

'Spurring each other on with love'

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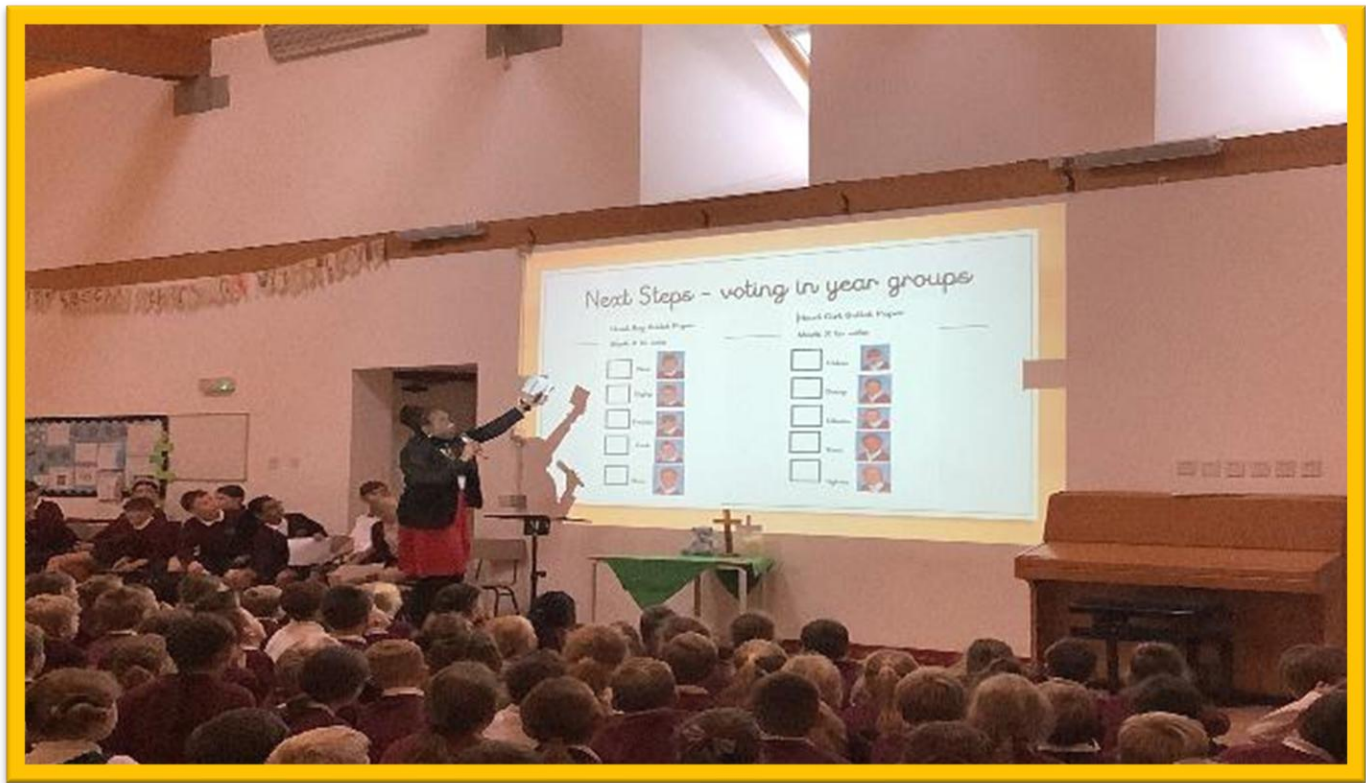
Pupil Voice: Head Boy and Head Girl

We are delighted to share the exciting news about our Head Boy and Head Girl selection process for the academic year 2025-2026. Our Year Six pupils were recently given the opportunity to apply for the prestigious roles of Head Boy and Head Girl. This process was designed to be both rigorous and inspiring, encouraging pupils to reflect on their leadership qualities and commitment to our school community. The Senior Leadership Team received an impressive twenty-five applications in total. From these, five boys and five girls were shortlisted based on the strength of their written applications and their demonstrated leadership qualities and our school values. On Thursday 23rd October, the shortlisted candidates delivered passionate and thoughtful three-minute manifestos to an audience of pupils and staff from Years Two to Six. Each candidate spoke with confidence and clarity, sharing their vision for how they would represent the school, support their peers and live out the school vision. Following the presentations, pupils and staff cast their votes using ballot papers in a democratic election process. This was a wonderful opportunity for children to experience and learn about democracy first hand which is one of the fundamental British Values. After careful counting, we are proud to announce the results:

- Head Boy: Max Deputy Head Boy: Alex
- Head Girl: Chloe Deputy Head Girl: Sylvie

We are confident they will be excellent role models and ambassadors for our school. A sincere thank you goes to all the pupils who put themselves forward. Your courage, enthusiasm and dedication to our school community are truly commendable. 😊





Devon Library Service Reading Roundabout

Some Key Stage Two pupils recently took part in the Devon Library Service's Reading Roundabout. This is an engaging activity designed to develop book selection skills and foster a love of reading. During the sessions, children revisited key strategies for choosing books that suit both their interests and reading levels. They explored a wide variety of genres and formats, including picture books, graphic novels, and non-fiction, while making connections across genres and participating in informal book discussions.

Each pupil selected their favourite titles from a vibrant collection of new books, recording their choices in personalised Reading Roundabout booklets to support future library visits. Their enthusiasm was clear, with many offering thoughtful reflections on what drew them to particular books, such as the blurb, cover design, and initial pages. The activity successfully encouraged confident, independent reading choices and meaningful literary conversations.

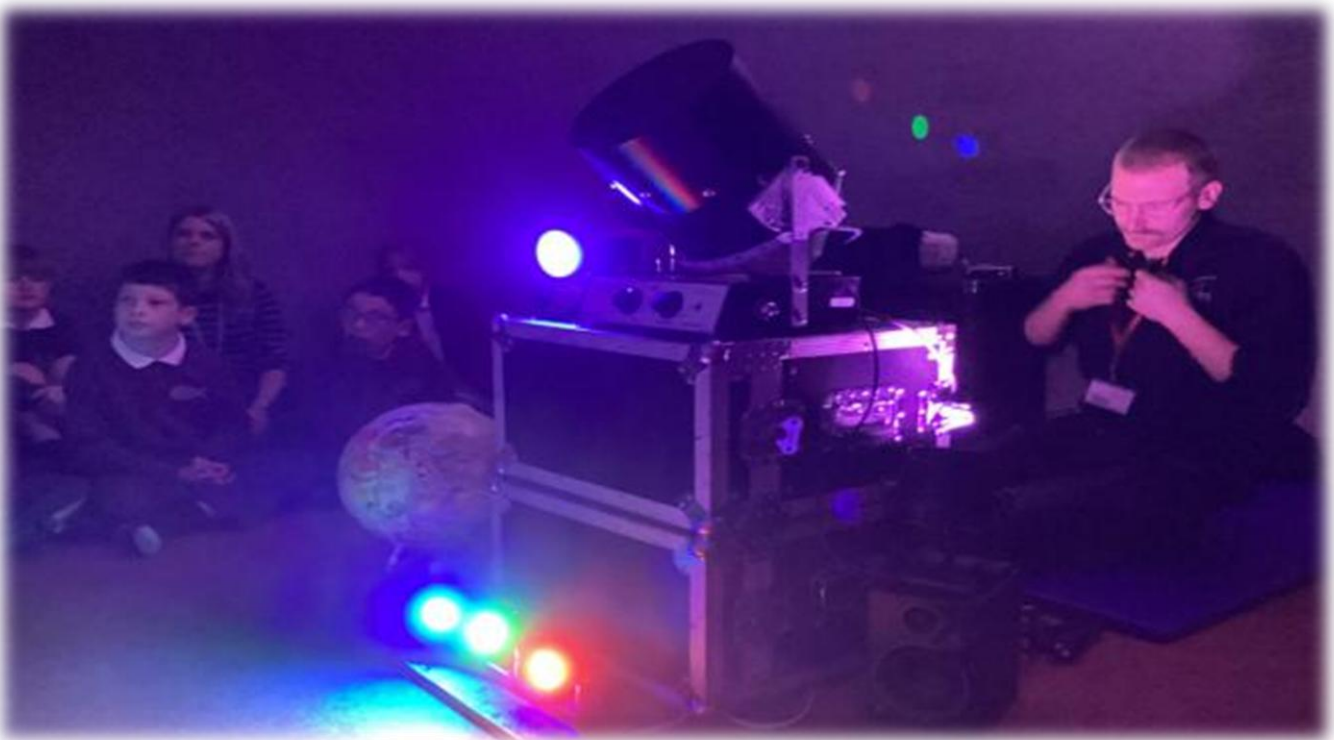






Out of this World! - Year Five Explorer Dome

Year Five had an unforgettable experience with the Explorer Dome this week! Stepping inside the giant inflatable planetarium, the children were taken on a thrilling journey through space. From planets and stars to distant galaxies, they were captivated by the wonders of the universe and brimming with curiosity. The interactive session sparked fantastic questions and deepened their understanding of their science topic on space. It was a truly inspiring and hands-on way to bring learning to life!



High 5 Wraparound Care & Wild Tribe Session

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 from 7.30 am to 6.00 pm from Monday to Friday. On Monday 10th November, they will host a wild tribe session with special guest, Survival Steve. Please see flyer below.



SCAN HERE
TO BOOK!!

THIS EVENT
IS **NOT** TO
BE
MISSED!!!!



BICKLEIGH DOWN WILD TRIBE

WITH SPECIAL GUEST **SURVIVAL STEVE!!**

LEARN FIRELIGHTING, OUTDOOR COOKING AND SURVIVAL SKILLS FROM OUR
INCREDIBLE OUTDOOR INSTRUCTOR

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 3:30-6PM

COST £14 PER CHILD

LIMITED NUMBERS - BOOK NOW!!



Important Dates and Events for Parents and Carers



November 2025 School Council Month

Tuesday 11th: Remembrance Day Scouts, Brownies, Girl Guides, Cadets and St. Johns etc can wear their uniforms in recognition of Remembrance Day.

Thursday 13th PFA Autumn Disco for Foundation, KS1 and KS2

Friday 14th: Pinning Ceremony for School Leaders at 2.15 pm School Council, Mental Health Ambassadors, Worship Leaders, Spirit Detectives, Head Boy/Girl, Deputy Head Boy/Girl, Play Leaders, Library Monitors. (Letters were sent to parents via email).

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

Remembrance Day - Tuesday 11th November

To mark Remembrance Day, pupils who are members of uniformed organisations such as Scouts, Girl Guides, Cadets, St. John Ambulance, and similar groups are invited to wear their official uniforms to school on Tuesday 11th November. This is a respectful way to honour those who have served and continue to serve, and we thank all families for supporting this initiative.

Important Notice - Key Stage Awards Schedule Change

Please note that Key Stage One and Two Awards **will not** be held on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November due to Remembrance Day observance and other arrangements. Key Stage Awards will resume the following week on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th November. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank you for your understanding.

Staffing Update

We are sad to announce that Mrs Perryman, one of our valued Teaching Assistants in Year One, will be leaving us on the 14th November 2025.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank her for all her hard work, care, and dedicated contribution to our school community for the past seventeen years. She has been a wonderful support to both the children and staff and she will be greatly missed by us all.

On a more positive note, we have managed to recruit three new Teaching Assistants for Sports, Year One and Two. Miss Little will support Year Two, Miss Williams will be the new Teaching Assistant in Year One, whilst Mr Brooks will be the new Sports Teaching Assistant. We would like to use this opportunity to welcome them to our Bickleigh school family.

Parents' Evening Update!

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parents' Evening in October. We truly appreciate your time and engagement. We hope you found the discussions with your child's class teacher insightful and valuable, particularly regarding their academic attainment, progress, behaviour, and overall well-being.

Your partnership plays a vital role in supporting your child's learning journey, and it was wonderful to see so many of you taking the opportunity to connect. Thank you for your continued support.

Supporting Our Families – Normal Magic Wellbeing Service

At Bickleigh Down, we recognise the importance of supporting the emotional wellbeing of all our children and families. We are pleased to remind you that the Normal Magic Personal Wellbeing Service is available to any parent or carer who would like support, advice or simply a listening ear. Normal Magic offers personal wellbeing conversations covering a wide range of topics, including:

- Children's emotional wellbeing
- ADHD and ASD
- Bereavement and loss
- Behaviour challenges
- School refusal
- Anxiety and low mood
- Family changes and separation
- Transition to secondary school
- Any other personal concerns

Families can access the service directly using the poster and QR code below. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you feel you would benefit from a conversation or would like some guidance. Together, we can continue to spur each other on with love, ensuring that every member of our school community feels supported, valued and heard.

Normal Magic Personal Wellbeing Service

Normal Magic offer free personal wellbeing conversations to the parents or carers of children in this school.

Normal Magic are here to discuss **any** concerns you may have for your child's emotional wellbeing.

We are thrilled Normal Magic are in our school and working with us!



Simply scan this QR code and complete the request for contact form. We will contact you within 2 working days to arrange an appointment.



Remembrance Day Contributions – MK Heroes Club

From Friday 7th to Tuesday 11th November 2025, MK Heroes Club will be inviting children to contribute towards Remembrance Day by donating in support of the Royal British Legion.

Children may bring in donations ranging from 50p to £2, which can be exchanged for commemorative items such as paper poppies, wrist bands and other remembrance-themed tokens.

Your support helps honour those who have served and continue to serve. Thank you for joining us in this meaningful tribute as we seek to spur others on with love.



Reintroduction of Packed Lunch Option

Following feedback from both parents and children, we are pleased to announce that we will be reintroducing a packed lunch option as part of our school meal offer.

This option will be available from the week commencing, Monday 17th November 2025 and aims to provide greater choice and flexibility for our families. Further details about the packed lunch menu will be shared next week. We hope this reintroduction will support our children and families in selecting meals that best suit their preferences.