



September Newsletter
Autumn Term
2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. 2025-2026 here we go! The staff have been very busy preparing for the children's return and we have much planned this year already. This is the time of the year when staff establish routines and expectations with the children. I am sure your child will be able to tell you about our rules; **Ready, Respectful and Safe**. Please remind your child of these rules at home to support us.

We are all looking forward to working in partnership with you. If you have a concern, please share it with the class teacher as a first resort. If you need further support, you can speak to our **Year leaders** are as follows:

Miss Kennett (Reception); Mrs Saunders (Year 1); Miss Stringfellow (Year 2); Mr Millwood (Year 3);
Miss Robinson (Year 4); Mr Austin (Year 5) and Mrs Rose (Year 6)

If you still have concerns, please make an appointment at the office to see a member of the Senior Leadership team. We are here to help.

Visits and visitors

We are aiming to send out information about all visits and visitors by the end of September so parents/carers know how much these will cost. We will then be offering payment plans which we hope will be more manageable. We really need to have as many contributions as possible this year as our budget is incredibly tight.

Drains!

The school desperately needs help with clearing drains; you will have noticed a lot of large puddles yesterday! We have no budget available for this so if you know of anyone who provides this service, please contact the school.

Friends

If you are new to our school, we really need your help! The Friends are our fundraising team. Lauren and Alex work really hard arranging events for the children. Our next major fundraiser is the Late Summer Fair on Friday 26th September. If you have any spare time, please contact friends@tbps.org.uk and let them know how you can help.

Walking home from school

We no longer allow children in Year 5 or 6 to walk home from school. This was shared with parents/carers several times last term. There has been updated advice from DFE and NSPCC which states that it is unsafe for children under the age of 12 to walk home from school. Thank you for your co-operation with this change to our collection arrangements.

Welcome new staff

Welcome to Mrs Geary who has joined Year 1, Mrs Caplin has joined as our new ELSA, Miss Azam and Mrs Smith have joined our Learning Support team. Miss Hewitt is back from maternity leave. I hope that our new staff will be very happy working with our amazing children and team.

We will be sending out the next newsletter in October! They will be sent out on the first Friday of every month.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Trudy Emberson
Headteacher





Means-Tested Free School Meals and Pupil Premium



All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal (often referred to as UFSM). However, if you are in receipt of certain benefits you may be entitled to **Means-Tested Free School Meals (FSM)**. The difference is that if you are eligible for Means-Tested FSM there are other types of support that you can tap into.

Once you are in receipt of Means-Tested Free School Meals your child's school will receive additional funding (**Pupil Premium**) to help and support you through your child's education. The school will also receive extra support to deliver a fully inclusive and accessible education for all of our pupils. You can apply for Means-Tested Free School Meals at any time whilst your child is at Three Bridges Primary School.

For example:

If you apply and are entitled to Means-Tested Free School Meals in Reception Class the funding is there to support you for your child's entire time at TBPS. If you become eligible in Year 5 then the Pupil Premium funding goes with you to secondary school.

How can Pupil Premium funding help me?

Pupil Premium funding is used at the school's discretion to support children. **Each situation is assessed individually**, but **examples** of the support available are listed below:

Help with before and after-school childcare	Before and after-school sports and activities
Support with payment for trips if receiving FSM	Counselling support
Help with school uniform	Holiday clubs
Music lessons subsidy	Play therapy

Is my child eligible? From 1 April 2018, Means-Tested Free School Meals in all West Sussex maintained and free schools / academies are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

[Universal Credit](#) (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

[Income Support](#)

Income-based [Jobseeker's Allowance](#)

Income-related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)

Support under [Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)

The guaranteed element of State [Pension Credit](#)

[Child Tax Credit](#) (provided you're not also entitled to [Working Tax Credit](#) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

[Working Tax Credit](#) run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

If you are eligible for Means-Tested Free School Meals in accordance with the above criteria, and your child is also receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals, **please still apply**. This will enable your child's school to claim valuable 'Pupil Premium' funding.

How do I apply? You can apply for Means-Tested Free School Meals online via West Sussex County Council using the link below:

[Use this link to find out more and apply.](#)

If your child comes under any of the categories below you might also be entitled to Pupil Premium support (documentation will need to be provided in these instances):

Children of those employed in the Armed Services

Children adopted from care

Please get in touch with the School Office to find out how to apply and what support is offered on 01293 524076 or office@tbps.org.uk



Reporting Absence



If your child is not in school due to illness we ask you to report this using 'Studybugs'.

This is a free absence-reporting app, which parents/carers can download here:
<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>.

Alternatively parents/carers can visit the Studybugs website to inform us that your child is ill and unable to attend school.

If you do not use the Studybugs app, please call the school to report your child's absence.

**You must telephone the school office every day your child is absent:
01293 524076 (option 1 to report an absence).**

If we do not hear from you we follow guidance in first trying to contact parents by telephone to find out why a child is absent from school leading to visiting the child's home if contact cannot be made.



Notices

YOU'RE INVITED TO

Kick Start

A kids and families service for primary school aged children with music, games, activities, snacks and a bouncy castle!

Mondays in term-time 3:30-4:30pm
from 15th September

CHURCHCRAWLEY.COM/STRICHARDS

Church at St Richard's, 1 Crossways,
Three Bridges, Crawley RH10 1QF

church
AT ST RICHARD'S

**Sussex
Dental
Helpline**



NHS

If you need urgent dental help and cannot find a dentist, the Dental Helpline can book you an urgent appointment with an NHS dentist.

For up to-date-information and support on getting urgent dental care, contact:



0300 123 1663

Monday to Friday 8am and 4pm

Alternatively, email: kcht.dentalhelpdesk@nhs.net for more information.





Notices



Emergency Alerts system test in September

UK Government



UK EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

The UK government is testing the Emergency Alerts system on Sunday 7 September 2025 at 3pm.

Compatible mobile phones and tablets will receive an alert, make a loud siren-like sound and vibrate. You will not need to take any action.

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic abuse with a concealed phone, it may be more appropriate to turn off alerts.

How you opt out depends on your device, but if you aren't sure how to do it, Refuge, the largest specialist domestic abuse organisation in the UK, has a guide on how to turn off emergency alerts and secure your device on their Tech Safety website.

The Dad Pad

We are delighted to be working in partnership with Brighton and Hove Safeguarding Children Partnership to re-launch the new **DadPad app platform** on Wednesday 24th September 2025.

Dadpad is a FREE supportive resource for expectant and new Dads by providing the knowledge and practical skills needed to be a successful parent.

This resource will support Dads and their partners to give baby the best possible start in life.

The new version of this app includes forums where Dads can connect and ask any questions, they may have about navigating their way through parenthood.

Practitioners should share this app with the families they work with and support them to download it and navigate the contents.

If you are using an **Apple** device, please click on the **App Store** : [TheDadPad on the App Store](#)

If you are using an **Android** device, please click on **Google Play** : [TheDadPad – Apps on Google Play](#)

For more information please watch: [DadPad New App Showreel](#)

For more information, please visit the [DadPad website](#)

Once you've completed the download onto your device, you will be prompted to register so you can use all the new DadPad App features.





Dates for your diary



September 2025

Mon 8th	First Brownings Farm visit of the year (Elm) - see next page for dates. International literacy day
Wed 10th	Year 1 Healthy Child screening. Year 5/6 Flag football TBCC @1pm
Thurs 11th	Year 5 Tag Rugby @
Mon 15th	Junior Citizen Year 6 - The Hawth from 12.30pm. National coding week.
Sun 21st	National fitness day
Wed 24th	Year 6 Crime and Punishment workshop with Mr Dilly
Fri 26th	Girls T1 Rugby Festival RUFC from 9am. European day of languages. Late Summer Fair from 3.30pm
Mon 29th	Book bus visiting Pear Class for Rhyme Time @ 10am

October 2025 (Black History Month)

Thurs 2nd	National Poetry Day. Year 4 Rugby Festival @ RUFC 9am—2.30pm
Mon 6th-Fri 10th	PGL residential for Year 6. Space week.
Tues 7th	Pear Class visiting Tilgate Park
Thurs 9th	Reading Challenge Assembly —Lower site
Week of 6th	National libraries week
Fri 10th	World Mental Health Day
Week of 13th	Termly Learning Conferences - Year 1 and 2 (KS1)
Wed 15th	6 weeks in meeting—new Reception parents @2pm
Week of 20th	Termly Learning Conferences - Year 3—6 (KS2)
Mon 20th	Year 3 Stone Age and Year 5 Mayans workshops with Mr Dilly. Diwali.
Wed 22nd	Y5/6 Hockey tournament @ Hazelwick from 1pm
Thurs 23rd	Year 5/6 mixed netball festival @ TBCC from 1pm Festival of Light @ Upper site playground—evening

HALF TERM is Mon 27th-Fri 31st

November 2025

Thurs 6th	Year 5 Money Matters with Simon Ogle—all day
Fri 7th	Learning showcases Y1—6 (Parents in school from 2pm)
Week of 10th	National Recycling week. Anti-Bullying week.
Tues 11th	Remembrance Day
Fri 14th	Children in Need—Be Spotacular—more details to follow
Mon 17th-Fri 21st	Year 6 Bikeability week
Wed 19th	Individual photos
Thurs 20th	Sibling photos
Fri 21st	Flu spray-Upper site am, lower site pm
Week of 24th	Stay and Learn—EYFS

December 2025

Mon 8th	Apple Class Christmas performance @ 2pm
Tues 9th	Pear Class Christmas performances at 11am and 2.30pm. Cherry Class Christmas performance @ 2pm
Wed 10th	KS1 Christmas performance
Thurs 11th	Mulberry Class Christmas performance @ 2pm
Wed 17th	Christmas lunch and party afternoon
Thurs 18th	Christmas Carols—Y3/4 @9.15am and Year 5/6 at 2.30pm
Fri 19th	INSET day—school is closed

Remaining INSET DAYS are Monday 20th July to Wednesday 22nd July 2025



Brownings Farm Dates



Year 2	Elm Class	8th September	17th September	
Year 2	Holly Class	10th September	22nd September	
Year 2	Pine Class	15th September	24th September	

Year 1	Chestnut	2nd March	11th March	23rd March
Year 1	Juniper	4th March	16th March	25th March
Year 1	Silver Birch	9th March	18th March	26th March

Reception	Apple	18th May	3rd June	8th June
Reception	Cherry	20th May	4th June	10th June
Reception	Mulberry	21st May	5th June	11th June

Year 5	Cedar	20th April	30th April	11th May
Year 5	Cypress	22nd April	6th May	13th May
Year 5	Sycamore	29th April	7th May	14th May

Year 6	Yew	15th June	22nd June	29th June
Year 6	Larch	18th June	23rd June	30th June
Year 6	Ash	19th June	25th June	2nd July

Year 6 - Swimming Dates

Swimming Lessons - every Thursday Ash Class

11/09/2025 to 12/12/2025

Larch Class

05/01/2026 to 27/03/2026

Yew Class

13/04/2026 to 17/07/2026