



May newsletter

No. 7

www.greatbinfields.co.uk

May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into Summer 2 – our final half term of the academic year (where did the year go?!) – we begin to think about transition.

From the start of the new half term, children will take part in weekly transition story-time sessions, during which they will visit their new year groups. Our Year Six pupils will also be attending transition days at their secondary schools, helping them prepare for their next exciting step in September.

We will soon be welcoming our new EYFS children for their own transition visits, as they get ready to join our Great Binfields community.

As always, we are immensely proud of our children, who continue to amaze us each and every day. We have welcomed several visitors into school recently, and they have all commented on the children's excellent learning attitudes and behaviour.

A special mention must go to our wonderful Year Six pupils, who showed great resilience and determination during their SATs last week. Thank you also to our dedicated Year Six team and the wider staff who supported them and made the week such a success.

From everyone here at Great Binfields Primary School, we wish you a wonderful half-term break.

Take care,
Miss Lyddon

Staffing news



We will be welcoming back Miss Hanfin, Miss Murrells and Mrs Franklin, as they will be getting ready for the new academic year. All 3 will be back before we finish for the summer holidays. So a big welcome back to them all.

We will also welcome Mr Liddiard and Miss Skillett as permanent members of staff to the Binfields Team.



We will be saying good-bye to Miss Balchin and Mr McGill this term, and obviously I will be leaving Great Binfields, with these members of staff in July.

INSET Days for 2025-2026:

PROPOSED INSET DAYS for 2026/2027

1st and 2nd September 2026
22nd January 2027
28th May 2027
2nd July 2027

I THINK IT'S NECESSARY
TO LET KIDS GET BORED
ONCE IN A WHILE –
THAT'S HOW THEY LEARN
TO BE CREATIVE.

~ Kim Raver



14 March - 28 June 2026

Bees! Hampshire's Hive of
History and Nature

A free exhibition exploring the science,
history and future of bees.

[Read more about Bees! Hampshire's
Hive of History and Nature](#) →

Come and see our
Art work from
Creativity Week at
the Willis Museum.

In Year 1 the children have been learning about trees, plants and flowers. They have been in our woodland being tree detectives, looking carefully at the leaves and what may be around the tree for clues- such as acorns or pinecones. In their home learning, the children have taken this further and are out and about in our recent beautiful weather identifying as many trees as they can. It has been wonderful to see the diversity in what we have in our area.



EYFS learning outside!

The Early Years team have been enjoying their weekly Outdoor days every Monday, where no matter rain or shine, they get outside into our environment. We have particularly enjoyed using the woods for shape hunts, Maths counting activities, and seasonal walks. We have used the outdoor Early Years area, both our playgrounds, the woods, the music area, the reading area and field! We really do love to get outside! Some of their favourite activities have been: Science investigations, planting our own sunflowers, phonics word hunts, and lots more. We spend most of the day outside, taking our learning outside, developing our gross and fine motor skills, and all other areas of our development too. It is a highlight of the week and something we will endeavour to continue.



We have been awarded GOLD:

We are delighted to inform you that we have been recognised as a 'GOLD' school for ARC (Attachment Research Community)'s TIAAS (Trauma Informed Attachment Aware School) Programme. We are the second school in Hampshire to be awarded with this and feel very proud. On Monday 20th April, we received an accreditation visit from the Headteacher of Virtual Schools Michelle Nye and her colleague Eleanor Rushmere. They spent time talking to staff, parents/carers and pupils and were so impressed by everything they saw and heard. Miss Lyddon and I proudly presented our certificate to Pupil Parliament in assembly where we shared how amazingly proud we are of each and every one of our pupils.



Year 3 Trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace

Year 3 enjoyed an exciting trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace as part of their Roman history topic. They explored the museum, admired the impressive mosaics and spent time in the beautiful palace gardens, learning together in small groups. In the museum, the children examined Roman artefacts, dressed up in Roman clothing and enjoyed spotting mosaics using their bingo sheets. After lunch, they took part in a hands-on workshop, learning about life in Roman times through activities such as cooking in a Roman kitchen, writing in Latin, playing games and designing mosaics. Some children even dressed up as Roman royalty.

It was a fantastic and memorable day, and Year 3 returned to school full of enthusiasm and new knowledge about Roman life.



Events at Basingstoke Library:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/kids-zone/events>

Well done Year 6...

Well done Year 6 for tackling your SATs with resilience and maturity. Mrs Holdsworth, the year 6 teachers and I are so proud of you.

What a way to end SATs week!

Year 6 have had a wonderful day celebrating the completion of their tests and boy did they deserve it! The children chose a long list of activities for their treat day. Throughout the day, they had: a busy room of arts and crafts with children making hats, 3D felt fruit and vegetables and watercolour scenes; children relaxing watching films of their choice, some playing a range of educational games on the IPADs, football on the field, playing on the go-karts, playing hide and seek, den building in the forest and enjoying time together on the table football and ping pong tables. It was the perfect day to let off a bit of steam and everyone has been able to make special memories with their friends.

In year 5:

This term, the children have shown great enthusiasm and resilience across the curriculum. In English, they explored Black Powder, analysing characters and themes before writing descriptive pieces inspired by The Clink prison using ambitious vocabulary. In Maths, they tackled short division with remainders, number work and shape with confidence. Science lessons focused on forces and the inspiring work of Mary Jackson, while in History pupils learned about British monarchs and the development of democracy. In DT, they designed CAM-based toys, and in PE they prepared for Sports Day through athletics and hero-themed dance.



In Year 2 we have been really busy!

Year 2 had a wonderful time creating their own magical potions after being inspired by George's Marvellous Medicine. The children carefully wrote their own instructions before following them step by step to mix imaginative ingredients and create fantastic concoctions. This engaging activity was a fun way to develop reading, writing and speaking skills, while encouraging creativity and teamwork.

DT Puppets – Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic DT Day designing and creating their very own puppets using sewing techniques. The children worked carefully to cut, stitch and decorate their puppets before bringing them to life in exciting puppet shows. It was a brilliant opportunity to develop creativity, design skills and confidence in performance.



Cricket

Skills

Session

Ten Year 2 children had a fantastic opportunity to visit St John's School to take part in a cricket skills session led by coaches from Hampshire Cricket. The children enjoyed learning and developing a range of cricket techniques through fun, team-based activities, building both their confidence and sporting skills.



This half term, Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Henry VIII, exploring his life and discovering the local links to the Tudor era with Basing House right on our doorstep. The children have successfully sketched their own Tudor monarchs, written endings to historical Tudor stories, and explored three of William Shakespeare's most famous plays: Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Romeo and Juliet. The Tudors is always a topic that fully engages the children in their learning, and once again it has sparked their curiosity into studying more about such a dramatic period in history.





Staunton
Farm

Plan your visit

Ticket information

Education

Our story

Support us

Wildways Young Explorers

Adventure, creativity and wild imagination. Age 4-8 years (child must be accompanied)



20 April 2026 11am to 22 June 2026 1pm

This is a recurring event



Ticket info



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Farm

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Junior Farm Rangers

Junior Farm Rangers is a farm-based activity session designed specifically for children aged 8 – 14 years. 9.00-10.30am



28 May 2026 9am to 10:30am



Ticket info



Yes, kids love technology, but they also love Legos, scented markers, handstands, books, and mud puddles. It's all about balance.

—K.G., first-grade teacher



In the run-up to May half-term and beyond

We're Going on a Bear Hunt at The Vyne

16 May - 28 June | 10am-4pm

We're Going on a Bear Hunt, is coming to The Vyne this spring. The award-winning animation, based on the much-loved picture book, will be brought to life through a series of interactive installations. Get ready to swish, splash and squelch your way through this new sensory trail as you search for the bear.

We're Going On A Bear Hunt © Bear Hunt Films Ltd 2016. Licensed by Walker Productions Ltd. on behalf of Bear Hunt Films Ltd.

[More about this adventure](#)

We're Going on a Bear Hunt 

School Terms And Holidays 2026– 2027

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the
academic year 2026/27

SEPTEMBER 2026						OCTOBER 2026						NOVEMBER 2026						
M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26	M		2*	9	16	23	30
T	1*	8	15	22	29	T		6	13	20	27	T		3	10	17	24	
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25	
T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23 #	30	F		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26		S	3	10	17	24	31	S		7	14	21	28	
S	6	13	20	27		S	4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22	29	
DECEMBER 2026						JANUARY 2027						FEBRUARY 2027						
M		7	14	21	28	M		4*	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22*	
T	1	8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26	T		2	9	16	23	
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	
T	3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28	T		4	11	18	25	
F	4	11	18 #	25		F	1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12#	19	26	
S	5	12	19	26		S	2	9	16	23	30	S		6	13	20	27	
S	6	13	20	27		S	3	10	17	24	31	S		7	14	21	28	
MARCH 2027						APRIL 2027						MAY 2027						
M	1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12*	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31
T	2	9	16	23	30	T		6	13	20	27	T		4	11	18	25	
W	3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26	
T	4	11	18	25#		T	1	8	15	22	29	T		6	13	20	27	
F	5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28#	
S	6	13	20	27		S	3	10	17	24		S	1	8	15	22	29	
S	7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25		S	2	9	16	23	30	
JUNE 2027						JULY 2027						AUGUST 2027						
M		7*	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	30
T	1	8	15	22	29	T		6	13	20	27	T		3	10	17	24	31
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21 #	28	W		4	11	18	25	
T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26		S	3	10	17	24	31	S		7	14	21	28	
S	6	13	20	27		S	4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22	29	