

Welcome back! I hope you've all had a great Easter Break and are ready for an exciting Summer Term in School.

In Creativity, we will be studying our new topic: Maafa, your child will learn about Africa today and the ancient kingdoms that thrived on the continent for thousands of years. They will learn about the origins of the transatlantic slave trade in the 15th century and Britain's involvement from the time of Elizabeth I, when John Hawkins became the first British slave trader. Your child will also study the structure of the transatlantic slave trade and the consequences of enslavement for enslaved people. In addition, they will also discover how the people of Britain benefited from the money and goods produced by the slave trade, and will learn about the causes and consequences of the abolition of slavery in the 19th century, the worldwide African diaspora and the European colonisation in Africa.

Furthermore, pupils will explore the lives and actions of black people in 20th century Britain. They will understand how the Race Relations Act of 1965 became the first piece of British legislation to tackle racial discrimination and know that the Equality Act 2010 provides people with protection against racism and other forms of discrimination, today. Your child will also explore the lives of black people who have made significant contributions to Britain and will celebrate black culture in Britain today.

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.

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 be dismissed from the main gate.

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.

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.

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 CPG Revision Guides. Homework information will be sent via the school's app messaging system.



Year 6 SATS Assessments

Year 6 SATS will be held from Monday 12th May 2025 to Thursday 15th May 2025. In order to help the children to prepare for these tests and to reduce their anxieties about them, we will continue doing Practice SAT papers as part of our weekly English and Maths lessons. Practising questions under timed conditions and reviewing them together, will help your child to develop their test technique and strategies to help them understand the question and respond fully. Questions and papers will be repeated regularly to embed these strategies and help develop a positive mindset to sitting these assessments in a few weeks time.

Parents and carers and Year 6 children are warmly invited to attend a KS2 SATs Workshop **on Thursday 1st May 2025 at 3.50pm**, where information about the forthcoming tests will be given and staff will be available to answer any questions you may still have.

Residential Visit

The Year 5 + 6 Residential Visits are always a massive highlight of the children's time here at Bishop Purglove. The Residential is booked for 2nd - 4th June 2025. Once we have received information about the Residential from the Hollowford Centre, we will invite Parents to attend an information briefing a few weeks before the visit takes place.

Transition Days

This term sees the return of Secondary School Transition visits for Year 6 pupils. Lady Manners have arranged potential transition visits for pupils at BPS on Thursday 19th June or Wednesday 25th June 2025 (Date to be confirmed). Our Whole School Transition Day where pupils will meet their new teachers will be on Wednesday 2nd July 2025.

Pupils attending other schools in September will be contacted directly by their Secondary School regarding Transition Arrangements. If you have any questions regarding transition please contact Mrs Craig or myself using the usual methods of communication.

Once again, I look forward to working with you and your child throughout this term at Bishop Purglove School.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Downings', written over a horizontal line.

Mr Downings – Year 5 + 6 Class Teacher