



April Newsletter Spring Term 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

March was incredibly busy with so many wonderful events, thank you so much for all your support with dressing up and especially today for our very first Colour Run! Please check the dates page for all the events planned so far for the summer term; we have a busy term ahead of us.

Our highlights were:

- ☉ Stay and learn sessions in Nursery and Reception classes so that parents/carers can see Maths teaching in action and be able to help their child at home
- ☉ Reception children learning about People who help us, so they had visits from the Police and the Fire Brigade
- ☉ Year 3's visit by a doctor was enjoyed by all!
- ☉ Year 3 visiting the cinema again to see Earth and Space, to enhance the children's learning
- ☉ The school's very first Colour Run today! Our celebration of the Holi Festival. Thank you for all your donations for the school and to Miss Humphreys, Mr Wells and Mr Spackman for organising this event, with the help of our amazing Friends.
- ☉ I am training School Council to be Peer Mediators so that they can support children at play and lunchtimes; our KS2 School Council are already working hard to learn this new skill
- ☉ Comic Relief—thank you for all your kind donations and for getting involved.
- ☉ Monday was Down Syndrome awareness day—thank you for encouraging your child to wear lots of socks!
- ☉ Let's Dance was epic! From the costumes to the dance itself, the children performed with confidence and a little bit of pizzazz! I hope everyone who took part feels super proud of this achievement and HUGE thanks to Miss Culley for choreographing and organising everything, with the help of Mr Wells and Mr Spackman.
- ☉ I hope our mums all appreciated the gifts that the children bought at the Mothers' Day shop; the children really do enjoy browsing for that special something. Thank you to the Friends for arranging this opportunity.
- ☉ The children loved reading *Mother Earth Is Weeping* on World Book Day. I thought the costumes were particularly creative this year, well done everyone!
- ☉ We have three new governors to work with the team; welcome to Jean Evenor, Oluchi Okeke & Emily Burt.
- ☉ The end of term iRock concert was absolutely brilliant. Well done to all of the children involved; they were so confident!

Staffing update

We say goodbye to Miss Williamson today. She has worked at Three Bridges for over 20 years! I am sure you will join me in thanking her for all her hard work for the children and staff at the school and we wish her every success in the future.

Summer term expectations

Hopefully the weather will start to warm up for our final term. For new parents, this is our summer uniform; a blue and white checked dress or white/blue polo shirt with shorts (not sports shorts please) with sandals. Please make sure your child has socks if they wear sandals. Your child will need a hat and a named water bottle. Please apply sunscreen before school. We do keep an eye on temperatures so that children are not outside for too long when it gets very hot.

Have a wonderful Easter break everyone!

Mrs Emberson, Headteacher

Blue Team - 1805

Red Team - 1808

Yellow Team - 1676

Green Team - 1658



Learn Enjoy Achieve Respect Nurture Engage & Resilience





Celebrations



BEST CLASS ATTENDANCE OF THE MONTH

Huge congratulations go to



Pine Class with **95%**
&
Poplar & Sycamore Class with **96%**



Super job!!

BEST CLASS ATTENDANCE for the Spring Term

Huge congratulations go to



Juniper, Elm, Holly with **93%**

&



Maple & Sycamore with **97%**

Keep up the good work!



BEST TEAM ATTENDANCE of the Spring Term

Huge congratulations go to

Red Team with **93%**



Year Group Attendance so far...



Year 1	91%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	94%
Reception	85%
Nursery	88%





Allergy Protections - Department for Education

The government has launched a consultation on new statutory guidance aimed at improving allergy management in schools, following campaigning by the parents of five-year-old Benedict Blythe, who died after a fatal allergic reaction at school in 2021. Their campaign for stronger protections has become known as Benedict's Law.

I wanted to reassure parents/carers that the school already stocks spare adrenaline auto-injectors, all staff already receive allergy awareness training, and children with allergies have an Individual Healthcare Plan. If your child has an allergy, and you have not yet informed the school, please do inform us as soon as possible.

Domestic abuse

Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between people who are, or who have been in a relationship, regardless of gender or sexuality. It can also happen between adults who are related to one another.

Domestic abuse can include:

- ⊗ **coercive control** such as being told where to go and what to wear or being isolated from friends and family
- ⊗ **physical abuse** such as being punched, kicked, cut, or being hit with an object
- ⊗ **emotional abuse** such as being constantly undermined, sworn at, intimidated, ridiculed, harassed, or threatened with harm or death
- ⊗ **sexual abuse and rape** including within a relationship or being made to have sex with other people
- ⊗ **stalking and harassment** such as being repeatedly followed or spied on, being regularly given unwanted gifts or receiving unwanted communication
- ⊗ **economic and financial abuse** such as having access to money controlled or withheld or being prevented from earning money
- ⊗ **technology-facilitated abuse** such as having messages and emails monitored or deleted, constantly being sent messages or calls, or being tracked via device location

Domestic abuse always has an impact on children. Being exposed to domestic abuse in childhood is child abuse. Children may experience domestic abuse both directly and indirectly.

Children may experience:

- ⊗ not getting the care and support they need from their parents or carers as a result of the abuse
- ⊗ hearing the abuse from another room
- ⊗ seeing someone they care about being injured and/or distressed
- ⊗ finding damage to their home environment like broken furniture
- ⊗ being hurt from being caught up in or trying to stop the abuse
- ⊗ being denied access to parts of their home, such as rooms being locked
- ⊗ being forced out of or losing their home

For immediate, confidential support regarding domestic abuse in the UK, call the National Domestic Abuse Helpline at 0808 2000 247, available 24/7.





This year, through our work with **Grammarsaurus**, children will be learning how words are built — not just memorised!

We'll be focusing on **etymology** and **morphology** in spelling, which means understanding where words come from and how words are made up of smaller parts called **morphemes**, such as:

- **Base** – the core part of a word that carries meaning (e.g. help, move, play)
- **Affix** – a morpheme that is either a prefix or a suffix
- **Prefix** – a part added **before** the base to change its meaning (e.g. un-, re-, mis-)
- **Suffix** – a part added **after** the base to change its form or meaning (e.g. -ed, -ing, -ful, -ness)
- **Stem** – a word part that includes a base and may also contain other morphemes (e.g. lovely, dangerous, laziness)

What will pupils be doing?

- Building words using bases, stems and affixes
- Learning the **etymology** of words – understanding their origins, historical roots, and language journey
- Exploring how morphemes change the meaning of words
- Using **word matrices** to see how one base can create many new words. A word matrix is a chart that shows how one base can grow into many new words using different prefixes and suffixes. It helps children see spelling patterns and deepens their understanding of word meanings

Writing **word sums**

(e.g. runⁿ + ing = running, help + ful = helpful, drive~~l~~ + er = driver)

Directly applying new spelling knowledge in their writing units

Learning **four key spelling rules** for adding suffixes:

Double the final consonant letter when a word ends in a CVC pattern, then add the vowel suffix.

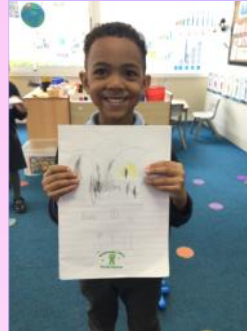
Drop the final silent e vowel letter, then add the vowel suffix.

Change the final letter y after a consonant letter to i, then add the suffix (except -ing).

Just add the suffix.



Headteacher Awards



Reception children explored their writing through Drawing Club by responding to the question, "How else could Zog and the doctors travel to help people?"

One child created a drawing inspired by the characters from our road safety assembly, demonstrating their understanding by recalling and illustrating the rules for crossing the road safely.



At Three Bridges Primary School, we are always incredibly proud of the creativity and talent our children show.

One of our fantastic Year 5 children has gone above and beyond by designing and creating their very own board game from scratch.



Holi Assembly



In our recent assembly, the children learned about the colourful Hindu festival of Holi. They discovered that Holi celebrates the arrival of spring and is a time for joy, kindness, and new beginnings.

The children enjoyed hearing the story behind the festival and learning how people celebrate by coming together with music, dancing, and bright colours.

It was a lovely opportunity for the children to explore another culture and think about celebrating friendship and respect for others. Our Colour Run today will bring this festival to life!



World Book Day - 5th March 2026



We had a brilliant time celebrating **World Book Day** at school! The children loved reading *Mother Earth Is Weeping* by Claire Donald. Some of the children's costumes were inspired by this wonderful book!





World Book Day - 5th March 2026



Our classrooms were filled with a wonderful mix of characters as the children arrived dressed as their favourite heroes, villains and storybook stars. From magical wizards to adventurous explorers, it was fantastic to see so many imaginative costumes. We especially love the home made ones! Hopefully everyone received their book token and were able to buy a new book! Here is the list of books that were offered this year:

[NEWS: World Book Day reveals 2026 books on the BooksForTopics Blog](#)





World Book Day - 5th March 2026



World Book Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of reading and remind us how books can take us on amazing adventures without even leaving the classroom.

A big thank you to all our families for helping to create such fantastic costumes and for continuing to encourage a love of reading at home. We hope the children have been inspired to pick up a book and keep the adventure going!



Learn Enjoy Achieve Respect Nurture Engage & Resilience



This week, our Reception classes had a very exciting visit from the police! The children were thrilled to meet real officers and learn all about how they help keep us safe in our community.

We would like to say a big thank you to the officers for taking the time to visit us and inspire our young learners!





Sport



Year 4 girls football team who came second in their competition!

By reaching the top two they have also qualified for the county finals which are being held at Chelsea's Cobham training facility!

How exciting for the children!



We took the children to a Tennis competition, the children performed exceptionally well, securing an impressive second-place finish.

In addition, some of the children took part in the sports hall athletics competition, where they achieved a strong 6th place out of 12 competing schools.

This was a great effort against tough competition, and we are very proud of their performance and commitment throughout both events.



The Saplings



The Saplings have been busy in the kitchen this month, enjoying plenty of hands on cooking activities and exploring new tastes and skills along the way.

Out in the garden, there has been just as much excitement, with frog spawn now growing in the outdoor tank, sparking lots of curiosity as the children watch the early stages of the frog life cycle unfold.





Let's Dance 2026



The children behaved wonderfully, and their performance was truly outstanding. We received many compliments about their behaviour in the theatre throughout the day during rehearsals, and again after their performance.

They opened the entire show with the *Men in Black* routine, which was fantastic and set the tone brilliantly.

A huge thank you to all the helpers, and especially to the children, who worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of this achievement.

Let's Dance is a national campaign to inspire everyone in the UK to embrace dance as a way to improve their health, connect with others, and have fun. We are proud to take part every year!



Learn Enjoy Achieve Respect Nurture Engage & Resilience



Dates for your diary



April 2026

Mon 13th	Back to school. Mental Health Ambassadors 2.15pm - 3.15pm
Thurs 16th	National Offer Day
Fri 17th	Sussex Cricket Fun Day - more details to follow
Tues 21st	Victim Support - with Year 6. Rowan Class to Crawley library pm
Wed 22nd	Year 2 visiting Crawley Library
Tues 28th	Poplar Class to Crawley Library
Wed 29th	Year 2 to Wakehurst Place. Reception visits to Crawley Library
Thurs 30th	Willow Class to Crawley Library

May 2026

Mon 4th - BANK HOLIDAY - School is closed

Tues 5th	Beech Class to Crawley Library
Tues 5th-Fri 8th	School Book Fair on both sites
Wed 6th	Year 5 visiting Crawley Library
Thurs 7th	Maple Class to Crawley Library
Mon 11th - Fri 15th	Year 6 - End of Key Stage 2 tests week
Wed 13th	Year 1 visiting Crawley Library
Thurs 14th	Oak Class to Crawley Library
Fri 22nd	Cake Raffle. Drama club performance.

Mon 25th-Fri 29th - HALF TERM

June 2026

Mon 1st	Back to school
Tues 2nd	Class Photos
Wed 3rd	Year 5 visiting Grattons Park
Mon 8th	Year 1 Phonics screening
Mon 1st - Fri 12th	Year 4 Multiplication check
Tues 16th	Fathers' Day shop - Friends event
Wed 17th	Transition event - whole school
Thurs 18th	Year 3 visiting Worthing
Fri 19th	Year 4 visiting Bignor Roman villa
Tues 23rd	Parent/carer SEND forum
Wed 24th	Transition event - whole school
Mon 29th	Express Yourself - wear own clothes for donations for the summer fair

July 2026

Wed 1st	Meet your new teacher!
Fri 3rd	Summer Fair
Mon 6th	Governors in school all day
Fri 10th	Sports Day

LAST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WILL BE FRIDAY 17TH JULY 2026

INSET DAYS:

Monday 20th July to Wednesday 22nd July 2026



Brownings Farm Dates



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

Larch Class

05/01/2026 to 27/03/2026

Yew Class

13/04/2026 to 17/07/2026