



Courthill Newsletter

May 2026

Headteacher's Message

Mrs Carter, Headteacher

What a wonderful day it has been! The children were absolutely amazing at Sports Day, and I could not be prouder of their enthusiasm, determination and team spirit. Thank you all so much for supporting this event – for turning up, cheering on the children and helping to make it the special occasion that it is. Your support truly makes a difference.

A particular thank you must go to Mrs Wilson and Coach Aaron for all of their hard work in planning and preparing for the day. Behind the scenes, they have been working on this for several weeks, including liaising with colleagues at Baden-Powell & St Peter's Junior School to enable us to use the space. We are incredibly grateful for their dedication and commitment.

It has certainly been a very eventful half term - as always! From Year 2's exciting Great Fire of London theatre experience, to missing cats in Reception, and Year 1 going on their 'travels', the children have once again been exceptional in everything they have done.

You may be aware that over this half term we have said goodbye to two valued members of our team. Mrs Richer and her family are relocating to Ireland to begin a new adventure, and we wish them all the very best. We are very grateful to Mrs Richer for the love, care and support she has shown to our children over the years. We have also said farewell to Rob Allen, our Site Manager, and we are pleased to welcome Robin Hildreth to the school. You may have already seen him around this week; he has settled in quickly and is already doing a fantastic job.

As we approach the half-term break, I would like to wish you all a wonderful week. Enjoy the sunshine! Yes, it seems the heatwave has finally arrived!

Governors' Letter

Astra Monahan, Co-opted Governor, on behalf of the Governing Body

Whilst many of us are considering our child's next steps into their new year group or new school, others will be preparing for younger siblings to start school for the very first time.

If you're one of the many playground grown-ups to have uttered the words, "Where did that time go?!" then I unashamedly urge you to soak up as much of the Courthill spirit as you can over the coming weeks of the summer term.

What better way to do so than by putting your name down — with or without a friend or your child — to be part of the much-loved summer fair? Whether you can spare half an hour or a whole afternoon, you'll be helping to create the moments that make us realise, all too quickly, just where that time has gone.

With best wishes to all staff and families for a restful half term break.

Year Updates

Year Reception

We thoroughly enjoyed our exciting new topic, '*Roar and Explore*' this half term. The children were full of curiosity as we journeyed from familiar pets to fascinating dinosaurs, sparking lots of imaginative play and discussion. There was great excitement when a special visitor, Winnie, our school dog, joined us to share a class story.

The children have become increasingly confident in using new vocabulary and asking thoughtful questions about the world around them. In Literacy, we explored non-fiction texts, learning how non-fiction differs from stories. The children enjoyed using their phonics knowledge to write simple sentences about animals, taking great pride in their independent writing.

In Maths, we developed our understanding of numbers, including practising addition and subtraction, exploring 2D and 3D shapes and building confidence when counting beyond 10.

The children showed fantastic enthusiasm as they prepared for Sports Day. They approached each activity with energy and determination, demonstrating a wonderful sense of team spirit as they cheered each other on and celebrated one another's efforts.

We are so proud of how the children have grown in independence, resilience and confidence this half term, particularly in their friendships and ability to talk about their feelings. Well done, Reception! We hope you have a wonderful half term break.

Year One

This half term has been full of 'Wild and Wonderful' experiences! We began with an adventure through the seasons by exploring the story *The Little Bear's Spring*. The children loved the theme of friendship that ran throughout the book and thoroughly enjoyed becoming 'authors' to retell the story in their own words. We were blown away by their enthusiasm and the quality of their writing!

The children also explored animals from around the world. They made their own passports and boarding passes to 'travel' to the Savannah where they discovered fascinating facts about giraffes, elephants, and lions, to name just a few. Throughout our topic, the children built their scientific understanding of animal groups, learning about their habitats, diets, and key features.

A definite highlight was our African drumming sessions, led by Ali from Soundstorm. The children learned a variety of African rhythms and songs, and had great fun playing djembe drums together.

In Maths, we have become more confident counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. We explored making arrays, which led into our work on sharing and division by grouping. Lots of practical problem-solving made these concepts fun and engaging!

It's hard to believe that we are about to enter our final half term of the year. Our next topic, '*Wheels, Wings and Other Things*', is always a firm favourite. We can't wait for the new experiences and lasting memories to be made, especially on our upcoming Year 1 trip to the Beaulieu Motor Museum! Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Year Two

What a fantastic half term we have had in Year 2! The children were so engaged in our *Great Fire of London* topic. We kicked things off with an exciting immersive workshop from Openbox, where the children stepped back in time and experienced life in 1666. It was a brilliant start to the topic and we have been so impressed by how much the children have remembered. They can confidently explain where the fire started, the key events, and why it spread so quickly and lasted for so long - what super historians!

In Design and Technology, the children enjoyed linking their learning to our topic by exploring bread-making. They learnt about the ingredients needed to make bread and then had the opportunity to design and make their own, choosing an extra ingredient to personalise their creations. The highlight was, of course, tasting the delicious results!

Writing has been another focus this half term. The children worked incredibly hard to develop their skills, producing two narrative pieces inspired by *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *Vlad and the Great Fire of London*. This week, they also completed a recount of their bread-making experience. We are so proud of how they have applied a wide range of skills from across Year 2 in their writing - well done, everyone!

As we look ahead to next half term, we will be supporting the children with their transition to their junior schools. We also have some very exciting events planned, including our Leavers' Assembly and Enrichment Week. Please keep an eye out for further details - we are looking forward to a wonderful final half term together!

PTA update

Thea Downey, on behalf of the PTA

We are in the throes of organising what we hope will be another fantastic Summer Fair, which takes place on **Friday 12th June**. If you have not already volunteered, here is the link: <https://volunteersignup.org/RHKLX>

Please look out for raffle tickets for the Summer Fair, which should have been in book bags this week. If you have not received raffle tickets – or if you want more - please go to the school office after half term.

Upcoming events

- Year R Cakey: Friday 3rd July.
- Y2 Leavers' Disco: Monday 20th July (3-5pm)

Tickets for the Y2 Leavers' Disco will be available to book after half term. It is fully funded by the PTA so it is free to attend and there is space for all children in Year 2 to attend. However, we do ask that everyone who is planning for their child to attend, please book a space via the website: <https://courthillpta.co.uk/shop> as this helps with registers and other organisational aspects.

Other Updates

Sponsored Bounce – thank you!

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and families for your incredibly generous donations towards our Sponsored Bounce event. Thanks to your kindness and support, we are delighted to share that we have raised an amazing **£1,680** to help improve our outdoor provision for the children.

The day was a fantastic success, with all the children having a wonderful time bouncing on the bouncy castle. They also enjoyed working towards the challenge of 500 bounces.

There is still time to support this fantastic cause by sharing the PTA's JustGiving page with family and friends. Every contribution makes a difference and helps us continue to enhance opportunities for our children. [JustGiving, Courthill Infant School, Sponsored Bounce](#)

Thank you once again for your continued support—it truly makes such a difference.

Online Safety message, from Mrs Churchill

This term, we are continuing to support children in developing safe and positive habits online. The online world offers many opportunities for learning, creativity and staying connected, and we encourage children to use technology in a kind, respectful and responsible way. In school, we talk about how to make good choices online, such as being mindful of what we share, speaking to others kindly, and knowing when to ask for help if something doesn't feel right. At home, you can support this by having regular conversations about your child's online experiences, setting clear boundaries, and encouraging balance between screen time and other activities. By working together, we can help children enjoy the benefits of the digital world while feeling safe, confident and supported.

Well-being focus

May has been Mental Health Awareness Month, with this year's theme focusing on taking action to support our mental health and well-being. At school, this links with the work we do through Zones of Regulation and our daily sensory circuits, which help children recognise how they are feeling and take practical steps to regulate their emotions. We encourage children to identify their 'zone' and use strategies (such as movement breaks, breathing techniques or quiet time) to help them feel ready to learn. At home, families can support this by talking about feelings, encouraging children to name their emotions, and practising simple calming or energising activities together. By taking these small actions both at school and at home, we can help children develop lifelong skills to manage their well-being and feel supported.

Community Updates

Support for families

- **Early Help & Targeted Intervention Service.** Early Help Access Point Public 01202 126 668 EHAcessPoint@bcpcouncil.gov.uk
- **BCP Food Map:** [Food Map](#) The Access to Food map shows all the different types of community food support available in our area, and how you can access them.
- Our website lists other organisations that support families: [click here to find out more](#).

BCP Libraries

There are lots of free, fun and engaging activities happening in BCP libraries over half term. [Click here for more details](#).

Important dates

25 th – 29 th May	HALF TERM (school closed)
Mon 1 st June	School returns after half term
Tue 2 nd June	Rubicon Scooter Workshop for Y1 (details to follow)
Wed 3 rd June	Rubicon Scooter Workshop for YR (details to follow)
Thu 4 th June	Rubicon Scooter Workshop for Y2 (details to follow)
Fri 12 th June	Summer Fair – and non uniform day (for donations) – see flyer
Tue 16 th June	New YR (Sept 2026) Information Evening
Mon 22 nd June	INSET day – school closed to pupils
Tue 23 rd June	Parents' Evening – all classes, except Bees (details to follow)
Wed 24 th June	Parents' Evening – Bees only (details to follow)
Thu 25 th June	Parents' Evening – all classes (details to follow)
Thu 25 th June	Fraser Portraits – Classes and Leavers
Fri 26 th June	Transfer Day (details to follow)
Fri 26 th June	New YR (Sept 2026) Teddy Bear Club
Tue 30 th June	Y1 Trip to Beaulieu Motor Museum
Thu 2 nd July	Rocksteady Concert (participating children aware)
Fri 3 rd July	YR Cakey Friday

Tue 7 th July	Rocksteady Concert (participating children aware)
Thu 9 th July	Y2 Leavers' Ceremony
13 th – 17 th July	Enrichment Week (details to follow)
Thu 16 th July	Y2 Leavers' Ceremony (reserve date if weather stops it happening on Thursday 9 th July).
Mon 20 th July	Y2 Leavers' Disco
Wed 22 nd July	Last day of Summer Term – school closes at 1pm



Hooray! It's nearly time for our most awesome event of the year,
the Courthill School PTA Summer Fair!

THE SUMMER FAIR IS ON FRIDAY 12th JUNE 2025
4.30PM TO 6.30PM

Come along for a range of FANTASTIC activities: -

Bottle Tombola	Doughnut Dangle	Bar
Sponge the Teacher	Toy Stall	Cake Stall
Beat the Goalie	Face Painting	Pizza
Hook a Duck	Glitter Tattoos	Polish Sausages
Tin Can Alley	Ice Cream Parlour	Gift Stalls

Entry will be by donation on the gate. Stalls and entry are **CASH ONLY**
COLOURFUL NON-UNIFORM DAY ON FRIDAY 12th JUNE 2026

We'd like to invite all children to get into the Summer spirit by wearing their own clothes to school, to include something colourful, on **Friday 12th June**. If your child would like to take part, **please bring along a donation for the Summer fair on that Thursday 11th**.

Year Foundation and Year 1 (Crocs and Geckos)

Please bring in a donation of **chocolate** for our ever-popular chocolate tombola. This could be anything from a box of chocs to a Freddo!

Year 1 (Frogs and Turtles) and Year 2

Please bring in a donation of something tasty to **drink** for our bottle tombola - it doesn't have to be alcohol!

All Year Groups:

Please also bring in a **good condition (and functioning)** pre-loved toy or a new toy under the value of £5 for our toy stall.

We'd also love to see a record number of **cakes!** We don't mind if they're brilliant homemade creations, or tasty shop-bought treats. Please bring those in on the **morning of Friday 12th June or at the beginning of the actual Summer Fair at 4:30pm.**

We look forward to seeing you, your friends and your family at the Summer Fair!

