



# LATEST NEWS

22ND MAY 2026

## REMINDERS

### Class Assemblies

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 9:10am Mississippi Class - Reception



### HALF TERM

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

### INSET - SCHOOL CLOSED

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June



## GOOD LUCK EFFIE!



This week, we gathered for a special whole-school assembly outside to bid a fond farewell to Effie. It was a wonderful afternoon of music and memories from her 21 remarkable years at Bowes. We are incredibly grateful for her dedicated leadership and wish her every success as she begins her new role with Connect Education Trust.



To ensure a smooth transition, Effie will remain in school two days a week for the rest of the academic year, supporting Rebecca as she steps into the headship of Bowes.

We wish them both the very best of luck.

# — YEAR 6 SATS —



Well done to all the children in Year 6 who undertook their KS2 SATs last week. We are extremely proud of how hard they have worked this year and the effort they have put in. The children now have plenty of exciting activities to look forward to in the coming weeks. Well done, Year 6!



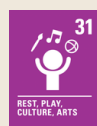
## YEAR 1 VOLUNTEERING



Our Year 1 children have been busy making a big difference at the **Arnos Park Community Garden**! As part of their volunteering experience, they rolled up their sleeves to clear flower beds for planting, spread woodchip around the soft fruit shrubs, and gathered dead leaves for the compost bin – among many other helpful tasks. The children have enjoyed working together while learning all about the great outdoors.



A special thank you goes to **Sunshine Garden Centre**, who kindly donated the gardening gloves that kept our mini-gardeners safe and warm during their hard work!





# FARMYARD FUN



Who said a school with no grass can't have animals visiting?!

Our Nursery and Reception children were treated to a fantastic, hands-on experience when Ark Farm paid us a visit! The Nursery playground was transformed into a mini farm yard, where the children had the opportunity to get up close and pet a variety of friendly animals while learning lots of fascinating new facts. The fun didn't stop there! Next up was a special visit from two Alpacas. The children had fun stroking their incredibly soft fleece and watching them stroll around the playground.



AIMS OF EDUCATION



# NATIONAL NUMERACY DAY



This week, we took part in another fantastic National Numeracy Day, a day dedicated to everyday Maths. A big thank you to all the children, parents, and staff who joined in. Everyone looked amazing and it was wonderful to see the creativity on display through the many homemade outfits.

During the day, the children took part in a range of maths activities, including meeting their Class Buddies again for a joint activity.

Congratulations to the parent of Orson and Margeaux, the winner of our Parent Challenge, whose estimate of 86 Numicon pieces in the jar was remarkably close the actual total of 85. We hope you enjoy your Sudoku challenges!



ACCESS TO EDUCATION



AIMS OF EDUCATION

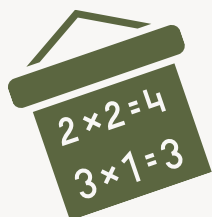
# MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK



Our Year 4 children will be participating in the **Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)** after the half-term break. The purpose of the check is to determine whether individual pupils can recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete. Good luck to all the children in Year 4.

Results will be shared with parents during the last two weeks of the Summer Term.

Please click the following links for more information about the check:



[Year 4 Multiplication Check Information for Parents](#)

[Year 4 Multiplication Check Leaflet for Parents](#)

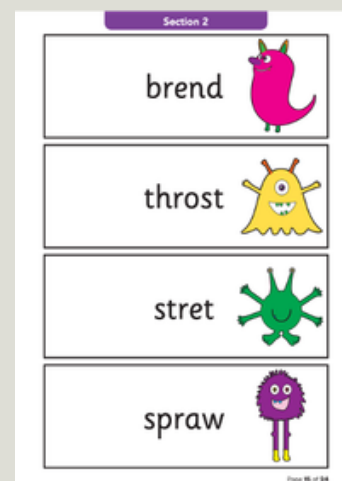


# YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING

Our Year 1 children will be undertaking their **Phonics Screening Check** during week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June. The purpose of the phonics check is to confirm whether individual pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard.

The check will involve children reading 40 words one-to-one with a teacher they know. It will contain a mix of real words and 'non-words' (or 'nonsense words'). Non-words are important to include, so that children have to use their decoding skills, rather than using their memory or vocabulary. The check normally takes just a few minutes to complete and there is no time limit.

Good luck to all the children in Year 1. Results will be shared with parents during the last two weeks of the Summer Term.



Please click the following links for more information about the check:



[KS1 Phonics Presentation for Parents](#)

[Year 1 Phonics Screening Information for Parents](#)





# YEAR 5 TENNIS

Next half-term, **Year 5** will be heading off to **Bounds Green Tennis Club** to participate in a series of lessons delivered by a qualified tennis coach. The sessions will start **w/c 1<sup>st</sup> June** and will run for 5 weeks. **Mara Class and Yellowstone Class will attend on Wednesday afternoons and Snowdonia Class on Friday afternoons.**

Children will need to wear their **Active School Uniform** and **trainers**. They will also need to bring in a **bottle of water**, apply **sunscreen** in the morning before school and wear a **hat/cap**.

We are very grateful to **James Mott**, the head coach, for offering us such a competitive rate for the lessons and thank you to the **Friends of Bowes** for funding this opportunity.



# FOREST SCHOOL

After the half-term break, **Mississippi Class and Thames Class** will begin their **Forest School** sessions. These will take place **every Wednesday** for six weeks.

The children will have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities which aim to develop creativity, innovative thinking, problem solving, safe risk taking, and team work skills. Our aim is that this experience will not only stimulate imagination and creativity but also foster a lasting sense of wonder and curiosity regarding the natural world.



The children will need to come to school in their **Active Uniform** on this day and bring with them their additional **Forest School** clothing:

- Wellington boots or waterproof walking boots/trainers
- Waterproof dungarees or puddle suit
- Waterproof coat (depending on weather)
- Sun hat (depending on weather)
- Filled water bottle



# KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE



From ECP Safeguarding:

## Home Alone?

There is no legal age a child can be left at home alone, but it is against the law to leave a child alone if it puts them at risk. Certain factors need to be considered to ensure that the child is safe and the time they are left alone is proportionate.



The NSPCC have produced guidance on the responsibilities that come with making the decision to leave your child alone so that it is not deemed as neglectful. This includes an easy to use tool that parents can use to make this assessment.



## NSPCC tips to keep your child safe home alone:

- Set some ground rules
- Agree what they will do while you are out
- Make sure they are safe online
- Practise what to do in an emergency
- Be clear what time you will be back
- Check in with them every now and then
- Put dangerous objects and substances out of sight
- Build up slowly

# NSPCC

## Quiz: Is your child ready to be home or go out alone?

It can be hard to decide whether your child is ready to be left at home alone or go out on their own but we've got a tool to help.

[Take the quiz](#)



*Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility*



## DIARY DATES 2026

<b>25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Half Term
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Jun 2026</b>	INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Jun 2026</b>	School Starts
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Jun</b>	Year 4 MTC weeks
<b>8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Jun</b>	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Jun 2026</b>	Mississippi Class Assembly, 9:10am
<b>15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Jun</b>	Year 4 Camping Trip
<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jul</b>	Year 4 Assemblies (allocated places)
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Jul 2026</b>	School Ends
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Jul 2026</b>	INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2026</b>	INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sep 2026</b>	School Starts

FRIENDS OF  
**BOWES**



**Please continue reading for the latest news from our Friends of Bowes PTA.**

# HALF-TERM HIGHLIGHTS



(Reg. Charity No. 292487)

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...



**CAR BOOT SALE**

We kicked off with our first ever Car Boot Sale – and what a start! It was great to see so many of you turning up and heading home with bags full of brilliant finds.

### WE'VE BEEN BUSY BAKING!

From the Year 2/3 and Reception/Nursery sales to our extra flash sale, the effort has been incredible. Parents/Bakers, thank you!



**Sip & paint**

Despite some initial nerves after seeing Donna's impressive example, everyone produced fantastic artwork and had a great time doing so!

### BOOK FAIR

Seeing the children so eager and excited about books is a genuine joy. And the best part? For every book purchased, our school receives free books in return. Every copy counts!



**FAMILY QUIZ**  
Night  
Friday  
5 June

**DO NOT MISS!**

**Total Success: We are so proud of our school community. The funds raised will go toward making school life even better for our kids.**

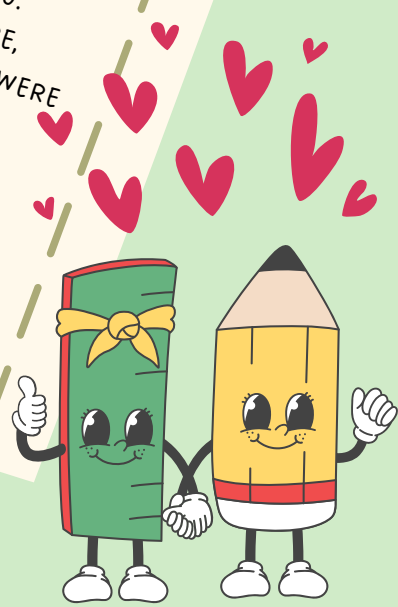
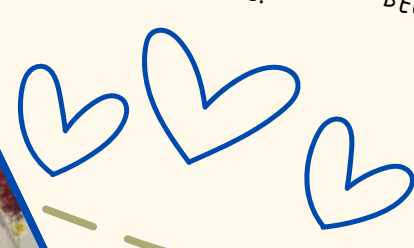
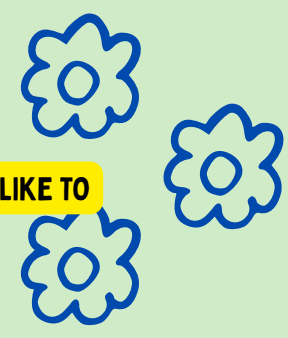
# To Effie WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE

THROUGHOUT THE AGES, POETRY HAS BEEN THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART. WE'D LIKE TO  
SHARE OURS WITH YOU, EFFIE:

FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS, BOWES CHILDREN HAVE ARRIVED  
WITH HOPES IN THEIR HANDS,  
THEIR FUTURES ENHANCED BY YOUR QUIET COMMANDS.  
AS OUR HEADTEACHER YOU'VE LED US WITH DILIGENCE AND  
FLAIR,  
CREATING A PLACE THAT IS "OUTSTANDING" AND BEYOND  
COMPARE.

YOU WELCOME EACH DAY WITH WARMTH AND A SMILE,  
SUPPORTING OUR FUNDRAISING ALL THE WHILE.  
YOU INSPIRED AMBITION, ENCOURAGED BELIEF,  
AND OFFERED CALM COMFORT IN MOMENTS OF GRIEF.  
THE COMMUNITY YOU NURTURED, THE FRIENDSHIPS YOU  
GREW,

THE CONFIDENCE SPARKED IN THE CHILDREN YOU KNEW,  
WILL LIVE ON LONG AFTER THIS CHAPTER IS THROUGH –  
A LASTING REFLECTION OF ALL THAT YOU DO.  
NOW AS YOU PREPARE FOR ADVENTURES ANEW,  
WE PAUSE TO REFLECT AND SAY THANK YOU TO YOU.  
FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF COMMITMENT AND CARE,  
AND FOR LEAVING OUR SCHOOL STRONGER BECAUSE YOU WERE  
THERE.



## WHAT'S BEEN FUNDED RECENTLY

### A VISIT FROM OUR FLUFFY FRIENDS

WE'RE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THANKS TO YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO FUND A VISIT FROM SOME FRIENDLY ALPACAS! THE CHILDREN HAVE ABSOLUTELY LOVED GETTING UP CLOSE WITH THESE AMAZING FLUFFY CREATURES.



### YOUR DONATIONS PLEASE!

JAM JARS

BOOKS

UNOPENED BOTTLES

TOYS

**BOWES  
FEST  
IS COMMING**

**PLEASE HANG ONTO THESE FOR NOW AND SAVE THEM FOR THE SUMMER FAIR! WE'LL LET YOU KNOW THE DROP-OFF DATES AS SOON AS THEY'RE SORTED.**

### WANT TO DONATE?

check out our just giving page:  
[www.justgiving.com/friendsofbowes](http://www.justgiving.com/friendsofbowes)



### DO YOU FOLLOW US ONLINE?



STILL TO COME

FRIENDS OF BOWES

# EVENTS

**JUNE**

FRI 5<sup>TH</sup>  
FRI 12<sup>TH</sup>  
FRI 19<sup>TH</sup>  
SUN 28<sup>TH</sup>

FAMILY QUIZ  
FOOTBOWES  
RECEPTION BAKE SALE  
SUMMER FAIR

**JULY**

MON 20<sup>TH</sup>

ACTIVE 8 SUMMER HOLIDAY  
CHALLENGE BEGINS

