


Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary and Nursery School
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Bunbury Primary School Calendar 2026

March 30th Year 6 London Trip

April 2nd – Easter Service 10.00am St Boniface Church

April 3rd - Easter Experience from 2pm - 4pm in school hall open to parents and community

Break up for Spring Break - Thursday 2nd April

RETURN TO SCHOOL - SUMMER 1 Monday 20th April

April 22nd - Online safety workshops with DC Andrew Kevan for KS2

April 22nd - Online safety workshop with DC Andrew Kevan for parents 5-6pm

Year 3 residential - 5th - 6th May

11th - 14th May SATS week year 6

May 21st. - Sports Day. - whole school

Break up for Wht Break - Friday 22nd May

INSET Day Monday 1st June - Staff only

RETURN TO SCHOOL - SUMMER 2 Tuesday 2nd June

June 4th - Sports Day Reserve - whole school

Year 6 Conway residential - 15th 17th June

Year 4 and 5 residential - Wed 1st July - Friday 3rd July

School FEST - Monday 6th - Friday 10th July

STAR day - Wednesday 15th July 2pm - 5pm

17th July - End of year service for Year 6 - St Boniface Church 10.30am

Holiday Dates for academic Year 2026/2027 have now been approved and our on the school website using the following link.

<https://www.bunburyaldersey.cheshire.sch.uk/page/holiday-dates/2416>

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” **Matthew. 5:16**

Dear Parents and carers

I can't believe we are at the end of the Spring term and the Easter break is just around the corner. It has been a fantastic half term in school and our children as always have risen to the challenges not just academically but also through the enrichment activities they have taken part in.

Tomorrow Mrs Smith and I along with a number of other adults will be taking our Year 6 children to London for our annual leavers visit. As part of the day we will be exploring the globe theatre, taking part in a workshop and then visiting Haberdasher Hall. It is always a fantastic day and a fitting end to their time at Bunbury School. Mrs Smith look forward to seeing all our travellers bright and early at Crewe Station tomorrow!

On Wednesday I had the delight of accompanying our Year 5 class to Kelsall Methodist Chapel for our Easter Hope Journey experience. Our children were an absolute credit to the school during their visit to the Hope Journey Easter event. They were exceptionally well behaved throughout and acted as wonderful ambassadors, demonstrating kindness, respect and enthusiasm. Their knowledge and understanding of the Easter story was truly impressive, and all staff and volunteers commented on how engaged and thoughtful they were. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.



The week ended with a fantastic Easter Bingo event organised by our fabulous Friends of Bunbury fundraising team. Mrs Ehlen took charge of the bingo calling and did an amazing job adding music, glow sticks and confetti canons to the evening! A great time was had by all. A huge thank you to all who supported and helped as we continue to raise money for our playtime development project.

You may have already spotted the vibrant new playground game markings appearing at the start and end of the school day which have already been purchased from the money raised from our Friends of Bunbury events. These are an exciting first step in our wider plan to enrich playtime experiences for all our children. The markings are designed not only to brighten the playground but also to encourage active, imaginative and cooperative play. We know that purposeful play has a significant impact on children's wellbeing, confidence and ability to build friendships, and these new additions are already helping to create more engaging opportunities during breaktimes.

Later in the year, we will be taking this work even further as we embark on the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) project. This nationally recognised programme is used in many schools to support the development of social skills, collaboration, resilience and problem-solving through high-quality unstructured play. Unfortunately, unstructured play is something many children—both here in Bunbury and more widely are finding increasingly more difficult. Through OPAL, we aim to transform the way playtimes are organised and experienced, ensuring every child has the chance to feel included, confident and inspired during their time outdoors.

A huge and heartfelt thank you goes to our wonderful Friends of Bunbury fundraising group. Their ongoing commitment, energy and generosity have made the installation of our new playground markings possible and future money will go towards the setting up of OPAL. We are incredibly grateful for

everything they do to support the school and enrich the experiences of all our pupils. These improvements are just the beginning, and we look forward to sharing more developments with you as our playtime transformation continues.



Online Safety and workshops

You may have seen the recent news and guidance regarding young children and the use of digital devices. As a school, we have long highlighted the impact that excessive screen time can have on children's development, so it is positive to see this now being recognised nationally. Research continues to show that extended, fast-paced screen use can influence dopamine levels, which in turn affects children's ability to focus, regulate their emotions, and engage in meaningful play when away from devices. We are increasingly noticing that when children are not surrounded by high-stimulus digital content, they can find it more challenging to concentrate or persevere with activities that require patience or imagination. This new guidance reinforces the importance of supporting healthy screen-time habits both at home and in school, helping our children to grow into confident, curious and resilient learners.

As a school we take our role on providing education for children and parents extremely seriously and want to provide all with the necessary information to parent and grow up in a society where technology is so widely used.

We remain fully committed to educating all pupils about the importance of staying safe online, as this is an essential part of our safeguarding work and the computing curriculum. We are increasingly aware that many children in Years 5 and 6 and in some cases even younger now have access to mobile phones or other internet-enabled devices. While we continue to support the Smartphone Free Childhood movement and strongly advocate for age-appropriate access, we also recognise that the decision about when a child receives a device is ultimately a parental one. However, when children are given devices at a young age, difficulties can sometimes arise, often linked to messaging apps, group chats, gaming platforms and online content – and these issues frequently spill over into school. We kindly ask all parents to remain vigilant, monitor what your child is accessing, and regularly check the messages they are sending and receiving.

Currently messaging and online gaming whether that on I Pads, Phones, PS5's etc continue to cause friction in our children's lives and this more often than not comes into school where that friction continues. We politely ask that if parents have permitted their children to have these devices that they are checked regularly for appropriate use and monitored frequently.

Although we cannot dictate when children enter the online and messaging world, we can ensure they are educated to use it safely and responsibly.

To support this, we have arranged for PC Andrew Kevan to visit school on **Wednesday 22nd April** to deliver online-safety workshops for pupils, staff and parents. I would strongly encourage all parents to attend, especially those with children in Key Stage 2 or those whose children have access to the online world through mobile phones, iPads or gaming platforms.

authorised unless there are *exceptional circumstances*. These may include serious illness or bereavement of a close family member, or a parent returning from military service. Family holidays, birthdays, or travel due to cost or convenience do not meet the criteria for exceptional set by the Department for Education. Holidays taken in term time will be subject to a fine.

Regular attendance is essential for your child's learning and development, and unauthorised absences which lead to persistent absence may also result in a fixed penalty notice. Attendance less than 90% is classified as persistent. We appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends school consistently and benefits fully from their education.

Staffing news

As you will be aware Mrs Colbourne Payne has been absent from work during the spring term. I know a lot of parents have passed on their best wishes and wished her a speedy recovery. Sadly Mrs Colbourne Payne has decided that she will not be returning to work and will be stepping down from her teaching post from Easter. I am sure you will join me in wishing her well and thanking her for all she has done during her time at Bunbury school. Mr Robinson will continue to teach the Year 1 class full time until the end of the academic year.

I do appreciate that there have been a number of changes this year in school with staffing and I thank you for your patience and support whilst we have navigated the changes. After Easter I will be in a position to share with you the staffing structure for September 2026. The over - riding priority has been consistency and stability for the children moving forward. Thank you for your continued support

Easter

As we look towards Easter there are a number of events taking place. **On Thursday 2nd April our children will be leading our annual Easter worship at St Boniface church, 10.00am.** All the children from Reception to Year 6 will take part in the worship and the service is open to any parent, carer, grandparent or family member who would like to join us.

If any parent or carer is able to accompany us in walking the children to church your support would be very much appreciated. Seats will be reserved for any walkers and we will be leaving school at 9am.

On Friday 3rd April we will be opening the school hall for our Easter Experience. Our school warmly invites families, friends, and the wider community to join us from 2-4pm, for our Easter Experience Interactive Display Afternoon. This special event offers a thoughtful and engaging opportunity to explore the Easter story through interactive displays by the children and child-friendly reflection activities, all designed to create a calm, welcoming space for reflection and togetherness. Everyone is welcome, and we would love to see you there as we share in this meaningful celebration of the Easter season.

Let your Light Shine

I am always very proud to hear about how children allow their lights to shine outside of school and last weekend several of our pupils took part in a dance show in Birmingham. The children looked amazing and



thoroughly enjoyed their experience of dancing to a larger audience. Well done girls we are all very proud of you.

Health and Safety

As you will have seen from walking into school we have needed to take action regarding our sandstone wall. Our site maintenance team have worked hard over the years ensuring that any loose stones are fixed and put back in place asap. However, this continues to be an ongoing process with children climbing and walking on the wall. The wall has not got to the stage where a number of stones have been loosened and more extensive work needs to be completed. Please can we ask parents and carers politely not to let children walk or climb on the wall once fixed.

Mrs Badger's Weekly Awards

We have now been awarding children with different Christian values for a while based on the half termly focus value. We will still be working on a half termly value within school and this term we will be focusing on : **Forgiveness**. Now that the children have a deeper understanding of our Christian Values we will be asking them to help choose a child from their class each week. This could be in recognition for any value we have been working on in school. There were no awards this week in school due no celebration worship on Friday.

Christian Value Award

Reception - **Fern** - For being respectful and being able to explain why this is important.

Year 1 - **Wilf** - For being a kind and considerate friend.

Year 2 - **Teddy** - For being kind, respectful and helpful to others.

Year 3 - **Ina** - For always being kind. She also values honesty.

Year 4 - **Albert** - For showing respectful behaviour in the classroom and always trying his best.

Year 5 - **Harvey** - For his kindness to all his peers. He is always looking out for other people.

Year 6 - **Evelyn** - For helping her friends to learn their lines for the Easter service.

Head Teachers Star of the Week Award

Reception - **Ned** - For amazing all the adults in Reception with his fantastic writing.

Year 1 - **Fifi and Arthur** - For their amazing writing.

Year 2 - **Alice R** - For an amazing start to her final writing piece.

Year 3 - **Oliver** -For excellent vocabulary when planning our information text.

Year 4 - **Arthur**- For his excellent effort with his writing this week! Well done Arthur!.

Year 5 - **Lachlan and Arthur** -For their positive attitude and engagement during our trip to Kelsall Methodist Church.

Year 6 - **Marcie** - For a great start to her Gothic Narrative - very chilling!

PE Award

The **year 3 and 4 Cross Country team** for a fantastic performance!

A huge well done to our team who represented the school at THS this week. Mr Friel not only reported on your fantastic performance but also your approach and support to each other and the event. Well done we are all very proud of you.

Sporting News

IT Awards

Year 4

Bronze - Bronte & Emilia

Silver - Ralph

Gold - Dotty

Champion - Raphy, Lily D, Aelwen Isobel B

MyMaths Awards

Year 4 - Arthur, Isobel, Lucy, Aelwen, Lily D, Raff, Albert, William, Elsie, Ellie and Alyssia

Year 6 - Mia, Ben, Isla, Ayla, Jonty, Freya, Molly, Marcie and Daisy

Have a fantastic weekend from all of the Bunbury Team and I look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday.

Nic Badger

Colouring Competition

We were delighted to be support Mrs Warriner and Signature Property Partners with this year's Easter Colouring Competition. The competition will ran from 2nd March to 27th March and on Friday the winners of the competition were announced during worship. Well done all some great entries.





A warm and friendly group for you and your little one to meet and make friends in your local area.

WEDNESDAYS
9.30-11.30am (term time)
Bunbury Village Hall

Parents, Carers & Grandparents are all welcome

Email us for more info:
bunburytoddlergroup@gmail.com

Toys, Puzzles, Books, Kite-ons, Balls, Cars, Dressing-up, Crafts, Sing Along, Baby Corner, Snack Time

Find us on facebook:
Bunbury Cheshire, Babies and Toddlers

Email us for more info: bunburytoddlergroup@gmail.com

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LET'S GET IN TOUCH TODAY

LUCY.WARRNER@SOKAYLIFE.CO.UK
07834988874



SEND Drop Ins

SEND 0-19+ health practitioners (On behalf of health visitor/school nursing services Cheshire East) for parents of children & Young people for support, signposting and guidance with all SEND-related issues and helping to understand why your child may be struggling and ideas that may help. Think your child may have SEND and not sure where to go or what to do? Need support around toileting, sleep, behaviour or development – feel free to drop in for a chat?? You will be seen on a 1-1 basis, and there is no need to bring your child.

March 2026

Wed 11th March 1-3 pm Congleton Family Hub (appts only)

Monday 16th March 10-11 am Oakenclough Family Hub (appts only)

Tuesday 17th March 9.15-12.15 am Nantwich Children's Centre (appts only)

Wed 18th March 1.30-2.30 pm Alsager Library (drop in)

Friday 20th March 1-2.30 pm Knutsford Children's Centre (drop in)

To book an appointment:

At Congleton, Ash Grove or Oakenclough, email startforlifeforth@cheshireeast.gov.uk.

At Monks Coppenhall and Nantwich call 01270 371240.

"the opportunity to learn an instrument offers something very special that can last a lifetime"



SUPPORTING
CONNECTING
INFLUENCING



INSPIRE | CREATE | PERFORM

Dear Parent/Carer,

Big news! Instrumental and Singing lessons are available with Music for Life at school, and your child could be part of something amazing.

At Music for Life, we believe music should be **inspiring, accessible and fun**. That's why we provide outstanding tutors who deliver weekly lessons, individually or in small groups, to help your child discover the joy of music and develop a lifelong passion.

Your child can choose from a wide range of instruments (including voice) and, when they join Music for Life, they'll unlock incredible opportunities: ensembles, theory classes, workshops, performances and more!

With over 30 years of experience, we know how to make learning music exciting and rewarding. Our dedicated team ensures everything runs smoothly so your child feels supported every step of the way.

Here's what you need to know:

- Weekly 20 or 30 minute lessons in school, individual or small group
- Lessons start from just £29.95 per month (pupil premium subsidies available)
- Access to our multi award winning, not-for-profit organisation that invests in students through performances, ensembles, tutor training and workshops
- Easy instrument purchase through one of our partners such as 'Gear 4 Music' or hire with Musical Instrument Hire.

Booking is simple: visit our [online portal](#), complete your details, and we'll confirm lesson times with one of our fantastic tutors. For more info, check out our e-guide and website for advice on choosing an instrument, up-to-date fees, and all the extra Music for Life magic.

We can't wait to help your child start their musical journey. If you have any questions, email us at info@musicforlife.org.uk.

"Music is the soundtrack to life - let your child start playing their part!"

To begin lessons in the summer term, complete the booking form on our portal by 31st March accessed via our website, www.musicforlife.org.uk

All the very best,

Dan Gooch-Peters
Managing Director

Music for Life is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee.
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DT SOCCER CAMP
Tuesday 14th April
Wednesday 15th April
Thursday 16th April

9:00 / 9:30 DROP OFF
3PM PICK UP

£25 ONE DAY
£50 TWO DAYS
£70 THREE DAYS

**FOR CHILDREN IN
SCHOOL YEARS 2 - 8**



**PLEASE GET IN TOUCH IF YOU WISH TO RESERVE A
PLACE -**

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