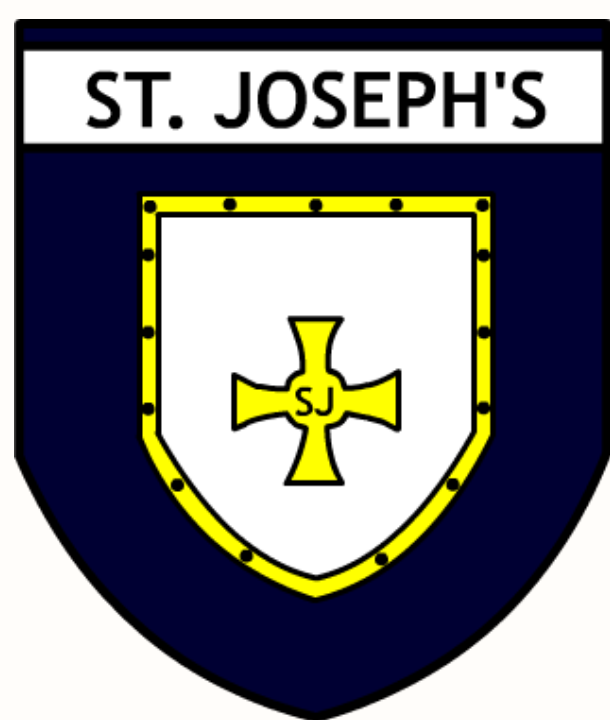
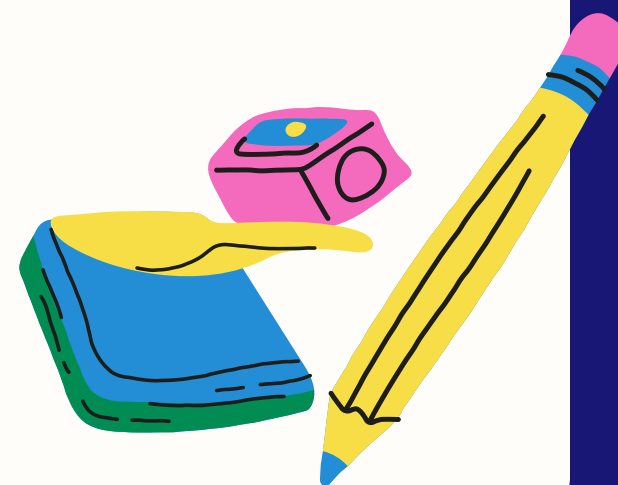




St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Newsletter 6

18.07.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

After almost 6 wonderful and eventful years as Head, the time has come for me to step down and pass the baton to the next leader who will continue the amazing work happening here.

Looking back, it's incredible to see how much our school community has grown and flourished. Together, we have navigated challenges such as the pandemic, celebrated successes, and most importantly, put Christ and the child at the heart of everything we do. I am so proud of the welcoming, nurturing, and vibrant environment we have created and the opportunities we have given the children: our Forest School, specialist music lessons and Phizz lab, to name a few.

I want to thank every member of our school family: the dedicated staff who go above and beyond each day; my amazing senior leadership team and admin team; the supportive parents and carers who understand the challenges that education faces; and, of course, our wonderful children, whose curiosity, kindness, and hard work, inspire me daily. Thank you to our incredible Governors and Chair, Mike Board. And a huge thank you to my brilliant deputy, Mr Curran - it has been an adventure!

We say goodbye and thank you to Mrs Alderson, who has worked many years at St Joseph's. She has been dedicated to helping countless children with their learning. We wish her a happy retirement. We also say goodbye to our incredible Year 6 pupils who have outdone themselves in their SATS, behaviour and, most importantly, in their attitude to life. May God bless them all.

In September, Mr Curran will kindly be stepping up to Acting Headteacher for the term, while the Governors appoint a new Headteacher. Our wonderful leadership team: Mrs Sparks and Ms Thomas will be stepping up and sharing the Acting Deputy role. I know you will all support them.

Though I am moving on, I will always carry St Joseph's in my heart, from my first day as a pupil in Reception in 1984.

I leave confident that the school is in excellent hands.

Thank you for the privilege of being part of your lives and this extraordinary community.

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

God bless,
Elizabeth Rippon
Headteacher

*We are all God's children and will try to live,
love, work and serve as Jesus taught us.*

BMX Stunt performer

During Sports Week the children were treated to a thrilling BMX stunt show by Matti Hemmings! St Joseph's won the show as a prize for our school commitment to promoting Clean Air Day in June. The children loved the performance and were keen to ask Matti questions about his skills.



Our careers award

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded for our 'outstanding commitment to embedding careers in the curriculum'. In the spring term, St Joseph's joined a pilot BCP programme, 'Start Small, Dream Big' to develop careers education in primary schools across England. Since then we have had careers speakers in school and our Year 6 class also had a fantastic day out at JP Morgan taking part in STEM activities and being exposed to business skills, ie. skills for life. Careers related learning will continue into the foreseeable future.

LEARNING

Ducklings

What an incredible year it's been, Ducklings! Our youngest learners have had a wonderful start to their school journey. We are so proud of each and every one of them. They've shown kindness, respect, and good manners throughout the year. Thank you for making it so special. We'll miss you!



Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed creating these lovely biscuits in class this week! They worked carefully when icing and decorating them, aiming to make their biscuits as attractive as possible. The children enjoyed sharing what they liked most about each other's biscuit designs, and (of course) eating their biscuits afterward!



Year 2

This half term Year 2 had their trip to Stanpit Marsh. They loved walking through the marsh looking at all the different animal sculptures, finding out about the animals and their habitats and looking at the ponies. They had a great day!



Year 3

Year 3 have enjoyed the summer weather with lots of learning outside. We had a forest school session and took our maths and literacy outside as much as possible. A huge thank you to the PTA for the yummy ice lollies on a hot summer day - it helped cool us down so we could do lots more work. Mrs Whyte is sad we are in our last week together and wishes all the lovely children a fantastic Year 4 with Mr Cook. But first, her biggest wish is that we all have a great, safe, fun and relaxing summer break.



Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic Summer term and been very busy. The children have worked very hard and there have been many highlights. These include Sports week/Sports day, the Colour Run, the School trip to Stour Valley and the Oceanarium and the Science Fayre. The children participated in the Christchurch Dance Festival. After weeks of practising they took part in two dazzling shows and won 'Best Team'. We are super proud and especially happy that Mrs Rippon could attend the Thursday evening performance and see their wonderful dance. Miss Wright and Mrs Wasmuth would also like to thank you for all your help and support with the Statutory Multiplication Tables Checks that were carried in early June. We are very impressed with the progression the children have made and their scores, from September to June. All their hard work certainly paid off. We look forward to continuing to teach the children in Year 5. Have a wonderful and safe Summer holiday. The Year 4 Team.



LEARNING

Year 5

This term in Design Technology, Year 5 have been busy combining creativity, storytelling and engineering skills to design and make their very own pop-up books!

As part of our unit on mechanisms, students explored how levers, sliders and folding techniques can bring pages to life. After studying examples of pop-up books, the children planned their own stories, designed characters and scenes and carefully constructed pages using tabs, folds and moving parts.

From messages about love, kindness, the Earth, water and space, the results were fantastic! The project helped pupils to develop fine motor skills, problem-solving strategies and a deeper understanding of how everyday objects can be made interactive through design.

We are so proud of their creativity and perseverance — and the finished books are a delight to read and play with. Well done, Year 5!

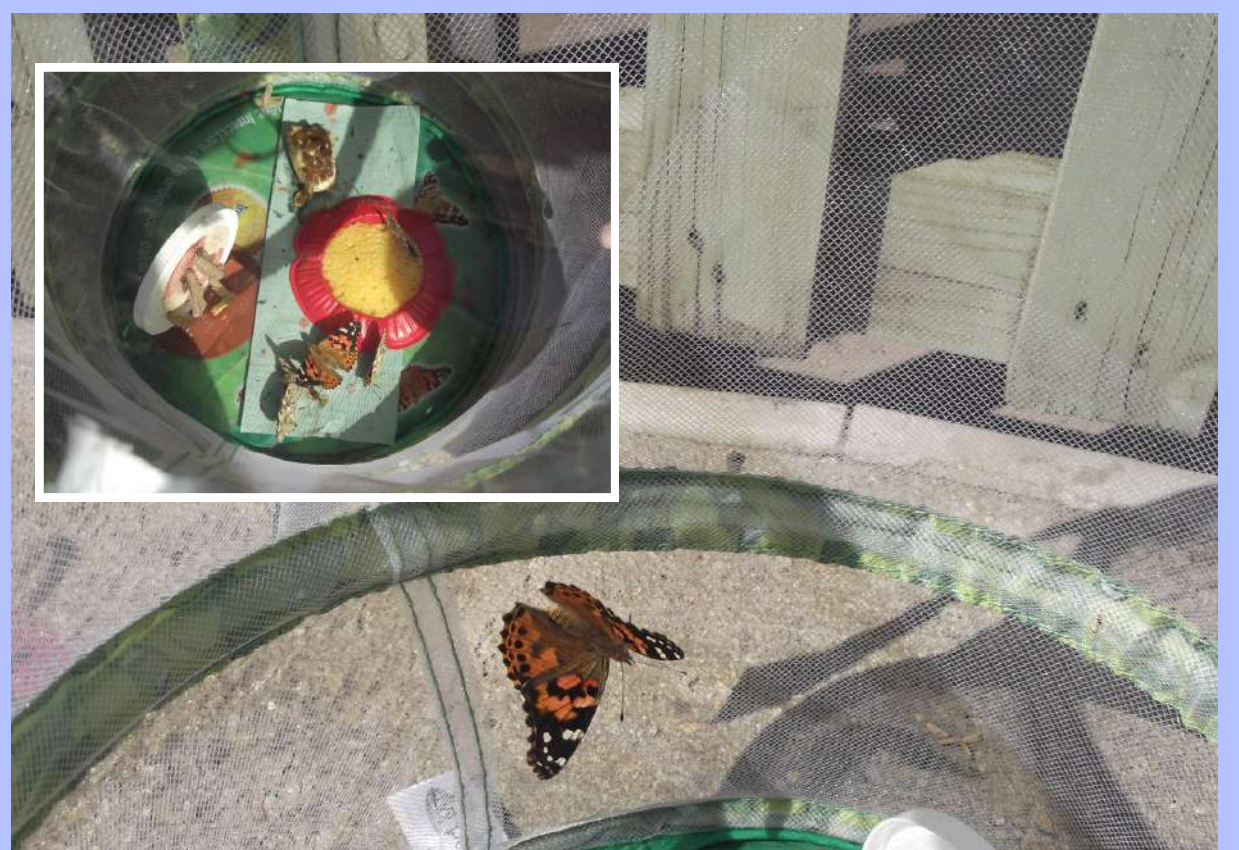


Year 6

Year 6 have had an extremely fun and busy half-term. The residential to Avon Tyrrell was definitely their highlight. They had the best time paddleboarding, kayaking, zipwiring, mountain biking and climbing. Their behaviour was exceptional and this was noticed by the Avon Tyrrell staff too. Well done Year 6! The children have also celebrated their time at St. Joseph's with many leavers' events including their mass, assembly and school play, Zoom. Year 6's acting and singing were amazing and they really rose to the challenge, putting on a great show. As well as this, Year 6 SATS results were brilliant. We are incredibly proud of them for their hard work, positive attitude and determination. Year 6 have been such a lovely year group and we will miss them very much, but we wish them all their best in their new secondary schools.



Amazing butterflies in Owls



This term in Owls, the children have been learning about the lifecycle of butterflies starting with a butterfly garden including up to 5 live caterpillars. The children have watched in amazement as the caterpillars have transformed into lovely butterflies! The children gathered outside to say goodbye to the butterflies as they were released.

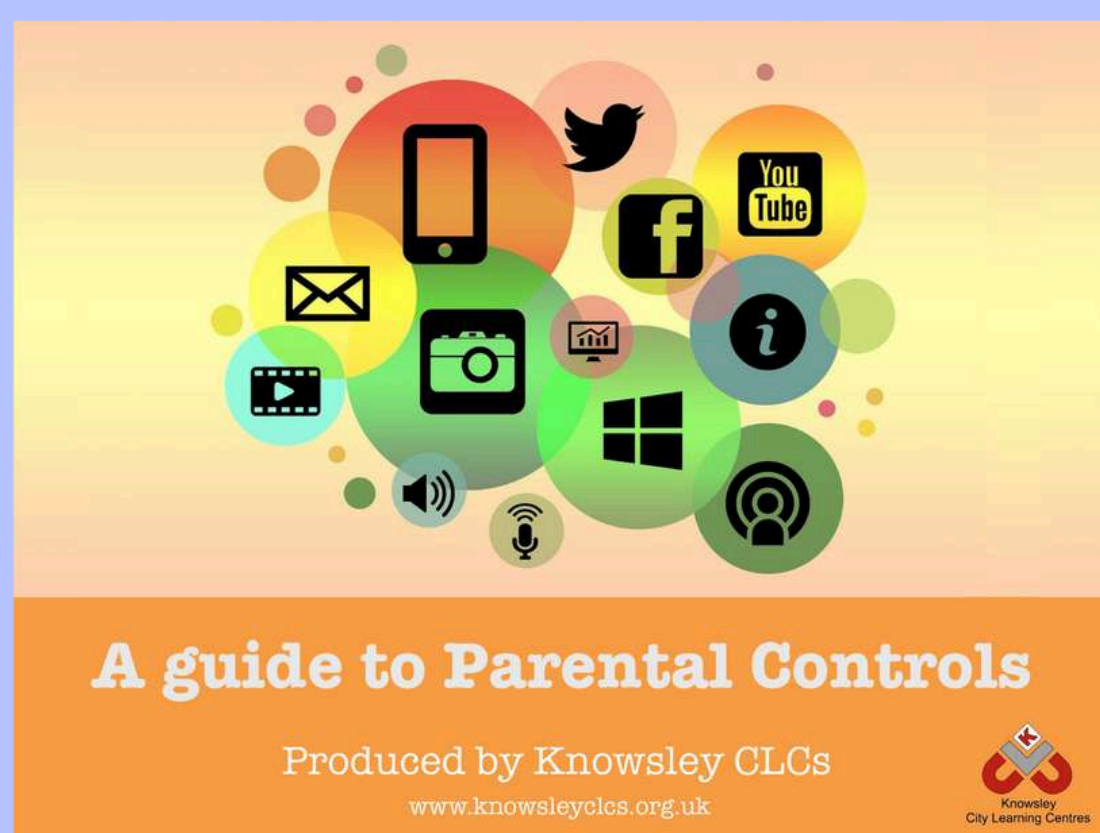


SCHOOL LIFE

Important Dates for your diary

EVENT	DATE
Back to school	Thursday 4th September
New Ducklings in for the morning	Thursday 4th September
New Ducklings in for the morning and lunch	Friday 5th September
Swimming lessons start for Year 3 and Year 4	Monday 15 th September
Life Education sessions	Tuesday 16 th and Wednesday 17 th September
Year 6 Trip to Parliament	Thursday 18 th September
Bikeability Year 4	Wednesday 1 st October
National Poetry Day	Thursday 2nd October
Dorset Coding Day Years 5 & 6	w/c 6 th October
Bikeability Year 5	Monday 20th October
Parents' Evening	Monday 20 th October
Parents' Evening	Thursday 23rd October
Inset Day	Friday 24th October
Half Term	Monday 27th - Friday 31st October

Staying safe online



Please note that you can find A Guide Parental Controls on our website under E Safety. A reminder that you can find all of our online safety newsletters here with up-to-date information to keep your child safe online:
<https://www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk/e-safety-1/>



Remember to book lunches!

Please note that the deadline for ordering school lunches for the first week back after half term is **Monday 25th August**. Please do order in plenty of time as Forerunner is not able to add any orders after the deadline. If you haven't yet signed up to Forerunner and would like your child to have hot lunches, please book on the Forerunner portal: [Parent Portal \(myschoolmealorders.com\)](https://myschoolmealorders.com).

INSET Days 2025-2026

Wed 3rd September 2025, Fri 24th October 2025, Mon 20th July 2026, Tues 21st July 2026, Wed 22nd July 2026

SPORT

Sport

This half-term we have competed in the last of our Christchurch sports Partnership sporting Events: Y1-3 Mini Olympics, Y5/6 Tennis Festival, Y3/4 Invasion Games and Y5/6 Cricket Festival. We had 26% of children take part in our Intra-Sport Competitions, 68% of our children competed at our Christchurch Sporting Events, 40% of our children have attended our after-school clubs and 69% of our children have participated in our lunchtime clubs ran by our amazing Sports Leaders. Thank you for all your efforts this year!

Mini Olympics

The children from year 1, 2 and 3 had an exciting time competing against different schools in a mini Olympics. They won medals for determination, passion, teamwork and honesty. Thank you Mr. Cook and Mr. Moody for organising a fantastic sporting event.



Christchurch Sports Awards

Six children from Year 6 were nominated to receive an award of recognition for their sporting achievements at the Christchurch Sports Awards held at The Grange this week. The awards were presented by England Cricketer Maia Bouchier and the children each received a certificate and trophy. Conor, Frank and Ollie received an award for Outstanding Sporting Achievement; George, Sonnie and Katie received an award for Outstanding Contribution Through Sports Leadership. Well done!



Tennis Festival

The years 5/6 Tennis Festival team competed against two other schools (Mudeford Junior School, Christchurch Junior School) in mini tennis matches including singles and doubles. The team played with great determination, resilience, and skill in their matches. Our team finished the competition as winners!



Invasion Games

Children from Years 3 and 4 were selected to represent the school at the Invasion Games Festival at The Grange. Games included Quidditch and Frisbee and the children never gave up and really enjoyed the games. We were very proud with the way the children represented St Joseph's.



INSET Days 2025-2026

Wed 3rd September 2025, Fri 24th October 2025, Mon 20th July, Tues 21st July and Wed 22nd July 2026

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

If you're looking for something to do this summer, check out these fun summer camps and activities...

SCULPTURE CLUB SUMMER CAMP coda

24 & 25 July 2025
10:00am–3:15pm
Ages 8–14 | £80
@ Coda Music & Arts Centre

Come and have fun building a giant wave in the gallery inspired by Ben Winter's Sea and Sky exhibition! Explore Sculpture, drawing and painting in a big way with artists Emily and Heidi

Tickets available now!

CREATE

LEARN

INSPIRE

info@coda.org.uk | 01425 276161

BOOK NOW

ROCK & POP

SUMMER CAMP

6–8 August 2025
10:00am–4:00pm
Ages 8–14
£100

An inspiring 3-day course for young musicians and singers of all musical abilities. Form a band, develop your songwriting and performance skills and work with professional music leaders. Live gig finale for family and friends!

info@coda.org.uk | 01425 276161

SUMMER TEEN SEW

28–30 July 2025
4–6 August 2025
9am–12pm
Ages 12–16 | £75
@ Coda Music & Arts Centre

Do you have an interest in fashion or making your own clothing? Join us for this beginners 3 day sewing course! You'll master the basics of using a sewing machine and create your own bunting, tote bag, and zipped pouch—no experience needed and all materials included!

info@coda.org.uk | 01425 276161

POUNCING PANTHERS.COM

Summer

Holiday Club

Bookings Now Open!!

Scan me!

Mudford Wood Community Centre, BH23 4TR
Thursday 24th July - Friday 29th August
Open from 9am–5pm (excl bank holidays)
(Breakfast club from 8am)
• HOT LUNCHES AVAILABLE
• HAF FUNDING AVAILABLE

Highly qualified staff • Enhanced DBS checked
All First Aid Trained

Book Now!!

E: bookings@pouncingpanthers.com
T: 07775 864 868
www.pouncingpanthers.com

HAF FUNDING AVAILABLE !!

SUMMER ACTIVITIES



**Free
Event**

Please join us for free **wellbeing tips, money advice, opportunities and more.** Plus, plenty of family fun featuring, **stilt walking, creepy crawlies and cooking classes!**

**Mon 4
August** 12-4pm

Poole

Bourne
Community Hub,
Northmere Road,
Poole
BH12 4DY

**Thu 7
August** 12-4pm

Christchurch

Family Hub
Draper Road,
Somerford,
Christchurch
BH23 3AS

**Tue 12
August** 12-4pm

Bournemouth

Kinson
Community Centre
Millhams Road,
Bournemouth
BH10 7LH

These **FREE** events
are designed for everyone
in our communities,
so please come along!



Funded by
UK Government




20TH AUGUST 9.30AM-3.30PM

FREE GIRLS SUMMER RUGBY CAMP
AWAKEN YOUR INNER LIONESS
OPEN TO GIRLS AGED 7 TO 16

Looking to try rugby this summer holiday? How about trying a sport that's all about about epic teamwork, friendship and fun? Then Bournemouth Rugby is calling you!

Join our fantastic team of experienced coaches this summer break on 20th August 2025.

Location: St Peters Catholic Secondary School,
St Catherine's Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth
BH6 4AH
///force.gold.waddled

BOOK NOW



TO BOOK YOUR SPACE
VISIT RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK
EMAIL STUART@RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK
CALL STUART ON 07899 268265

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP WITH




SUMMER CAMPS 2025

ROCK AND POP ACADEMY

6-8 August 2025 | 10am-4pm
Ages 8-14 | £100 | Coda Music & Arts Centre

Form a band, develop your songwriting and performance skills and work with professional music leaders!

SCULPTURE CLUB SUMMER CAMP

24 & 25 July 2025 | 10:00am-3:15pm
Ages 8-14 | £80 | Coda Music & Arts Centre

Explore Sculpture, drawing and painting in a big way with artists Emily and Heidi.

SUMMER TEEN SEW

28-30 July 2025 | 4-6 August 2025 | 9am-12pm
Ages 12-16 | £75 | Coda Music & Arts Centre

Join us for this beginners 3 day sewing course! You'll master the basics of using a sewing machine!



Mindful arts for parents of children with SEN

Are you a parent, carer, or grandparent of a child under 16? Join us for a fun, mindfulness-themed arts and crafts course designed to support your child's mental wellbeing. You'll explore paper crafting, drawing, painting, and simple sewing in a friendly setting, with group and individual support.

This course may also help enhance your employment opportunities or community work. Practice at home is encouraged.

Dates: 30th July - 27th August 2025, 10am-12pm weekly.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES



Dear Parents,

We are holding a **Holiday Camp at Somerford Primary School** during the **Summer Holidays** on the following dates:

Starting W/C 28th July – Finishing W/C 25th August

The camp will run from **8:30 AM to 3:30 PM** Monday to Thursday each week (Apart from the last week due to the Bank holiday we will run Tuesday – Friday)

This offer is **FREE** for children who receive **Free School Meals**. Your child will have the opportunity to take part in **fun and exciting sports**, as well as **food-based and well-being activities**. A **hot lunch** will be provided daily.

If you would like to book a place for your child, please use this link to book – <https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/929549>

Children can attend a maximum of 16 days during the Summer.

If you have any questions, please contact **Lewis** at ldibden@premier-education.com.

YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMPS

Bournemouth	The New Forest	Portsmouth	Free Spaces
Somerford Primary Livingstone Academy Old Town Infants	Ashley Junior School	Stamshaw Junior School	Free HAF spaces also available please contact ldibden@premier-education.com for more info

TEAMTHEME

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

SPORTS & ACTIVITY CAMP

The Golden Ticket

MUDEFORD JUNIOR SCHOOL

MUSCLIFF PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wednesday 23rd July - Thursday 28th August

Extra Play 8:30am - 4:00pm

Standard Day 9:00am - 3:00pm

Prices from £20 per day -
Sibling Discounts Available



BOOK NOW



- ✓ Sports, Games, Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Fun & Safe Environment
- ✓ All staff DBS checked and First Aid trained
- ✓ Games & Activities for All

Bookings & Contact Info

07725 135473 info@teamthemesportscoaching.co.uk

www.teamthemesportscoaching.co.uk



Follow us at Teamtheme Dorset for all the latest news and events



Watermans Park | July & August programme

Meet at the park entrance



THE PARKS FOUNDATION

GreenFingers

Fri 11 & 25 July | 10.30am - 12.30pm
Fri 8 & 22 Aug | 10.30am - 12.30pm

Join our friendly volunteer group to get involved in practical conservation in the park.



Volunteering

Wildlings

Fri 11 July | 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Fun nature-based activities after school - from crafts to species surveys. Adult supervision is required.



Free event

Butterfly Walk & Crafts

Fri 25 July | 1pm - 2.30pm
Tues 5 Aug | 1pm - 2.30pm

A gentle walk around the park surveying butterflies and learning about them as we go.

Afterwards, we'll do a craft activity to make and paint some of the butterflies we saw.



Free event

Scan for park information, including accessibility



To book: parksfoundation.org.uk/events

The Parks Foundation is committed to celebrating diversity – we welcome people from all backgrounds, genders, ethnicities, people with learning differences and varying physical abilities. If you would like more information or have questions about an activity, please contact us.

Get in touch with our team member, Will, on: will@parksfoundation.org.uk or: 07723 289747

SUMMER ACTIVITIES



Summer activities

Christchurch Family Hub Summer Holiday Events

Family Drop-In

We recognise that the summer holidays can be challenging in many ways for parents, carers and children. The drop-in is an opportunity for parent/carers to come along and speak to one of our early help support workers for information, advice and guidance. Please feel welcome to pop along to one or all our drop-ins.

28 th July	4 th August	11 th August	18 th August
1.30pm - 3pm			

Primary Transition Workshop

6th August 1:30pm – 3pm

Starting a new school or going to school for the first time is an exciting time for children, parents and carers, but it is a big change and can sometimes be a little scary and overwhelming. Help your child get school ready by joining our 'Primary Transition Workshop', where we will offer you lots of support and ideas for you and your child to practice all the skills, they will need at school.

Secondary Transition Workshop

20th August 1.30pm – 3pm

The Secondary Transition Workshop is to support parents, carers and children through the transition of moving from primary to secondary schools. This is a time of excitement and anxiety for both children and parents. The workshop will offer you lots of support and ideas for you and your child to practice the skills they will need to transition to a new school.

Christchurch Family Hub, Draper Road, BH23 3AS

For further information on any of our events please contact 01202 126668 or EHAcessPoint@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Activities and events:

BCP Family Hubs: see timetables for individual Hubs as the offer varies. Activities and drop-ins for all ages including teens.
[Family hub timetables \(bcpcouncil.gov.uk\)](http://bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

BCP Libraries:

Summer Reading Challenge: [Summer Reading Challenge | BCP](#)
What's on in Libraries: [Activities for children and young people at your local library | BCP](#)

Family events:

[Family Events - Bournemouth](#)

BCP Family Information Directory:

Holiday Activities: [Search Results \(bcpcouncil.gov.uk\)](#)

Primary Times:

[Family activities and events for primary school children | Primary Times](#)

BCP Mumbler:

[Summer Holiday - Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Mumbler Free Things To Do with Kids in Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole this Summer - Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Mumbler](#)

Soft Play Cafes:

[Kids Play Cafe](#)

Muddeford Woods July & August Programme

Meeting point: in front of the community centre



THE PARKS
FOUNDATION

An Evening with Bats

Thurs 24 July | 9pm - 10pm

Join us for a quiet evening stroll around the park to look and listen out for bats using our special bat detector.

Wrap up warm, and bring a torch if you have one.

This activity is weather dependent.

Free event



Minibeast Hunt

Tues 12 Aug | 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Bugs love warm weather so now is a great time to discover them.

We'll take a walk around the park to see what we can spot and use magnifying jars and I.D sheets to gently take a closer look.

Free event



Scan for park
information,
including
accessibility



To book: parksfoundation.org.uk/events

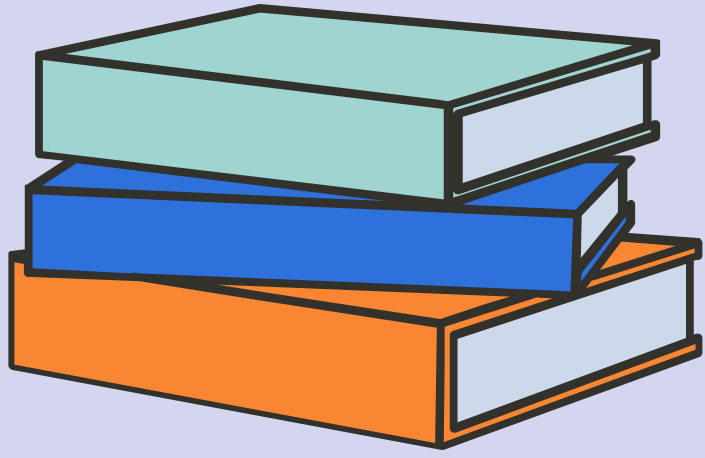
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Get in touch with our team member, Will, on: will@parksfoundation.org.uk or: 07723 289747

parksfoundation.org.uk | [Facebook.com/The Parks Foundation](https://Facebook.com/TheParksFoundation) | 01202 143724 | Registered Charity Number: 1159939

PTA

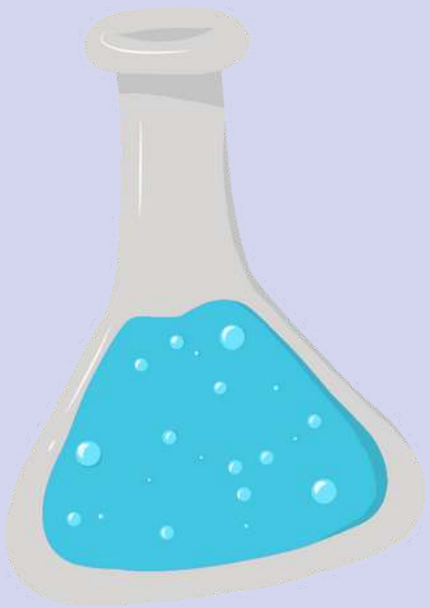
WHAT OUR PTA HAS DONE FOR OUR CHILDREN THIS YEAR!



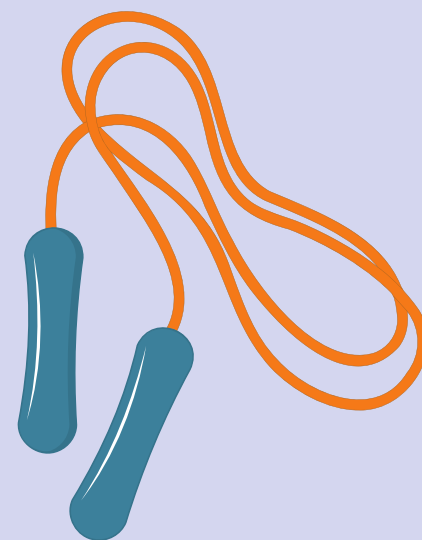
**£945 OF FLUENCY BOOKS
TO BOOST EVERY CHILD'S
READING JOURNEY**



**ICE CREAMS
FOR EVERY CHILD
ON ST JOSEPH'S
FEAST DAY**



**HANDS-ON
SCIENCE FUN -
PTA BOUGHT THE
GADGET SHOP TO
SCHOOL!**



**SKIPPING
WORKSHOPS
FOR THE WHOLE
SCHOOL - WHAT A
FUN DAY!**



**A BOOK GIFT
FOR EVERY CHILD
- BECAUSE
CHRISTMAS
MAGIC LIVES IN
STORIES**



**SANTA'S
GROTTO
ON PARTY DAY &
A VISIT FROM
SANTA HIMSELF!**



**EVERY CLASS
ENJOYED FUN
EASTER &
CHRISTMAS
ACTIVITIES THANKS
TO THE PTA**



**COLOUR RUN
FUNDRAISER AND A GREAT
SEND-OFF FOR YEAR 6**

**HELP US DO EVEN MORE NEXT YEAR!
WHETHER IT'S £1 OR AN HOUR OF TIME,
YOUR SUPPORT MAKES ALL THIS POSSIBLE.**