

*'Spurring each other on with love'*

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Bickleigh Down  
Church of England  
Primary School

## Bickleigh Down Church of England Primary

### Our Vision in Action

This term in Collective Worship we will be thinking about **our school vision** and how we can live it out in our **local, national and global** community.

“and let us  
consider how we  
may spur one another  
on towards  
love and  
good deeds”  
Hebrews 10:24





**Exploring the Book of Hebrews**  
We will discover why the letter writer wanted to encourage the early Christians to think about their actions.



Guided by our  
**Christian Values**



**LOVE**  
We show love to others as Jesus loves us.



**FORGIVENESS**  
We forgive others and start afresh.



**HOPE**  
We have hope for the future and trust in God's promises.



**SPIRIT**  
We are inspired by God's Spirit every day.

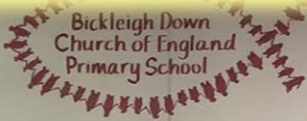


**ASPIRATION**  
We aspire to be the best we can be, using our gifts and talents.

*We spur one another on towards love and good deeds, encouraging each other to be the best that we can be.*



Congratulations to our new Worship Leaders for 2026 - 2027



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## Our Christian Values

• Love • Forgiveness • Hope • Spirit • Aspiration

Mark 12:31

The second commandment is this 'love your neighbour as yourself'. There is no commandment greater than these.

Matthew 6:14

For if you forgive your trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

Jeremiah 31:34

For I will be the Father of the fatherless and the husband of the widow.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Philippians 4:13

I can do all this through him who gives me strength.



Isla

Isaac

Many thanks to Archie and Ada for their remarkable service throughout the year as Worship Leaders for 2025 -2026.



## Important Dates and Events for Parents and Carers



September 2026

Monday - Non Pupil Day

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> - All pupils return to school

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> - Year One Meet the Teacher Meeting at 3.30 pm

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> - Year Six Meet the Teacher & Residential Meeting at 3.30 pm

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Years Two and Four Meet the Teacher Meetings at 3.30 pm

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> - Year Three Meet the Teacher Meeting at 3.30 pm.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> - Year Five Meet the Teacher Meeting at 3.30 pm.

26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> October - Half Term Break

## America Themed Lunch

On Friday 3rd July, we enjoyed a special American Lunch in recognition of America's Independence Day. The themed lunch gave children the opportunity to experience American-inspired food while learning about the importance of different cultures and celebrations from around the world.

Our wonderful catering team prepared a delicious menu of cheeseburgers, macaroni cheese and pancakes, which was a huge hit with the children. Many commented on how tasty the meals were and thoroughly enjoyed trying something different to their regular Friday fish and chips!

Following the success of this event, we are excited to introduce one themed lunch day each half term throughout the next academic year. Each lunch will celebrate a different country or cultural occasion, helping children to broaden their experiences, discover new foods and develop an appreciation of the diverse world we live in.

A big thank you to our fantastic kitchen staff for preparing such a delicious meal and making the day such a success.



At Bickleigh Down, we believe that developing an understanding and appreciation of other cultures is an important part of preparing children to become thoughtful, respectful global citizens. Food is a wonderful way to explore the traditions and heritage of different countries, helping children to celebrate both our similarities and our differences.

## Spelling Bee House Competition

As part of our ongoing drive to improve spelling across the school, our English Lead, Mrs Rundell, organised a whole-school House Spelling Competition. Every child took part by completing a spelling challenge based on the common exception words and spelling patterns they have learned throughout the year. Each child's score contributed valuable points towards their house total. The overall results were announced during Whole School Worship:

### Overall House Results

🥇 1st - Tamar    🥈 2nd - Lynher    🥉 3rd - Tavy    4th - Plym



### Class Winners

- Red Bear - Plym    Blue Bear - Tamar    ICP - Tavy    IDM - Lynher
- 2W - Lynher    2H - Tavy    3AL - Tavy    3G - Tamar
- 4BH - Tavy    4W - Lynher    5S - Plym    5H - Tamar
- 6B - Plym    6R - Lynher

Congratulations to everyone who took part. It was fantastic to see every child contributing to their house, and we are proud of the enthusiasm shown across the school. Developing strong spelling skills will remain a key priority throughout the next academic year for 2026 - 2027.



## Rock Steady Music Summer Concert

Our Rocksteady musicians ended the year on a high with a fantastic Summer Music Concert held on Monday 13th July in St Barnabas Hall. We are incredibly proud of every child who took to the stage and performed with confidence, enthusiasm and great musical talent. Throughout the year, the children have developed their instrumental and vocal skills, learned the importance of keeping a steady beat, explored how dynamics can transform a performance and worked collaboratively to create exciting musical arrangements. Just as importantly, they have grown in confidence, resilience and teamwork, supporting one another during rehearsals and celebrating each other's successes. Every child has played an important part, demonstrating that Rocksteady really is for everyone. A huge thank you goes to our fantastic Band Leader, Derrick (Del), whose encouragement, expertise and enthusiasm have inspired the children throughout the year. The audience thoroughly enjoyed performances from Golden Candy Fire, The Bickleigh Bananas, The Unstoppable Turtle Gang, Power Up and The Hot Dogs. Parents, carers and staff were delighted to see the children's hard work come to life as they performed with energy, passion and smiles on their faces. Well done to all of our Rocksteady musicians for giving us an entertaining concert and a wonderful year of music-making. We look forward to seeing their talents continue to grow next year!







## Year Three Trip to Central Park

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July, Year Three enjoyed a fantastic visit to Central Park for an exciting orienteering course. Despite the warm weather, the children showed great enthusiasm as they developed their map-reading skills to locate a series of checkpoints.

As part of their PSHE learning, the children also took part in an "Egg Challenge", demonstrating excellent responsibility and teamwork as they carefully looked after their eggs throughout the day. A few minor bumps and scrapes certainly didn't dampen spirits, and everyone enjoyed a well-deserved ice cream and time playing together in the park.

A huge thank you to our wonderful parent helpers for their support, encouragement and enthusiasm. Your help made the day such a fun and memorable experience for all.





## PFA Summer Fayre 2026

The annual PFA Summer Fayre, held on Friday 10th July, was a fantastic afternoon of fun, community spirit and celebration. Blessed with beautiful sunshine and warm weather, the school field provided the perfect setting for families to come together and enjoy everything the event had to offer.

From 3.30pm to 5.30pm, the field was buzzing with excitement as children and families enjoyed a wide variety of games, stalls and activities. A huge thank you goes to our wonderful Year Six pupils, dedicated members of staff and parent volunteers, whose enthusiasm and hard work ensured every stall ran smoothly and created such a lively atmosphere throughout the afternoon.

We are incredibly grateful to our amazing PFA, whose commitment, planning and countless volunteer hours made the event such a tremendous success. Thanks to the generosity of our school community, the Summer Fayre raised an outstanding £1699, which will be used to enhance opportunities and resources for all of our children.

Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated and supported the event. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of another successful school year and a fantastic example of the strength of our Bickleigh Down community.







## Year Six Production 2026

Our Year Six pupils wowed audiences with their outstanding performances of *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR*. This spectacular production was the result of weeks of dedication, enthusiasm and teamwork, and the children should be immensely proud of what they achieved. Directed and choreographed by our talented Year Six team, both performances showcased the children's confidence, commitment and remarkable attention to detail. From the energetic dance routines and memorable songs to the expressive acting and flawless teamwork, the cast delivered each scene with precision, bringing the much-loved story to life in a truly unforgettable way.

Producing a musical of this scale requires an enormous amount of hard work behind the scenes, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the staff who gave their time, creativity and encouragement to ensure the children were thoroughly prepared. Their dedication enabled every child to shine on stage.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to our wonderful parents and carers for their continued support. Your efforts in providing costumes and props, helping children learn their lines and songs, and encouraging them throughout the rehearsal process played an invaluable part in the production's success.

Most importantly, congratulations to our incredible Year Six pupils. Their resilience, determination and enthusiasm were evident throughout, and they entertained audiences with performances full of energy, humour and heart. The production was a fitting celebration of their time at Bickleigh Down, creating memories that will stay with them for many years to come. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and we wish them all the best in secondary school.





## Mental Health Ambassador Training

Two weeks ago, our Year Five pupils took part in Mental Health Ambassador training, led by our fantastic Year Six Mental Health Ambassadors. Max, Lacey, Jack, Ayda and Freddie did an incredible job keeping the children engaged and interested throughout the session.

During the training, the children learned about what mental health is and how we can all support positive mental wellbeing. They explored the Seven Senses and the 10-a-Day activities that can help us feel calmer, happier and more relaxed. The Year Five pupils contributed thoughtfully to discussions and shared some wonderful ideas about how we can continue to promote positive mental health across our school.

A special thank you goes to Max, Lacey, Jack, Ayda and Freddie for their dedication as Mental Health Ambassadors this year. They have consistently shown love, kindness and compassion by supporting children who have been finding things difficult. You have all been exceptional role models, and we are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved.



## Bickleigh's Sports Round Up

### Plymouth Schools Athletics Champions!

On Friday 12th June, our athletics team competed in the PSSP Plymouth Schools Athletics Championships alongside schools from across the city. The children took part in a range of track and field events, including sprints, relays, the 200m, long jump, vertical jump and vortex throw.

Our team delivered outstanding performances throughout the day, with many pupils progressing to the finals and securing an impressive number of medals. Their determination, teamwork and exemplary sportsmanship were evident in every event, and they represented Bickleigh Down with great pride.

Thanks to their exceptional efforts, we were crowned **Plymouth Schools Athletics Champions** - a fantastic achievement and one that everyone should be incredibly proud of. Congratulations to all of our athletes.



## Devon County Cricket Champions!

On Wednesday 8th July, our Year Six girls' cricket team travelled to Chudleigh Cricket Club to compete in the Devon County Cricket Finals, having qualified by winning every match in the preliminary tournament at Plymstock.

Despite the hot weather conditions, the girls demonstrated outstanding skill, teamwork and determination throughout the day. Led superbly by their captain, Alice, they once again won all of their group matches to reach the final against Whitchurch. In a thrilling and closely contested game, the team held their nerve to secure victory by just one run, earning the title of Devon County Cricket Champions.

An incredible achievement and a fantastic way to end a memorable summer of sporting success. Congratulations to the whole team on this well-deserved accomplishment!



## Badminton Club

On 26th June, members of our Badminton Club travelled to Horrabridge Primary School for a friendly fixture. The children enjoyed a series of closely contested matches, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, determination and the fantastic progress they have made throughout the year.

A second visit followed on 15th July, where the children had the opportunity to play a variety of games together, giving everyone valuable match practice and the chance to further develop their skills on full badminton courts.

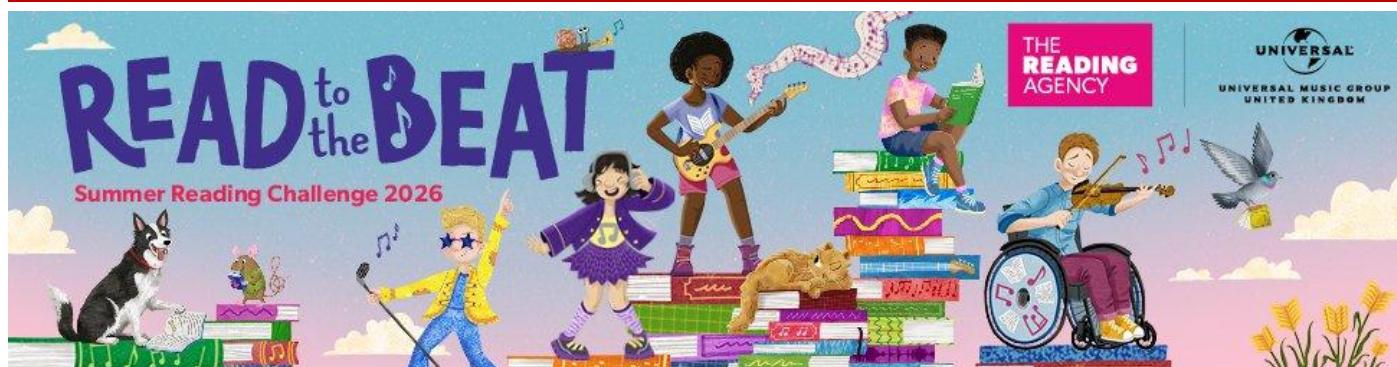
A special thank you to Mr Cooper for his commitment to coaching and supporting the children so brilliantly throughout the year.



## 2026-2027 Staffing Update

Please find below the class and staffing arrangements for the 2026-2027 academic year.

| Classes    | Teachers                                                              | Main Teaching Assistants                                  |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Blue Bears | Mrs Vanstone (Monday - Thursday)<br>Mrs Greenslade (Friday)           | Mrs Greenslade                                            |
| Red Bears  | Mrs O'Toole                                                           | Mrs Bond                                                  |
| ICP        | Mrs Cusack (Monday - Wednesday)<br>Mrs Pring (Thursday - Friday)      | Miss Pendall<br>(Mrs Williams will be on maternity leave) |
| IM         | Mrs McTaggart (Monday - Thursday)<br>Mrs Davey (Friday)               | Mrs Collier                                               |
| 2H         | Mr Harding                                                            | Mrs Sweeney                                               |
| 2W         | Mrs Wall                                                              |                                                           |
| 3BL        | Mrs Ballett (Monday - Wednesday)<br>Mrs Luckett (Thursday and Friday) | Mrs Quest                                                 |
| 3T         | Mr Thomas                                                             |                                                           |
| 4G         | Miss Gayatao                                                          | Miss Crane                                                |
| 4W         | Miss Willis                                                           |                                                           |
| 5H         | Mrs Hindson                                                           | Mrs Squires                                               |
| 5S         | Mr Stein                                                              |                                                           |
| 6B         | Mr Burke (Monday - Thursday)<br>Miss Freeman (Fridays)                | Mrs Wills                                                 |
| 6R         | Mrs Rundell                                                           |                                                           |



We hope that many of our pupils will take part in this year's exciting Summer Reading Challenge. It is a fantastic opportunity for children to enjoy reading for pleasure while continuing to develop and strengthen their reading skills. Please visit **Southway Library** or your nearest local library to get involved.

## Our Christian Value of Aspiration - Aida the Avid Reader

Congratulations to Aida in Year Two, who was presented with her Half a Million Words Certificate during this week's Celebration Awards. This is an exceptional achievement through our Accelerated Reader programme and reflects Aida's outstanding commitment to reading.

Reaching the milestone of reading 500,000 words is a remarkable accomplishment for any pupil, particularly in Key Stage One, where children are still developing their reading skills. In fact, many pupils do not achieve this milestone until Years Five or Six. We are incredibly proud of Aida's dedication, enthusiasm and love of reading. Well done on this fantastic achievement - what an inspiration to others! 😊

