

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: Groundbreaking Greeks. Your child will learn about different periods of Greek history, exploring the earliest civilisations, the devastation of the Dark Age and the breakthroughs and developments of the Archaic and Classical periods.

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They will understand how the geography of Greece affected the development of city states and explore Athens, learning about the structure of the government and society. Pupils will also get to know some of the most significant Athenians and understand why Greek art, culture, architecture, philosophy, medicine and mathematics were so significant. Your child will learn about the leadership of Alexander the Great and discover how ancient Greece became part of the Roman Empire after the conquest in the Hellenistic period. They will explore how the Romans respected and developed Greek ideas, making them their own and spreading them throughout the Roman Empire. To end the project, your child will decide which was the ancient Greeks' greatest idea and explore how the legacy of Ancient Greece affects their lives today.

**Snacks + Water**

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

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 Wednesday and Thursday. It 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](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026. 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 **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 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 Pursglove. The Residential is booked for **17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026**. Once we have received information about the Residential from White Hall Outdoor 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 **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026**. Our Whole School Transition Day where pupils will meet their new teachers will be on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026.

Pupils attending other schools ( such as Hope Valley College) 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.

### **KS2 Production**

This year, our KS2 Production will be Peter Pan. Auditions for parts will take place after KS2 SATS Week and further information regarding Costume Lists, will be given out at a later date.

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

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Downings'.

Mr Downings – Year 5 + 6 Class Teacher