



Newsletter Number 17: 21.5.2026



25.5.26-29.5.26 – HALF TERM

JUNE

5.6.26 – F.O.O.B.S TBU Collection

8.6.26 - 12.6.26 Pick a Jar donation week

11.6.26 – Year 2 Sea City Trip

19.6.26 – Class Photographs

25.6.26 – YR Marwell

26.6.26 – Y1 Seaside Extravaganza

JULY

5.7.26 - Summer Fair

8.7.27 – Joint coffee morning at St Mary's Junior School

10.7.26 – Rock Steady End of Year Concert

13.7.26 – 2pm Y2 Leavers' Show

14.7.26 - 9:30 Y2 Leavers' Show

17.7.26 – Family Picnic with St Mary's Junior School – details to follow

21.7.26 – Y2 Leaver's Party

22.3.26 – Last Day of Term

Here we are at the half term holiday with just seven and a half weeks of school time left until the end of the school year. Next half term is always incredibly busy with school visitors, trips, transition activities, school plays, and a singing competition to name but a few of the activities going on! YR and Y2 were able to book their school trips after leaving Marwell and the Sea City Museum last year, which allowed us to secure coaches early at a reasonable cost. Sadly, due to the unforeseen rise in fuel costs, it was going to cost Year 1 families £25 for each child, just for the coach to go to Southsea. We could not believe how expensive this was going to be before any additional cost on top. We have however, been able to secure a visit for Year 1 from a theatre company who are going to turn our school hall into a Victorian pier with stalls, games and activities so that we can cover the history aspect of our curriculum and give them a day to remember! The seaside ice lolly has always been well remembered in the past, so we will be making sure that the children also get to enjoy this. It was a difficult decision to make but it was important to consider the cost of just a coach for all our families, when most of our children have already been lucky enough to experience going to the seaside.

Sports Afternoon

We had a brilliant turn out to our Sports Afternoon, and we were all so pleased that the weather held out for us. The children put in a huge amount of effort and showed great teamwork and enthusiasm even if they were worn out afterwards! I can announce that the winners were...

YR - Hedgehog

Y1 – Fox

Y2 – Otter

Assembly Visitors

This half term we have been very lucky to have several parents join us for assemblies about different careers. A massive thank you to Mrs Fenge, Mrs Evans and Ms Kirby who have talked to the children about careers in logistics, nursing and physiotherapy. The children found all of the assemblies inspiring and asked some very insightful questions. It has been a great way of bringing the children's learning to life and for them to begin to understand the world of possibilities that await them. We would love to continue these career themed assemblies next half term so please email the office if you would be able to help.



Flower Festival at St Mary's Church

Our school was invited to take part in the Flower Festival at St Mary's Church. The children have been learning about recycling and wanted to create flowers for the festival using recycled materials. The children reused cupcake cakes that had previously been used in a maths lesson and reused pots from a planting activity. The children linked their creations to article 24 from the UNCRC. The article states that; governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment.



The Singing Club did us proud and sang their songs beautifully at the Church. Mrs Malone does such an amazing job - hearing our children sing with the lower school choir of the Junior school was a real treat. It was another example of the strong relationship that we have between our two schools.

Message from the Foodbank

If any family was heading our way for a voucher, ***we will be closed on Bank Holiday Monday 25th May***

Visit <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/> for information on how to access a voucher before visiting our 7 Foodbank Centres.

thanks

Paula

Paula Vallance, Development Manager

Hello from F.O.O.B.S

We hope you all are looking forward to a great half term of sunshine, and the children enjoyed their non uniform day today. Thank you for all your Tombola donations!

If you can, please have a look over half term for any toys, games, children's books or uniform items that are no longer needed for our very popular Toys, Books and Uniform sale at the Summer Fair. Donations will be accepted on Friday 5th June between 8:15-9:00am in the carparks of both the infant and junior schools as well as the RBL carpark. Larger items can be dropped off on the day of the Summer Fair.

Pick a jar week: 8th-12th June (all week). We are asking for donations of filled jars consisting of stickers/sweets/crayons anything kids can enjoy however please nothing that can melt.

Many thanks!

Staff Profile – Sarah Carter Year 1 Teacher and Science Lead

I am a mum to two children, a boy and a girl. My son is due to start school in September, while my daughter is currently enjoying her first year at pre-school. I love being a mum, and as a family we enjoy days out to country parks, soft play centres, and swimming pools. My husband and I are both huge Formula One fans and proudly support McLaren Formula One Team. I'm also a big theme park enthusiast and absolutely love rollercoasters. At the end of July/beginning of August, we'll be returning to Europa-Park in Germany, which we're really looking forward to. In my free time, I enjoy catching up with friends over lunch and having a good chat. I also love visiting Nirvana Spa to relax and unwind with a peaceful swim. Most evenings, you'll find me curled up under a cosy blanket with a good book and a mug of hot chocolate, while Bluey is usually on the television in the background!

Supporting Your Child's Reading at Home

The primary years are a vital time for children as they learn to read, begin reading independently, and develop habits that can last a lifetime.

The National Year of Reading is here to support families with ideas and encouragement to help children enjoy reading. We encourage you to explore the wide range of suggestions available on their website to support your child's reading at home. <https://goallin.org.uk/families-5-11/>

Library books

At Old Basing Infant School, all children can visit our school library each week and borrow books to take home. We are very fortunate to have this wonderful facility, along with the support and expertise of our volunteer librarian, Mrs Salsi.

However, each year about 100 books go missing or are not returned and we are then charged for these. Our library stock is regularly refreshed through the School Library Service (SLS), which we are very grateful for as our own stocks are rather limited, especially since having to remove from our shelves books that are older than ten years of age.

If you receive a reminder about a missing book, please take the time to have a thorough look at home. If the book cannot be found, we ask that you pay a £5 replacement fee at the school office to cover the cost of a book that belongs to the School Library Service that is lost. Thank you for your continued support with this as we want to avoid a situation where the children can only choose to take home books from our limited stocks!

Safeguarding

The NSPCC website has some interesting links, articles and ideas to help you to safeguard your children, so we can work together to teach your children about how to keep themselves safe. Some of the information is for you as parents but some of their resources help you to explore challenging issues with your child at home. The following links will take you to their pages.

[Support & advice for families | NSPCC](#)

[Activities for kids at home | NSPCC](#)

Talk Point

If you could create your perfect day from morning to night, what would happen and why?

This question will help build vocabulary (describing activities, feelings, time), encourage the use of full sentences and storytelling and help to develop listening and turn-taking skills!

Reminder!

Please remember that absences for illness or changes to collection should be communicated by calling the school office and not via email. The admin office email is not accessed if Mrs Selmes is not in school and emails of this nature may not be picked up in time. Please telephone the office if your child is going to be absent or collected by somebody different.

Have a lovely half term and I will look forward to seeing you all again on June 1st!

Sonia Denning

Attendance to 21st May 2026

Whole School – 97.02%

Mole Class: 97%

Hedgehog Class: 96.67%

Dormouse Class: 95.7%

Hare Class: 97.7%

Squirrel Class: 96.9%

Fox Class: 97.6%

Barn Owl Class: 97.4%

Badger Class: 96.5%

Otter Class: 97.7%