

Christmas

at

Bower Lodge School



Head Teacher Message

Firstly, a massive thank you from myself and all the team at Bower Lodge School for your support this half term. It has been a fabulous half term with every pupil taking part in at least one off site visit and the first Bower Lodge School Nativity. I would also like to thank you all for your kind words and compliments to the staff teams during annual reviews, parents' evenings and other school events; it really does make a difference to us.

I have been so proud of the pupils this half term and it has been wonderful to see our older pupils acting as positive role models with the younger pupils, supporting their play and social interactions. Our younger pupils are enjoying the positive role models and seeking out our older pupils during lunch times.

The School Council members have been active in ensuring that lunchtime clubs are up and running and pupils from across the school have been participating in these clubs with Sensory Club and Lego Club being well attended.

As this term draws to a close I would like to remind you that school reopens for pupils on Tuesday the 6th January 2026 and I would like to take the opportunity to wish you, our pupils and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all in 2026.

All the best, Jemma

Important Dates:

Thursday 12th February 2026:

parent workshop listening and attention skills - 'what does bucket time look like?'

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Tuesday 6th January 2026:

Back to School after Christmas holidays

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Wednesday weekly:

Swimming trip for Orange , Purple and Blue Class, Please continue to pack Swimming kits each Wednesday.

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February 16-20th

2026 : No School, Half term break



This half term in Red Class, we have continued our topic of 'All about Me'. All the children in Red Class are now very much settled into the routines and are beginning to independently access their own schedules to support their understanding of what is happening now and next. In addition to this their ever-growing confidence and independence is helping them flourish in Red Class.

The children have formed good relationships with all the staff in Red Class (and the wider school) and are building some lovely friendships with their peers in class. Additionally, we are pleased to introduce two new members of staff to the Red Class Team - Gypsy and Bryony.

Just recently Red Class went on our very first offsite trip - to the local playpark. This was a huge success, and we look forward to many more trips out in the future. We are all excited to continue this learning journey with the children after the Christmas break.





We have had a wonderful Autumn 2 term, full of fun and exciting learning experiences. The children have continued to explore, create, and communicate in many different ways, showing curiosity and enjoyment in all their activities.

In science, the children explored and sorted objects made from different materials. They explored differences in texture, sound, and appearance, and communicated their choices and preferences using gestures, pointing, and communication boards.

During geography sessions, the children used maps of the school to identify different spaces and linked these to the routines in their daily schedules. They also learned about the adults they might see in different areas of the school, such as teachers and office staff, and how these adults help them.

Art was full of creativity and experimentation. The children enjoyed using stencils and paints, creating splatter paintings covered with silhouettes, making scissor-cut paper plate poppies, and exploring textured Christmas tree collages. They expressed their choices and engagement through selecting materials, experimenting with tools, and responding to different textures.

Music sessions had a festive focus, with the children exploring Christmas songs and the sounds of different instruments. They enjoyed moving their bodies in time to music, listening carefully, and joining in with songs using actions and gestures.

In PE, the children explored different ways of moving through imaginative activities. They pretended to be trains visiting stations, spacemen jumping in different ways, and acrobats balancing carefully. These sessions supported coordination, balance, and confidence in movement.

Cooking activities encouraged independence and choice-making. The children decorated chocolate-covered firework marshmallows, snowman rice cakes, and Christmas tree tortillas, following simple steps with support and enjoying showing their preferences.

In maths, the children explored numbers, counting, shapes, and the concepts of one more and one less. They took part in teddy bear parties, wrapped presents of different shapes, joined in counting songs, and explored numbers and shapes through hands-on activities. Phonics sessions continued to be engaging and multi-sensory, helping the children connect with different sounds in fun ways. The children have shown excellent listening and attention during group activities and are growing in confidence with routines and classroom expectations.

We are so proud of the progress the children have made this term and the enthusiasm they bring to their learning. Thank you for your continued support — we are excited for all the learning adventures to come in the next term!





Green Class



As we come to the end of another busy and enjoyable half term, we are incredibly proud of the progress the children in Green Class have made. They have continued to grow in confidence, independence, and curiosity, approaching each day with enthusiasm and a willingness to explore. It has been wonderful to see how comfortable they have become within their school environment, and how their individual personalities continue to shine.

Our topic this half term has been "My Community", which has supported the children in learning more about the people, places, and routines that make up their everyday world. Through sensory play, role play, stories, and structured activities, the children have been exploring familiar environments and the important people around them. We have focused on building connections, developing early social skills, and encouraging shared experiences, such as turn-taking, responding to others, and participating in group activities. It has been lovely to see the children showing growing awareness of one another and beginning to engage more confidently with both peers and adults.

The children have enjoyed trips into the community this half term, including soft play and shopping, which supported confidence, physical development, and real-life learning. Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support, especially during the church nativity, which helped make the experience so special for the children.

This half term, Green Class has enjoyed spending time in the kitchen, where we introduced hands-on cooking activities. The children had great fun making jelly, flapjacks and gingerbread, exploring different textures, smells, and tastes. These sessions supported not only sensory exploration, but also important life skills such as following routines, waiting for turns, and working alongside others. The children showed fantastic focus and enthusiasm during these activities, and many were very proud of what they created.

Sensory play, messy activities, and creative art sessions have continued to be a key part of our learning. These experiences have helped to develop fine motor skills, creativity, and confidence, while also providing opportunities for self-expression and exploration. Thank you, as always, for your understanding when clothes come home a little messier than usual – the learning behind it is invaluable!

We are also very pleased with the children's engagement in phonics and maths this half term. They have shown growing confidence in exploring sounds, patterns, numbers, and early mathematical concepts, often applying their learning through play and practical activities. Their enthusiasm and focus have been a real highlight.

Overall, this half term has been full of progress, discovery, and enjoyment. The children have continued to build strong foundations for learning, communication, and social development, and we are extremely proud of everything they have achieved. We look forward to seeing their learning continue to flourish next term.





Autumn Term 2 has been a busy and rewarding half term in Orange Class. The children have taken part in a wide range of learning experiences and have shown fantastic enthusiasm, engagement, and progress across all areas of the curriculum. We are extremely proud of their achievements and the confidence they continue to develop.

In literacy, the children have continued their Rocket Phonics learning, where they have been introduced to new sounds. These sounds have been explored through a variety of engaging sensory, visual, and practical activities to support individual learning needs. The children have enjoyed listening to sounds, matching activities, and using objects to reinforce their understanding, helping to build early reading skills and communication confidence.

In numeracy, the children have been learning about shapes, as well as position and direction. They explored these concepts through hands-on activities, such as shape sorting, construction, movement games, and following simple directions. These activities supported the children in developing spatial awareness, problem-solving skills, and early mathematical understanding in a fun and accessible way.

During science lessons, the children have been learning about different animals and their classifications. They explored a range of animals through pictures, toys, sensory resources, and practical activities. This has helped to develop their understanding of animal groups, as well as encouraging curiosity, observation skills, and discussion about the natural world.

In PSHE, the children have been focusing on understanding and expressing their emotions. Learning has taken place through sensory and practical activities, including stories, role play, and emotion-based resources. These activities supported the children in recognising different feelings in themselves and others, developing emotional awareness, and building positive relationships.

In art, the children have enjoyed exploring a variety of materials, textures, and techniques to create their own artwork. Activities included painting, printing, collage, and sensory mark-making. These sessions encouraged creativity, self-expression, and the development of fine motor skills, while allowing the children to explore art in an open-ended and enjoyable way.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their weekly swimming lessons, where they have all shown excellent progress. Many children have developed increased water confidence, improved independence, and a willingness to try new skills in the pool.

In addition, the children have loved our end-of-week trips to the local park, which provided valuable opportunities for outdoor learning, sensory exploration, physical development, and social interaction in the community.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and progress all the children in Orange Class have made this term. Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to welcoming the children back for another exciting and engaging term ahead.

The Orange Class Team 🍊





Purple Class



We've had a busy and exciting term filled with lots of wonderful learning. In English, we have been reading *The Barnabus Project*, which the children have really enjoyed. They explored the characters' feelings, developed their descriptive language, and used the story to help them understand instructional writing and the use of imperative verbs. In maths, Purple class has been working on addition and subtraction, using a range of practical resources to support their understanding. They have made great progress and are becoming more confident with calculations involving up to three-digit numbers. Our geography work took us on a virtual tour of our local area using Google Earth. The children loved navigating around the school and the places they know well. We also looked at where we are in the wider world, naming the continents and learning about the countries that make up the UK. In PSHE, we have been focusing on internet safety and how to stay safe online, an important topic that the children engaged with really thoughtfully. In RE, we spent time learning about Christianity and the nativity story in the lead-up to Christmas. We've also had lots of fun in the kitchen this term, making both sweet and savoury treats including cinnamon rolls, shortbread, and sausage rolls.





Blue Class



The second half of this Autumn term has been a very exciting one in Blue Class. The children have all worked super hard for Alex, Lauren and Syd and then adapted really maturely to another shake up to their routines with the arrival of J-P to take over as the full-time teacher. In Literacy the children have had 'The Viewer' as their core book, producing some amazing work around this spooky and eerie tale. The children have also made some real progress in their abilities to share thoughts and ideas in group and whole-class situations. Numeracy has had a focus on measure in recent weeks, we were so proud when we had visitors to the room and the children were able to talk to them about their work on meters, centimeters and millimeters. Measuring in another form has also been in focus in our cooking sessions and we hope you have enjoyed the fruits of our children's labour!

PSHE and life-skills remains at the heart of what we do and work on every day. All of the children have made progress around their targets and have actively participated in our trips into the community and to participate in leisure opportunities.

Lastly, the Blue Class Team of J-P, Lauren, Syd and Alex would like to wish all our children and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





Bower Lodge school Presents The Wriggly Nativity

We wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the parents and family members who were able to attend our very first school nativity performance at All Saints' Church.

The event was a huge success for our children, and we are so incredibly proud of every single one of them for their enthusiasm and wonderful performances. It is a true highlight of this term.

We are already looking forward to next year's production and, given the fantastic support this year, we will certainly be looking for a bigger venue to allow even more audience members to join us!

Thank you again for your support and for making this event so special for our school community.



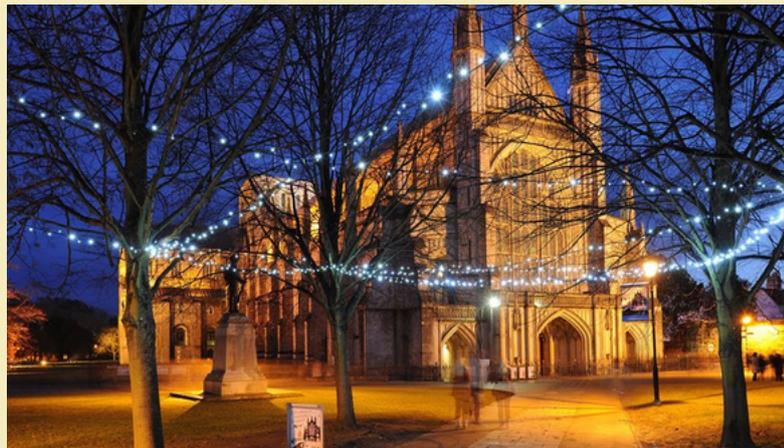


Hampshire Music Service Special Celebration 2025 at Winchester Cathedral



Some of our pupils recently attended Hampshire Music Service Special Celebration 2025 at Winchester cathedral, representing our school with outstanding enthusiasm and talent. They joined students from across the county for a spectacular performance of music and celebration.

We would also like to thank the Hampshire Music Service for organizing such a memorable occasion.





Christmas Charity Raffle



Special Thankyou to all the companies who kindly donated to our first charity Christmas raffle
All the money we raised will be going to Macmillan chosen by our school council.





Communication updates

Class Name	Email to contact
Red Class	Tim.Jeffries@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Yellow Class	Joshua.Webley@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Green Class	Emily.Marshall@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Orange Class	Charlene.Gyton@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Purple Class	Joanne.Pervin@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Blue Class	John-paul.Cooke@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk

When contacting Pupils teachers with information please can we ask you to CC our school administrator into those emails to ensure they are seen and dealt with in a timely manner:

hannah.ohara@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk

Keep an eye on our school website News & Events tab as we will be uploading any reminders and events information on there as well as communicating it via email & sending letters home.

<https://www.bowerlodgeschool.co.uk/news-events/>

