



Newsletter 20 10.7.26



JULY

13.7.26 – 2pm Y2 Leavers' Show

14.7.26 - 9:30 Y2 Leavers' Show

15.7.26 – YR Marwell trip

17.7.26 – Whole School Family Picnic with St Mary's Junior School – details below

21.7.26 – Y2 Leaver's Party

SEPTEMBER

1.9.26 – INSET

2.9.26 -Term Begins

The hot weather has returned but thankfully it is not as hot as it has been! Please remember to apply suncream to your child and to bring a hat and a water bottle to school. I think that this weather is likely to continue until the end of term.

Lost Property

I will continue to put all lost property outside for you to look through. Named items are always returned to the right classes. **All items left on 22.7.26 will be given to F.O.O.B.S or recycled.**

Play Equipment

Please remember that children should not be using the play equipment on the playground before or after school. We are covered by insurance for accidents that occur when the children are supervised by school staff during school hours. Please ensure that any preschool children do not climb on the balance trail but remain supervised. The gate to the main playground will be locked in the morning until 8:30am when it will be opened by a member of staff. The gates are locked again at 3:25pm so please make sure that you have vacated the school site by then.

Talk Point

'If you could swap places with anyone in the family for a day, who would it be?'

This question helps develop empathy and understanding. It encourages family members to see things from another person's perspective, appreciate each other's roles and responsibilities, and express gratitude for what others contribute to family life.

Safeguarding during the summer holidays

During the school holidays, school staff will only check their email address occasionally, this will include safeguarding leads.

- If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.
- For other serious or urgent issues, contact Hampshire Children's Services via the contact form or numbers available on this page:

[Contact children's services for yourself, friends and family or the public | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council](#)

- Children and young people can contact Childline free and confidentially on 0800 1111.
- Parents and carers can contact the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000.
- If a child or young person is struggling with their mental health, they can text YM to 85258 for free, 24/7 crisis support. Parents wanting advice can also contact the YoungMinds Parents Helpline on 0808 802 5544.

Whole School End of Year Family Picnic, Joint with SMJ School – 17th July 12:45pm-2:00pm

On Friday 17th July you are invited to join your child/children for lunch at the junior school to mark the end of the academic year! We have enjoyed several joint events this year and these activities and links are really important for our school community and relations. **Your child will need either a Cheese Baguette picnic option ordered from school or a packed lunch provided from home on this day as there will be no hot food served from the kitchen.**

- If you would like to join your child for this event, then please come and collect them from their classroom door from 12.30pm, to then walk over to the junior school with their class at 12:45pm. If you also have a child at the Juniors, then they will meet you on the junior school field.
- There will be a good number of children who do not have a parent/relative in attendance, so if you cannot make this event then please do not worry as your child will be able to enjoy the picnic with their teacher and their class.
- At the end of the picnic, children will be able to leave with their parents/carers. For safeguarding reasons pupils will only be able to leave after the picnic with their own family – children will not be allowed to leave with any other adult, unless this is a regular arrangement. **There will be no exceptions to this for pupils at either school.**
- If you are unable to attend the picnic, then please come and collect your child at the normal time of 3:15.

Mrs Lillywhite and Mrs Denning

Summer Reading Challenge – 2026

Hampshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge 2026 – Read to the Beat!

It would be great to see lots of our pupils signing up for this summer's Hampshire Libraries reading challenge. Sign up at your library or online from Saturday 11th July to Saturday 12th September.

This year the challenge theme is 'Read to the Beat!'

[Join the Summer Reading Challenge 2026! | Leisure and culture | Hampshire County Council](#)

Assembly

A big thank you to Carl Graham who held a careers assembly all about being an ice hockey player. The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the different kit and some children had the opportunity to try some of it on. The children asked some very insightful questions. Across the year we have had a number of parents hold assemblies about different faiths, cultures and careers. These assemblies have been extremely popular with the children and really helped bring their learning to life. We will be continuing these assemblies next year so please look out for details of how to volunteer for these in the Autumn Term.

Staff Profile – Nikki Chapman

I started working at Old Basing Infant School ten years ago. I am a mum of four children – two boys and two girls, and all four came to Old Basing. My eldest child is now 19 and driving!

My role at this amazing school is Breakfast Club Supervisor and Lunchtime Support Assistant which I really enjoy. I enjoy working with children; I love their honesty, their smiles and their energy! In my spare time, I enjoy going on walks and holidays with my family and our pet dog.

F.O.O.B.S

A huge thank you to all our wonderful parents, volunteers, staff, and everyone who supported our Summer Fair on Sunday.

Your time, generosity, and enthusiasm made the day such a fantastic success. Whether you helped organise the event, ran a stall, donated prizes or cakes, volunteered your time, or simply came along to enjoy the day, every contribution made a real difference.

We're delighted to share an amazing provisional total for this year's fair which, thanks to your incredible support, is more than £13,600.

This is a fantastic achievement, and the money raised will go towards enhancing opportunities and resources for our children. We couldn't have done it without our amazing school community.

Chess Club

We used to run a chess club after school a few years ago and we have had an offer to run a club next year. Before we agree, we wanted to gauge what interest there may be. If this is something that you know your child would like to do – then please email the school office adminoffice@oldbasing.hants.sch.uk and we will be able to see if the club would be viable to run. Please remember chess is a game that requires concentration and participation from children with a genuine interest.

Classes and Staffing

Finally, I would like to mention that a lot of time goes into organising classes and staffing. We are lucky enough to see your children every day and get to see how they develop friendships, how they navigate challenges and how they are during both play and work contexts. We know which children show resilience, those that are social butterflies, those that need reminders to listen (that was me at school), and those who need some extra encouragement to be courageous and bold. Classes are organised with all those factors and more in mind – we also check with previous teachers from Y1 and YR that the mix we have is right.

As you know everyone has the legal right to request flexible working hours, regardless of their profession. There are many men and women who want to continue to progress their careers whilst balancing raising a family and that does not mean that their job is done any less well; if anything, teachers who job share come to the start of their working week with fresh energy and enthusiasm for doing their job. It provides a fantastic balance for working and I believe our children benefit. I anticipate that we may well have more and more people on our staff who choose this option in the years to come. It is something to be embraced and a reflection of the fact that fewer adults these days have the luxury not to work.

I would also like to make the point that all our staff have their own personal lives which may at times be reflected in the way that we need to organise staffing. They should not feel they have to discuss their personal circumstances with you. As a school we provide a service to you as parents and to your children, and I want to

assure you that your children are front and centre of any decision that is made. We are all passionate about what we do and committed to doing the very best for every child in our care. Like you, we want your children to be happy, to thrive and to achieve.

Have a great weekend,

Sonia Denning

Attendance to 30th June 2026

Whole School – 97.08%

Mole Class: 96.92%

Hedgehog Class: 96.38%

Dormouse Class: 95.80%

Hare Class: 98.06%

Squirrel Class: 96.92%

Fox Class: 97.77%

Barn Owl Class: 97.41%

Badger Class: 96.52%

Otter Class: 97.78%