



Moordown St. John's Primary School Bulletin

A Christian community where commitment to educational excellence changes lives

Autumn 1 – week 2 – Friday 11th September

Headteacher Update

Thank you to everyone who attended our **Curriculum Information Meetings**. Around 50% of families took part in most year groups, with the 2pm sessions proving more popular than the 5pm meetings.

We recognise the pressures on family time and will continue to explore different ways to strengthen our home–school partnership.

Year group presentations, Autumn Term curriculum statements and home learning suggestions for Autumn 1 are now available on the Year Groups section of the school website.

Mr Ruffle

Key News

- **Arbor**
Arbor is our main app for payments, information and messages. Please sign up. Contact the School Office if you need help.
- **School Trips**
Our annual trip offer for each year group will be shared next Friday. Payments will also be available through Arbor by then.
- **Spelling Shed**
Spelling Shed has accidentally duplicated pupil accounts. Current logins do not work. They are fixing the problem, but this may take until next week. Sorry for the inconvenience.
- **MarvellousMe**
MarvellousMe has been taken over by Juniper and the new system is not yet working properly. We are no longer using the old app and badges are paused for now. We will update you next Friday.

Key dates for the coming week

- **PFA AGM (7pm) – Tuesday 15 September**
All parents are welcome to the Studio room. Come along, find out more and get involved!
- **(ADVANCE NOTICE) PFA Family Meet-Up (3pm) – Monday 21 September**
Join us after school for a relaxed get-together on the field, with bouncy castles for the children and a chance for parents to find out about the PFA.

Enclosed with the Bulletin

- **PFA AGM news**
- **Would you like to become a reading volunteer? See our reading newsletter by Mr Hawley about the difference you could make.**

This Week in Worship

This week we explored BELONG through Jesus' story of The Lost Sheep. We learnt that every person is loved and valued by God and nobody should be forgotten or left behind.

Our reflection questions:

Where have we seen joy amidst sadness recently when somebody was found?

How can we show that everyone matters at MSJ?



Dorset Health - Vaccination catch-up

Starting school means children mix with lots of others, so illnesses can spread quickly. Please check your child is **up to date with their vaccinations**, including **MMR and the pre-school booster**.

Check your child's **Red Book** or contact your GP if you are unsure. Missed vaccinations can usually be caught up.

More information: [NHS – Childhood Vaccinations](#)

Pray & Go

A quick reminder that our weekly Pray & Go is a simple opportunity to pause and pray for our school community.

Prayer slips are available in St John's church to grab and go every Tuesday morning after school drop-off.

PFA NEWS – 2026/27 AGM

Our AGM will take place on Tuesday 15th September at 7pm in the Studio.

The committee roles will be elected on this date, so if you would like to apply for the post of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer or Secretary, please email PFA@st-johns.bournemouth.sch.uk to register your interest. We welcome new faces to our meetings and hope you can join us.

If you are interested in playing a part in the committee and would like to put your name forward, please see below a brief summary about the roles.

Chair – Leading the monthly meetings and guiding the team. This role works alongside all the committee members to drive our fundraising and schedule, plan and run events.

Vice Chair – Deputising for the Chair in their absence. Leading smaller project teams and supporting the planning and running of events. Takes the lead for things like licencing and email communications.

Secretary – Responsible for creating meeting agendas and minutes. Supporting the planning and running of events.

Treasurer – Responsible for overseeing the finance of our charity. Creates accounts and monitors bank account and funding requests. Takes the lead with finances on events.

We appreciate everyone has busy lives, so there is no expectation that all committee members will be present at all meetings or events. We aim to provide an understanding environment in which our volunteer work can strengthen, allowing room to manage our own lives outside of the PFA.

If you would like to support at PFA events over the year, please email us and we can share the link to the PFA Volunteers Group. An hour of your time is all you need to offer. Dates and details are shared in this group and you sign up to what ever you can. It is hugely appreciated and events cannot run without this volunteer support.

Moordown St Johns Parent and Friends Association: Charity Commission Number 1177684

Summer reading challenge



Have you started this year's Summer Reading Challenge?

READ to the BEAT

There's still plenty of time to finish your books and head back to the library to collect your stickers, certificate and medal.

The official end date is **Saturday 19th September.**

You can bring your certificates and medals into school to show us. We'd love to see them!

BCP Council THE READING AGENCY Summer Reading Challenge GO ALL IN.

Illustrations © Harry Woodgate 2026, Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2026

The poster features a diverse group of children and a snail playing various musical instruments like a trumpet, saxophone, guitar, and violin. It also includes logos for BCP Council, The Reading Agency, and 'GO ALL IN.' with a graphic of a book.

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE

SoundStorm's Creative Ensemble is back!



When? Sessions will take place on Saturdays: 10th October, 14th November, 9th January, 13th February, 13th March and 8th May from 10:30am-3pm (**for members and non-members**) and on Saturday 12th June (rehearsal from 10:30am-3pm and concert to take place in late afternoon, exact time tbc – **for members only**).

What is it? An ensemble led by musicians from the SoundStorm team. Open to all musicians on any instrument, including voice. All standards are welcome, from beginner to expert.

Where? Magna Academy, Ashdown Close, Poole, Dorset, BH17 8RE
Who can participate? Young people aged 10-17. You don't need to be able to read music; everything will be learnt by ear.

How much? £70 (up until end of June 2027). £15.00 for one-off session. Membership places are limited so please apply asap.

For more info on the Creative Ensemble and to sign up, please visit:
<https://soundstorm-music.org.uk/schools-teachers/music-hub/ensembles/creative-ensemble/>



Moordown St Johns After School Sports Clubs

CoachBU is Bournemouth University's sports outreach and community engagement program. We partner with schools, community organisations and sports clubs to deliver accessible but quality sports coaching, enrichment activities and tailored event packages.

This is our 3rd year working with Moordown St Johns, our mission is to inspire young people to fulfil their potential, reach their goals, and create positive opportunities through sport.

By providing engaging and inclusive experiences, we aim to help children and young people develop their confidence, resilience, teamwork, leadership and other lifelong skills.

Day	Starting	Time	Sport	Years	Location	No. Weeks	Cost per child
Monday	14 th September	1500-1615	Ball Sports - Basketball, Netball, Handball, racket sports	4, 5 & 6	MSJ Playground	11	£44
Monday	14 th September	1500-1615	Badminton and Pickle Ball	4, 5 & 6	MSJ Hall	11	£44
Wednesday	16 th September	1500-1615	Cheer, Dance & Movement	3, 4, 5 & 6	MSJ Hall	12	£48
Wednesday	16 th September	1500-1615	Multi-Sports	1,2 & 3	MSJ Playground	12	£48

How do I book my child?

We manage payment and bookings via our internal booking systems, please scan the QR Code to access our website

Primary Contact

Andy Boland - CoachBU Program Manger
aboland@bournemouth.ac.uk



Autumn term dates 2026-27

AUTUMN TERM

SEPTEMBER 2026

Date	Time	Event
Mon 14 Sept	8.20am	EYFS start full time
Tues 15 Sept	7pm	PFA AGM
Mon 21 Sept	3pm	PFA family meet and chat (Bouncy Castle after school)
Thurs 24 Sept	9 – 10am	Prospective Parent Tour
	7pm	Directors' Board Meeting
Mon 28 Sept	8.20	Bournemouth Food Bank Appeal (for Harvest)

OCTOBER 2026

Date	Time	Event
Thu 1 Oct		School Census
Fri 2 Oct	8.45 – 9.15am	Welcome Service at St John's Church (Year 6 and EYFS children) led by 5G Families welcome
Fri 2 Oct	9.45am – 10.30am – 1F, 2C, 3NG, 4D led by 5S 10.45am – 11.30am – 1MT, 2BL, 3B, 4S led by 5G	Whole School Harvest Service (Year 5 lead) at St. John's Church Families welcome
Tues 6 Oct	All day	SCARF Life Education Workshops (KS2)
Wed 7 Oct	All day	SCARF Life Education Workshops (KS2)
Thu 8 Oct	9–10am	Prospective Parent Tour
	3.30–4.30pm	Stay & Play
W/C 12 Oct	Whole week focus	Black History Activities
Tues 13 Oct	1 – 2.45	Pavilion Carol Concert Rehearsal @ Epiphany
Thu 15 Oct		PFA Disco (tbc)
	7pm	Directors' Board Meeting
Mon 19 Oct	3.20–6pm	Parents Evening (virtual)
Wed 21 Oct	1.15 – 2.15pm	Prospective Parent Tour
Wed 21 Oct	3.20–7pm	Parents Evening (virtual)
Fri 23 Oct	3pm	School closes for October Half Term
		<i>Please note that the application deadline for secondary school (Y6) is the 31.10.26</i>

NOVEMBER 2026

Date	Time	Event
Mon 2 Nov		Staff Development Day
Tue 3 Nov	8.20	Children return – Start of Autumn 2
Wed 4 Nov	9.15 – 11.30	Pavilion Carol Concert rehearsal @ Epiphany
Thu 5 Nov	6–6.30pm	Prospective Parent Information Evening
Fri 6 Nov	2 – 3pm	Team Reward (Aut 1)
Tues 10 Nov	Morning	RISE Discovery Morning at MSJ (with the DfE)
Wed 11 Nov	9 – 9.30am	Remembrance Service (Year 6 lead)
Mon 16 Nov	Whole Week Focus	Odd Sock Day and Anti-Bullying week 'Break the Silence'
	Whole day	School photos (Fraser) – individual portraits
Thu 19 Nov	9–10am	Prospective Parent Tour
	3.30 – 4.30pm	Stay & Play for Prospective Parents
Fri 20 Nov		Staff Development Day
Wed 25 Nov	9 – 12	Pavilion Carol Concert rehearsal
	Evening	Pavilion Carol Concert Performance Families welcome
Thu 26 Nov	9–10am	Prospective Parent Tour
	7pm	Directors' AGM and Finance Meeting
Fri 27 Nov	8.40am	Christmas Charity Appeal Launch of Toy Appeal with Salvation Army
Nov		Reception vision checks (tbc)

DECEMBER 2026

Date	Time	Event
Mon 30 Nov	8.40am	Advent Service in school
Wed 2 Dec	1.15 -2.15pm	Prospective Parent Tour
Fri 4 Dec		PFA Christmas Event (tbc) Families welcome
Wed 9 Dec	6pm	Carols by Torchlight with the Salvation Army Families welcome
Thur 10 Dec	3.30 -4.30pm	Stay n Play (prospective parents)
		Flu Vaccinations (tbc)
Mon 14 Dec	9.30am	Y2 Christmas Production Families welcome
	2pm	Reception Nativity Families welcome
Tues 15 Dec	9.30am	Reception Nativity Families welcome
	2pm	Y2 Christmas Production Families welcome
Wed 16 Dec	Lunchtime	Christmas lunch (Forerunner)
	2pm	Y1 Carols around the Christmas Tree Families welcome
	2 – 3pm	Christmas craft (Reception and Y6 buddies)
Thu 17 Dec	9am – 3B, 4S, 5S, 6C	KS2 Carol Service (all KS2 involved) at St John's Church Families welcome
	10.30am – 3NG, 4D, 5G, 6H	
	Afternoon	EYFS, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Party
Fri 18 Dec	9am	Christmas special assembly
		Collection of toy appeal
	12.30pm	School closes for Christmas

Term dates 2026-27

Please keep these dates handy for the school year ahead.

Autumn Term 2026

First day for Y1 to Y6 pupils: Thursday 3 September 2026

Half-term: Monday 26 October – Monday 2 November

Pupils return: Tuesday 3 November

Last day of term: Friday 18 December – school closes at 12.30pm

Spring Term 2027

First day for pupils: Tuesday 5 January 2027

Half-term: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February

Pupils return: Monday 22 February

Last day of term: Thursday 25 March – school closes at 12.30pm

Summer Term 2027

First day for pupils: Monday 12 April 2027

May Bank Holiday: Monday 3 May – school closed

Half-term: Monday 31 May – Monday 7 June

Pupils return: Tuesday 8 June

Last day of term: Wednesday 21 July – school closes at 12.30pm

Staff Development (INSET) Days

School is closed to pupils on the following dates:

- Tuesday 1 September 2026
- Wednesday 2 September 2026
- Monday 2 November 2026
- Friday 20 November 2026
- Monday 4 January 2027
- Monday 7 June 2027

Please note that some INSET days have been placed alongside school holidays or half-term breaks, so please check the dates carefully when making childcare or holiday arrangements.