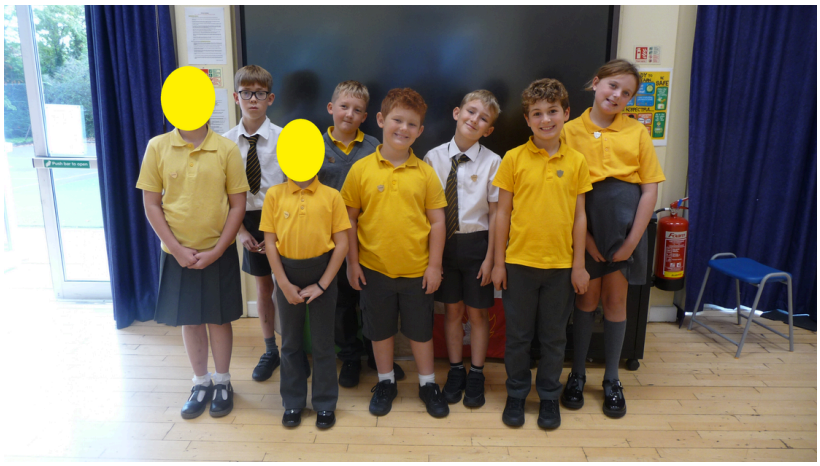
# Langley Fitzurse Church of England Primary School

# Newsletter 1

End of Term 1



**A message from Mrs Winterburn...**

Term 1 is always an exciting term. One of new starts - starting at school, new schools, and even moving into new classrooms - lots of change. Our school value of Friendship has been seen across all classes and in all aspects of school life.

It has been a real joy to see all children settling into the rhythm of the new school year. To see them face new challenges in new learning, both in the classroom and outside; making new friends and supporting each other as they grow. School is a safe space to learn and grow, to understand we won't always get things right, but being able to learn from this epitomises our school's bible verse 'Let us help each other to love others and do good' Hebrews 10:24.

Working in partnership to support all our children is so important. You will have seen that we have, with the school council, reviewed the school's Home School Agreement this term. If you have not already managed to, please do spend time over half term reading through this with your children. Please support your child to secure and consolidate learnt skills by practising, little and often, number bonds and/or times tables, phonics and reading.

Until next term.
Yours sincerely,
Karen Winterburn

**Forest School Update**

Work towards the launch of Langley's Forest Schools is full steam ahead. Over the summer break, a working party cut back, cleared, and built to help create the learning environment both on and off site. This term, the wonderful new potting shed has been installed, and we have just this week received permission from the Parish Council to create dead hedging fencing for the area on Common Land just outside the school grounds too!

Over half term, Mrs Hanna will be further completing her Forest Schools training and creating her shopping list of equipment! Once these are in place, Forest Schools will be rolled out for Hercules Class initially, with a plan for other classes to take part in sessions later on in the school year.

Thank you to all for your support.





**Small Steps, Big Horizons: Inside Hercules Class at Langley Fitzurse**

The transition into a primary school **Reception class** is a monumental milestone for any four-year-old.
However, inside the walls of **Langley Fitzurse Church of England Primary School**, this milestone takes on a uniquely nurturing character. Far from the bustling corridors of large urban academies, our village school offers a distinct, family-centric approach to early education where **community, individuality, and nature** form the foundation of a child's first official year of school.

**A Family Dynamic from Day One**
The most striking feature of Langley Fitzurse is its wonderful sense of scale. Rather than being isolated, our Reception children are beautifully integrated into **Hercules Class, a mixed-age setting with Year 1.**

This structure creates an organic peer-tutoring environment. The newer, younger Reception children look up to the Year 1 pupils, mimicking their routines and rapidly building confidence. Conversely, the older children learn empathy and leadership as they help the newcomers button up coats for outdoor play, navigate the lunch hall, and share toys. In Hercules Class, it feels less like an institution and more like an extended family.

**Tailored, Child-Led Learning**
Educators in Hercules Class quickly develop a **deep, nuanced understanding of each child's unique personality,** strengths, and hurdles.
Learning in the Early Years focuses heavily on child-initiated play. In our village setting, teachers can pivot resources and themes almost instantly to match the children's current fascinations. If a child spots a tractor passing by or an interesting bird in the school grounds, the focus can seamlessly shift into an impromptu project on farming, track-making in the creative area, or outdoor counting games.

The Great Outdoors and Evolving for the Future
Set in the beautiful surroundings of Kington Langley, the school is uniquely positioned to embrace outdoor learning. With rural landscapes right on the doorstep, the curriculum naturally extends beyond the four walls of the classroom.

Typically, our youngest Hercules Class pupils are involved in:
• Welly Walks: Exploring local lanes, looking for seasonal changes, and collecting natural materials.
• Mud Kitchen Play: Developing fine motor skills and maths concepts while mixing "potions."
• Village Integration: Walking to St Peter's Church, spotting local wildlife, and learning to appreciate
our beautiful Wiltshire countryside.

To keep learning vibrant, modern, and deeply connected to nature, the school is regularly building on its curriculum. In exciting news for our outdoor learners, the school will shortly be adding Forest Schools sessions to their curriculum, providing hands-on learning experiences in a woodland environment to develop confidence, teamwork, and a lifelong love for the natural world. This constant connection to the local environment fosters a strong sense of place and village pride from a very young age.

**Building the Home-School Bridge**

For parents, the school experience is highly collaborative. The daily routine at the school gate is unhurried, allowing for meaningful, **face-to-face communication** between parents and staff. Teachers don't just know the child; they often know the siblings, the grandparents, and the family pet. This strong partnership eases the separation anxiety that can sometimes cloud the early days of school, ensuring that home and Hercules Class work as a synchronized support system.

**Laying the Foundations**

By blending foundational learning in phonics and numbers with a gentle, community-focused atmosphere, Langley Fitzurse ensures that our children's first steps into formal education are safe, joyful, and deeply rooted in the heart of Kington Langley.

**Looking Ahead: September 2027**

Is your child turning four before **September 2027?** If you are starting to think about their first steps into primary school, the school encourages prospective families to book an open tour to see Hercules Class in action. You can find out more about school life, view upcoming open days, and read our current handbook via the Langley Fitzurse School Website (langleyfitzurse.wilts.sch.uk/prospectus/). The ultimate deadline for primary applications via Wiltshire Council is midnight on **15 January 2027**.

To book an open tour or make an enquiry, please contact Admin Officer Mica Cox at **01249 750295** or via email at **admin@lfssq.wilts.sch.uk**.







## September 2027 Admissions

We have been busy showing prospective parents around our school who would like their children to join Langley Fitzurse in September 2027. If you would like to book a tour, please email admin@lfssq.wilts.sch.uk

Applications for September 2027 can be made online through Wiltshire Council's website, or you can download a paper application. The recommendation is for parents to apply online: https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1657/Apply-for-a-school-place
The deadline dates are: Primary Reception 2027 entry – 15th January 2027 and Secondary Year 7 2026 entry – 31st October 2026

## Secondary School Applications Reminder (Year 6)

A reminder to all Year 6 parents and carers that applications for secondary school places must be submitted by midnight on 31st October 2026. We encourage families to apply as early as possible to give their child the best chance of securing a place at one of their preferred schools.

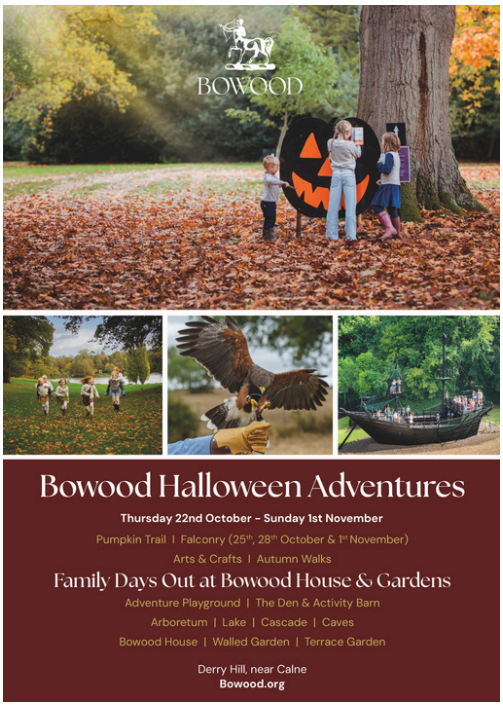
Applications can be made online via the Wiltshire Council Parent Portal:
https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home

Please ensure your application is submitted before the deadline.

## Term 2 PE Days...

**Hercules -** Tuesday and Wednesday
**Pegasus -** Wednesday and Thursday
**Phoenix -** Tuesday and Friday
**Chameleon -** Monday and Friday

**Hercules Children** - From the start of Term 2, reception children no longer need to bring their PE kits into school. Instead, please send them in, wearing their PE kit on their PE days.



## Term 1: Friendship

**This term we focused on the value of FRIENDSHIP**

'Let us help each other to love others and do good' Hebrews 10:24

Friendship is about trust and kindness, sharing and caring.
This term we have been thinking about how friends help and encourage each other. How real friendship isn't only about having fun. It's about staying beside someone. Especially when life is hard.

And we put our values into action by donating our Harvest goods to Doorway. Thank you for your generosity.



Thank you, God, for the care of friends.
Help us to be good friends to others.
May we always look for opportunities to help other people.
Amen.



## Term 2: Respect

**'Pay others the honour and respect you owe them' (Romans 13:7)**

This term the school value we will be focusing on is 'RESPECT'. As a Church of England School, we believe that each person is created in the image of God and is loved by God. Every person is unique, but every person carries a **divine spar**k — something of God's image and love. So, Christians believe that we should love and value everyone just as God does.
Respect is fundamental to living in a school or any community. It means you care enough to think about the feelings of others before you act – it is about tolerance, patience and caring. **Respect means valuing everyone and everything - and celebrating our differences.**
On the 29th of November Christians start the season of Advent, as we wait and prepare for Christmas. Pupils will be looking at Nativity scenes from around the world, reminding us that Christianity is a global faith.

**Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness**.
Pope Benedict XVI





**Expanding free school meals for KS2 Children: what parents need to know...**

**Who will benefit from the expanded free school meals?**
Over half a million additional pupils will become eligible for Free School Meals under the new eligibility criteria. The change means that all households receiving Universal Credit, above the current £7,400 income cap, will qualify for this support.

This expansion builds upon the existing provision which already covers:

- 2.1 million disadvantaged children
- 90,000 low-income students in Further Education
- Around 1.3 million infants under the Universal Infant Free School Meals programme

**When will these changes take effect?**
The new eligibility will take effect in September 2026. Families receiving Universal Credit will be able to access free school meals starting from the 2026/27 school year. This will give schools time to prepare for the increased number of meals they'll need to provide.

**How do I apply for free school meals?**
We expect the majority of schools will allow parents to apply before the start of the school year 2026, by providing their National Insurance Number to check their eligibility.
It's important to note that while eligibility will be automatically granted to all Universal Credit recipients, families will still need to actually apply to receive the benefit.

to apply, visit: **Free school meals - Wiltshire Council**



## Wrap Around Clubs



**Early Morning Club**

Start your children's day off at Early Morning Club with friends, fun and a tasty breakfast!



7.45am - 8.45am - £4.00 per session (includes breakfast)



**After School Clubs**

A range of after school clubs are available for children throughout the school to enjoy

**After School Club - Monday to Thursday**



3.15pm - 4.30pm - £6.00 per session
3.15pm - 5.25pm - £12.00 per session

**Computing Club - Monday (KS2)**



3.30pm - 4.30pm - £6.00 per session (please see following page for more information)

**KS2 Football Club - Tuesday**



3.15pm - 4.30pm - £6.00 per session (football boots and shin pads required)
***(please note that football club will NOT run on Tuesday 16th June)***

**Street Dance Club**



**Wednesday -** KS1 - 3.15pm - 4pm - £6.00 per session (PE Kit/change of clothes required)
**Thursday** - KS2 - 3.15pm - 4pm - £6.00 per session (PE Kit/change of clothes required)

**Gardening Club - Friday**



3.15pm - 4.30pm - £6.00 per session

Booking couldn't be easier - just select the date you need and pay through ParentMail!
We also accept childcare vouchers - please contact the school office for details!

Need a **last minute space?** No problem!



Call the school office on 01249 750 295 to arrange!



Collaborative Computing Education

Learn · Collaborate · Innovate

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share details of our Term 2 Minecraft Education after school club, **The Secret Sensory Garden**, run by Collaborative Computing Education.

Over approximately six sessions, children will design and build a magical sensory garden filled with sights, sounds, textures and calm spaces. Along the way, they will think about how good design can make people feel. Children will:

- explore the five senses and what makes a space feel calm
- plan a garden with paths, zones and seating
- build colourful planting, water features and sound features
- use blocks and lighting to create different moods
- add signs to guide visitors around their garden

**Why is it valuable?**

This club builds real design and technology skills, including writing design criteria, planning, empathy and evaluating their own work. By the end of the term, each child will have a finished sensory garden and will be able to explain how each zone appeals to the senses.

**Key details**

- Day: Mondays
- Time: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**Limited places**

**Places are limited to 10 children**. Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Kind regards,

Jake Miles

**Dance Club and After School Club Update**

As Dance Club and After School Club (ASC) continue to grow in popularity, we would like to clarify arrangements for children attending Dance Club after school.

Historically, children attending Dance Club have been able to join ASC from 4.00pm until 4.30pm free of charge. This arrangement has worked well in the past, particularly for families already using ASC for siblings. However, due to increased demand for ASC and limited places available, we can no longer guarantee that spaces will be available for Dance Club children who have not been booked into ASC.

From Term 2, parents will need to choose one of the following booking options:

- Dance Club only (3.15pm - 4.00pm) – £6 Children must be collected promptly at 4.00pm.
- Dance Club + ASC Session 1 (3.15pm - 4.30pm) – £12 (£6 Dance Club + £6 ASC)
- Dance Club + ASC Sessions 1 & 2 (3.15pm - 5.25pm) – £18 (£6 Dance Club + £12 ASC)

If you require your child to be collected after 4.00pm, they must also be booked into ASC. This ensures they are included in ASC numbers and that appropriate staffing ratios can be maintained.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we work to ensure all after-school provision remains safe, well-supervised and enjoyable for our children.






## Worship Council and School Council

Our Worship Council and School Council members have been announced this year and badges have been presented. Mrs Bloomer from St Peter's Church leads the Worship Council, along with Mr Osler. Mr Osler also runs the School Council.
We have many exciting plans for the year ahead and we will update you in due course.

**School Council**
Pegasus Class: Eva, Lily and Oliver
Phoenix Class: Molly, Phoebe and Bruno
Chameleon Class: Ray, Lucia and Isabella

**Worship Council**
Year 3 - Gabrielle and Delilah
Year 4 - Amelia + Harry
Year 5 - Oscar P
Year 6- George

## Christmas Lunch Day

You will be able to order a delicious roast chicken or vegetarian roast lunch with all the trimmings including mini sausages and stuffing balls followed by a vanilla and chocolate mixed ice-cream for dessert. Unfortunately, Sue Brady are unable to offer alternative lunch options on this day so if your child would prefer not to have a Christmas lunch then please send them into school with a packed lunch. Remember, if you have already booked a meal for this day and you would like to cancel it, you may do so through ScoPay before the 8-day cut off period.



Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers into school for a lovely festive day.



## Poppies on Sale from Monday 3rd November

Poppies and a selection of other Remembrance items will be available for children to purchase during break times from Monday 2nd November until Tuesday 10th November.

We kindly suggest a donation of 50p to £1.00 per item, with all proceeds supporting the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Thank you for your support in helping children remember and honour those who have served. 🌺




## Year 5+6 Residential - Grittleton Adventures

What an unforgettable week our Year 5 and 6 children had at Grittleton House!
The children returned from their residential adventure with tired feet, huge smiles and a collection of memories that will last a lifetime. Throughout the week, they embraced every challenge with enthusiasm, resilience and determination, demonstrating fantastic teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills.
From testing their aim in axe throwing to working together on buggy building, den building and a range of outdoor team challenges, every activity provided opportunities for the children to step outside their comfort zones, support one another and develop new skills.
The fun continued long after the daytime activities had finished. Evenings were filled with laughter, including a lively quiz night and a memorable campfire gathering, complete with hot chocolate and plenty of stories to share.
We are incredibly proud of how the children conducted themselves throughout the trip. They showed maturity, kindness and perseverance, growing in confidence as the week progressed and making the most of every opportunity that came their way.
A huge thank you goes to our wonderful staff and group leaders, whose encouragement, care and enthusiasm helped make the experience so special for everyone involved.
It was a truly remarkable adventure and one that we know will be treasured by the children for many years to come. Thank you, Year 5 and 6, for representing our school so brilliantly! ⭐🏕️🔥

**Say Hello to Yellow! Young Minds - Friday 9th October**

What a fantastic World Mental Health Day at Langley Fitzurse!

A huge thank you to all our children and families for embracing the day so enthusiastically. Our school was brighter than ever with an amazing array of yellow accessories, and a special congratulations goes to the Moyes family, whose wonderful yellow hair scarves were crowned the winners!

Throughout the day, the children took part in thoughtful activities, reflecting on their feelings and emotions, learning about equality, and exploring the importance of belonging. We were incredibly proud of the maturity, kindness and understanding they showed during these discussions.

To top off the day, our fantastic Gardening Club hosted a cake sale. It was wonderful to see the children pull on their gloves, work together as a team, and help run such a successful event.

Thanks to the generosity of our school community, we raised an amazing £137 for YoungMinds!

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the day such a meaningful and memorable one. Together, we've shown just how powerful kindness, belonging and community can be.



**Term 2 Dates at a Glance...**

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 2nd November | Start of Term 2<br>KS2 Computing Club Commences |
| Tuesday 3rd November | Football Club Commences |
| Wednesday 4th November | KS1 Street Dance and Taster Session (please email school office to register your child for the taster session) |
| Thursday 5th November | KS2 Street Dance and Taster Session (please email school office to register your child for the taster session) |
| Friday 6th November | Gardening Club Commences |
| Thursday 12th November | Open Morning for Reception 2027 admissions |
| Thursday 19th November | Flu Immunisations |
| Friday 20th November | Children in Need - Non-uniform day |
| Tuesday 24th November | Scholastic Bookfair Opens from 3.15pm in Cherry Hall |
| Thursday 26th November | Year 5 Primary Liaison Visit to Hardenhuish School |
| Monday 30th November | Last Day of Scholastic Bookfair |
| Wednesday 2nd December | Last KS1 Street Dance and end of year performance (parents invited to watch) |
| Thursday 3rd December | Last KS2 Street Dance and end of year performance (parents invited to watch) |
| Friday 4th December | **NO GARDENING CLUB**<br>PTA Christmas Fayre from 3.15pm |
| Wednesday 9th December | Hercules and Pegasus Nativity Performance<br>Christmas Lunch Day |
| Friday 11th December | PTA Grand Raffle Draw<br>Year 5's to attend Sheldon School to watch Matilda Production |
| Wednesday 16th December | PTA Christmas Disco |
| Friday 18th December | End of Term 2 |

