



6th February 2026

Diary Dates

February

- 9th - Athlete event in school
- 9th - Year 4 local area walk
- 10th - Safer Internet Day
- 10th - Valentines Disco - Reception 3:10-4:15pm
- 10th - Yr3-4 Valentines Disco - Yr 3-4 4:30-6pm
- 11th - Trust Spelling Bee (selected children)
- 11th - Yr5-6 Netball match v Lee Chapel (H) (selected children)
- 12th - KS2 Cross Country Competition (selected children)
- 12th - Yr1-2 Valentines Disco 3:10-4:15pm
- 12th - Yr5-6 Valentines Disco 4:30-6pm
- 13th - Last day of half term

- 23rd - Return to school.
- 24th - Young Voices (KS2 Choir)
- 25th - Individual School photos
- 25th - Reception parent meeting - Phonics (KS1 hall 3:30pm)
- 26th - Yr5/6 girls football match v Eversley (A) (selected children)

March

- W/C 2nd - Book Fair
- 5th - Yr5-6 Netball match v St Anne Line (H) (selected children)
- 6th - World Book Day
- 6th - Yr5-6 Football match v Kingswood (A) (selected children)

Inset Dates— 20th, 21st & 22nd May 2026

The children have continued to work incredibly hard this week and have shown wonderful perseverance – one of our core school values that we're so proud to see in action every day.

Yesterday was a particularly special day as a group of our Year 6 pupils travelled to Goldsmiths University in London for their Brilliant Club graduation ceremony. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day and should be incredibly proud of their achievement. We're already looking forward to welcoming our next cohort to this exciting programme next year.

Also this week, all children took part in an assembly focused on young carers. A young carer is anyone under 18 who looks after someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled, or has a mental health problem or addiction. Young carers take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. This could include shopping, cooking or cleaning, managing medicines or money, providing personal care such as helping with dressing or washing, providing emotional support, or caring for younger siblings or relatives such as taking them to and from school. As many as 1 in 5 pupils in schools could be young carers, and we want to ensure we're providing the right support. If you feel your child may be a young carer, please do get in touch with the school office so we can discuss how we can best support them.

Looking ahead, next week marks the last week before our half-term break. We have a very exciting visitor coming to school – Courtney Tulloch, World Championship and Commonwealth Games medallist! Courtney will be leading our whole-school assembly and then running fitness sessions with each class throughout the day. This promises to be an inspiring and energetic end to the half term!

Mr Wade
Head of School



Well done to the following children

Certificate of Achievement

Buttercup - Teddy L
Daffodil - Caolan
Primrose - Erin
Bluebell - Romey H
Rose - Alessia
Tulip - Lucie
Lavender - Gabriella
Orchid - Maryam
Sunflower - Brianna W
Birch - Leona H
Hawthorn - Jake
Pine - Ian M
Ash - Patricia G
Beech - Patrick P
Maple - Mckayla
Olive - Keira H
Sycamore - Alfie F
Willow - Olivia C
Elder - Emir T
Elm - Keira M
Oak - Jacob

Reader of the Week

Bluebell - Patrick M
Rose - Stanley
Tulip - Nova
Lavender - Harry W
Orchid - Mason
Sunflower - Sophia H
Birch - Sophia M
Hawthorn - Albie
Pine - Buha A
Ash - Hunter H
Beech - Maisy D
Maple - Freddie J
Olive - Amelia
Sycamore - Nellie-Jay B
Willow - Bogdan C
Elder - Khadija Z
Elm - Toheeba M
Oak - Evie



Medicine - if your child needs medicine we can give this once during the school day but we do not have a supply of Calpol or paracetamol, you will need to provide this to the office and complete a consent form. Antibiotics need to be in original packaging with the name label and dosage and we can only give 1 dose throughout the day.

On Tuesday 10th February and Thursday 12th February there will be no afterschool clubs due to school discos taking place.

Berlesduna Vacancies



BERLESDUNA
ACADEMY TRUST

BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

ST NICHOLAS – SEND MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 9th February

WHITMORE – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 12th February

WHITMORE – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 12th February

For more information and to apply for any of these exciting opportunities, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies - Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)



Reading Corner

Next week we will be reading....

Nursery - Gigantosaurus by Jonny Duddle

Reception - Super Milly and the super school day to Stephanie Clarkson

Year 1 - Beegu by Alexis Dolan

Year 2 - A walk in London by Salvatore Rubbino

Year 3 - The Thames and Tide Club: The Scret City by Katya Balen

Year 4 - The accidental Prime Minister by Tom McLaughlin

Year 5 - Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly

Year 6 - The boy in the tower by Polly Ho-Yen

Recommended Reads

KS1	Lower KS2	Upper KS2
		



Phonics

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



Please scan the QR code or click the link to take you to the Little Wandle Parents page where you will find how we teach a new sound, how we teach children to read decodable words and tricky words. You will also find how to pronounce all GPCS your children learn.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



Reception	<p>This week in Reception, our lesson focus has been on longer words. We have learnt all phase 3 sounds now. We have been learning the 'chunking up' method, where we segment the word into two parts to blend. Examples include 'bedroom' - 'b-e-d / r-oo-m' and 'farmyard' - 'f-a-r-m / y- a -r -d'</p> <p>We have also been reviewing all phase 3 tricky words.</p>
Year 1	<p>Grow the coe week- ui,ou/yoo/oo, ey,y,ea,e,e-e,ie/ee/, ss,c,se,ce/s/, zz,s,se/z/, ow,oe,ou,o-e,o,oa/oa/</p> <p>Tricky words revision- water,want,any,many,again, could, would, should, who, whole, where, two, ask, Mr, Mrs, Ms, school, call, different, people, your, their, thought, through, work, friend.</p>
Year 2	<p>This week, year 2 have been focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do I swap the 'y' for an 'i' when I add the suffix -ed? • Why do I drop the 'e' when I add the suffix -ing? <p>Please practise the spellings for the end of unit spelling quiz. The children shall be tested on these words on Thursday 12th February. Thank you for your continued support.</p>

KS2 Class of the week - Maple Class - 80%

Player of the week—
Lavender— Marnie
Orchid — Amelia
Sunflower— Iremide O
Birch— Re'Nell C
Hawthorn— Albie
Pine— Temitope A
Ash— Teddie G
Beech— Aman G
Maple— Temi
Olive - Freya F
Sycamore— Apshara S
Willow— Bogdan C
Elder— Vivien M
Elm - Zack M
Oak— Darius



KS1 Class of the week - Daffodil - 50%



Player of the week—
Bluebell— MD Yasin K
Rose— Spencer
Tulip— Reggie



Oracy Corner



Let's Talk



Summer is better than winter. Do you agree?



Build
Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea.

Start by saying:

- Building on X's idea...
- I agree and would like to add...
- X's idea made me think...

Build



Challenge
Disagree or present an alternative argument

Start by saying:

- I disagree because...
- To challenge you X, I think...
- I understand your point of view, but have you thought about...?

Challenge



Talk it Topic

'Talk it' topics are an opportunity for children to discuss an issue or idea throughout the week which is linked to the British Values. It encourages children's communication skills as well as debating skills and is fun. We cover a different topic in school each week. It would be

fantastic if you could talk about it at home too. This week's topic will be—
Early Years— What are the things we can do to look after our mental health? This is linked to the British Value - Rule of Law.

KS1 & KS2—Should children have social media? This is linked to the British Value - Rule of Law.



Library visit to Nursery

Our Nursery children had a visit from the library service on Monday afternoon, to read some books to the children and give them a book pack each to keep. Please see the link below for any parent to sign up for a free library account online for their child. Giving them plenty of time to get ready for the summer reading scheme.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=TzKQqFwVFUKg8X7yZJqZLzoxdvcdetRGhX54anQvK2pUNVEzMzZUUFNOQUhHskJGOTBaNZYOUzEOVy4u>



Times Tables Rockstar Competition

Last week, the pupils in KS2 took part on a TTRockstars competition organised by the Berlesduna Trust. Out of the 11 schools that took part Whitmore finished the competition in third place. Oak, Beech, Sycamore, Olive and Elm class all finished the competition in the top 10 classes. Daniel Parfeni from Elm class won the best pupil overall.

Well done to everyone that took part!