

Summer Term  
25.06.26



# THE SCHOOL BELL

## INSET DAYS

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July  
**INSET DAYS 26/27**  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2027  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2027  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2027

## **KEY DATES**

**6<sup>th</sup> July** - Year 6 Enterprise Day  
**14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> July** - Junior School Production  
**20<sup>th</sup> July** - Family Picnic  
**21<sup>st</sup> July** - **Last day for children. Finish usual time.**

Tomorrow is Transition Day, and we are looking forward to an exciting day across the school. Please find attached social stories to help prepare children for the experience.

We are delighted to be welcoming new members to our teaching team. Mrs Barnhouse and Mrs Hewett will be joining us, along with Mrs Lok, who will be part of Jaguars Class (Class 3) (many of you may already recognise her), and Mrs Holmes, who becomes a new member of our Hedgehog Class (Class 1) team. We are very pleased to have them all on board.

While this is an exciting time, we recognise that transitions can also feel a little unsettling for some children. Please take time to talk with your child about their day, both before and after and do let us know if there is anything we need to be aware of so we can best support them.

I am also sad to share that Mrs Curd will not be with us in September. She has worked with many families over the years and I know she will be greatly missed. As a school we would like to thank her for all of her hard work and care. Mrs Curd is moving on to new adventures and we wish her all the very best in her new setting.

Thank you for your patience with the early closures this week. It has been a very hot few days in school but our measures helped to make it just about bearable. Thank you so much to the School Associations for ice pops and the Church for their use of the cool building. Here's hoping for more comfortable weather next week!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend when it comes.

### **Cycling Safety**

I would be grateful if all parents could speak with their children about road safety if they cycle to school. We had a very scary near-miss this week involving some cyclists and a car, so please remind your children to stay highly aware of their surroundings and watch out for traffic.

### **Changes to Free School Meals**

Please ensure you have read my communication about changes to FSM. Without some action it might be that your child misses out on vital funding they are entitled to. Any questions then please have a chat with Mrs Hale.

### **RSE consultation**

The Department for Education introduced compulsory relationship education for primary children from September 2020. It also became compulsory for all schools to teach health education. The purpose of these subjects is to support all young people to be happy, healthy and safe – to equip them for adult life and to help support children to make a positive contribution to society.

As part of this, all schools are required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for relationships education, which will inform decisions on when and how certain content is covered.

Effective engagement gives the space and time for parents to input, ask questions, share concerns and for the school to decide the way forward. Schools will listen to parents' views, and then make a reasonable decision as to how they wish to proceed. When and how content is taught is ultimately a decision for the school and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content.

You can find further details about the introduction of compulsory relationship education, as well as answers to many other frequently asked questions, on the [government website](#).

[You can view our current policy on the school website](#). There is also a link on the webpage to fill in a consultation form if you wish.

### **Parking at The Swan**

We are very fortunate that The Swan kindly allows parents to use their car park at drop-off and pick-up times. We would like to remind everyone to please use this space considerately.

Although parents are welcome to park at the pub, please ensure that you do not park in a way that blocks the building's fire doors or occupy the nearer section of the car park. When using The Swan, please park in the furthest spaces wherever possible.

Thank you for your continued support and consideration.

## **Lost Property - again!**

We have a huge amount of lost property in school. Next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (weather permitting) we will put out the lost property for you to view in the calm area. Please have a look. Anything not taken will be donated or disposed of.

## **🌿 Help Us Transform Our Outdoor Space! 🌿**

**We are excited to be developing our outdoor area to create a more engaging, creative, and welcoming environment for our children—but we need your help!**

**At the end of our playground, we are hoping to create a simple seating area using wooden pallets, turning them into sturdy benches where children can relax, read, and socialise outdoors. If you have experience with woodworking, access to pallets, or would be willing to lend a hand building these benches, we'd love to hear from you.**

**Whether you can offer time, skills, materials, or advice—every bit of help makes a difference.**

**If you're able to support either of these ideas, please get in touch with the school office.**

**Thank you for helping us make our outdoor space even more special for our children!**

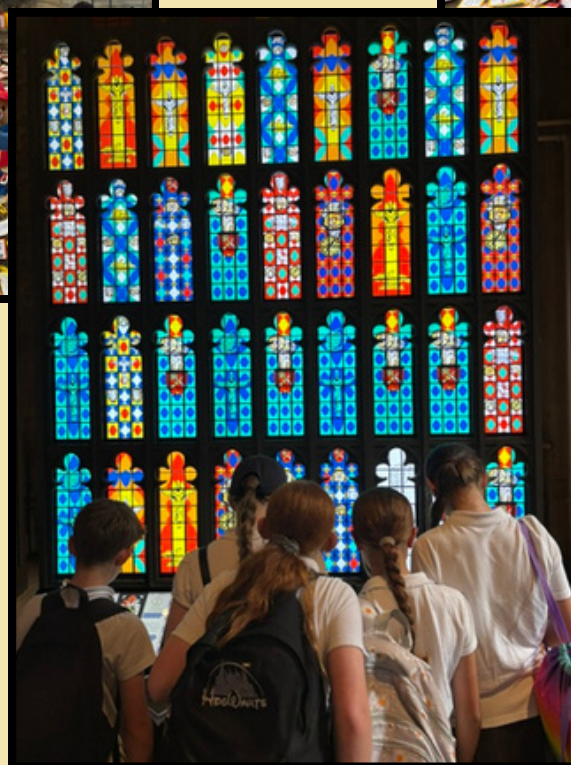
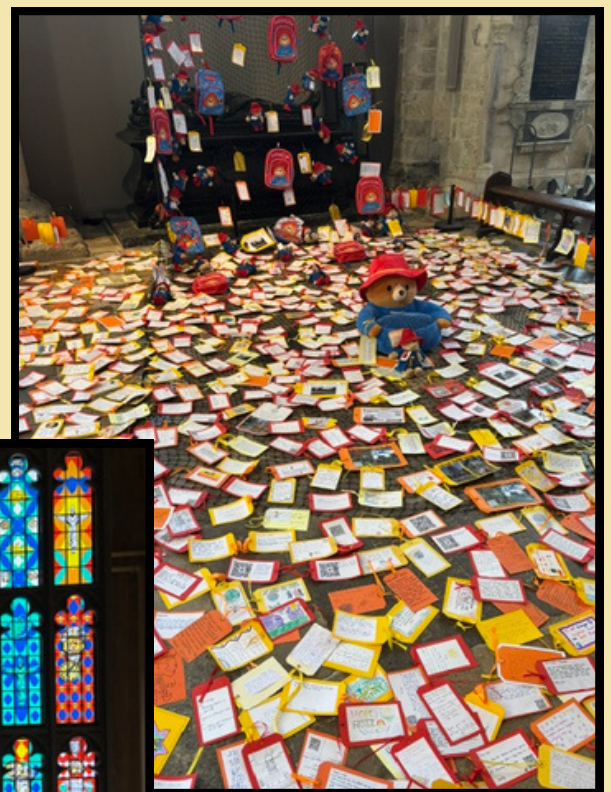


# Year 6 Leavers Service – Winchester Cathedral

On Tuesday, our Year 6 pupils travelled to the magnificent Winchester Cathedral for their Leavers Service, marking a beautiful and fitting milestone as they prepare to say goodbye to their time at our Church of England primary school.

The day was packed with inspiration, starting with the Winchester Diocese "Bags of Hope" project, which this year featured a wonderful Paddington Bear theme. The children participated in an uplifting singing workshop and were also treated to a fascinating tour of the historic cathedral, marvelling at its incredible architecture and stories.

The celebrations culminated in an afternoon service, giving our leavers a moment to reflect on their primary school journey, celebrate their achievements, and look forward to the future with hope. It was the perfect send-off for such a fantastic year group!



## Hampshire Library Summer Reading Challenge

The Hampshire Library Summer Reading Challenge is a wonderful opportunity to keep children reading over the holidays and to help them develop a lifelong love of books.

Reading is the single most important thing you can do with your child to support their academic progress and future opportunities. Whether you read with them, to them or listen to them read - every little bit makes a difference.

We look forward to celebrating lots of medals and certificates in our celebration assembly in the new school year! The library also records your child's school, so we'll be able to see how many of our pupils take part compared to other schools. I wonder which class will have the most entries?

**THE READING AGENCY** | **UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP UNITED KINGDOM**

# READ to the BEAT

**Summer Reading Challenge 2026**

**Join FREE at your local library!**

**GO ALL IN. National Year of Reading 2025** | **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**

Delivered in partnership with libraries  
[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

Illustrations © Harry Woodgate 2025. Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2025, registered charity number 1085443 England and Wales.

**MONEY**

# YEAR 6

## Gridley Challenge

**MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**2:15 - 3:20PM**  
**School playground**

HELP YEAR 6 RAISE MONEY  
FOR OUR SCHOOL

**GAMES | PRIZES | BAKE SALE |  
TREATS**

CASH/CHANGE ONLY

PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN  
IN AT SCHOOL PICK UP TIME

# FAMILY PICNIC

MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026  
2.15-3.15PM

BRING A PICNIC TO  
SHARE AND  
CELEBRATE THE YEAR  
WITH US.

SSJ PLAYGROUND

CHILDREN TO LEAVE AT  
NORMAL TIME.

## SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

If you would like to support the School Association then please drop them a line:  
**School.Association@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk**

They are so important and provide wonderful opportunities for the whole school throughout the year.

### Summer Term - Events for your diary

The Summer term is full of fantastic school events but it can sometimes be tricky to plan for them. Below are some of the events that might require attendance from parents or family members to enable you to plan accordingly. The Family Picnic will be a new event during the school day for the whole community to enjoy - details to follow!

**15th July – Leavers Service – Church**  
**10th – 16th July – Junior School Production**  
**20th July – Family Picnic - 2pm**  
**22nd July - INSET Day**

