



Great Binfields Primary School Newsletter

No. 4

www.greatbinfields.co.uk

13th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Just like that, the first half of the Spring term has flown by! It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged and enjoying their new topics. We never cease to be amazed by the work they achieve — from learning about the Titanic in Year 2, Toys in Year 1, Vikings in Year 4, the Egyptians in Year 5, and Ancient Greeks in Year 6.

Well done to all the children of GBPS for doing yourselves proud.

Although it has been a shorter half term, it has certainly been no less jam-packed! We hope you enjoy reading about what the various year groups have been up to and seeing them all in action.

On behalf of everyone here at GBPS, we wish you a very happy half term. We hope you all manage to recharge your batteries and enjoy plenty of fresh air (and maybe even some vitamin sea!).

Take care,
Miss Lyddon
Headteacher

Reminder: If your child is riding a bike or scooter to school, they must wear a helmet to ensure their safety.

Happy Bag collection:

Thank you for yet another hugely successful donation drop for Happy bags. 785 kg and £314 in total! We were congratulated for being one of the best schools in the local area for these collections so thank you to each and every one of you!



Part of Green and Thrifty Fortnight

What's On at Basingstoke Discovery Centre for children in February Half Term

Nature Storytime
Friday 20 February 10.30 - 11.00am
Enjoy nature-themed stories. Suitable for ages 3-8 years.

Green & Thrifty Events
Monday 16th February 12-1pm
Join Junk Jodie for an interactive storytelling session through the Amazon, followed by a craft activity and a drink/snack. For ages 4-8yrs.
Friday 20th February 11-11.45am or 12-12.45pm
Animal Encounters - meet a range of animals and learn about them at this fun session. For children age 3+, must be accompanied by an adult.
Free, booking essential via our website: www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/events

Green & Thrifty Crafts
Wednesday 18th February 2pm-4pm
Make your own Rainbow Caterpillar Bookmark.
Thursday 19th February 2pm-4pm
Make a weather dial and watch the weather at home.
Saturday 21st February 11am-1pm
Make your own collage flower pot.
Free, drop-in, materials limited

Please spread the word. There's a way of supporting RNIB that won't cost you a penny.

At RNIB we love used stamps. We can use them to raise funds for blind and partially sighted people. Stamps are sold by weight and we raise £20 per kilogram.



DON'T FORGET:

Please bring any used stamps to the front foyer to help support this wonderful cause.

There is one tub for stamps from the U.K. and one for international stamps. (Including the Channel Isles)

Thanks in advance!

Years 4 and 5 have thoroughly enjoyed their swimming sessions this term. The children have worked hard to develop their confidence in the water, practising a range of swimming strokes as well as important water safety skills. They have shown excellent determination, resilience and teamwork, and it has been wonderful to see the progress they have made over the course of the term. Many pupils have grown in confidence, with some achieving personal milestones — a fantastic achievement all round.





Let's Glow 2026
Thursday 19 to Saturday 21 February 2026
6pm to 9pm FREE!!

Year 6 Bikeability

Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed their Road Safety proficiency sessions with the Hampshire Bikeability team. Thankfully, the final two days were dry, allowing the children to make the most of their time cycling on the road. Thank you for ensuring they came to school warmly dressed. The children learned how to carry out the ABCD safety check (air, brakes, chain and drop out) before developing essential road skills, including signalling, U-turns and safely exiting junctions using the 'Primary Position Prevents People Passing' strategy. They will bring home their individual Bikeability certificates this evening, outlining their confidence and independence in each area. Please review this before allowing your child to ride independently on the road.

We are extremely proud of the resilience, determination and progress shown by all our riders. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow.



CONTACTS



Please ensure that the contact information for your child is accurate and up to date. You will be able to see your own Contact Information, Address and Telephone/Email and that of your third-party contacts on Arbor.

To meet our statutory Safeguarding duties, you must provide at least two contacts for your child.

Universal Free School Meals

A parent may wish to check their child's eligibility for pupil premium (Free School Meals)

The criteria is on this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>

Basingstoke Foodbank's Christmas Hamper Project 2025

We would like to say a great big thank you for your support of our annual Christmas Hamper Project 2025.

With your help, we were able to deliver 945 hampers, providing festive treats and essential food items to **over 2,700 people** across Basingstoke and Deane. Your generosity and commitment made a real difference to individuals and families during the Christmas period, and we are incredibly grateful for the time, effort, and care you gave.

With sincere thanks,
Basingstoke Foodbank



Year 2—All aboard!!! The Titanic is about to leave for New York!!

Year 2 embarked on an exciting journey aboard the Titanic to launch their new topic. Our school hall was transformed into the famous ship and organised into three different class areas. The children selected their tickets from a pot before boarding, and depending on their ticket 'class', they experienced the differences between life on board.

This experience really helped the children understand the class system. First Class passengers had more space, tables, chairs, and expensive tableware, which sparked lots of discussion and curiosity.

The children's learning was further enriched by a visit to the Titanic Museum in Southampton, which they absolutely loved.



Year 3 First Aid Day

A huge thank you to our Parent Governor, Mrs Gilham, for once again bringing the children's learning to life with Year 3's First Aid morning.

While the children always have great fun bandaging one another and practising the recovery position, they also appreciate the importance and seriousness of what they are learning. They take so much away from the day and, although we hope they never need to use these skills, it is reassuring to know they are developing such an essential life skill.

Thank you again, Mrs Gilham, for giving up your time to make this valuable experience possible. We are extremely grateful for your ongoing support.

Year 5 Egyptian Day

Year 5 took part in an exciting Play-in-a-Day workshop, Ancient Egypt: History's Mystery, led by Treehouse Theatre. Immersed in their history topic, the children explored life in Ancient Egypt through drama and performance.

The day included workshops on mummification, scribes, the Amarna Dynasty and Cleopatra's Egypt, with every child playing a role in the final performance. It was fantastic to see their confidence, enthusiasm and teamwork as they brought their learning to life on stage.

We are incredibly proud of the focus, resilience and creativity Year 5 demonstrated throughout this memorable and enriching experience.



Road Safety



The Road Safety Team are responsible for educating young people and their families on the importance of keeping safe when travelling in a vehicle. Part of this education includes ensuring young people are travelling with correct restraints.

Are you aware that 37% of children are in the wrong type of seat for their age and/or height? The Road Safety Team would like to share this car restraint leaflet with you to ensure you know how to always keep your child(ren) safe – in the correct restraint. There are also hints and tips about choosing the right seat, transporting other people's children and how to fit different types of car seat.

To read this informative leaflet, please visit

[In car safety parent guide.](#)



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

BILLS

Kids eat free Monday 17th - Friday 28th Feb

BREWDOG

Kids eat free this Feb Half Term

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 under 16s get free breakfast daily with 1 adult!

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat FREE from 10th to the 16th of Feb 2026.

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Kids eat FREE during all school holidays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PREZZO

Kids eat for £1 from 6th Jan to 11th February 2026.

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

PIZZA HUT

Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1. Every Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1. Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

TURTLE BAY

Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI

Kids eat free all day Feb 16th - 20th 2026

Mr Cushing visits Year 1

Our Year 1 children have been learning about the history of toys and were very lucky to welcome Mr Cushing, the very first Headteacher of Great Binfields Primary, to share his extensive knowledge of old toys.

Mr Cushing took the children on an awe-inspiring journey from the Stone Age right through to the modern day. He explained the different materials toys have been made from over the years and demonstrated how they move using a variety of mechanisms.

It was wonderful to see that the overarching message—that toys are only as good as your imagination allows—was clearly understood by the children. They impressed Mr Cushing with their knowledge and made us very proud by demonstrating our school values, showing great respect for the artefacts and for Mr Cushing himself.



Year 4 Ufton Court residential:

The Year Fours had the most wonderful time in Padworth at Ufton Court earlier this week. They learnt lots about those 'Vicious Vikings' and how they fought in battles, how they lived their daily lives, how they ate, farmed and traded. Children loved sitting in a Viking ship and rowing with real wooden oars, they also enjoyed making actual bows, as well as taking part in several re-enactments, including the Battle of Wessex. The banquet on the final night was a real highlight for all of us. It took part in a beautiful setting where a real wedding had taken place only 3 days prior! The children thoroughly enjoyed serving their teachers and tending to their every need! Whilst all of the food was delicious, particular highlights from the children included: the white chocolate snacktime cookies, the Victoria sandwich cake from the feast pudding, the macaroni cheese from day two lunch and the lemon drizzle flapjacks (which formed part of our picnic lunch on the final day). A big thank you to all of the staff who made this trip happen for our Year Fours and for giving them lifelong memories!



23 rd February	Back to school
23 rd February	Y5 Parent Presentation regarding Avon Tyrell residential goes live tonight on our website
23 rd February	Perform Drama Workshops for EYFS and KS1
27 th February	Y1 Grandparents morning – letter to follow
5 th March	World Book day
9 th March – 13 th March	Science Week
9 th March	Wonder Dome (KS1)
10 th March	Wonder Dome (KS2)
13 th March	EYFS Mothering Sunday Concert – further details to follow
16 th March	RE Day - HOLI
19 th – 20 th March	Yr3 residential trip to Gordon Brown Centre
24 th March	Jigsaw Day 4: Healthy me
26 th March	House point reward time
27 th March	Finish for the Easter holidays @ 1:30pm
28 th March – 12 th April	Easter Holidays
13 th April	Back to school

Uniform remembers: PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING!

Polite reminder of our school uniform expectations:

- Blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo (available from Skoolkit)
- Plain white polo shirt
- Plain tailored grey or plain black school trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore
- Plain grey, black, royal blue or white tights
- Plain grey, black or white socks
- Black closed in school shoes
- Blue and white checked dress or separates for the summer

PE Kit expectations:

- Black jogging bottoms or leggings and a black non branded zipped hoodie
- Black Shorts (must be worn for indoor PE) •
- Coloured T shirt (your child's house colour) available from Friends Group or supermarkets
- PE trainers

Jewellery:

Children may only wear plain **stud** earrings if they have pierced ears. Children may also wear a watch (not a Smart watch or fitbit though please).

Wearing jewellery of any kind can be dangerous for your child because the jewellery may get caught or accidentally pulled which can cause a painful and unpleasant accident. Children are also not allowed to wear any makeup or nail varnish.