

Bedwell News

July 2026

This term's highlights:

- We all got involved in our brilliant Sports Week, taking part in dodgeball, netball, rugby and skateboarding sessions, as well as four amazing Sports Days.
- 36 members of Year 6 had an unforgettable weekend away at PGL in Surrey.
- KS2 performed an incredible production of *The Lion King*.
- Reception visited Audley End, Year 1/2 travelled to the seaside, Year 3/4 headed to Celtic Harmony Camp and Caterpillars had a great day out at Standalone Farm.
- Parent workshops have taken place in every phase, with *Stay and Make* sessions across Years 1-6 and transition events in Early Years.
- Our Mixed Netball Team finished 2nd in the Stevenage League, and our Year 5/6 Mixed and Girls Football teams picked up silver medals in their leagues too.

What we've been doing this term...

Sports Awards

We had a brilliant end to our sporting season, scooping up an incredible collection of trophies and honours at the Stevenage Sporting Futures Awards. Our teams collectively secured the School Games Values award, having demonstrated the core principles of determination, honesty, respect, self-belief and teamwork consistently across every event we have attended this year. On top of that, Mrs Thomas was awarded the Sports Coordinator of the Year award, in recognition of all she does to organise and promote sport in school (an award she was keen to share with Mr Butler). Finally, we collected the (massive) School of the Year award, recognising how thoroughly we have embedded sport and physical activity into every part of school life, and how highly PE is valued at Bedwell. It was an amazing haul of awards, and we have spent the last two weeks proudly showing them off to everyone we know!



Under the Sea!

The whole school came together earlier in the term to take part in an *Under the Sea* themed art day. Each class produced their own pieces, including 3d coral and jellyfish, watercolour oceans and fabric prints. The centre of it all came from Foxes, who created a model of a sea turtle using recycled materials like card and plastic bottles. The finished pieces came together to create a stunning display in the school entrance - if you haven't already seen it, pop in and take a look!

Sports Week 26

The whole school got involved in this year's Sports Week, which took place from 15th - 19th June. Across a packed week (plus a few bonus days in the following weeks after events were rescheduled due to the weather), we took part in four Sports Days, a huge range of taster sessions and competitions, plus lots of fantastic events run by staff, local clubs and sporting organisations.

Our visitors included expert skateboard and scooter riders, who ran brilliant lessons in Years 3-6, coaches from the Saracens rugby team who worked with Year 5/6 girls and leaders from Stevenage Sporting Futures, who led athletics and basketball sessions. Across the week, we also loved taking part in hockey, football, rugby, netball, boules, multisports, ultimate frisbee and yoga activities organised by our teachers.

The pictures across these pages show just a tiny bit of what we all got up to. We loved the whole week and look forward to lots more sport next year!





Our Sports Days

The biggest highlights of Sports Week were our Sports Days. The weather meant it took a few goes to get it all done (first it was too damp, then it was too hot...), but once we got underway, we totally smashed it!

First up was our EYFS Sports Day, with everyone in Nursery and Reception loving the chance to run, bounce and balance in front of a packed crowd of mums, dads and carers. Next, the action moved on to Key Stage 1, with Years 1 and 2 taking part in a huge number of races. Our sack, dressing-up and obstacle events were definite favourites! Finally, the whole of Key Stage 2 took to the field for some seriously competitive (and seriously fun) races. We battled for every place, and when all the points were added-up it was Pluto who had the highest score and won the Sports Day Cup.

Across all three mornings, it was amazing to see how many parents and carers attended - thank you to everyone who cheered us on!





The Lion King!

The whole of Key Stage 2 came together this term to perform The Lion King, and we were all incredibly proud of the show that we managed to create. With Year 6 taking on the lead roles, Y5 playing hyenas (and the grasslands), Y4 as African singers and Y3 dressing up as a variety of animals, it was a huge project - and we have to say a huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Humber, who made some incredible, professional quality costumes and headaddresses for the lead characters.

After weeks of rehearsals, practice and construction we were finally ready to perform on 15th and 16th July. Across 3 performances, we sold over 350 tickets, and were blown-away by the positive feedback, cheers, laughs and applause that we received. It was brilliant to be able to put on a show on this scale, and it could only take place as a result of a huge amount of time, energy and effort from the whole school community - and Years 3, 4 and 5 are already desperate to start rehearsing for next year!





Parent Workshops

We've continued to pack in lots of parent and carer workshops throughout the term, sharing our learning, celebrating successes and giving ideas for supporting children at home. These have included:

- Year 1/2 followed up their trip to the seaside with a *Stay and Make* afternoon focussing on seaside-themed art projects.
- Year 3/4 organised a fantastic *French Café*, which saw the Infant Hall packed with families ordering pastries and drinks *en français* and putting all of the French we have learnt this year to good use.
- Each class in Year 5/6 ran their own *Stay and Make* afternoon, completing DT projects that used mechanisms to make things move or sound an alarm.
- Caterpillars hosted a celebration session, reflecting on their successes over the last year.

Thank you to everyone who took part in these sessions - the number of families finding time to join us in school has been fantastic to see!





Reception at Audley End

Reception had a fantastic day out at Audley End. We travelled through the woods on the miniature train, enjoying the beautiful surroundings and spotting fairy houses on our journey. After that, we set off on foot to explore the forest. We loved the fairy walk, with magical houses, clearings, water features and tunnels around every corner. There were lots of opportunities to practice our writing and letter formation as well, labelling some of the things we found and writing messages to leave for the fairies!

Having stopped for lunch, we continued to explore the setting, and then finished-off the day in the adventure playground. Clambering over the climbing frame, sliding down poles and squeezing through tunnels we tired ourselves out, which meant there was lots of snoozing on the coach journey home! We really enjoyed our trip, and it gave us lots to build on and talk about when we got back to school.





At the seaside!

All three Year 1/2 classes have been learning about the seaside environments this term - so the only sensible choice for their end-of-year trip was a huge outing to the beach!

Having chosen Clacton-on-Sea as our destination, we enjoyed a fabulous day at the seaside with incredible weather and lots of happy smiling faces. We built sandcastles, searched for shells and buried each other in the sand before devouring our packed lunches. In the afternoon, some of us continued building in the sand, while others got out the frisbees and beach balls for some fun games. A few of us were even brave enough to dip our toes in the sea, but as the water wasn't very warm (and to keep everyone safe) we decided not to let the water go above our ankles.

We finished off with ice cream and lollies on the seafront, before heading back to the coach. You could tell how busy our day had been by the number of us who quickly fell asleep on the way home!





Out and about!

Standalone Farm

Caterpillars had a brilliant day out at Standalone Farm in Letchworth. While there, we met the cows, sheep, chickens, pigs and goats, explored the farmland and watched the rabbits and guinea pigs scurry around their pens. We also learnt how cows are milked (practicing on a giant plastic cow), rode on the mini-tractors and had great fun in the play area. It was a great day out and we all behaved excellently, showing how much we have progressed this year.

Celtic Harmony Camp

At the start of June, Years 3 and 4 visited Celtic Harmony Camp in Hertford to support their history topic, which has focussed on life in Ancient Britain.

We took part in a series of activities that helped us to understand what life was like in the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages, building shelters, making bread, shaping tools, moulding pots and exploring the woodlands. We had a great day out and it really helped to bring the past to life!





Y6's PGL Adventure

On 19th June, a group of 34 intrepid Year 6s set-off on this year's PGL expedition. We spent 3 days at the Marchant's Hill centre, trying out a huge range of activities that we would never be able to experience at home.

Over the weekend, we took part in climbing, trapeze, survivor, zip wire, archery and the challenge course - and it was great to so many of us taking on challenges and overcoming fears to make the most of every session. We also discovered lots of hidden talents and abilities that we would love to be able to explore further, with some of us showing expert marksmanship with an archery bow, while others showed amazing agility as they scrambled to the top of the climbing wall.

The other big aim for the weekend was to spend a few nights away from home, without any contact with mums, dads and carers. This was tricky (and a first for many of us), but again it was great to see how we both grew in independence and supported each other while we were away.

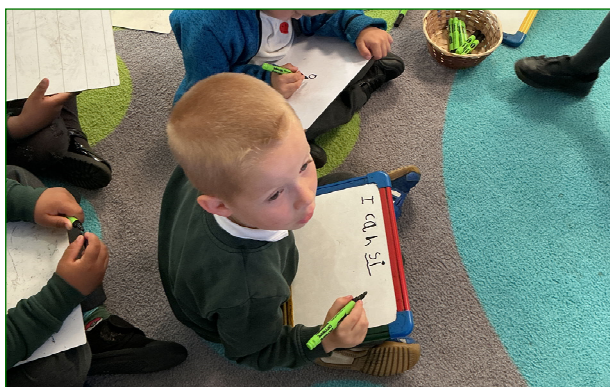


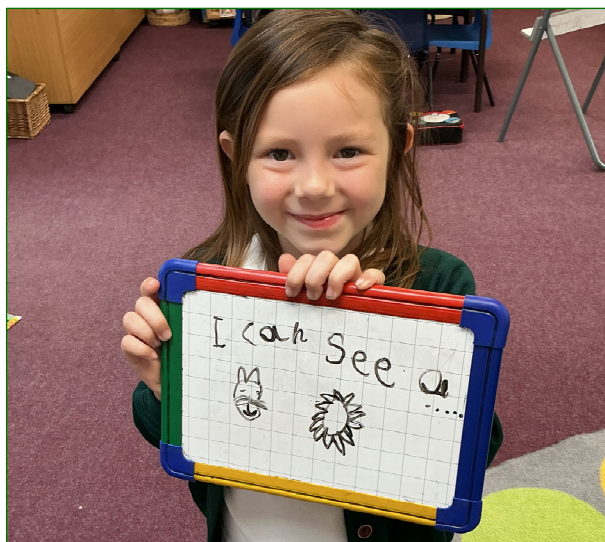


A busy term in Early Years

We've packed a huge amount into the Summer Term in Nursery and Reception. Over the course of the year, it has been brilliant to see how much we have grown in confidence and independence, and we've put that into practice by getting outside and making the most of our final term! We have made huge progress in our writing and counting, threw ourselves into Sports Week activities, planted seeds and watched plants grow, developed our phonics knowledge and become expert problem solvers. We have also got ready for next year with lots of transition events and activities in our new classes.

We rounded-off the term with our end-of-year celebration, when our parents and carers joined us in class. We shared a presentation that reminded us of all the exciting things we have done this year, before making cakes together and showing them all of our favourite areas.





Inspired by *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant*, we wrote our own action-packed adventure stories. We focused on powerful verbs, dramatic moments, and building tension. We produced wonderfully imaginative writing.



Foxes : Suspenseful Stories

In Fox class this term we have worked tirelessly to learn as much as we possibly could in preparation for our big jump to Year 6. We have been learning about suspense in English and the many techniques authors use to create this in their writing. Below you will read a selection of our work. Our stories were based on two books, *The Water Tower* and *The Boy in The Tower*. We hope you enjoy them.

The Caretaker's Shed

"Let's go to that old, abandoned caretakers hut for a laugh!" giggled Tyler.

"Are you sure that's a good idea?" questioned Mason.

"Are you scared?" teased Tyler.

Moments later, the two boys were on their way towards the forest and before long they were totally lost. Hours passed, and a sense of loneliness spread through them like a poison and their stomachs growled. There was nothing they could do but press onwards further into the darkening forest which seemed to grow blacker with each passing minute. The trees towered over them like gravestones and the branches hung down like witches fingers.

"C-c-c-can we go home now?" stuttered Mason. As they continued, a sign hung down from a twisted branch which read: DANGER! Tyler shivered and Mason gulped. The blood vessels in Tyler's eyes popped and sweat began to run down both their backs.

They trembled, but continued as it was too late and too dark to turn back. Tyler dragged Mason onwards until they reached a clearing. The caretakers shed came into view through a thick fog. Ivy clung to the shed walls, the windows were cracked and cobwebs stretched across the splintered roof.

"Are we really going in there?" asked Mason. Just as Tyler was about to reply, a shadow appeared at the window and pointed at them. Behind them a twig snapped...

By Tyler

The Abandoned School

"Shall we go and explore that old school on the far side of the forest? It'll be epic!" suggested Cosmin.

"Are you sure it's safe?" questioned Ava.

"Don't be scared!" barked Cosmin.

Later that day, the two friends started their journey towards the forest. After many hours of walking, they reached the edge of a great forest. A sudden feeling of loneliness swept over them like a tidal wave; they felt as if they were the only people left in the world. Cosmin suddenly took a shaky step forward into the forest. "I-I-I think we should head back now!" said Ava.

Despite Ava's apprehension, they continued into the forest which soon grew darker and thicker. The trees towered over them like skyscrapers, and branches hung like crooked fingers. All around them wind howled making Ava reach out to grab Cosmin's arm. "I-I really want to go home now!" stuttered Ava.

Just then a wooden sign caught their eye. It hung down from a twisted branch and the sign read; DANGER KEEP OUT! Instantly, Ava clawed her nails, digging them deep into her arm. She then froze in terror, her eyes widened and popped like a champagne cork. Salty tears ran down her face.

Cosmin shook Ava and dragged her along by her arm, eventually reaching the abandoned school. When the thick mist cleared they could see shattered glass, and the roof had collapsed in on itself. Thick moss covered every surface. Suddenly two figures appeared at a window then disappeared. At first, Cosmin thought he was hallucinating. He was utterly speechless. Behind them, a tree branch snapped and they both spun around...

By Lira

Maths

Fieldmice

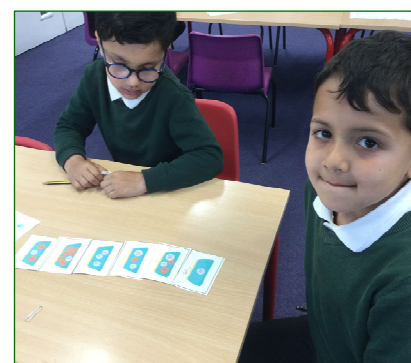
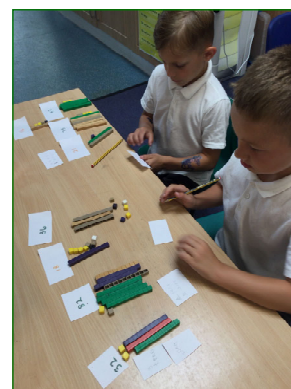
We have been learning about money and the value of coins this term. We have also learnt about halves and quarters, and then used this knowledge to find half and quarter of an amount, shape or turn. We have also explored time and are getting very good at telling the time to the nearest half-hour.

Dormice

We have worked on many skills within maths this term and are now confident counting to 100 and saying what a two digit number is made of. We have learnt about halves and quarters and used this knowledge to say whether a cup is half full, a quarter full or at full capacity.

Owls

In Year 6, once SATs were out of the way our attention turned to problem solving and some practical challenges. We have carried out surveys and presented our findings using pie charts, extended our understanding of algebra, explored nets for complex 3d shapes and investigated scaling by creating a one-tenth scale model of our classroom!





Summer Disco

On the penultimate day of term we held a fantastic Summer disco, celebrating a brilliant year and marking our Year 6's final week at Bedwell. With over 180 children from Years 1-6 coming back to school to join the party, the evening was full of energy, dancing and laughter, as well as a few tears from those of us who will soon be leaving Bedwell and moving onto somewhere new (and bigger). We ate lots of burgers and pizza, we drank too many fizzy drinks, we got our nails painted and we danced energetically around the Hall - all in all, it was a great way to spend an evening!

As a result of all this, we collected £1113 for School Council funds. Combined with the money we have raised from our raffle and discos earlier in the year, this will enable us to buy lots of new games and resources.

Can we all send a massive thank you to the staff who volunteered to give up their time to organise and run the disco, making our brilliant evening possible!





Year 6's final week

What a fantastic final term we've had in Year 6! We've worked together to produce an amazing production of *The Lion King*, took part in Crucial Crew and lots of transition events with our new schools and threw ourselves into Sports Week - and many of us also spent an amazing weekend away at PGL. In between all of that, we completed our SATs - and, while they certainly weren't easy, we gave them our all and secured some super results which showed the amazing progress we have made during our time at Bedwell.

Finally, we rounded-off the year with our Leavers Trip. On Wednesday morning we headed down to the leisure park for a fun bowling session, followed by lunch at Bella Italia. There were lots of laughs and lots of memories shared, and it was a great way to spend our final full day of primary school. We ended the term with an emotional final assembly, reflecting on all that we have achieved during our time at Bedwell and looking forward to the amazing adventures that lie ahead!





Diary Dates

2nd September

Start of term and
My New Year Group
meetings for Y1-Y6

7th September

Autumn Term clubs
start

8th September

Year 5 Swimming
starts

22nd September

SATs meeting for
Year 6 parents

23rd September

School photos

1st October

Foundation Stage
Stay & Play session

6th October

Year 1 phonics
workshop at 2.30pm

7th October

Year 2 Stay & Read
session - 2.30pm

14th October

Parents' Evening

20th October

Year 3 Stay & Read
session - 2.30pm

21st October

Year 4 Stay & Read
session - 2.30pm

22nd October

Halloween Disco
(Years 2-6)

26th - 30th October

Half-term

2nd November

Inset Day

Sports Update

Athletics

In June, our Year 4/5/6 Athletics squad headed to the Stevenage Festival at Ridlins Stadium, where they took on hundreds of other children from schools across town. On the track, Deivis secured an impressive silver medal in a very tough Year 4 400m, but it was in the field where we really excelled, thanks to all of Mr Butler's work on jumping and throwing in our PE lessons. Kaidence won a silver in the Y5/6 javelin, while Hilda won a bronze and Lacey a silver in the howler throw. Most impressive of all, Layla won gold in the Y5/6 girls high-jump. It was a super performance from the whole team, and it was great to see how well everyone supported their teammates and took pride in our collective successes.



Football

May was a busy month for all our football teams, as we hurried to get all of our games played before the end of the season - and after securing points in their final games, both our Year 5/6 Mixed and Year 5/6 Girls teams finished as runners-up in their divisions. Our Year 3/4 team also reached the high point of their season, playing in the Stevenage Schools Tournament, which we hosted at Bedwell. There was some great play from the whole team, and we narrowly missed-out on a place in the semi-finals.

Finally, we also hosted the Stevenage Schools FA end-of-season presentations at Bedwell, with 200 children, parents and carers attending from schools across town. At the presentation, we awarded our 'Players of the Season' and 'Most Improved Player' prizes, with Leo and Chance winning for our A team, Hilda and Kaidence standing out for our Girls team and Avik and Kian taking home the B team awards.

Netball

Our Mixed team finished their season with a series of strong wins, and as a result they finished as runners-up in their league, missing out on the top spot by a single point. Well done to all of our players, who have represented the school brilliantly this year.