



## Headteacher Newsletter – Spring 2

Dear pupils and parents,  
**Welcome back!**

We hope you all had a lovely break and enjoyed some well-earned family time. It's been wonderful to see the children return to school refreshed, happy, and ready for the new half term ahead. We have lots of exciting learning planned over the coming weeks.

Diary Dates (Please watch Dojo for updates):

<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ash & Willow sports afternoon with Aiden
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	PTFA Spring Disco
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Willow Netball (HVC)
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	World Book Day & Book Fair (3:15)
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Book Fair (8:30)
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Easter Extravaganza
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Last Day of Term
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Back to school – Swimming lessons start for Ash

### Staffing Update

As you know, Carol Stoddart has now retired. I know that you will join us in wishing her the very best for the future.

With Carol's leaving, we have reviewed the business administration needs for the Federation and have taken this opportunity to restructure. I'm sure that you will provide a very warm 'Bamford welcome' to Mrs Ibbotson as she takes on the leadership of a new business and admin team. Beccy has worked alongside Carol, leading the admin at Grindleford. She will continue to be based largely at Grindleford but will also be a regular visitor to Bamford. She will be responsible for the strategic planning for the Federation and will work closely with new starter Miss Clarkson (Lauren). We are delighted to introduce you to Miss Clarkson, our new school business officer. She will be based at Bamford, undertaking the day-to-day administration for Bamford. Lauren is new to working in schools, please be gentle and understanding – she has a lot to learn but she does have very experienced support from Beccy.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Kay as Teaching Assistant providing extra support to Mrs Coulson in Oak Class.

I'm sure you will join us in giving a very warm welcome to all 3 new staff members on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

### Home-School Agreement

Following our Home–School Agreement really helps us all pull in the same direction for your child. It's simply a way of making sure we're all clear on the routines, expectations and values that help children feel settled, supported and ready to learn. When home and school work together, everything runs smoothly – behaviour is more consistent, communication is easier, and children get the message that we're all cheering them on. Thank you for taking the time to read and follow the agreement, it genuinely makes a big difference to your child's day-to-day experience in school. As always, we really appreciate your support and partnership. Once you have read it, please complete this form [Bamford Primary School Home School Agreement – Fill in form](#)

### Mobile phones

Bamford Primary is 'Phone Free'. Pupils are not permitted to bring mobile phones or other electronic devices (such as tablets and smart watches) with them to school. However, we recognise that some pupils and their families may rely on mobile phones as a safety measure where children travel to and from school independently or when moving between dual homes. Where this is the case, pupils must ensure mobile phone is switched off and handed over to the class teacher on arrival to school. The mobile phone will be stored in a secure place and returned to the child at the end of the day. We request that you support us with this by sending a dojo message to class teachers informing them that your child has brought a phone in to school and by limiting the occasions mobile devices come into school as much as possible.

### Book Fair



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The popular school bookfair will be running to coincide with World Book Day.

Your World Book Day tokens can be used at the fair. We have spare tokens! Payment by card only.

### Easter “Egg-stravaganza”

Our hugely popular Easter Egg decorating competition and Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Parents will be welcome to watch the fun from 2:30pm. Tea, coffee and hot cross buns will be served.

All children are invited to enter the Easter Egg Competition and entries need to be brought into school on the morning of Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Entry is £1.00 per child entering.

- You need to decorate an egg (hard-boiled or blown please!) in whatever way you wish!
- Maximum size of design to be a shoe box size.
- Prizes will be awarded per class and a small token gift for every entry.
- Judges tip: try to make it as much of the children’s work as possible.

In the afternoon we will hold our Easter egg hunt. Children hunt for up to 3 egg pictures which they can they exchange for a small prize.

### PTFA

Our wonderful PTFA chair, Bonnie, is stepping down this year and we thank her for the dedication and enthusiasm that she has brought to the role.

For the PTFA to continue we need new parents step forward, especially those with children in the younger year groups who will be at the school for the next few years.

The PTFA doesn’t have to be a huge time commitment. It’s simply a small group of parents helping to run events that bring the school community together and raise money for things that benefit every child. If you’re interested (even just for a quick chat or to shadow), please contact Bonnie (Skyla’s mum).

### Earrings

Our policy of jewellery in school- Children should not be wearing any jewellery in school at any time except for small stud earrings. In PE lessons, we have adopted the Association for Physical Education guidelines which state that earrings should be removed for all PE lessons.

### After school Clubs

We have continued the clubs into this half term. Please message if your child would like to join a club, or if they do not wish to continue with their clubs this term.

### Nut Allergies

We have a confirmed allergies in school. We would like to remind you that we aim to be a nut-free school. Please refrain from sending nuts into school. This includes peanut butter, chocolate spread, and cereal bars.

### Online Safety

If you have any concerns about your child’s online safety The Peak Federation lead is Mrs Gemmell she can be contacted directly by email at [gemmell\\_k@bamford.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:gemmell_k@bamford.derbyshire.sch.uk).

### 2026-2027 School Term Dates

4th September 2026 to 23rd October 2026

2nd November 2026 to 18th December 2026

4th January 2027 to 12th February 2027

22nd February 2027 to 25th March 2027

12th April 2027 to 28th May 2027 (Monday 3rd May 2027 is a bank holiday)

7th June 2027 to 26th July 2027

### 2026-2027 INSET Days (School Closed)

Friday 4th September 2026 (School closed to children, all staff in training)

Friday 23rd October 2026

Friday 12th February 2027

Friday 28th May 2027

Monday 26th July 2027



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Kind regards,  
Jen Chapman, Deputy Headteacher and Kate Gemmell, Executive Headteacher