

Welcome back! I hope you've all had an enjoyable Summer – I am really looking forward to working with you and your child this academic year.

In Creativity, as part of our Invasion topic, your child will explore the effects of the Roman withdrawal and the chronology and geography of subsequent invasions. They will study the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in detail, examining their reasons for invading, their settlements and their everyday life. Your child will also look at monasteries and the Anglo-Saxon legacy. They will consider how we know about life in this period and they will learn about Athelstan, an Anglo-Saxon king, and what happened after his death, before ending the project by learning about the Norman invasion of 1066.

In Science, we will be studying Sound, and Food & the Digestive System.

Snacks + Water

Key Stage 2 children can bring in their own fruit from home to eat at break time. Milk can also be

purchased via the Cool Milk Scheme.

Please send your child in with a named bottle of water each day. No juice or squash please.

School Uniform

Please ensure that all clothes are labelled with your child's name, so that it can be identified easily and that appropriate black footwear is worn in school. Due to the cold weather, pupils should also wear a coat to school as outdoor learning is an integral part of our Curriculum.

Classroom Organisation

Ruby Class will continue to be taught by me (Mr Downings) with support from our fantastic teaching assistants, both in class lessons and during interventions sessions (where necessary), which will give extra targeted support to pupils.

Power Maths will again be taught separately in discrete year groups. Please continue to support your child in developing their mental arithmetic skills at home – particularly their fluency in multiplication and division. All children have login details to access Times Table Rockstars, which will help with this.

At the end of the day, children will continue to be dismissed from the main gate.

PE

This term, PE sessions for Ruby Class will still be on Tuesday and Wednesday, and will take place outside where possible. Children should attend school in their PE kits on these days. Please ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the weather and that their footwear is suitable for physical activity outdoors. Children with long hair must also be able to tie it up for PE, and all earrings must be taped over.

During the term, pupils will be developing skills in Gymnastics, Netball, Football and Hockey.

Reading

Pupils need to have their reading book and Reading Diary in school every day. We recommend that children read their banded reading books at home for 15 minutes each day.

Please encourage your child to sign or write in their diary after they have read. A member of staff will check their records each week. Their Reading Records also contain a list of the compulsory spelling words from the National Curriculum.

Children will also have a teacher led Guided Reading session each day and will be heard reading regularly in school by an adult.

Need to chat?

Please don't hesitate to get in touch via email at: mark.downings@bishoppurglove.derbyshire.sch.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

Art Shirts

It would be very helpful if you could provide an old shirt or t-shirt (that your child could keep in school) to put over their uniform to help protect it when we are using paint and other messy stuff!

Homework

Pupils will continue to complete weekly homework tasks using CGP Revision Guides. Homework information will be sent via the school's app messaging system.



Autumn Term - Key Dates

- Thursday 19th September – Year 5 + 6 Football Festival (Bishop Pursglove School)
- Thursday 2nd October – Harvest Festival (St. John's Church 9.15am)
- Thursday 2nd October – Year 5 + 6 Play In A Day Workshop
- Thursday 9th October – Year 5 + 6 Cross Country Festival (Bakewell Junior School)
- w/c: Monday 13th October – Parent Evening (Dates and Times TBC)
- Sunday 19th October – Fell Race
- Thursday 23rd October – Year 5 + 6 Tag Rugby Festival (Longstone School)
- Friday 24th October – Last Day of Autumn Half-Term 1 (October Half-Term)
- Monday 3rd November – Inset Day (School Closed to Pupils)
- Tuesday 4th November – Pupils Return to School: Start of Autumn Half-Term 2
- Thursday 27th November – School Disco
- Thursday 11th December – Christmas Dinner + Xmas Jumper Day
- Friday 19th December – Christmas Service (St. John's Church 9.15am)
- Friday 19th December – KS2 Christmas Party Day (Non-Uniform)
- Friday 19th December – Last Day of Autumn Half-Term 2 (Christmas Holiday)
- Monday 5th January – Pupils Return to School: Start of Spring Term 1

CLASS TRIPS AND VISITS

This term, pupils in Ruby Class will be able to take part in several Sports Festivals and a Drama Workshop run by staff from Buxton Opera House. In a fortnights time, Bishop Pursglove will be hosting a football tournament (Thursday 19th September). Pupils will also be able to participate in a Cross Country event (Thursday 9th October), followed by a Tag Rugby Festival at Longstone School (Thursday 23rd October).

Following our Harvest Service at St. John's Church on 2nd October, pupils will take part in a Drama Workshop run by members of Buxton Opera House's Education Team.

YEAR 6 INFORMATION

Secondary School Applications

It's now time to start thinking about which Secondary School your child will go to (the deadline for applying is: 31st October 2025).

Dates of Open Events at local Secondary Schools are as follows:

Lady Manners School

Thursday 2nd October 2025: 4.30pm-6.30pm

Hope Valley College

Thursday 25th September 2025: 5.30pm-7.30pm (Book Attendance Online via Hope Valley College Website)

Please continue to check each Secondary Schools' own website for further details as dates/times may be subject to change.

KS2 SATS ASSESSMENTS 2026

At Bishop Pursglove, we realise that some children may start Year Six considerably more anxious about some of the challenges that lie ahead such as KS2 SATS (which will be held from Monday 11th May 2026 to Thursday 14th May 2026 inclusive) and their transition to Secondary School later in the year. However, Year Six also brings lots of opportunities for children to grow in self-confidence, take on new responsibilities and have fun along the way. If you, or your child have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Craig, Mrs Hall or myself.

Once again, I look forward to working with you and your child throughout this new school year.

Kind Regards

Mr Downings – Ruby Class (Year 5 + 6) Teacher