



Newsletter Friday 9th January 2026

Ambition Belonging Courage

Key dates for your diary:

Wed 14th Yr 5 & 6 Tag Rugby 2-4pm
Frid 16th EYFS 'Friday Together Time' - 8.40-8.55am
 (Every Friday for the spring term)
Wed 21st Year 5 & 6 Talented Athlete 1 - 4 pm
Wed 21st Y4 Lodge Hill Parent Meeting - 3:30pm
Thurs 22nd Young Voices - O2 - Trip Yr 3,4,5,6
Wed 28th Y5 Lodge Hill Parent Meeting - 3:30pm
Fri 30th Final Payment deadline for Y4+5 Lodge Hill Residential

Summer Fun Day - Saturday 6th June

House Point Results Winning House Parham

Cowdray	Parham
564	613
Goodwood	Petworth
469	508

Dear Families,

Welcome back and a very happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a restful and enjoyable Christmas holiday. It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back to school and to feel the excitement across the classrooms. There is a real buzz around school as pupils immerse themselves in their new topics, with lots of wonderful learning already taking place as new projects begin.

We also have some lovely staff news to share. Congratulations to **Emily Congram**, who is expecting her first child – a very exciting chapter ahead. We are delighted to welcome **Sophie Jenner**, who has joined us as Hardy Class teacher in Year 4 on Thursdays and Fridays, and **Zoe Wharmby**, who has joined our office team. We are very pleased to have them both as part of our school community.

Attendance remains a key priority and we are pleased to see that our attendance is looking positive this week. *I cannot stress enough the importance of regular attendance at school. Consistent daily attendance is the single best way we can support your child's progress and well-being. Every day of learning counts! Keep up the good work and continue to prioritise bringing your child to school on time every day.*

Finally, a clear reminder that the **staff car park is strictly for staff parking and deliveries only**. Unauthorised use is causing issues on a daily basis and creates congestion, safety concerns for children arriving at school and difficulties for staff at the start of the day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support,
 Miss Ley



Mr Hampson has worked at BPA for 6 years and lives in Storrington with his young family. He is originally from Bolton and is a huge Bolton Wanderers fan! Mr Hampson loves singing and his favourite school song is 'Power in Me'!

Fun Fact:
 Mr Hampson once sang with Andrea Bocelli in Saudi Arabia!

Hobbies:
 Singing in choir, football, spending time with family, BWFC!



Pick up and drop off parking



To help keep everyone safe and ensure the school day starts smoothly, we would like to clarify arrangements for the school car park. The car park is reserved for staff and authorised vehicles only. Parents and carers should only use the car park if they have **specific, pre-agreed permission from Ms Ley**. When the car park is used without permission, it can lead to congestion, restricted access for staff and potential safety risks for children.

We also ask parents and carers to be mindful when parking in the surrounding streets. Please do not park close to junctions, pedestrian crossings, on double yellow lines, or on grass verges. Please ensure that local residents are respected at all times. We appreciate that the local area can become busy at drop-off and pick-up times and, where possible, encourage families to walk to school.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep our school community safe.

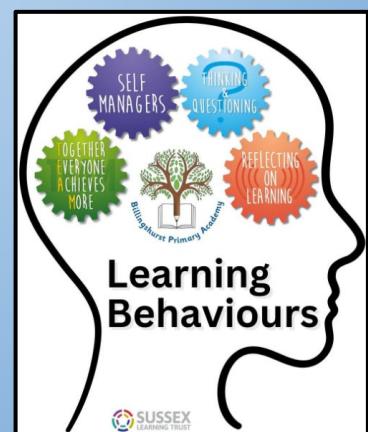
NEW - Learning Behaviours Curriculum

This week we are pleased to introduce our new **Learning Behaviours curriculum**, which will be taught across the school. This curriculum is designed to support children in understanding themselves and how they develop as learners, placing a strong emphasis on personal growth, learning habits and self-awareness.

The aim is to help children reflect on *how* they learn. By teaching these skills across and within the curriculum, pupils will be encouraged to take ownership of their learning, build positive and meaningful relationships, and apply their knowledge creatively and collaboratively. These lifelong learning skills will support children both in school and as they prepare to make a positive contribution to the wider world.

In school, we refer to these skills as our **Learning Gears**, which provide a shared language for learning. There are four gears: **TEAM**, **Self-Managers**, **Thinking and Questioning**, and **Reflecting on Learning**. These have been introduced to all children this week and will be visible and regularly referenced around the school.

This half term, our focus will be on **Reflecting on Learning**, as we explore and develop the skills linked to this gear. Further information and parent workshops will be shared throughout the academic year.



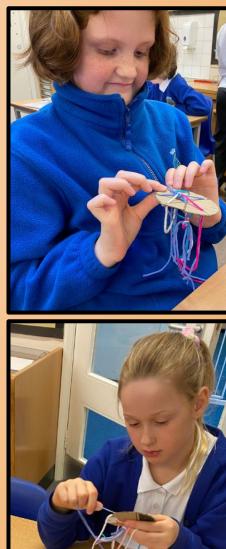
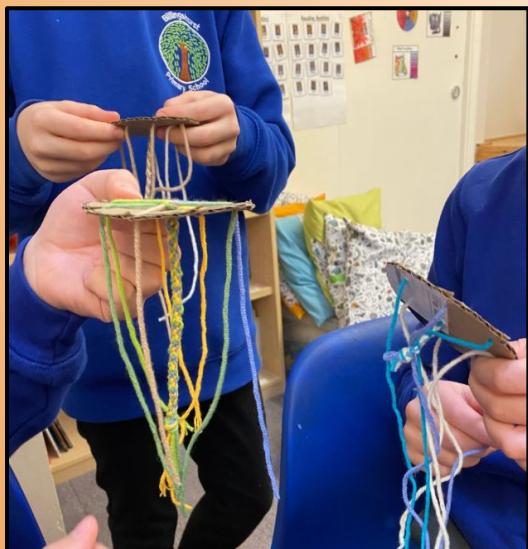
Year 2 - Crash Landing!

This week, the children were amazed to discover a hot air balloon in the playground and soon learned that an adventurous girl called Miranda had been swept away! To help find her, they created missing posters and acted out scenes from *Miranda the Explorer* by James Mayhew, exploring how Miranda and the onlookers might have felt. A wonderful start full of imagination and storytelling!



Year 5 - Viking immersion

This week, Year 5 returned for the Spring term to a full day of History, diving straight into the fascinating world of the Vikings! The children were fully immersed in this exciting period of history, learning when the Vikings lived, exploring their traditions, and discovering why they invaded Britain. They also investigated Viking longships and got creative by learning about braided jewellery. It was a fantastic start to the term and a brilliant way to spark curiosity and enthusiasm for our new topic. We're looking forward to learning even more as the term continues!



Year 6 - WW2 Day

This week, Year 6 stepped back in time to experience life as children during the war. We were thrilled to welcome Rainbow Theatre, who led an engaging and interactive drama workshop that helped pupils explore what it was like to be an evacuee — from leaving home to adapting to wartime routines and emotions. The children fully embraced the experience, arriving in outstanding evacuee costumes that truly set the scene and brought the day to life. It was a memorable and powerful learning experience for all involved.



TOPS Orchestra - Start now!

We are excited to highlight a fantastic opportunity for children aged **7–11** to begin their musical journey through the **Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme (TOP)** run by *West Sussex Music*. This three-term programme is designed especially for complete beginners, helping young musicians grow from first-time players into confident orchestra members, all while enjoying music with others.

TOP includes **free instrumental lessons**, a **free instrument loan for the year**, and membership of the **TOP Orchestra**. The first term is completely free (with a small booking fee), and the following terms are highly affordable.

Children taking part gain new skills, make friends, and experience the joy of performing together — a wonderful boost to confidence and creativity. We're proud to support opportunities like this that nurture lifelong learning and enrich our children's school experience. More information and sign-up details are available via *West Sussex Music*. [Click here for more information.](#)



First
term
FREE*



Booking for January 2026 Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme

Bognor Regis, Chichester, Crawley, Horsham, Midhurst, Worthing

Year long course for beginners 7–11 yrs includes
lessons, orchestra & instrument loan



SIGN UP
HERE

NEW YEAR QUIZ

Friday 16th January

BPA Bees

There's still time to join us for our **New Year Quiz** next **Friday, 16th January**. Teams of up to 6 people are just £30. Bring your own food and drinks. You can see full details and book your table here: [New Year Fundraising Quiz Night Tickets, Fri 16 Jan 2026 at 18:45 | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/billinghurst-primary-academy-new-year-fundraising-quiz-night-tickets-tickets-31310000000).

We are now collecting **raffle prizes** for our various events throughout the year. If you have any unwanted gifts or good condition second-hand items that you would like to donate, please leave these in our green bucket outside the school office.

Finally, please save the date for this year's **Summer Fun Day** which will be on **Saturday 6th June**. More details to follow in the coming months.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/bpabees>

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/bpa_bees

Or you can contact us via email:

bpabees@billingshurstprimary.org.uk



**FOLLOW
US!**

FOLLOW US!

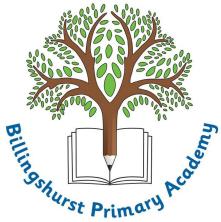
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