The Great Oak CE Learning Federation

Autumn Term 2026
Friday 13th November 2026

Betley CE Primary School

'With Wisdom, Respect and Love we Flourish and Shine'

Our Vision

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*(Matthew 5:14-16)*

A Fantastic Effort from Our School Football Team!

Last week, our school football team took part in a fantastic football tournament at Keele University.

The team had a brilliant day, scoring a record number of goals and showing just how much talent, determination and teamwork they have! Every player gave their all, putting their football skills into practice, supporting one another and working brilliantly together throughout the tournament.

Although they narrowly missed out on 1st place, they should be incredibly proud of what they achieved. Their effort, sportsmanship and team spirit were fantastic to see.

A huge well done to every player who took part. You represented our school brilliantly, and we are so proud of you all!

Remembrance Service

On Wednesday, the whole school had the privilege of taking part in a memorial service in the Memorial Garden.

We feel incredibly fortunate to be invited to participate in special events such as these within our local community. It is so important for our children to understand the significance of remembrance and the value of coming together as a community.

As always, the children represented our school beautifully, showing great respect, thoughtfulness and maturity throughout the service.

Keeping Our Children Safe

This week, we have been talking with the children about how to keep safe if something unfamiliar or unexpected happens on our playground. Through class discussions and assembly, the children have been learning how to respond calmly and safely, asking some thoughtful questions along the way.

We have also been practising what to do in different situations, with further activities planned to build their confidence and understanding.

This learning forms part of our ongoing commitment to keeping everyone safe. We will revisit these procedures regularly, just as we do with our fire drills, to ensure all children know what to do.

We are very proud of the children's sensible approach and positive engagement. Their safety and wellbeing are always our priority.



Star of the Week

Marvellous Minibeasts	Huxley & Isabella
Fabulous Flamingos	Alfie & Angus
Perfect Penguins	William, Darcy & Harry J
Cheeky Chimps	Alfie, Cody and Persephone

Christian Value Certificate

Marvellous Minibeasts	Teddy
Fabulous Flamingos	Robyn
Perfect Penguins	Jacob
Cheeky Chimps	Will

Attendance

Marvellous Minibeasts	95%
Fabulous Flamingos	96%
Perfect Penguins	96%
Cheeky Chimps	98%

Achievements outside of school

If your child takes part in an activity whether it be sports, helping animals or volunteering and you would like to celebrate this, please email me on: office@betley.staffs.sch.uk

Ifly-Andre
Swimming-Andre
Irish Dancing- Elias & Juniper
Football- Harry J
Dancing- Marloe and Alba

Maths Stars of the Week!

It is wonderful to see so many children engaging with NumBots and Times Tables Rock Stars at home and developing their maths skills!
A huge well done to Louis, Jack, Grace and Evelyn who are our Star Students this week! We are so proud of your hard work and dedication.
Keep practising, everyone and let's see who will be our stars next week!

WOW – Walk to School Challenge!

We are now into our third month of the WOW scheme, and we are excited to keep encouraging our children to make healthier, greener journeys to school!
WOW is a fantastic initiative that promotes active travel and sustainability, while empowering our young leaders to make positive changes for the environment.
Children in Years 1–6 have the opportunity to earn a badge each month by walking, scooting or cycling to school. This doesn't have to be the whole journey – even walking part of the way counts!
If you travel to school by car, you can still get involved by parking at one of our designated Park and Stride locations and walking the rest of the way:

- Cricket Club
- Village Hall
- The Swan

Our fantastic WOW Class Ambassadors play an important role too! At the end of each month, they collect the class travel data ready for us to celebrate everyone's efforts and award the monthly badges. Every little step makes a difference! Let's see how many children can earn their next WOW badge and help make our school community healthier and greener.

FOBS Events

Saturday 28th November- Christmas Markets
Thursday 3rd December – Wreath Making
Monday 7th December- EYFS and KS1 Tea with Santa
Saturday 12th December- Santa Float Collection
Monday 14th December- KS2 Christmas Bingo Extravaganza



Makaton sign of the Week

Each week we'll be sharing a new Makaton sign that the children are learning in school. Please ask your child to show you the sign—they'll love teaching you what they've learned! What is Makaton? Makaton is a way of communicating that uses simple signs and symbols alongside speech. It helps children (and adults) to understand and express themselves, especially if they find language tricky. You may have seen Makaton being used on TV, in hospitals, or in other schools—it helps make communication more inclusive for everyone. By learning Makaton together, we're giving all our children an extra tool to support understanding, confidence, and inclusion. This week it is the word: Wednesday- Saturday

Betley CofE (VC) Primary School - Days of the week

Class Dojo Task

❤️ Jesus Welcomes the Children ❤️

📖 Mark 10:13–16

When people brought children to Jesus, the disciples tried to stop them. Jesus welcomed the children, blessed them and showed that each one mattered.

🎨 Your task: Draw a picture of Jesus welcoming the children. Add the words "Everyone is welcome!"

✏️ Write one way you can help another child feel welcome at school.

💭 Think about: How can we show respect and make sure everyone feels included?

Let's help everyone feel valued and part of our school family! ⭐

4th	**3rd**
2nd	**1st**

Saturday 28th November 2026	**Tuesday 1st December 2026**	**Sunday 6th December 2026**
Christmas Fayre 11am – 2pm Betley Village Hall	Christmas Tree Service 2pm St Margaret's Church (All parents are invited)	Christingle 4pm

Musician of the month

This month, we are learning about the incredibly talented Sir Elton John, a famous British singer, pianist and composer! Born Reginald Kenneth Dwight on 25th March 1947, Elton John grew up in Middlesex, England, and discovered a love of music from a young age. He is well known for his amazing piano skills, distinctive voice and colourful, flamboyant stage costumes. Elton John has enjoyed a music career spanning over six decades and has become one of the most successful musicians in the world. He is famous for hit songs such as *Rocket Man*, *Your Song*, *I'm Still Standing* and *Candle in the Wind*. He worked closely with lyricist Bernie Taupin, who wrote the words to many of his songs, while Elton composed the music. Together, they created one of the most successful songwriting partnerships in music history! Throughout this month, we will explore Elton John's music, listen carefully to his songs and discover how he uses his voice, piano and musical expression to entertain audiences around the world.

Our song for next week is:

The March of the Women by Ethel Smyth

Our School Prayer

Let our school be full of love and respect for one another,
Let us have the wisdom to understand our place and flourish as part of God's creation
But the courage to make the world a better place
With the help of your love may we shine
Ame

Snacks

Children order snacks on a Monday for the week. If your child is absent on Monday they will be able to order on their return to school.

Snacks

Toast	38p
Toast with Jam	44p
Toast with Cheese	49p
Bagel	38p
Crumpet	38p
Toasted Teacake	49p
Pancakes	49p
Flavoured Milkshakes	82p

Lunches

To go alongside the daily menu below, there is also Hot Tomato Pasta, Jacket Potatoes with Baked Beans/Cheese and a variety of sandwiches every day.

Lunches are £3.25 per day
Monday: Superhero Pizza with Paprika & Garlic Potatoes
Veg option: Sunshine Sweet Potato Curry with Rice
Tuesday: Penne with Garden Bolognese
Veg option: Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy
Wednesday: Beef Mince Loaded Yorkshire with Roasties
Veg option: Loaded Yorkshire with Roasties
Thursday: Golden Chicken Curry with Lemon Rice
Veg option: Mac & Cheese
Friday: Fish Fingers with Chips
Veg option: Crispy Garden Fingers with Chips

Parents' Ultimate Guide to Smart Devices

Are smart speakers OK for kids? Should you buy smart home technology? What are the benefits of smart devices and what are the privacy and security risks?

More than six in 10 parents say their young kids interact with voice-activated assistants. Are you one of them? If you're **weighing the pros and cons** of products such as smart watches, smart speakers, and even smartphones that track pretty much everything you do, read this guide that tells you everything you need to know about smart stuff for families.



This guide tells you all about smart devices -- what they are, **what they can do for you and your family**, **how to use them as safely as possible**, and how to protect your family's privacy in a world increasingly powered by data.

https://www.commonsensemedia.org/articles/parents-ultimate-guide-to-smart-devices

Important Dates

Saturday 28th November 2026	Christmas Fayre 11-2pm Village Hall
Tuesday 1st December 2026	Christmas Tree Service 2pm St Margaret's Church (All parents are invited)

Sunday 6th December 2026	Christingle 4pm
Thursday 10th December 2026	EYFS/KS1 Nativity 1.30pm and 5pm
Thursday 17th December 2026	Key Stage 2 Drama Club Nativity 1.30pm and 5pm
Friday 18th December 2026	School closes for Christmas
Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027	Christmas Holidays
Monday 4th January 2027	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 5th January 2027	School opens
Wednesday 20th January 2027	Cheeky Chimps' Class Assembly and SATs information 9:15am and Cake Sale
Wednesday 20th January 2027	Whole school water safety assembly 1pm
Thursday 28th January 2027	Young Voices
Friday 29th January 2027	Half Termly Reports
Wednesday 3rd February 2027	Perfect Penguins' Class Assembly 9:15am and Cake Sale (Also meeting regarding MTC)
Thursday 4th February 2027	'Zoo 2 U' visiting Class 1 & Class 2 in school
Friday 5th February 2027	Timetables Rockstar Day
Wednesday 10th February 2027	Class 2 – Stafford Castle trip
Friday 12th February 2027	School Closes for Half Term
Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027	Half Term
Monday 22nd February 2027	INSET (school closed)
Tuesday 23rd February 2027	School Opens
Thursday 4th March 2027	World Book Day Celebrations
Friday 5th March 2027	Reports out
Monday 8th March 2027	Parental Meeting go live on Compass
Tuesday 9th March 2027	Fabulous Flamingos' Class Assembly 9:15am and Cake Sale (Also meeting Phonics Screening)
Thursday 11th March 2027	Class 2 – Eureka Museum Trip
Wednesday 17th March 2027	Class 4 – Tatton Park Trip
Friday 19th March 2027	Odd Sock Day – no donation needed. World Down Syndrome Day 'End the stereotypes'
Monday 1st March & Wednesday 3rd March 2027	Parental Meetings (invites sent out via compass)
Thursday 25th March 2027	School closes for Easter Holidays

Friday 26th March – Sunday 11th April 2027	School closed for Easter holidays
Monday 12th April 2027	School opens
Wednesday 21st April 2027	Class 2 – Fire Safety Visit in School
Thursday 22nd April 2027	M&M theatre productions in school
Wednesday 28th April 2027	Marvellous Minibeasts' Class Assembly 9:15am and Cake Sale
Friday 30th April 2027	Photos - Y6 Leavers & Classes
Wednesday 5th May 2027	Class 1 – Wonderland Trip
Monday 10th May 2027	SATS week
Monday 17th May 2027	Cheeky Chimps- Keele Observatory 1:30pm- 3pm
Wednesday 26th May 2027	Sports Day 1:15pm
Friday 28th May 2027	School closes for Half Term
Monday 7th June 2027	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 8th June 2027	School Opens
Wednesday 9th June 2027	Reserve Sports Day 1:15pm
Friday 11th June 2027	Non-uniform Day for Summer Fayre
Monday 14th June 2027 – Thursday 17th June 2027	Residential for Key Stage 2
Thursday 1st July 2027	Musical Celebration 2pm (All parents are welcome)
Thursday 8th July 2027	Prom and Disco 6-8pm
Wednesday 14th July 2027	1.30pm and 5:30pm Year 6 Leavers Play
Friday 16th July 2027	Reports out
Tuesday 20th July 2027	Leavers' Assembly 9:15am
Tuesday 20th July 2027	School closes for Summer Holidays
Wednesday 21st July 2027	INSET Day (School closed to pupils)