



SOUTH BERSTED CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

9th October 2026

Harvest

This morning it was wonderful to be able to gather at the church for our Harvest Festival. Harvest is a special time to give thanks for the food we enjoy and to think about others in our community.

During today's service, pupils from across the school presented information on where our food comes from, the importance of farmers and how we can help people who may be less fortunate than us.



Thank you for your generous donations. Over the next coming weeks, our Junior Governors will collect and take the food to the Bognor Regis Food Bank.

We will continue to donate food throughout the year, so please place any donations in the 'drop bin' in the school's reception.



Cycle to School Week

This week it has been wonderful to see many families engaging with **Cycle to School Week**. Children were extremely keen at the end of the day to see if they were the winners of the 'golden padlock.'

It would be fantastic to see the efforts of last week being sustained, with more families building positive habits by riding or scooting throughout the school year. This would support our long-term aim of reducing the amount of traffic on Church Lane and Orchard Way and reducing the emissions in and around the school.

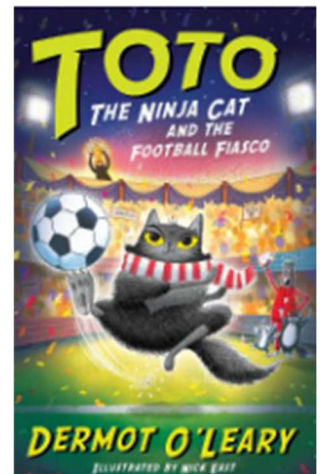
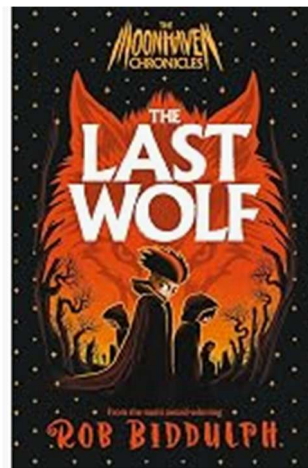
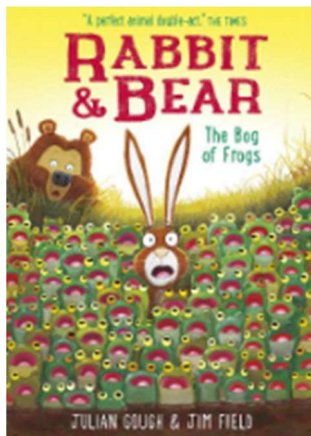
The Power of Reading

Yesterday, we held our Early Years Bedtime Breakfast event. It was wonderful to be joined by so many families. During the event, we reflected on the power of reading in developing pupil's vocabulary, empathy and their understanding of the world.

Research from the National Literacy Trust shows that reading is a fun, low pressured daily routine. Just 10 minutes a day – improves mood, reduces stress and strengthens long-term habits!

Yesterday, pupils across the school engaged in a **Guinness World Record Event** to get the most people reading in a 12-hour period. Pupils from across the school engaged in an online worship presented by a range of authors, before taking part in 10 minutes of reading with children from across the country.

This Month's Reading Recommendations:



Congratulations to **Daniel (Yr 6)** and **Freddie (Yr 5)** who have become the first children this year to reach 500,000 words on Accelerated Reader. Next week, they will be presented with their **500,000** words badges.

Bognor Regis in Bloom Awards

Last night, Mrs Evans, along with members of our Eco Committee attended the annual Bognor in Bloom Awards. I am pleased to announce that this year we won the Best Vegetable plot in a school category.

During the event, Mrs Evans, Freddie and Lyla read speeches about the beauty of nature, our school grounds and how we all have a role to play in caring for it.



Home Learning Challenge

Our new home learning challenge has been set by Volker Highways: **Name the Gritter Competition.**

What is a gritter?



A special vehicle that spreads grit, sand or salt on roads in icy or potentially icy weather!

They are running a special competition just for our school, to name one of their gritters within the local area.

Be as creative as you want! They will display the winning entry proudly on their local gritter for all to see!

Please see below some examples:

- Salt Disney
- Pretty Polly the Gritter Lorry
- Usain Salt
- Spready Mercury

The school will be visited by the newly named gritter, and the winner and 3 runners up will be presented with a small goody bag by one of our friendly mascots! You will also have the opportunity to sit in our gritter on the day.

All entries must be in by Friday 16th October.

Today, children will come home with a flyer that they can hand into their class teacher.

Attendance

This week's whole school attendance is **96.1%**.

This week's top three attending classes are:

Class	Attendance
Year 2	99.3%
Year 6	97.7%
Penguins	96.6%

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
97.6%	97%	94.9%	93.9%	96.1%		

Letters Sent Home This Week

The following letters have been sent out this week. Letters are sent out via MCAS and are added to the News Tab of the school's website.

- School Photographs
- Parents Evening
- Harvest Festival
- Year 5 Road to RIAT Virtual STEM Workshop

Reminder for Parents of Year 6 Pupils

The application process for children due to transfer to secondary school in September 2027 began on the 1st September and will close on the 31st October.

For more information on applying for a secondary school place, please visit West Sussex Admissions: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/apply/secondary-school-places/>

West Sussex Local Offer

Last year, parents of SEND pupils were asked what would further improve the Local Authorities offer. At the June SEND and Alternative Provision Board, the West Sussex Parent Carer Forum delivered a presentation on this feedback.

You can read the response from Andy Parker, Head of Service, SEND and Inclusion (A), which is published on the Local Offer [here](#).

Up-Coming Events

Please find below a summary of upcoming events for the next three weeks:

Date	Details
October	
Monday 12 th	School Photographs
Tuesday 13 th	STEM event – Year 5 Year 3 Outdoor Learning
Wednesday 14 th	Planetarium Trip – Year 5
Thursday 15 th	Eco Council Air Pollution walk
Monday 19 th	Parents Evening (3:30 – 5:00)
Tuesday 20 th	Open Morning (9:00 – 10:30)
Wednesday 21 st	Parents Evening (3:30 – 6:30)
Friday 22 nd	INSET Day – school closed to all pupils.

INSET Days 2026 – 2027

When considering booking a holiday, please check the school's term dates and INSET Days.

For the next academic year, our INSET Days are:

Friday 23rd October

Monday 4th January

Monday 12th April



Gold Book

Please note that Gold Book celebrations will take place next week due to this week's Harvest Festival.

Individual School Photographs

A reminder that on Monday 12th October, children will have their individual school photographs taken. On this day, there will be **no PE lessons**.

Please ensure that your child is in school uniform for their picture to be taken. Sibling photographs will also be taken on this day.

BBC 500 Words Competition

The BBC 500 Words is back! The UK's BIGGEST story – writing competition for children aged 5 – 11 opens for entries from Tuesday 29th September until Friday 6th November at 9pm. To learn more about this competition, please follow the link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Open Morning

Is your child due to start school in September 2027?

If so, please join one of our Open Mornings to find out more about what our school can offer your child as they begin their educational journey.

We will be holding Open Mornings as follows:

Tuesday 20th October 2026 (9:00 – 10:30am)

Friday 6th November 2025 (9:00 – 10:30am)

To book a visit, please follow the information on our flyer by following the link.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/south-bersted-ce-primary-school-open-mornings-tickets-2001203806456?aff=oddtcreator>



South Bersted CE Primary School **OPEN MORNINGS**

Is your child starting school in September 2027?

If so, we would love for you to join us at one of our Open Mornings to find out more about what our school can offer your child as they begin their journey into education next year.



Open Mornings: 09:00 - 10:30

Tuesday 20th October &

Friday 6th November

Please scan the QR code to book your place and we shall look forward to meeting you!

During each session there will be a talk, presented by our Headteacher Mr Noel Goodwin. Followed by a Q&A session and a tour of the school and grounds.



Church Lane, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 9PZ

West Sussex Short Breaks

Community Support Programme

DMC
Signature Care Ltd

west
sussex
county
council

Fun supported family day trips for children and young people with additional needs



Who Can Join

Children and young people aged 0-18yrs with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) with their parents and families.

Making
memories
together

Short Breaks
for disabled children
and young people

Activities Include:

- ✓ DMC Family Fun days/Picnics
- ✓ Seaside
- ✓ Arts and Crafts
- ✓ Softplay
- ✓ Animal Interactions
and many more!



Inclusive
Fun
For All

Holiday Programme Running Periods

- Summer Holidays
- Autumn Half Term
- December Holidays

Eligibility Information:

Available for all families including those not receiving local authority support.



Limited
spaces
available!

Scan to register
or click the link:



<https://wvf.ms/4ps18gk>

Get in touch!

- 07749174034
- info@dmcsignaturecare.com
- www.dmcsignaturecare.co.uk
- DMC Signature Care
- @dmcsignaturecare



Creating happy days, building brighter futures.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Monday – Friday

08:00 – 08:35

£5.50 per session



To book sessions please express your interest by either following the below link or scanning the QR code.

[Breakfast Club - Expression of Interest – Fill in form](#)



South Bersted Church Invites you to

FAMILIES
SUNDAY GATHERING
@ 4.30PM
southbersted.org.uk

Bible Teaching,
Singing,
Crafts & Activities
Free for all the Family
(Financial donations welcome)

Pumpkin Party!

We're all a bit like a pumpkin.

No, really!

Come and find out why.



Sun 18th Oct 4:30pm-6:00pm

All children served with a snack tea
Hot drinks and cake available for adults
(Children must be accompanied by an adult)



South Bersted Church Hall,
Bersted Street, Bognor Regis PO22 9QE
Booking on Eventbrite is essential by
Thursday 15th October

**Walk Wheel
Cycle Trust**

**September
2026 Schools
Newsletter**

We'd love to hear from you!
Hugh Thomas is the Project Officer for the West Sussex Active Travel Behaviour Change Project. Please get in touch if you have any great walking or wheeling stories or would like to find out more about our school work.
Email: Hugh.thomas@walkwheelcyclustrust.org.uk

Tuesday 22nd of September is World Car-Free Day!
Why not try leaving the car at home and walking, wheeling or cycling to school to reduce emissions and make the air around our school cleaner for everyone?

Fact of the Month
Active travel can save you money on the school run!

Pedal power requires a one-off investment with minimal running costs – no fuel, no tax, and no parking fees. A simpler way to get from A to B... by Cycle!

Walk Wheel Cycle Trust is working in partnership with West Sussex County Council at schools across the county to improve health and wellbeing by encouraging more active travel. We will be in school to deliver a range of activities including led walks, cycle and scooting skills, road safety sessions and more! Keep an eye out for activities to get involved in at your school.

Cycle To School Week 2026



Our friends at Bikeability want you to join the 200,000 people already taking part in this year's Cycle to School Week—and we do too! You can pledge as a family or as a school by searching Cycle to School Week online or going to [Cycle to School Week 2026 - Bikeability](#).

Cycle to school week runs from the **5th to the 9th of October**

Schools and families will have access to classroom and other resources, and will be entered into the prize draw to win four Squish balance bikes.

By taking part you don't just **pedal more**, you will **spend less, rush less, pollute less and stress less**.



**Funded by
UK Government**

Working in
partnership with
West Sussex
County Council



UMBRELLAS

Parent Support Groups

Autumn Term 2026

Connecting parents and carers of children and young people in West Sussex with special educational needs and disabilities



Burgess Hill Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

The Cherry Tree Centre

8th Sep / 6th Oct / 3rd Nov / 1st Dec

Littlehampton Umbrellas

Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Creative Heart Community Hub (upstairs)

9th Sep / 7th Oct / 4th Nov / 2nd Dec

Worthing Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Durrington Community Centre

22nd Sep / 20th Oct / 17th Nov / 15th Dec

Umbrellas Online

Thursdays via Zoom

7.30 - 9pm

10th Sep / 8th Oct / 5th Nov / 10th Dec

Horsham Umbrellas

Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Horsham Family Hub

16th Sep / 21st Oct / 18th Nov / 16th Dec

Shoreham Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Adur East Family Hub

15th Sep / 13th Oct / 10th Nov / 8th Dec

Bognor Regis Umbrellas

Thursdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Arun West Family Hub

24th Sep / 22nd Oct / 19th Nov / 10th Dec

If you would like more information about Umbrellas or the link to join Umbrellas online, please contact our outreach team.

outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk



**Reaching
Families**

www.reachingfamilies.org.uk

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