

## Important Information Regarding Class Organisation for the Next School Year

Dear Families,

I am writing to inform you about the class structure for the upcoming school year – 2026/2027. After careful consideration and planning with the Blue Kite Academy Trust and the school's Governing body, the decision to move from our current six class structure to a five class structure has been made. This will involve the creation of mixed-year classes in KS1 and KS2. This change is due to a falling roll resulting in a drop in funding due to lower pupil numbers. Our school in September will be 60 pupils short of being at full capacity. Falling pupil numbers are being experienced countywide by schools, this is not a phenomenon specific to Lydiard.

I am confident that mixed-year classes in both KS1 and KS2 will foster a positive learning environment. Our teachers are experienced and skilled at adapting learning to meet the individual needs of all students, regardless of age. We are working hard next term to plan a revised curriculum to ensure that all children receive the National Curriculum in full with new learning every year. We also have significant experience in this having run KS2 mixed age classes successfully for two years.

Research shows that mixed aged classes provide several benefits. These include:

- Stronger peer relationships: Older students can act as role models for younger students, fostering a sense of community within the class and especially in modelling interpersonal skills, independence and social behaviours.
- Enhanced learning opportunities: Younger students can be inspired by the work of older students, while older students can solidify their knowledge collaborating with others.
- Flexible groupings: enabling learners to work with the appropriate ability, regardless of age. Giving greater opportunity for challenge and support.

We understand that this news may raise some questions, and we want to assure you that this decision was not taken lightly. It is understandable that some parents may have questions about mixed-year classes. I am committed to ensuring a smooth transition for all students. To address any questions, I will be holding a parents' meeting on Tuesday 9th June in the school hall at 6pm. This is most relevant for those moving into Y1, Y2 and Y3. During this session, I will endeavour to answer your questions and provide further details about the class structure and curriculum.

You will be notified of your child's class and teacher as soon as possible after that meeting. In the meantime, if you have any questions before the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the school office via email. I will not respond directly but collate the questions and answer them at the meeting and produce a Frequently Asked Questions for everyone's understanding via Parentpay afterwards.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Farmer – Headteacher

Vicki Tee – Chair of school's Governing body

# Lydiard Millicent CE Primary Newsletter

Friday 22nd May 2026



Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow



## Calendar

### 2025 - 2026 Term 5

- 22/5/26 - Term 5 ends for all pupils

### 2025 - 2026 Term 6

- 1/6/2026 - Term 6 starts for all pupils
- Swimming lessons Y4 (& some Y5 & Y6) every Tuesday
- 4/6/2026 - Field events day - ALL children in PE kits (house colours)
- 11/6/2026 - SPORTS AFTERNOON (Family picnic from 12noon)
- 11/6/2026 - Reception starters induction meeting for parents
- 21/7/2026 - Y6 Leavers service @ 9am - All saints Church
- 21/7/2026 - School finishes for all pupils for the summer

## ATTENDANCE

### Year to date

96.53%

### This week

94.76%

### Congratulations

Birch 98.54%

## Mr Farmer's message

### Dear families,

On Wednesday, our playground was transformed by the arrival of the climbing wall. It was truly inspiring to watch so many children face their fears, scale new heights, and push themselves well beyond their comfort zones. Part of our school vision is for all children to "Grow," and this was a vivid reminder that true growth happens when we are brave enough to try something difficult. Well done to everyone who took part!

Our spiritual life was equally uplifted by Oak Class, who led a thoughtful Collective Worship on our value of Service. They spoke beautifully about how small acts of kindness and a willingness to help others can transform a community. It was a timely reminder of how we can all shine our light for those around us.

On a sad note Mrs Richmond will be leaving our school at the end of the academic year to start a new teaching role at a school in North Swindon. Mrs Richmond has been a wonderful teacher here and we will all miss her very much.

Finally, the forecast looks bright for the break! I hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy the hot weather and find time for rest and relaxation with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for the final term of the year, on Monday 1st June.

**Have a great weekend.**

**Kind regards,**

**Mr Farmer**

# This terms value is: Service

“Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive others.” – Colossians 3:13



## Church Links

Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m., which is followed by refreshments.

1st & 3rd Sundays: Morning Worship

2nd & 4th Sundays: Holy Communion (if ordained ministers are available otherwise Morning Worship)

5th Sunday (where applicable): Joint service with St. Mary's Purton

School Run Café – term time Wednesdays 8:45-10am. Free stay and play and refreshments

<https://www.allsaints-online.org.uk>

## Happy Birthday to:

Ezra Birch

Margot Acorns

Katerina Hazel

Hugh Sycamore

Toby Birch

## Contact us:

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This weeks winning house is:

# Snowy Owl



## Focus on: Developing Resilience!

### The climbing wall!

