as promptly as possible.

Tuesday: KS2 evening performance

Wednesday: Come and visit the classrooms to look through your child's books. Collect as usual and then come back in through the HALL where you will be able to sign in. You will also get a chance to see the whole school art installation in the corridor! There will be a slideshow of photographs from the year playing in the hall, and the EcoBubbles and Great Science Share for Schools (GSSfS) teams will also have a presence. EcoBubbles will be selling their soaps and washing up liquids, so bring your containers and some cash. The GSSfS team will be challenging families to solve their 'fantasy crime', set at the zoo, using all the evidence available. A few children from each team plan to be available to guide you through this!

Thursday: New Reception and 'move-up' morning for all classes, during which children will experience their new class for September.

Friday: The Fire Service will be visiting school to talk to the children about water safety. Year 6 also have a leavers' event at Mersea Outdoors, organised by parents.

### **Last Week of Term:**

Monday: Year 6 Moving-On Camp after school. Please make your donations towards pizza on ScoPay asap.

Thursday: Year 6 Leavers' Tea after school for Year 6 children and their families. Please make your donations on ScoPay asap.

Friday: Our final assembly of the year. Everyone is warmly invited to join us for this outdoor assembly at 2.30 pm.

### **A Few Reminders:**

Please return any library or reading books that have been borrowed.

Year 6 parents: please clear any outstanding balance on ScoPay by the end of term, both dinners and childcare

Year 5 parents: the final instalment for the Bawdsey Manor residential visit was due on 1<sup>st</sup> July – please pay this at the weekend so that our next payment to PGL can be made before the end of the summer term.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Rebekah May

## SHERWOOD FOREST DISPLAY, WATER PLAY LAST WEEK!







