

Bishop Monkton Church of England Primary School

Act Justly, Love Kindness and Walk Humbly with God; Micah 6:8

Newsletter

Autumn 1 week 2

18th September 2026



Message from Mrs Reppold

I want to say a huge thank you for the wonderful welcome our family has received into the school community. As some of you know, the Reppolds are currently between homes, and the start of term has been somewhat challenging as we work to secure accommodation. We are on the move once again this weekend, which means attending Beckbusters might be tricky for us. We will do our absolute best to make it, but we want to thank you in advance for your understanding during this time.

Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship theme this half term is **Generosity**. Through our worship and Picture News sessions, pupils have been exploring important themes such as homelessness, kindness and helping others. We are also learning about and reflecting on British Values.

As we settle into the new school year, we will share activities and reflections that you may wish to discuss and complete together as a family. This week, many of you have shown great compassion and support to our staff team and to me personally, for which I am very grateful.

We invite you to reflect on the following Bible verse together:

Colossians 3:12

"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

We look forward to welcoming you back to our Achievement Worship on Fridays after the half-term break. Thank you for your understanding and support in allowing our younger children time to settle into school life during these first few weeks, while we establish routines and help them become familiar with this important collective celebration.



Dates

We have mapped out some **important dates** for you to add to add to your calendars. We appreciate that booking time off work is easier when you have advance notice. We still need to add some trips and visits to this list, but we hope to have included many of the key dates for your diaries. Term dates can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Autumn Term 2026

September

20th September – Beckbusters

28th September – Whole School Flu Vaccinations

October

Harvest Celebration- TBC next week.

6th October – Individual School Photographs (Tempest)

12th October – Parents' Consultation Meetings from 2.30pm onwards

19th October – Ospreys Sculpture Workshop in School

November

11th November – Remembrance Service

15th November – Anti-Bullying Week Begins

29th November - FOBMS Christmas Fair

December

4th December – Choir Singing at Church 10.30am

7th December – Nativity Dress Rehearsal (R/Y1/Y2) 2.00pm

8th December – Nativity Performance 2.00pm

10th December – Pantomime Trip (Harrogate) 1.00pm

12th December – Choir Performance at Royal Hall, Harrogate

16th December – Christmas Crafternoon with Parents (R/Y1/Y2)

18th December – Christmas Service at Church, 9.30am

Spring Term 2027

February

1st February – Class Photographs (Tempest)

March

4th March – World Book Day

15th March – Parents' Meetings from 2.30pm

17th March – Parents' Meetings from 2.30pm

18th March – Easter Service Rehearsal at Church

19th March – Easter Service at Church, 9.30am

Summer Term 2027

May

10th May (Mon) – KS2 SATs Week Begins

17th May – Year 6 Residential Begins

June

14th June – Phonics Screening Check Week Begins (Years 1 & 2)

July

6th July – Year 6 Leavers' Service at Ripon Cathedral

8th July – Leavers Production 2.00pm

9th July – Choir at Church Coffee Morning, 10.30am

16th July – Reports Sent Home to Parents

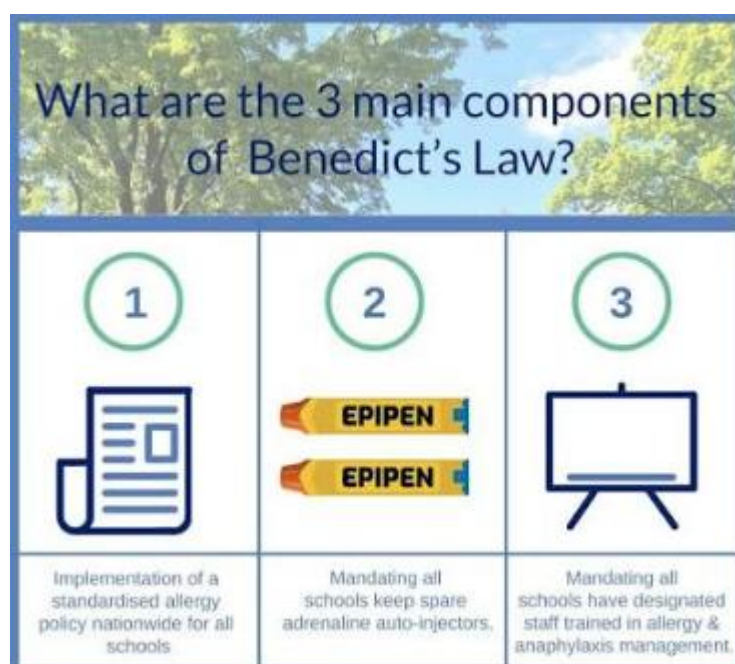
20th July – Sports Day

21st July – Year 6 Leavers' Trip

23rd July – School Closes for Summer

Food in School and Benedicts Law

In light of the increased focus on allergy safety and the principles underpinning Benedict's Law, we are reviewing our approach to food brought into school. As a result, we kindly ask that cakes and other homemade treats are not brought in to celebrate birthdays until we have some further advice. If you would like your child to share a birthday treat with their classmates, please send in individually wrapped, shop-bought items that can be distributed and taken home at the end of the school day. This allows parents and carers to check ingredients and make an informed decision about whether the treat is suitable for their child, taking into account any allergies or dietary requirements. We appreciate your support in helping us keep all children safe and included while still celebrating these special occasions.



Choir

A reminder that there is still time for children to join our school choir. We have several exciting opportunities and performances planned throughout the year. One of these is The Harrogate Christmas Concert, and we would love to see as many families as possible supporting the choir by purchasing tickets and attending what promises to be a wonderful event.

Afternoon Breaks

We would like to reassure parents that children continue to have an afternoon break. We operate a flexible timetable, which means classes take this break at the most appropriate time for their age group and learning throughout the afternoon. This approach supports a well-structured school day while allowing teachers to maintain the flow of lessons.

Children also enjoy a morning break, a generous lunchtime for socialising and play, and two PE sessions each week, providing plenty of opportunities for physical activity. We recognise that a short pause during the afternoon can be beneficial for concentration and wellbeing. Alongside dedicated break times, we incorporate active and collaborative learning into daily lessons, ensuring children are regularly moving and engaged rather than sitting for extended periods.



The School Day

Thank you for your overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding the recent changes to the school day. Children are now able to enter school more calmly, with more space to put away their belongings safely and independently. The start of the day has become smoother and more efficient for both pupils and staff. Of course, if you wish, you are still very welcome to accompany your child onto the playground before they enter school, as many families continue to do.

To clarify our end-of-day arrangements, children in Years 5 and 6 may only leave the school site independently if we have received parental permission for them to do so. For children in Ospreys Class, a member of staff will escort them to the front of the school at the end of the day to meet their parent or carer where independent collection arrangements are not in place.

Reading in School

We are currently reviewing our reading provision across the school, including our library, classroom book collections and the texts children take home to read. Over the coming weeks, we will be creating a high-quality library space and carefully selecting engaging, age-appropriate texts to ensure all children have access to rich and diverse reading experiences. In line with the DfE Reading Framework and evidence-informed practice, including recommendations from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF), we are committed to ensuring that our reading curriculum, resources and policies are fit for purpose. Our aim is not only to support strong progress in reading but also to foster a lifelong love of books, helping every child to read with confidence, enjoyment and pleasure.

If you are keen to know more about our rationale, more information can be found here:

- **The Reading Framework (DfE, 2023):** Schools should promote a strong reading culture, provide access to quality books, read aloud regularly and support reading for pleasure.
- **Education Endowment Foundation (Improving Literacy in KS1 and KS2):** High-quality texts, reading fluency, vocabulary development and comprehension teaching are key components of effective literacy provision.
- **Education Endowment Foundation Teaching and Learning Toolkit:** Reading comprehension approaches have a strong positive impact on pupil progress when explicitly taught and practised.

Harvest Celebration

Harvest Festival arrangements will be confirmed next week as we continue to liaise with the Church. We will be collecting donations of non-perishable items for Waste Not Wednesday, which will be gratefully received and used to support members of our local community. Once the date has been confirmed, a collection table will be placed outside school for donations.

This initiative links closely to our half-term theme of Generosity. However, we recognise that not all families are in a position to contribute financially at this time. Please remember that generosity can be shown in many different ways. If you are unable to donate, your support in attending the Harvest Service and celebrating with our school community will be just as valued and appreciated.

Safeguarding in School

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Kelly Reppold

Our Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Rachel West and Sarah Worthington.

Our Safeguarding Governor is Anna Kirby

Absence from School

If your child is absent from school because of illness, we ask that you advise the school (email, Arbor App, telephone call, in person at the school office) to explain why your child will not be attending. If we are not notified then we will contact you to establish the reason for your child's absence.

Attendance this week:
98.91%



BeckBusters 2026 is finally here!

Our annual 10K and 2K Fun Run is this Sunday

Firstly, a big thank you for all the support parents have provided so far. We got an amazing haul of tombola prizes this morning, and you have all been incredibly generous in buying raffle tickets, volunteering, sponsorship, and in countless other ways.

We now need you to do a few final things:

- Bake bake bake: The BeckBusters cake stall is a renowned feature of the event, so please please do bake something and contribute to what's on offer. If you have cakes to drop off we will be at school tomorrow (Saturday) from 10am until 12 pm. You can also drop off on the morning of the race. No nuts please and do also lend us cake stands if possible.
- Enter the Fun Run: We still have places for the Fun Run. If you have not done it before do get involved - it's 2km, children get to run through the Beck, and it is great fun. Sign up here: <https://racebest.com/races/yaker>
- Come along and enjoy the day! The weather forecast is good, there will as ever be a great atmosphere, and all the money you spend goes straight back into supporting the school. Do bring cash and your loudest voices to cheer people on.

In terms of practicalities for the race itself, registration will open for both races at 9am with the 2km race registration closing at 9.45 and the 10km registration closing at 10.30 am. I am sure you will appreciate too that we want to keep the centre of the village and the run route as free from parked cars as possible. This is to ensure a safe and fun run for everyone and minimises disruption to the residents of Bishop Monkton. So do please use the designated car park at Ivy House Farm on Boroughbridge Road.

Thank you again - we are excited to see everyone on Sunday!

BeckBusters 2026 Committee (Vic Porter, Jo Langton, Julia Russell, Phil Alcock, Ruth Alcock, Anna Kirby, Alex Hawkes)



A huge thank you to local business **Ken Rodney Construction** for raising an incredible **£1,274** for Friends of Bishop Monkton Primary School through their charity rugby day.

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Academic Year 2026-2027

Monday 7th September 2026, Friday 23rd October 2026,
Monday 4th January 2027, Friday 28th May 2027, and Monday 26th July 2027 are nominated Teacher training days.

Autumn Term 2026 - First half term

Tuesday 8th September 2026 - Thursday 22nd October 2026

Half Term Holiday

Monday 26th October 2026 - Friday 30 October 2026

Autumn 2026 - second half term

Monday 2nd November 2026 - Friday 18th December 2026

Christmas Holidays

Monday 21st December 2026 - Friday 1st January 2027

Spring 2027 - first half term

Tuesday 5th January 2027 - Friday 5th February 2027

Half Term Holiday

Monday 8th February 2027 - Friday 12th February 2027

Spring 2027 - second half term

Monday 15th February 2027 - Friday 19th March 2027

Easter Holiday

Monday 22nd March 2027 - Friday 2nd April 2027

Summer 2027 - first half term

Monday 5th April 2027 - Thursday 27th May 2027

Early May Bank Holiday

Monday 3rd May 2027

Half Term Holiday

Monday 31st May 2027 - Friday 4th June 2027

Summer 2027 - second half term

Monday 7th June 2027 - Friday 23rd July 2027

2028 Academic Year Begins Tuesday 7th September 2028