Ofsted Good Provider

Bickleigh Down Church of England Primary School

SCHOOL GAMES PLATINUM 2024/25 - 2025/26

'Spurring each other on with love'

School Drive, Woolwell, Plymouth PL6 7JW

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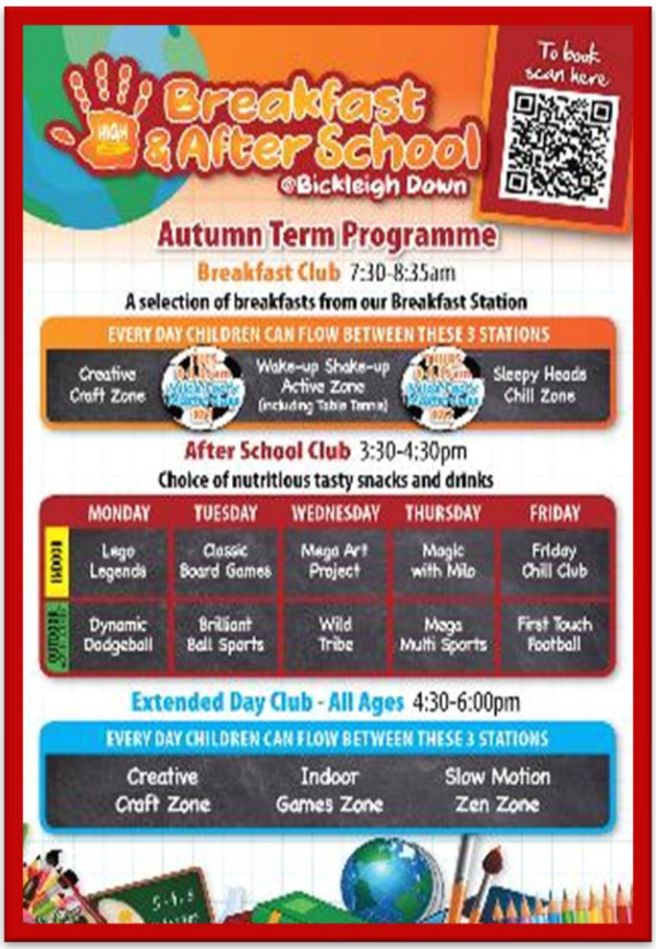
Inauguration Service for Our Vicar – Reverend Jo Northey

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to **Reverend Jo Northey** on the joyful occasion of her successful inauguration as Priest in Charge on **Monday 15th September** 2025. St Mary's Church, Bickleigh, was filled with warmth and celebration as our community gathered to mark this special milestone. Our Worship Leaders, **Ada and Archie,** were truly exceptional in their readings and participation, embodying the spirit of our school with confidence and grace. A special thank you goes to our governors, staff, parents, and carers whose presence and support made the evening even more memorable, surrounding Reverend Jo and her family with love and encouragement as she begins her ministry among us.

High 5 Wraparound Care

High-5 wraparound care operates from **St. Cecilia Hall daily.** Parents and carers are asked to **drop off** and **collect** children from the **Key Stage Two** gate adjacent to Bumblebees Car Park. They offer breakfast and after school care up to 6.00 pm from Monday to Friday. On Wednesday 15th October, they will also have a fun inflatable session on the school field which is available for all children. Please see the flyer below for more information on how to book your child's place.



📢 A Year Three and Five Place is Available at Bickleigh Down CE Primary

We would like to inform parents and carers that places have become available in **Year Three and Year Five.**

If you know of any families who may be interested in their child joining **Bickleigh Down Church of England Primary School,** please direct them to apply through the **Devon County Council Admissions Team** at the earliest opportunity in order to secure the place.

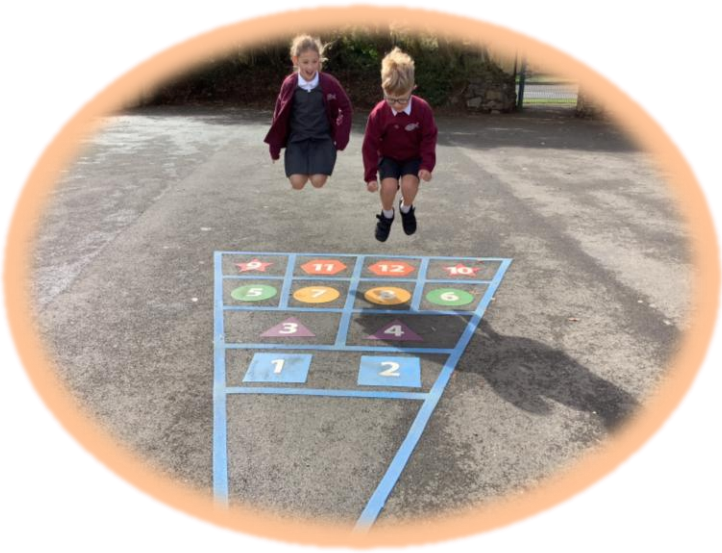
Playground Updates and Expectations

We are delighted to share that our playground has been further enhanced with exciting new markings to support imaginative games and active play. Alongside this, we are grateful to our Parents and Friends Association (PFA) for their generous donation of the additional play equipment resources during the last academic year. These improvements have been enriching the children's playtime experiences and encouraging a wide variety of fun and engaging activities.

As we continue to develop positive play, we also want to remind everyone that ***'rough play'*** will not be tolerated in our playground. This includes, but is not limited to **kicking, pushing, grabbing of body parts, jumping on top of each other, and excessive pulling of clothing.** Such behaviours can quickly lead to accidents and upset, and we are committed to ensuring that playtime remains safe and enjoyable for all children.

Our staff are vigilant in monitoring playtimes, but we also ask for your support in reinforcing these expectations at home. Please remind your child about the importance of playing kindly, showing respect to others, and using positive and encouraging language in their interactions.

Together, let us spur one another on with love and help create a playground environment where every child feels safe, respected and happy.



Homework Matters

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers of the importance of supporting children with their weekly homework, including regular reading and times table practice. Homework is designed to consolidate the learning that takes place in school and to strengthen key skills and knowledge over time. If your child finds an aspect of their homework challenging, please do not give up—speak to their class teacher so that support and guidance can be provided. Children usually have a full week to complete their homework, so if completing it all at once feels overwhelming, we encourage you to break it into smaller, manageable sections across the week. Establishing this routine helps children to stay on track and develop positive learning habits.

For further information about our expectations, please take a look at our **Homework Policy**, which can be found on the school website at https://www.bickleighdown.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=708&type=pdf.

Important Dates and Events for Parents and Carers

September 2025 Literacy Month
Monday 29th - 3rd October: Year Six Residential Week
October 2025 Black History Month & National Bullying Prevention Month
Thursday 2nd : PFA AGM @ The Lopes Arms and Virtual @ 8pm
Friday 3rd – PFA Cauliflower Cards Deadline
Monday 6th : Lunchtime and After School Fun Clubs begin
Tuesday 7th : Presentation of Summer Reading Challenge Certificates during Key Stage One Awards by a representative from Southway Library.
Wednesday 8th : Presentation of Summer Reading Challenge Certificates during Key Stage Two Awards by a representative from Southway Library.
Friday 10th : Tempest Individual & Siblings Photos
Monday 13th : Year Six Junior Life Skills Visit – Ivybridge Leisure Centre
Wednesday 15th – Thursday 16th: Year Four Adventure Race (4BH)
Wednesday 15th – High 5 Inflatables on the Field at 3.30 pm
Thursday 16th – Friday 17th: Year Four Adventure Race (4W)
Friday 17th: Show Racism the Red Card (Non uniform day – wear red)
Tuesday 21st – Thursday 23rd: Parents' Evening Target Setting Meetings
Thursday 23rd : NHS Flu Vaccination for Foundation to Year Six pupils.
27th – 31st: Half Term Break 3.20 pm dismissal
November 2025 School Council Month
Friday 7th: Scouts, Girl Guides, Cadets and St. Johns etc can wear their uniforms in recognition of Remembrance Sunday and Day.
Tuesday 11th: Remembrance Day
Thursday 13th: PFA Autumn Disco for Foundation, KS1 and KS2
17th – 21st: Road Safety, Antibullying Week and Inter-Faith Week
Friday 21st : PFA Mufti Day – contributions to be confirmed
Thursday 27th : Reception Headteacher's Meeting with New/Prospective Parents
Friday 28th: PFA Mufti Day – contributions to be confirmed
December 2025 Gee Wee It's Christmas

Wednesday 3rd : PFA Movie Night
Friday 5th : PFA Mufti Day – contributions to be confirmed
Monday 8th : Non-Pupil Day
Friday 12th : PFA Christmas Raffle
15th – 19th: Pupils are allowed to bring in and exchange Christmas cards
Monday 15th: KS2 Rock Steady Band Concert @ 2.30 pm in St Barnabas Hall
Monday 15th: Foundation & Key Stage One Nativity @ 6 pm
Tuesday 16th : Foundation & Key Stage One Nativity @ 2 pm
Wednesday 17th: Christmas Dinner &Jumper Day (Food Bank Collection)
Thursday 18th: Key Stage Two Carol Service (2:00 and 6:00 pm)
Friday 19th: Dismissal at 1.15 pm

🚙 Car Park and Road Safety Reminder

For the safety of all, please ensure that children are not running near or across the school car park during morning drop-off and dismissal times. Vehicles are moving in and out throughout the day, and any unsafe behaviour could lead to serious accidents. We also ask that you remain vigilant when walking past the car park gate along the pavement outside school. Children should stay with you at all times, not run ahead. Let us all work collaboratively to remind the children of the importance of road safety. Thank you.

For safeguarding reasons, we kindly ask parents and carers not to stand by the fences or gates in the playground during school hours or when they are participating in after school clubs. This includes interacting with the children through the fence or gate or offering them food or drink. Such actions can create unnecessary risks and may be unsettling, particularly for some of our more vulnerable pupils. We appreciate your continued support in helping us to maintain a safe and secure environment for all children.