



Defford and Besford CE Primary School Newsletter 3rd July 2026

This time last week we were melting! I must say a huge thank you to our parents for being understanding during this time of unprecedented heat. It has shown us (as well as the county and the government) that school buildings are not suitable for these extremes of temperature and that increased investment is needed for an ever changing world. Until this time, we will look into other ways to prevent lost learning time. The bell boating trip was a stroke of luck - next to the river, under the tree canopy, was the coolest we had been all week. It was a shame that not all the children attended as it was a really special event. We even saw a snake cooling down in the river!

On the subject of attendance, ours is not looking too great at the moment. We have had a large number of our families remove their children from school for family holidays this term. While

we understand the financial implications of this, with the recent changes to OFSTED, our school is now judged on our attendance and a **huge** amount of weight is given to it. So by taking children out of school, you are not only damaging their education, you are damaging our school's reputation. Please bear this in mind when thinking of holidays next year.

Thank you for your support!

Mr Hanson

School Values - Self control

Self-control is one of the most important qualities we can develop, regardless of age. It helps us pause, reflect and respond thoughtfully rather than reacting in the heat of the moment. In school, this means making good choices, persevering through challenges and treating others with respect. As a community, it also reminds us of the importance of seeking facts, listening carefully and communicating responsibly. When we model self-control for our children, we help them grow into confident, resilient and considerate young people.

Staffing Update

After a long interview process last week, we are delighted to announce that we have employed a new class teacher for Birch class.

Miss Erin Jones will be starting full time in Birch from September. We had over twenty applications, but Miss Jones had the right qualities to make a big impact in our Key Stage 1 class. She is currently teaching Year 2 children at Franche Community Primary School in Kidderminster. We look forward to working with her after the summer break.

Meet the teacher



If your child has a new teacher in September, we will be holding a 'meet and greet' session in their classrooms on Friday 10th July from 3:15-4pm. This day is also transition day, where children will spend the morning with their new class.

Teachers will dismiss the children as normal, then you are free to re-enter the school in their new classroom.

Miss Jones will be present in Birch class for the new Year 1 and 2 children. Please enter from the playground.

Mrs Robinson will be present in Oak class for the new Year 3 children. Please enter from the playground.

Mrs Smith will be present in Ash class (wooden building at the rear of school) for the new Year 5 children. Please enter from the side of school (past the wrap exit).

This is an opportunity for you to informally introduce yourself to your child's new teacher and ask any questions you may have regarding their new class.

Summer Reading Challenge 2026



This weekend sees the launch of the Summer Reading Challenge. You can sign up at your local library or [online here](#)

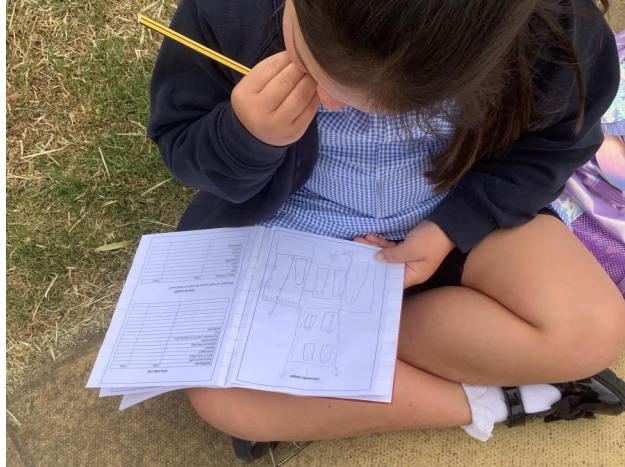
The theme of this year is 'Read to the Beat'. The theme inspires children to explore the connection between stories and songs, discovering how reading and music both ignite imagination and creativity.

Oak Class

Oak Class enjoyed a geography field trip in Pershore on Monday to find out how their local area has changed over the years. Miss Brown accompanied us as our local tour guide.







Birch Class

Birch Class enjoyed some ice lollies and paddling in tuff trays to beat the heat last week!



Ash Class

Forest School







Friends Association



Attendance

It can be always be tempting to take advantage of term time discounts that holiday companies promote. Please think carefully before taking your children out of school during term time. Every day lost has a significant impact on your child's education and a school is measured by its attendance figures. Support your children and your school by keeping holidays during holiday time. Any requests for holidays will obviously be unauthorised.

Please follow [this link](#) if you are unsure if your child is well enough to attend school.

Class attendance since last newsletter:

Willow - 85.8%

Birch - 82.3%

Oak - 77.3%

Ash - 68.0%

Well done to Willow class!

Whole School Attendance this year

Defford-cum-Besford CE First School - 93.4%

National - 94.9%

Local Authority - 94.9%

Dates for your diary

Monday 6th July - Oak & Ash Class trip to RAF Defford museum at Croome Court

Tuesday 7th July - Guitar assembly for families of children who take lessons 2.45pm

Wednesday 8th July - Smash Hits concert for families of children who take part 9.30-10am

Wednesday 8th July - Sports Day 1-3.15pm

Friday 10th July - Transition morning

Friday 10th July - Willow Class trip to the park

Friday 10th July - Meet & Greet for parents

Tuesday 14th July - Sports Day Reserve

Wednesday 15th July - Oak & Ash Boundless Outdoors Activity Day

Monday 20th July - Tuesday 1st September - Summer Holidays

Monkeys in Motion Summer Holiday Programme

Monkeys in Motion

5 AMAZING EVENTS 1 UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER!

FUN, FRIENDS & MEMORIES WITH MONKEYS IN MOTION!

THE GREATEST SHOW
HELD AT BISHOP PEROWNE SCHOOL

27TH - 31ST JULY 2026

9:00AM - 3:30PM = AGE 5-11
9:00AM - 1:00PM = AGE 3&4

£95/£145 PER CHILD FOR THE WHOLE WEEK!

K-POP DEMON HUNTERS
Kids Holiday Club

THURSDAY 6TH AUGUST

9AM - 3:30PM AGES 5-11 = £20
9AM - 1PM AGES 3&4 = £20

COSTUMES WELCOME!

- Photo opportunities
- K-POP Dance
- Games
- Goodie bag
- Glow Party Finals

SUMMER FIESTA
KIDS HOLIDAY CLUB

12TH & 13TH AUGUST

9:00AM - 3:30PM = AGES 5-11 £30
9:00AM - 1:00PM = AGES 3&4 £20

NORTON PARISH HALL

MULTI DAY DISCOUNT!

- Dance routines
- Arts & crafts
- Team games
- Outdoor play
- Scavenger hunts
- Limbo competitions
- Fiesta party
- Goodie bag to take home

MUSICAL IN A DAY
HOLIDAY CLUB

Sing, Dance, Act & Perform!

Scripts & Costumes and a certificate to take home!

Parents invited back to watch!

£35 Per Child!

Date	Timings	Location
Wed 19 th Aug	9:00am - 3:30pm Ages 5-11	The NEW St Peters Community Centre

BOOK TICKETS: WWW.MONKEYSINMOTION.CO.UK

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THURSDAY 27TH AUGUST

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED BACK TO SCHOOL DISCO PARTY PACKED WITH DANCE CHALLENGES, GLOW STICKS, POPCORN SNACKS, PHOTO BACKDROP, FACE GEMS OR TATTOOS AS WELL AS POP MUSIC & GAMES!

WHITTINGTON COMMUNITY HALL

3:00PM - 5:00PM

AGES 5-11 = £16.50

BOOK TICKETS NOW!
TAP THIS LINK OR HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE!

'Try Rugby' Bredon Star R.F.C. Mini's & Juniors

BREDON STAR RFC IS RECRUITING!

To exit full screen, press Esc

COME & TRY Rugby

RECRUITMENT DAY
SUNDAY 20TH SEPT 10:00 AM
BREDON PLAYING FIELDS GL20 7QN
FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGE 5-17

WHY CHOOSE US?

- ★ FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB
- ★ DEDICATED COACHES
- ★ END OF YEAR AWARDS DINNER
- ★ ACCESS TO REGIONAL ACADEMY PATHWAYS

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:

- ★ NICK_HARWOOD@SKY.COM
- ★ MUSTOMATT@GMAIL.COM

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BREDON STAR RFC

bredonstarrfc

Bredon Star RFC

bredonrugby.co.uk



BREDON STAR RFC IS RECRUITING!

COME & TRY *Rugby*

**TRAINING STARTS
SUNDAY 6TH SEPT 10:00 AM
FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGE 5-17**

WHY CHOOSE US?

- ★ FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB
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[bredonrugby.co.uk](#)

Try Rugby

Pershore Foodbank

Dear Friends of Pershore Foodbank,

Thank you for your continuing support. We very much value your donations; both financial and foodstuffs, as this enables us to continue our services without resorting to any professional fundraising.

We have been able to continue to help local families & individuals during times of crisis and I am pleased to be able to tell you that most of our clients make use of our services only one or two times. Of course, there are some who need more long-term help and we try to steer them towards other solutions as our food parcels are not really suitable for long-term nutrition.

If you can help us with non-perishable goods such as tinned food, long-life milk, cereal, pasta or rice they will all be gratefully received. Toiletries and cleaning products are also useful (including sun protection & deodorant at this time of year).

The most pressing issue facing Pershore Foodbank at the moment is accommodation. We are incredibly lucky to be able to run our distribution centre out of St Andrew's Church. It is welcoming, spacious, clean and (most importantly) doesn't get too hot during a heatwave. However, there is very little storage space available there for us and our small self-contained "warehouse" on the other side of Pershore is increasingly difficult to sustain. It is very important that our dedicated volunteers have somewhere safe and convenient to store our foodstuffs and make up the basic parcels ready for our sessions at St Andrew's. The recent heatwaves have not helped. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS AS TO POTENTIAL WAREHOUSING SPACES LOCALLY, WE WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO HEAR FROM YOU

Nicola Ainsworth --Manager

Pershore Foodbank

St Andrews, Church Walk, Pershore.

Office for post Abbey Office, 11 Broad St Pershore, WR10 1BB

Tel 01386 555347

OPEN Tuesdays 11.00 to 13.00

OPEN Fridays 13.00-15.00

Families Magazine



Here is your July/August magazine!

In our latest issue, explore new ways to extend learning beyond the classroom - it'll be useful during the holidays!

We also celebrate the amazing brains of children on the autism spectrum. Plus, fun summer activities, fabulous giveaways and more!

[READ NOW](#)