



Newsletter Number 4: 24.10.2025

November

3.11.25 INSET Day

- 4.11.25 – Autumn 2 begins
- 7.11.25 – 9.15am New Year R Open Morning for 2026-2027 intake
- 10.11.25 – Friendship Week
- 11.11.25 – 6:30pm YR Reading and Phonics Q&A – teams
- 12.11.25 – Old Basing Schools Coffee Morning at St Mary's 9-10.30am
- 14.11.25 – Non-Uniform Children in Need
- 18.11.25 – Happy School Bags
- 19.11.25 – Flu Immunisations
- 24.11.25 – 9.15am New Year R Open Morning for 2026-2027 intake
- 28.11.25 – FOBS Christmas Market

December

- 11.12.25 – UNICEF Day for Change
- 12.12.25 – 2pm Rock Steady Concert for the parents of those children who attend
- 15.12.25 – 2pm YR Nativity Performance
- 16.12.25 – 9:30am YR Nativity Performance
- 18.12.25 – Christmas jumper day and Christmas Lunch
- 19.12.25 – INSET Day and end of term**

I am sure that many of your children will have reached their cognitive load for this half term and are ready for a break from their learning at school for a week. There will still be activities for you to do with your children which you will be able to find on Tapestry, however the most important thing is the usual regular reading as this is so valuable. I hope that you will be able to enjoy some time with your children next week – they will need to recharge their batteries ready for next half term which will be full of the usual busy preparations for the countdown to Christmas. I expect YR will begin learning songs for their nativity before we know it!

Celebration Assembly

Year R will be joining the rest of the school for Celebration Assembly after half term. This assembly is when we get to reward nominated children for behaviour that reflects our school values. Alongside this, we like to celebrate any achievements the children may have had outside school. The children are encouraged to bring in any medals, certificates or trophies from their activities outside school such as swimming, gymnastics, park runs football and so on. These things can be placed in a tray outside my office and each Friday I will celebrate them with your children. Please make sure that items are named as sometimes things go into my tray and no one claims them as theirs! I look

forward to celebration assembly each Friday – it is definitely a joyful and uplifting end to the week.

Halloween

It's October which every parent knows means two things; half-term and Halloween! Here is an interesting article from the Child Accident Prevention Trust: [Halloween and Children's Safety \(CAPT\)](#) Have fun, enjoy this autumn festival but keep safe!

Adult Learning

Free Courses Available – funded by the Government and free for adults 19+ who are living in Hampshire. Visit [Learning in Libraries – Hampshire County Council Shop](#) to book a free place.

OBIS Profiles

Mrs Carleigh Spearey – Barn Owl Class LSA

I have always loved working with children, starting my career as a swimming teacher/coach and going on to manage a swim school. I then took a career break to look after my own children and then returned to working with children in schools.

I have worked as an LSA at Old Basing Infant school since 2022, working in both year 1 and year 2. I thoroughly enjoy my job and I love making a difference to young people.

Outside of work, I live with my husband, two children aged 12 & 9 and our lion head bunny Leo. The children keep us super busy with dance shows and football matches. We enjoy going to country parks as a family and exploring the outdoors.

Talking point

'If you could swap places with a character from a book or film, who would it be and why?'

Parking...

Just a reminder as we had a rather upset older resident pop into school this week. Both of her grandchildren have been through the school and she is always singing the praises of both the Infant and Junior school. It was rather sad to hear her talk about the disrespectful way that she has been spoken to by those ignoring parking restrictions and by those who have parked blocking her driveway. To say I was embarrassed to have to apologise to her is an understatement. It is also amazing that when there is someone wearing a high viz jacket walking up and down supervising the parking, it is very orderly!

Lost Property

There will be a table of lost property – outside if it is not raining or in the entrance hall if it is. All lost property items have been checked for names and they are all un-named items so will be donated to F.O.O.B.S if not claimed!

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is very busy at the moment so this is a reminder to make sure that you cancel your space if it is no longer needed so that another child is able to take up the space.

F.O.O.B.S

Hello from F.O.O.B.S.! After half term we have a busy few weeks! The year 3 disco will be held on Friday 7th November. Tickets go on sale today via our website www.foobs.weebly.com.

We have a HappySchoolBag collection booked for Tuesday 18th November. Half term would be a great opportunity to dig out some things to donate!

Always a firm favourite with the children, the F.O.O.B.S. Christmas Markets will return again this year! Please bring your donations into school after half term.

Lastly, Letter to Santa kits will also be on sale after half term.

Look out for emails from the school with more details on all of these events

Finally, we hope that everyone has a wonderful half term!

EARA Network

The Year 2 EARA (Equality and Rights Advocates) members took part in a network meeting with schools from across Basingstoke. The children confidently talked about their own and other's rights. The meeting focused on the word 'belonging' and what this meant to the children and how they could help others feel that they belong. The children who attended the network, were amazing representatives for our school demonstrating our school values of respect and kindness.

Music – a note from Miss Stoddart

A big thank you to Mr Rampton who joined us in assembly on Tuesday this week. The children enjoyed learning about the different parts of his guitars. The highlight of the assembly was the children singing along as Mr Rampton played Golden. One of the children commented 'this was the best assembly ever!' We have a few other parents who have kindly volunteered to join us for some musical assemblies.



Please get in contact if you would be happy to share any of your musical talents with the children during an assembly. We are also very keen to welcome parents into assemblies to talk to the children about different festivals or cultures. We have an assembly on St. Martin Lantern Festival booked in for next half term.

Remembrance Day

We were very lucky to have the WI visit school last week and help all of the children in Year 1 and Year 2 make a poppy. Each children created their own poppy which has been added to the display outside of school. The display is part of a joint project throughout Old Basing to mark Remembrance Day.



Have a wonderful half term and I will look forward to seeing you after half term for the obligatory Christmas countdown!

Sonia Denning

Attendance to 24th October 2025

Whole School – 97.3%

Mole Class: 98%

Hedgehog Class: 97.3%

Dormouse Class: 95.7%

Hare Class: 97.5%

Squirrel Class: 98.9%

Fox Class: 97.3%

Barn Owl Class: 97.1%

Badger Class: 96.8%

Otter Class: 97.3%