Severnbanks Primary School

WHERE STARS SHINE

NEWSLETTER 1

SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome Back!

Dear Families,
A very warm welcome back to all of our pupils, families and staff as we begin another exciting school year together.
I hope you have all enjoyed a restful summer break and have had the opportunity to spend time with family and friends.
We are delighted to open our doors once again and look forward to a fantastic year filled with new opportunities, memorable experiences and lots of learning.
We have made a wonderful start to the term, with children returning to school full of enthusiasm and positivity. It has been a pleasure to see pupils settling quickly into their new classes, building relationships with their teachers and embracing new challenges. Our inspirational assemblies have been a particular highlight, helping children to reflect on our school values, develop a positive mindset and aim high as they begin the year ahead.
The start of a new school year always brings a sense of excitement, and there is so much for us to look forward to.
I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all of our new starters. Whether you are joining us as a pupil, parent or member of staff, we are delighted that you are part of our school community and hope you quickly feel at home.

I want to thank you in advance for your continued support. We are excited to work in partnership with you throughout the year and can't wait to see what our children achieve.
Wishing everyone a wonderful start to the new school year.

Mrs Bradley



Admin corner:

- As we begin the year, I would also like to remind families that ClassDojo will be our main method of communication. Important messages, reminders, celebrations and school updates will be shared through both the Class Story and School Story, so please ensure you are connected and check the app regularly.



Thank you to everyone who has been following the new food guidance and nut awareness approach. It really does help keep everyone safe. If you need a reminder, you can find the document here: https://canva.link/0ybe2rhvfknn6vg

Belonging Ambition Respect Kindness

WHERE STARS SHINE



Attendance Matters

Good attendance from the very start of the school year is vital in helping children settle into routines, build positive relationships and make the most of every learning opportunity. Over the summer, the Department for Education strengthened its attendance guidance, placing an even greater emphasis on the importance of regular school attendance and early intervention where attendance becomes a concern. Every day in school counts, and strong attendance helps children feel confident, connected and ready to succeed. We would like to thank families for their continued support in ensuring children arrive at school on time and ready to learn each day.

Attendance so far

Starlets: 96.06%
Reception: 97.65%
Year 1: 96.27%
Year 2: 95.31%
Year 3: 93.18%
Year 4: 94.57%
Year 5: 93.18%
Year 6: 92.46%

Welcome to our new 'Severnbanks Staff'

We are delighted to welcome several new members of staff to the Severnbanks team this year. If you see them around school, please do say hello and help us give them a very warm Severnbanks welcome as they settle into our school community. 😊

- Miss Lodder: Nursery Teaching Assistant
- Miss Pattinson: EYFS Teacher
- Mrs Bounds: Year 1 Teacher
- Miss Dash-Blythe: Year 3 Teacher
- Miss King: Year 4 Teacher
- Mrs Skelton: Teaching Assistant: Year 4
- Mr Hoggins: Year 6/PPA Teacher
- Mrs Lewis: Speech and Language TA



Key Dates

Autumn Term

Friday 25th September: European Day of Languages
Friday 25th Sep: Crazy Sock day: PTFA event
Friday 9th October: Yellow Mental Health Day
Tuesday 13th Oct: 3.30-6.00pm: Pupil consultation evening
Wednesday 14th Oct: 3.30-6.00pm: Pupil consultation evening
Friday 16th October: Wear an item of red to show racism the red card
Wednesday 21st October: Harvest Festival
22nd and 23rd October: INSET Days
26th-30th October: Half term
Monday 2nd November: Pupils return to school
27th November: Christmas Fair: PTFA Event
18th December: End of the term

Belonging **A**mbition **R**espect **K**indness

Severnbanks Award Winners

We are delighted to begin the new year by celebrating our very first award winners. Our awards recognise children who have made an exceptional start to the school year by demonstrating our values, showing a positive attitude to learning, and being excellent role models for others. One of the highlights of our week is coming together every Friday to celebrate our award winners, and we love welcoming family members to join us as we recognise and share in our pupils' achievements. 🎉

Choosing our first winners was no easy task, and we are incredibly proud of all the children who have settled so well into their new classes.
Congratulations to our Brightest Shining Stars. We look forward to celebrating many more successes as the year progresses! ⭐🌟

Stars that Shine



Doodle Stars

These children all completed the Doodle summer challenge, well done to all of you. The back to school challenge starts soon.



Kindness Cup

Kindness is one of our core school values, and we love catching our children showing care, compassion and consideration for others. We are incredibly proud of our first Kindness Cup winners, who have set a wonderful example of what kindness looks like in our school community. 💛🏆



Belonging Ambition Respect Kindness

A vist form Olympic Coach George Fouche

Last week, we were delighted to welcome Olympic coach George Fouche to school. Pupils enjoyed taking part in a range of engaging workshops designed to inspire confidence, resilience and a positive attitude. George shared his experiences of high-performance sport and encouraged children to set goals, work hard and believe in their own potential. It was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils, and we would like to thank George for delivering such an inspiring and memorable visit. 🏅🌟

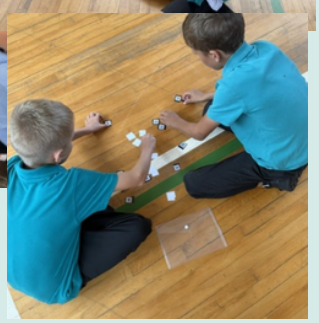












Year 6 Science

Year 6 have been finding out about the circulatory system.



Sports Coach

We are working with Pro Stars to provide high quality PE and afterschool clubs. All children will work with the coach over the coming terms



You Are Not Alone Drop-in

Every 1st Tuesday of the month - 7.00pm - 8.30pm

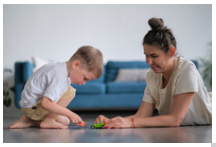
A free monthly online drop-in for parents & carers



The You Are Not Alone community is a friendly and safe space run by Erik & Sally Wagter where you can come and learn about autism & PDA, ask questions, connect with like-minded people or simply listen and learn from other people's conversations.

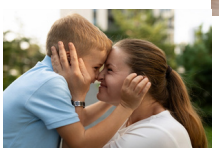
In this community we talk about all sorts of things such as:

- helping your child regulate their emotions & feelings (meltdowns etc)
- understanding autism and PDA
- navigating school and EHCPs
- Supporting your child with friendships
- understanding and managing challenging behaviour
- managing sensory needs
- developing a positive relationship with your child (family dynamics)
- exploring EOTAS or home education
- looking after your wellbeing
- and so much more











Here's what parents have said:

' My husband Jamie was saying that in the last few sessions, he has learned so much more about autism and PDA than he has over the past year - Jo (parent)

'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel and I really do feel less alone and more validated. My hope is back' - Louise (parent

You can request the Zoom link on our website

https://youarenotalone.community or you can send an email to

team@youarenotalone.community

AUTISM FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE

YOU ARE NOT ALONE



Learn to swim

at Freedom Leisure Lydney

Developing confident and competent swimmers through fun and enjoyment

ENQUIRE TODAY!

Freedom Leisure Lydney: **01594 842383**

Church Road, Lydney, GL15 5DZ

Scan the QR code for more information

www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/freedom-leisure-lydney/swimming-lessons

Following the Swim England Learn to Swim Programme

Forest of Dean District Council

We are a Not for Profit Leisure Trust

freedomleisure where you matter

Supported by Gloucestershire Gateway Trust

In partnership with

Gloucestershire Parent Carer Forum

Parent Support Group



For Parent Carers of children with Additional Needs

(With or Without a Diagnosis)

A Friendly and Safe Space
run by Parent Carers, for Parent Carers

Come along to:
Meet other Parent Carers, enjoy a hot drink and a friendly chat, share experiences and find support

📅 When: **The second Monday of every month**
🕒 Time: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
📍 Where: River Children and Family Centre, Naas Ln, Lydney, GL15 5AU

HUMBUG CHASE

OFF-ROAD BIKE RIDE
for 8-12 year olds

Sunday 20th September 2026
Starts at 10:30 a.m.

SPEECH HOUSE FIELD

Near Coleford, Glos
GL16 7EL

- 9 mile route
- 100% off-road
- Riders must be accompanied by an adult



Details at:
fodmbe.org.uk


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Limited places for children and young people facing challenges
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An exclusive opportunity for children and young people facing challenges to take the controls of a real British Airways A350 simulator with BA pilots.
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BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!
BRITISH AIRWAYS
Pied Piper Appeal


NEW EVENT!
BRICK PIRATE TRAIL; 17, 19 & 20 SEPTEMBER, 10AM
PIRATES & PIZZA; 18 SEPTEMBER, 4-8PM
For more information and to book, visit www.perrygrove.co.uk/events
BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND BOOK NOW
The Perrygrove Railway Adventure
www.perrygrove.co.uk/events

Things to do


Lydney Town Band
Celebration Concert 2026
Lydney Town Hall
Sunday 18th October
Featuring Lydney Training Band
World Premieres | Lydney Starter Group | Massed Band Finale
Doors 5:00pm Start 5:30pm
Adults £8 Concessions £5
Under 5s: Free
Pay on the door (Cash or Card)
Raffle | Refreshments
For more information:
lydneyband@gmail.com
www.lydneyband.co.uk
@lydneyband
Kerry: 07554 540469


Forest Music Centre
Restarts Tuesday 22nd September 6:30-8:30
St Whites School
Cinderford
www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk
glosmusic@gloucestershire.gov.uk
01452 427742