



Newsletter Friday 24th April 2026

Ambition Belonging Courage

Key dates for your diary:

Tues 28th	Year 6 Leavers Hoodies - Order Deadline
Thurs 30th	Y3 British Museum workshop - Ancient Egyptians
Fri 1st	EARTH DAY
Mon 4th	BANK HOLIDAY
Wed 6th	KS1 Multi-skills event, Weald - 1.30-3.00pm
w/c 11th	Year 6 SATs week
Wed 13th	Y3 & 4 Tri-golf - 2.00-4.00pm
Wed 13th	Yr 1 Phonics screening parent meeting - 3.30-4.00pm
Fri 15th	KS2 Jenny McLachlan author visit
	KS1 Lizzy Barnes author visit

House Point Results Winning House Petworth

Cowdray	Parham
575	595
Goodwood	Petworth
509	640

Dear Families,

It has been such a wonderful week at BPA. The sunshine truly makes a massive difference to the atmosphere of the school and it has been a joy to see the children out and about, making the most of our beautiful grounds.

My heart was full this week as I listened to the music from the "Downscape Project," we've been participating in. It all culminated in a magnificent whole-KS2 "sing-together" that showcased the incredible spirit of our school community. It is clear that we have so many talented singers among us and hearing them all come together was a perfect way to celebrate the week.



Looking ahead to next week, we are thrilled to welcome our Billingshurst Queen Bee and her bees to the school on Monday. To clarify, we are talking about the insects, not our wonderful parent group! They will be settling into their brand-new hives right here on the school grounds. This is an incredibly exciting project that both the children and staff have been eagerly anticipating. It offers a unique opportunity for us to engage with nature firsthand and we will be sending out more detailed information regarding the project next week.

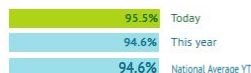
Have a fantastic weekend.

Warm regards,

Ms Ley

**STAFF
CAR PARK**
No predestination access during drop off and pick up times.

Attendance has been great this week!
Well done everyone!



IN THE SPOTLIGHT
Melissa Holmes

Melissa has been a Parent Governor for nearly four years and enjoys joining the Equalities Group each term. She grew up and attended school in Canada before moving to the UK. Being a Governor here in Billingshurst has meant learning a lot about the UK school system, which is different in many ways.

Fun Facts:
Melissa once got to join the same starting line at the London Marathon as Mo Farah – although he was out of sight very quickly!

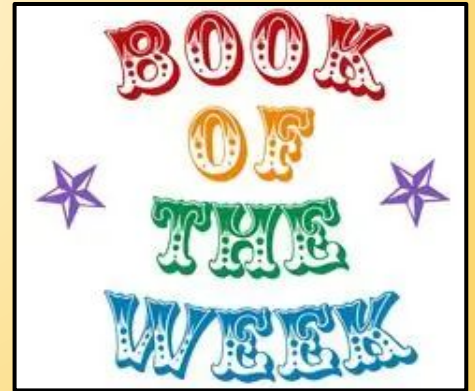
Hobbies:
Running with running clubs, spending time with friends, reading short stories and non-fiction, gardening by trial and error.



Book of the Week!

This week our Book of the Week is **The Land of Roar by Jenny McLachlan**. We are very excited that Jenny will be visiting us on 15th May to do a workshop with the children and to sign copies of her books!

Ruby from Year 3 loves the Land of Roar books and is currently reading the third book in the series: "I recommend the Land of Roar because it's a funny book and there are so many characters that I'd love to meet in real life! My favourite characters are Pickle and Vlad, the dragons. If you like adventure and chapter books then this is the series for you."



The Willows

A catch up with Mrs Molla...

At The Willows, relationships are at the heart of everything we do. In this new feature, we'll be introducing you to our team, celebrating the people who help create a safe, happy, and engaging space for your children each day.



What's your role at Willows and what do you enjoy most about it?

I enjoy playing with the children, learning new things like Origami, playing music and singing along!

If you could have any superpower during club time, what would it be and why?

The power to move kinetic sand with my eyes to build super cool buildings.

What do you think makes Willows special?

Seeing the children from across the school playing, helping and spending time together.

Favourite children's book or film?

SING the movie - I love to sing along!



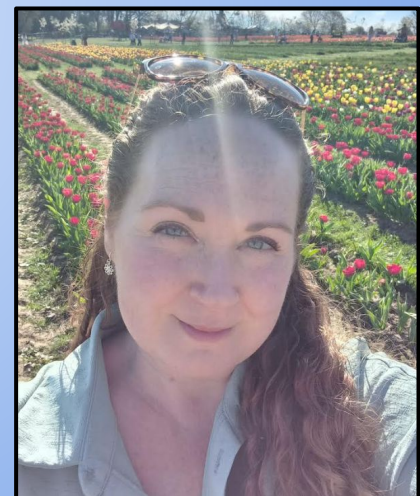
Favourite snack?

Crisps - Sundried Tomato



Dream holiday destination?

Tropical jungle destination.



Good luck Mrs Hatrick!!

Mrs Hatrick and her friend Melanie are taking on **Race the Sun South Downs** this weekend, cycling 31 miles, hiking 10 miles, and paddling 2 miles from sunrise to sunset - good luck to them both!

They are raising money for **Action Medical Research**, supporting vital research into serious childhood conditions. Any support would be greatly appreciated.



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PARENT SURVEY

Your views. Our school. Our future.



Over 2 weeks, The Governing Body is asking parents/carers, pupils and staff to complete a short survey so that we can gather your views and build a complete picture of the school.



Our online survey for parents and carers is now open — we'd love to hear your views.



The survey should take no more than **5-10 minutes** to complete and is enormously helpful to us in terms of understanding what we are doing well and what we still need to do to improve.



In order for us to be able to rely on the information collected, we really need to receive as many responses as possible to ensure we are capturing the views of **all** our families.



The survey closes on **Friday 8th May**, after which time members of the Governing Body will review the responses.



Thank you for your time and support.

Have your say!

Scan the QR code to respond:



OR

visit the link below:

www.billingshurstprimary.org.uk/survey2026



KS2 Singing Workshop

On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome composer, choral director, and children's songwriter **Emily Barden** to our school. Thanks to the **Arts Society**, our KS2 children enjoyed a truly wonderful afternoon of singing and creativity. Our Downscape children showcased their talents by working on their own original songs, while the whole of KS2 came together to sing traditional songs celebrating Sussex. A fantastic musical experience for everyone involved!



THE ARTS SOCIETY



EYFS - Farming Eggcitement

This week, EYFS were very lucky to welcome [Little Sherwood Farm](#), who brought along an amazing group of animals — dogs, a pony, chicks, bunnies, guinea pigs, sheep and goats! The children had the opportunity to get up close, helping to groom the animals and even hold some of them. There was great excitement throughout the day! Following the children's fantastic experience with the animals at the farm, they had a very special delivery... eggs! The children loved watching for any signs of hatching throughout the week and by Friday we had 7 little chicks!



Year 1 - Rainbow Theatre

This week, Year 1 children had a brilliant morning enjoying a live performance by The Rainbow Theatre. They not only watched but also played an active role in a series of much-loved fairy tales. The children enjoyed Little Red Riding Hood, featuring their very own Mr Keohane as Granny, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Three Little Pigs, and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. There was lots of fun and laughter throughout - especially when the pigs made their great escape through the Big Bad Wolf's legs! The children were fantastic at joining in with the songs and repeated phrases and they listened brilliantly! It was a wonderful experience and there are certainly some budding actors in the making!



Year 5 - Wonder Dome

On Tuesday, Year 5 had an out-of-this-world visit from Wonder Dome. The children stepped inside an inflatable planetarium, immersed in stunning images of our solar system while learning about the planets, their moons, and distant galaxies. They were fascinated by the latest discoveries in space, including missions to Mars, the possibility of life on Jupiter's moon Europa, and Saturn's disappearing rings. Year 5 had a brilliant time and returned to the classroom full of excitement, sharing so many amazing facts!



Year 1 - DT Vehicles

As part of their Toy topic, our Year 1 children worked in pairs to design and build their own moving vehicles. They explored key parts such as the chassis, axles, axle holders, and wheels, using this knowledge to bring their ideas to life. Throughout the process, they showed great teamwork and regularly checked their designs to ensure their final product matched their plans. Many are already thinking about how they would improve their vehicles next time — fantastic reflective learning! The children have loved playing with their finished creations!



Support for Families - Talking about Racism

To support parents/carers in talking to young people about racism, several trusted organisations offer helpful guidance. These resources provide practical advice, conversation starters, and ways to promote understanding and respect.



Resources for parents and carers:

- [NSPCC – Talking to Children About Racism](#)
Offers clear guidance on discussing racism with children, including creating a safe space, answering questions honestly, and helping children recognise unfair behaviour.
- [Save the Children UK – Talking to Your Children About Racism](#)
Provides tips for starting conversations, especially when children are exposed to distressing news, and encourages kindness, inclusion, and critical thinking.
- [UNICEF – Talking to your kids about racism](#)
Gives a global perspective with age-specific advice, common questions, and guidance to help children develop understanding and respect.



Golden Rules

Ready, Respectful and Safe

Sitting at the heart of daily school life are our three Golden Rules:

- We are ready.**
- We are respectful.**
- We are safe.**

These rules provide a simple, consistent foundation that helps every child understand what is expected of them and how they can succeed each day.



- We are ready** means being prepared to learn—listening, focusing, and trying our best.
- We are respectful** is about kindness, good manners, and valuing others.
- We are safe** means making good choices and looking after ourselves and those around us.



You can try this at home too...

Our Golden Rules are most effective when they are shared between school and home. Families can help reinforce these important messages in simple, everyday ways:

- We are ready:** Encourage routines like reading, homework time and getting organised for the next day.
- We are respectful:** Model kindness, listening and positive language.
- We are safe:** Talk about everyday safety - at home, outside and online.



Find adverts from local community groups/clubs on our website!
[CLICK HERE!](#)

This week, our Newsletter Podcast has been recorded by William and Harry, Year 5!

Click the button below to have a listen!



BPA Bees

Summer Fun Day - Saturday 6th June - This year we will be using tokens as payment method for all of the school run stalls. These will be available to purchase in advance and on the day, using cash or card. More details will be sent out to parents at the beginning of May.

We would like to say a big thank you to **M.M.Motors** for sponsoring the event!



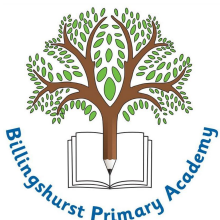
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