



Bishops Lydeard Church School

Headteacher: Mr James Dakin

Chair of Governors: Mr David Williams

Bishops Lydeard Church School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

'That they may have life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Respect

Endurance

Friendship

9th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you and your family have had a restful summer. We are excited to begin the new school year and to share some important updates about our school growth, staff and curriculum.

1. Expansion to seven classes and new Deputy Headteacher

This year we have grown to seven classes to meet increasing demand and to give every pupil the best possible learning environment. Alongside this expansion, I am delighted to welcome Heather Davidson who joins us as Deputy Headteacher and class teacher of Badger class. Heather brings strong experience in curriculum development and day-to-day classroom leadership; she will be working with staff across the school to support our Teaching Excellence priority and to ensure consistently high expectations in every classroom.

2. New nursery opening and nursery staff

We are also thrilled to open our new nursery provision. The nursery is already proving to be an incredible resource for our school and local community: it strengthens transitions into Reception, extends our early years offer, and supports families with high-quality early learning grounded in our school vision of "Life in all its fullness." Please join me in welcoming Rachel Phillips as Nursery Lead and Rebecca Hewlett as Early Years Practitioner. Rachel and the whole EYFS team will be leading an inspiring, enabling environment where children develop curiosity, communication and early independence.

3. Curriculum and termly pathways

We have organised our new seven-class curriculum for this year and published it on the school website. By the end of this week, each class page will also include that class's termly pathway: a clear outline of the learning objectives your child will cover in every subject this term. These termly pathways are designed to show you what we are teaching, how learning builds over the term, and how you can support your child at home.

Where to find it

- School website → Curriculum section for the full school curriculum.
- Class pages (under the "Children" menu) for your child's termly pathway — live by the end of this week.



If you have difficulty finding the information on the website, please contact the school office and we will send the correct page and a printed copy on request.

This week your children have been focussing on their foundation skills in reading, writing and maths. These skills are a huge priority for us. Being able to write neatly and clearly, form our letters and numbers, correct our work in the right way, and ensure we are setting ourselves the highest standard every time we pick up our pencil, will develop fluency, accelerate progress and help our children be and feel successful. Please support us in this over the next year.

A note about our priorities and values

Everything we do this year is shaped by our vision, "Life in all its fullness," and by the values of Respect, Endurance and Friendship. Our strategic priorities continue to focus on high-quality teaching, a broad and progressive curriculum, and strong inclusion for pupils with additional needs so every child can thrive.

If you have any questions about class organisation, nursery places, or the curriculum, please get in touch with the school office or speak to your child's class teacher at the start or end of the school day.

With best wishes for a happy term,

James Dakin
Headteacher
Bishops Lydeard Church School