School Update

Bourne Elsea Park CofE Primary Academy

Friday 9th January 2026

Abbey Academies Trust

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year, and welcome to the first school newsletter of 2026! It has been wonderful to welcome pupils back this week and see our school come alive after the Christmas break. As we begin this new year together, we look forward to the opportunities ahead and to continuing our strong partnership with you in supporting your children's learning and growth.

Christian Value for Term 3



Our Christian Value for this term is **Courage** and our focus Bible story is **The story of David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)**

The Bible tells us God promises to give us the strength and courage we need to face difficult or challenging situations. Courage and perseverance go hand in hand. Courage guides us and our actions. We encourage our pupils to find the courage to use their voice, to ask big questions, to stand their ground and to try things that are out of their usual comfort zone. The word courage comes from the French word for heart. Take heart is another way of saying be courageous. We teach our pupils that being courageous doesn't mean that you aren't scared. We look to the Bible and to history for stories of courageous people who have been scared, but they stood up for what was right anyway. In the book of Joshua, it says 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go'. Jesus often said to people 'Don't be afraid'. That sentence turns up 365 times in the Bible! We teach our pupils that the Christian worldview is that when things seem difficult and hard they can rely on God to strengthen their courage.

Year 5 Soar Through Pandora's Bioluminescent Skies



Year 5 launched their new English unit in truly spectacular fashion today, beginning with an unforgettable immersive "hook" inspired by *Avatar* and the moon of Pandora.

The children boarded their very own hovercraft and journeyed to Pandora, where they experienced a virtual reality tour, soaring across the moon's breath-taking landscape on the back of a mystical Avatar creature.



The journey continued as pupils stepped into a transformed area of the school, where Pandora came alive in a cascade of glowing colour and movement. Radiant plants throbbed softly with light, glittering particles floated through the air, and rocks and flowing streams shimmered beneath their feet. Trees seemed to ripple and sway, leaves murmured quietly, and unseen creatures echoed with haunting calls. This richly immersive environment sparked awe, curiosity, and boundless imagination.

Year 6 Dive into a World of Maps and Magic with Katherine Rundell



Year 6 recently enjoyed an exciting virtual workshop with award-winning author Katherine Rundell, taking part in a special livestreamed Q&A event celebrating wondrous and mysterious maps in fiction. The session gave pupils a unique opportunity to hear directly from a much-loved author and to explore how imagination, adventure and storytelling come together on the page.

The event was inspired by Katherine Rundell's latest book, *The Poisoned King.* Pupils learned how maps can play a powerful role in stories, guiding characters through hidden worlds and dangerous journeys, and sparking readers' curiosity about what lies beyond the edge of the page.

Year 6 listened closely as Katherine Rundell shared insights into her writing process and the ideas behind her stories. It was a memorable experience that brought books to life and encouraged pupils to think creatively about their own reading and writing. We are incredibly proud of Year 6 for their enthusiasm and engagement during this inspiring workshop.

Upcoming dates:

Monday 12th January – Y6 Rainforest Workshops

Tuesday 13th January – Royal Day in Reception

Monday 19th January – Y5 Online Safety Workshops

Wow, what a busy start to term. It is a joy to see our children embracing new challenges with confidence, creativity and enthusiasm across all areas of school life. We wish you a restful weekend and look forward to another week of learning, growth and courage together.

Kindest regards,



Louise Jordan
Executive Headteacher
Bourne Elsea Park CofE Primary Academy