

Friday 16th January 2026

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



Dear All,

As we settle into the rhythm of this term, it's been wonderful to see our pupils fully engaged in their learning across all year groups. While the past two weeks haven't brought any major events in school, it's these steady, purposeful weeks that really allow children to consolidate their understanding and make progress. Our teachers have been working as hard as ever behind the scenes to ensure every lesson counts, and it's in these quieter moments that we often see the most significant growth.

✦ Our Spirituality Statement ✦

As introduced in our newsletter dated 19th September 2025, the children and staff at BJS have worked together to 'unpack' the meaning of the word "spirituality" and we now have our school-agreed definition of what this means to us:

"We see spirituality as fuelling each child's inner spark, inspiring belief in something greater than ourselves."



Over the past two weeks, children have been developing their spiritual awareness (whether it be a religious or non-religious view) through our new classroom Spirituality Trees and our weekly "**Spirituality Spark**" moments. Whilst they are currently a little bare, we look forward to sharing some photos of our Spirituality Trees with you as they 'grow.'

A big thank you to those of you who completed the Church of England School Survey last term. We received 88 responses with lots of positive feedback, some questions about RE learning and eight suggestions for how we could possibly make some improvements as a C of E School – some of which will be addressed through the following . . .

As mentioned in December's newsletter, we introduced a new RE curriculum in November. BJS allocates curriculum time for RE based on **the law** and the **Statement of Entitlement** from the Church of England Education Office, with Christianity being the majority religion studied in each year group and comprising at least 50% of curriculum time. This is a legal requirement.



Our long-term RE plan (attached) covers Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sanatana Dharma and Humanism. The Jigsaw RE curriculum is new to our school and has so far been positively received by our children. It uses an enquiry approach to develop children's critical thinking, motivation to learn, and empathy with different worldviews. Crucially, this approach respects children's freedom to form their own beliefs and morals, aiming to inform rather than persuade.

"Life in all its fullness"

Happy New Year from BJS PTFA! 🎉


Our first event of the year is a whole-school movie night on Friday 6th February, with information coming home today. This has become one of the children's favourite events – and it's easy to see why! A movie, popcorn, hotdogs, and time with friends in PJs and onesies . . . what's not to love?

We're also excited to be trialling a new online booking system. After a quick sign-up, it's the simplest way to book events – no paper slips, lost forms, or hunting for change. Keep an eye out for both pieces of information coming home today.

A huge thank you to everyone for your support last term. Thanks to our events, we were able to help Santa with his special visit, and we've also just confirmed the purchase of some fantastic new playground items, including a stage, musical instruments, comfy cushions, and a mini reading shed. We'll share photos as soon as they arrive!

We're always grateful for extra help at events. Even if you can't attend meetings, we're often looking for disco door helpers or popcorn givers! If you'd like to get involved, please email bjstfa@gmail.com.

School Attendance:

CLASS	SINCE 3 rd SEPT.	WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE . . .	CONGRATULATIONS TO . . .
3M	95.13 %	. . . currently stands at 94.85%. We are below national expectation. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">The national expectation is 95%.</div>	
3P	95.15 %		
4M	93.70 %		
4WE	93.61 %		
5FG	91.19 %		
5PR	96.67 %		
6S	96.78 %		
6W	95.49 %		

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Akers
Headteacher

BJS Values Awards

A mighty well done to . . .

	09.01.26	16.01.26
Year 3	Selina, Olivia, Liam & Anthony	Thomas H., Myah, Darcy & Alexander
Year 4	Paddy, Esa, Archie & Wade	Barnaby, Jeresa, Max M. & Natalie
Year 5	Lenny, Lexie, Daniel S. & Jax	Daniel F. Ellie, Jack & Jessica G.
Year 6	All of 6S and all of 6W	Georgina, Jacob G., Lewis & Juan

