



Celebrating Faith,
Learning and Success

St Botolph's C of E Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Rayner



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2nd September 2025

NEWSLETTER 1 – September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming our children in Years 1-6 back on Wednesday 3rd September.

It's been another busy summer break here at school. Our Year 3 classrooms have both been redecorated thanks to Mr Matthews and the volunteer team from Convera. We are so grateful for their help. New paintwork and whiteboards are all looking very sparkly ready for our children's return. Year 2 has (at last) had new flooring and Year 6 have had their sink areas upgraded in both classrooms. There has also been work completed on our fascia and guttering in UKS2 area which was very much needed. Finally, our boilers have not been our friends recently leading to higher energy bills so this is also being addressed and hopefully we'll be saving a bit of money over time as a result. The Trust has been instrumental in helping us to make these improvements.

Arrangements for tomorrow morning (3rd September)

In the morning, class teachers will be in the playgrounds or classroom door to meet children and allay any first day nerves. Children will line up with their teacher and be taken in together. It is really important that your child arrives on the playground before 8:50am so that they can be led to class and don't feel anxious on their first day.

End of day arrangements

At the end of the day children will be brought to the playgrounds or classroom door. Year 5 and Year 6 children who have prior permission to walk home, will be released to do so. Permission needs to be granted at the beginning of each school year. Please see letter sent to you in the summer holidays for full information. All other children will be released to an adult recognised by school staff. Collection is between 3.20pm and 3.30pm, should you arrive after 3.40pm to collect your child, you will be charged for additional childcare.

Children awaiting an adult will only be released when an adult known is identified by a member of school staff. In order to safeguard children, we respectfully ask parent/carers to allow the teacher's full focus to be on their children and that you never call your child to go to you unless permission has been given by the teacher. Please stand a distance away from the lines of children so that they and school staff are not crowded and have good sightlines.

School Uniform

We are proud that our children and their families value uniform as a way of enhancing our school identity. Overall, the children look so very smart but PE kits did begin to become like non-uniform days by the end of the year. Please ensure kits are in school colours as below as we would like to continue with children wearing PE Kit to school rather than changing into kit. We know how helpful this is for our staff and families.

The Management of Pupil Absence and Absent Reporting

Please contact the school office by 8.30am if your child is not going to be in school **by phone**. Make sure we have adequate details about why your child will be absent. If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, please keep them away from school for 48 hours after the last bout of illness.

Leave of Absence during Term-time (Holidays)

You are reminded that every learning day is important. Please avoid booking holidays during term-time. It is **highly unlikely** to be authorised and penalty fines may be issued.

Contact Details

Please can you ensure, if any of your contact details have changed, that you update the school office to enable us to be able to get in touch with you in an emergency.

Twitter

Did you know we have a twitter account where we share our children's work and school information? Find us at [@stbotolphs_sch](https://twitter.com/stbotolphs_sch)

Our uniform:

| Item | Colour Requirements |
|--|---|
| Trousers/skirt/pinafore dress | Charcoal grey |
| Dress/playsuit | Blue/white gingham/stripes |
| Shirt/blouse | White |
| Polo shirt (school logo) | White |
| Jumper/pullover/cardigan (school logo) | Navy blue |
| Outdoor wear – Fleece (school logo) | Navy blue |
| Coat | Any colour |
| Socks/tights | Grey/navy blue or white |
| Shoes | Black and sensible (Trainers should not be worn for everyday wear in school unless all black.) |
| Hair accessories (including beads) | Minimal, white, blue or black (Long hair must be secured with a bobble, elasticated band or in braids rather than a clip.) |
| Head scarves | White, blue or black |

Jewellery is generally not allowed at school as it presents problems of safety and security. Small stud earrings are acceptable but must be removed for swimming and P.E. Children who are not independently able to remove their earrings will have them covered with surgical tape. It is however accepted that some children may wear some items of jewellery for cultural or religious reasons. These children's parents/carers should discuss the situation with the Headteacher.

Make-up is not allowed, and nails should be of a natural colour.

PE Days

Please see below details for PE days.

| Class | PE Days |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Reception - Peterborough | Friday |
| Reception - Ely | |
| Year 1 - Ely | Tuesday & Friday |
| Year 1 - Leicester | Tuesday & Wednesday |
| Year 2 - Coventry | Monday & Tuesday |
| Year 2 - Oxford | Tuesday & Thursday |
| Year 3 - Norwich | Monday & Wednesday |
| Year 3 - Wells | Monday & Wednesday |
| Year 4 - Chester | Tuesday & Thursday |
| Year 4 - York | Tuesday & Thursday |
| Year 5 - Derby | Thursday & Friday |
| Year 5 - Salisbury | Thursday & Friday |
| Year 6 - Durham | Tuesday & Wednesday |
| Year 6 - Exeter | Tuesday & Wednesday |

Children are expected to come into school in their PE kits on the days specified (this will start from tomorrow when the children return.) Please see uniform below:

P.E. Kit:

| Item | Colour Requirements |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Shorts | Navy blue |
| Shirt/Tunic | Light blue |
| Joggers | Plain navy blue |
| Jumper | Navy blue school jumper or fleece |
| Trainers | Any colour |

Lost property

Please remember to name all property that your child(ren) brings into school. It really does allow us to return these items to your child more quickly in the event that they are separated.

Phones and smart watches

Children from Years 5 and 6 are able to bring phones to school but these must be placed in the class phone boxes. This is also the case with smart watches. Paper consent forms are available from the main office. Other watches can remain with the child but please make these analogue or simple digital watches to avoid distractions.

Attendance

At St Botolph's Primary School we believe good attendance and prompt starts to the day are very important in order to make sure that your child gets the education they deserve. Pupils are expected to be in school for registration at the time specified- **8:50am**. Our **legal duties** require us to monitor punctuality and attendance. We are also required to fine families where punctuality and attendance cause concern, whilst this might upset you – please remember that we are obliged to do so, and we also believe that good attendance and punctuality is crucial to your child's success.

School lunches

Please can you ensure that you have spoken to your child and chosen options together that they like and entered choices by each Wednesday. We often see children leaving food and when asked it is because it wasn't what they were expecting or liking. **WEDNESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER IS THE CUT OFF FOR W/C 8th.**

Packed lunches

Please send in a healthy packed lunch for your child. We ask parents not to send fizzy drinks, glass containers, chocolate bars or sweets with a packed lunch. Children are allowed a biscuit or cake item as a sweet treat. We would also ask that items in the lunch contain **no nuts** as we have children with extremely severe reactions if exposed to nut products. Please label lunch boxes with child's name and year group.

Free school meals

If you feel that you are eligible to claim free school meals for your child/ren then please contact the office who will be more than happy to discuss this and support you.


Snacks and water

As a healthy mid-morning snack, we encourage children to bring fruit (fresh or dried, or fruit-based snack) or raw vegetables. Please don't provide children with snack bars, chewing gum, chocolate or crisps. Reception and KS1 children are provided with a free item of fruit or raw vegetable each day.

For younger children, where parents wish to provide the mid-morning snack themselves, it is recommended that it is prepared for easy eating and stored in a named small plastic container.

Children are encouraged to drink water (including flavoured sugar-free water) throughout the day. Squash is not permitted. Drinking water is available on tap in every classroom. We would ask that you send your child to school with an individual, named water bottle of a reasonable size.

Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow.
Best wishes,


Rachel Rayner, Headteacher

Dates for first half term

| | |
|--|--|
| Wednesday 3 rd September | School starts for children Years 1-6 |
| Wednesday 3 rd September | Stay and play sessions for new Reception intake 3:45 – 4:30pm (Hall) |
| Thursday 4 th September | Stay and play sessions for new Reception intake 3:45 – 4:30pm (Hall) |
| Monday 8 th September | Reception children start school half days |
| Tuesday 9 th September | Y6 Residential Meeting 6pm (Hall) |
| Thursday 11 th September | Reception children begin full time school |
| Tuesday 23 rd September | Y6 SATs information meeting 6pm (Hall) |
| Wednesday 24 th September | Reception parent/carer café – Phonics – 9:00am (Main Office) |
| Tuesday 30 th September | Meet the teacher evening 3:45 – 6:30pm |
| Thursday 2 nd October | Meet the teacher evening 3:45 – 6:00pm |
| Thursday 2 nd October | Open Morning for parents of reception children starting September 2026 |
| Wednesday 8 th October | Open Morning for parents of reception children starting September 2026 |
| Wednesday 15 th – Friday 17 th October | Y6 Residential PGL Caythorpe |
| Thursday 16 th October | Parent Café – Introduction to Family Voice Service for parents 9:30am (Hall) |
| Thursday 23 rd October | Parent/carer reading café – KS1 |
| Friday 24 th October | School closed – teacher training day |