

Friday 19th December 2025

We are a Caring, Celebratory, Courageous, Christ-inspired Community, rooted in love.



Dear All,

Incredibly, we have reached the end of the Autumn term. It has been an extremely busy and productive term – as all terms are. From the distant warm days of September, 15 weeks ago, we have been working tirelessly on our School Development Plan to improve many aspects of our school provision for the children. *Some* of our key actions this term include:

- Introducing a new assessment tracking system, led by Mrs Sheppard, our Data & Assessment Lead, enabling teachers to more closely track and monitor the progress and attainment of all children and to use this information to drive planning, teaching and targeted interventions.
- Improving the quality and consistency of learning displays across the school.
- Embedding our new Vision, ***“Life in all its fullness,”*** (introduced in the 19th September newsletter) with Collective Worships this term focusing on this alongside our new Mission and Spirituality Statements, also shared at that time.
- Introducing a new RE curriculum in November, with more information to follow on this in January.
- Embedding the role of our Pupil Premium Lead, Mr Faulkner-Gant, who has focused on investigating the needs of our Pupil Premium children through careful analysis of existing data, classroom observations and, most importantly, discussions with the children themselves, alongside monitoring and tracking their progress and attainment.
- Developing an up-to-date school website – the same website address but with a fresh new look which you may have already seen! If you haven’t, please do take a look!
- Increasing leadership opportunities for our incredibly able children through roles such as Sports Leaders, Play Leaders, Faith Leaders and Pupil Parliament Representatives.
- Further embedding our wonderful nurture support, led by our Pastoral & Family Support Manager, Mrs Dwyer as well as strengthening our safeguarding systems, in her role as our Lead DSL.

Please find below a message from Mrs Dwyer, our Pastoral & Family Support Manager.

“I have been working at BJS since the beginning of June and am delighted to say that I feel very happy and settled in my role. Currently, I work with 44 children, either in group sessions or one-to-one, depending on each child’s individual needs. My support increases when a child requires immediate attention, allowing time for them to express their feelings. The work is varied, and I feel very privileged to get to know the children and support them through some of the challenges they may face.”

“Life in all its fullness”

In addition to working with the children, I support parents and carers, offering guidance and a listening ear to help strengthen the family as a whole when needed. I also work closely with teachers and teaching assistants, providing advice and support to help them meet the children's individual needs and ensure the best possible learning environment.

As the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for the school and a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), I have an important role in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children at BJS. This includes liaising with key external agencies to ensure children receive the appropriate support both in and outside of school. I sometimes work during school holidays, carrying out doorstep visits and phone calls to check in and make sure families feel supported.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Christmas Church Service

It was absolutely wonderful to see so many of you at church this week for our Christmas service, which was standing room only. Our children — both the whole school and the choir — did us proud once again with their beautiful singing, led so brilliantly by our talented Mrs Pantrey. Our Year 3 children took centre stage in presenting the Nativity, while our Faith Leaders and narrators guided us through the service alongside Helen, the Children & Families Worker at St Peter's Church, and Reverend Rich. It was a truly special way to mark the final days of term.

Staffing

Today, we say farewell to both Miss Gough and Miss Malin, thanking them for their dedication and contributions towards both the school and the children of BJS, and wish them all the very best in their new roles. We warmly welcome Miss Jessett, who will be teaching 4M for January until Mrs Feiven's return, after which Mrs Feiven will resume her role as class teacher of 4M.



KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE SANTA FUN RUN

Our children did brilliantly during our Santa Fun Run earlier this week. Hopefully, you will have seen some photos of your child's class on their class Dojo page. Thank you so much for your donations. We have currently raised an amazing £566 which will cover the cost of sourcing and cooking a Christmas dinner for all 10 patients in an Inpatient Unit on Christmas Day. If you haven't yet donated and would still like to, the link (below) remains live until the end of this Sunday.



https://www.justgiving.com/page/brackley-junior-school-santa-fun-run?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

And speaking of Santa . . . our children were very excited to meet with the man himself yesterday and receive a gift. Thank you to all Santa's PTFA helpers who readied the 224 gifts! You certainly made the children's day.

Uniform

Please can we remind you that, in line with our school uniform policy, all children should be wearing completely black footwear to school. Trainers are permitted if they are completely black, not with coloured soles or laces. Thank you.

"Life in all its fullness"

Morning Breaktime Snacks

Children are permitted to have any of the following five food items for a snack: a nut-free cereal bar, fruit, vegetable sticks, cheese or crackers.

Smart device usage in school – West Northamptonshire Council


West Northamptonshire Council has launched a public consultation on the use of smart devices, including smartphones, in school and college settings.

“As you know, smart devices are now a significant part of young people’s daily lives, and their presence in education is increasing. While these devices can support learning and communication, they also raise important questions around distraction, wellbeing and equity. This consultation provides an opportunity to explore both the benefits and challenges of smart device use in schools and colleges, with the aim for responses to be collated to support the development of non-statutory guidance for managing them in ways that benefit student outcomes.”

We have been asked to share this consultation with parents, carers, guardians and the wider school community as West Northamptonshire Council want to ensure that the consultation reflects the breadth of views across West Northamptonshire.

Please use the [link here](#) to have your say. This consultation closes on **Saturday 31st January 2026 at 11.59pm.**

School Attendance:

CLASS	SINCE 3 rd SEPT.	WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE . . .	CONGRATULATIONS TO . . .
3M	95.17 %	<p>. . . currently stands at 94.71%.</p> <p>We are below national expectation.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><p>The national expectation is 95%.</p></div>	
3P	95.17 %		
4M	93.49 %		
4WE	93.34 %		
5FG	90.96 %		
5PR	96.85 %		
6G	94.30 %		
6S	96.95 %		
6W	96.30 %		

Thank you so much for all your support throughout the autumn term. It is always a long, and at times challenging ‘stretch’ and we truly appreciate everything you do to support your child and us as a school. However you are planning to spend the break, we hope it brings rest, joy, and plenty of special moments together.

We look forward to seeing you again on Monday 5th January at 8:30a.m.

Mrs Akers
Headteacher

BJS Values Awards

A mighty well done to . . .



	12.12.25	19.12.25
Year 3	Lilla-Rose, Max, Delilah-Rose & Jack-Tien	Janaya, Immanuel, Jenson & Kassian
Year 4	Evelyn, Dexter, Riley & Rupert	Beverly, Andrew, Chloe & Bonnie
Year 5	Sophie, James, Cesca & Stanley	Fraser, Lily W., Martha & Isla
Year 6	Ruby, Chloe, Asher, Imogen, Leo & Sam	Daniel, Caleb, Damien, Georgina, John & Hope