Bowerham News – Autumn 1 2026

'Stand tall, reach high, love learning' *Friday 23/10/26*



Year 6 enjoying the beach after a busy afternoon sightseeing in the beautiful town of Le Touquet during their recent five-day residential to France and Belgium at the start of the new school year.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to my first newsletter as Associate Headteacher at Bowerham. It has been lovely getting to know the children, staff, parents and governors over the last eight weeks. Bowerham is an amazing school and truly lives and breathes its motto of '***Stand tall, reach high, love learning***'.

In this edition, I will celebrate the wide-ranging experiences provided this half-term as well as provide some important updates for next half-term.

I will be continuing to support the senior leadership team and governors after the October break and will be based in school most Mondays and Thursdays. Wishing you a restful and enjoyable half-term holiday. Stay safe during the storms and if attending any firework shows.

Mr Smith – Associate Headteacher





Today, was our first **Pupil Leadership Team** meeting. The children met with Mr Smith and they showed great curiosity and confidence as they asked about Mr Smith's hobbies, where he went to school and his reasons for becoming a teacher.

The children also shared fantastic ideas for developing our school and they reflected on the exciting opportunities they have already experienced in their council roles. We can't wait to see the positive impact they will have this year and the difference they will make across our school community

Poppy Appeal



Poppies will be on sale at the junior and infant gates to raise funds for the Royal British Legion leading up to Remembrance Day on Wed 11th Nov when we pay respect to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Home Reading & Homework

Leaders have reviewed home reading, homework and the use of online platforms with input from staff, children and parents. We are currently ordering lots of new home reading books to ensure we have high-quality and engaging texts for children to enjoy at home and help to foster a love of reading. This significant investment will be in part funded by the cancellation of our subscriptions to Showbie and Bug Club which we initially purchased during the Covid pandemic to support remote learning.



New **reading records** have also been ordered for every child with the centre pages providing useful helps and prompts to support the learning of phonics, spellings and grammatical terminology. We would encourage families to use a new page for each school week and record when you have read at home with any notes concerning vocabulary and your child's enjoyment of their book. At the bottom of each page, there is a box for weekly spellings we encourage your child to learn these at home.

Daily **home reading** will continue to be our priority, and we will be reviewing the texts available to the juniors. Parents and children should start to see new books being sent home in the coming weeks across Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. More information will follow regarding book changing and the number of books being sent home weekly.

Spelling Shed will also be used for children in Year 1 to Year 6 and **Emilie** for Year 3 to Year 6 to support fluency of multiplication facts. Both platforms are tailored to your child and their log-in details will be added to your child's new reading record for easy access.

Our **'Learn it, Know it'** knowledge organisers will continue to be shared with parents, so you support learning at home. These will now be sent using Parent App instead of Showbie. Suggested optional tasks, linked to their topic, will also be shared if you wish to extend your child's learning at home.

Parent Governor Election

Following the recent Parent Governor elections, we are delighted to announce that **Tony Dickinson** has been appointed and will begin his term of office on 31/10/26. Tony will be replacing **Katy Dickinson** whose term of office has come to an end. Our congratulations also go to **Jane Shepherd** who has been reappointed to the governing body and will continue her term of office for another 4 years.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Katy for her valued contributions to both our governing body and in particular the setting up of the Bowerham School Foundation Charity which is used to support our school and our families.

Secret Friend Launch

On Thursday 3rd December the children will be given their 'Secret Friend' name to purchase a gift for £2 which they will exchange on Thursday 17th December. Please bring these gifts to school on Friday 11th so they can be placed under the Christmas trees and checked by the elves!

Christmas Panto Trips

- **UKS2** attending The Dukes Theatre to watch Cinderella – Tuesday 1st December AM showing
- **Yr.4** attending The Dukes Theatre to watch Cinderella – Tuesday 1st December PM showing
- **Yr.1** attending The Grand Theatre to watch Robin Hood – Monday 7th December AM showing
- **Yrs. 2 & 3** attending The Grand Theatre to watch Robin Hood – Monday 7th December PM showing
- **Reception** attending The Grand Theatre to watch Robin Hood – Wednesday 9th December AM showing

Christmas Activity Day

On Tuesday 8th December, children will spend the day creating their Christmas cards and calendars to take home. Children are encouraged to come to school in full non-uniform wearing their Christmas jumper, t-shirt or festive clothes.

Christmas Performances

We are excited to welcome families to our various performances during the Christmas period. To ensure we comply with our legal requirements under Martyn's Law, we are asking that parents book using our

ParentApp (bookings will be open soon) so we can safely plan for numbers. Two family members are allowed to attend each performance. Raffle tickets will be on sale, on arrival, at each performance. (£1 per strip and card and cash payments accepted.) Monies raised will support the cost of putting on the various performances.

- **Nursery** Nativity, Monday 7th December, 2pm and 5pm start
- **LKS2** Carol Service, Monday 7th December, 9am start
- **Reception**, Tuesday 8th December, 2pm and 5pm start
- **Year 2** Nativity, Wednesday 9th December, 2pm and 5pm start
- **UKS2** Carol Service, Wednesday 9th December, 9am start
- **Year 1** Christmas Songs, Thursday 10th December, 2pm start

Christmas Parties and Gifts

Children are encouraged to wear their party clothes for their Christmas Party which will include their Christmas Dinner, party games and disco. Children will also be able to choose a book, gifted by the school, and meet Father Christmas.

- Reception Friday 11th December
- KS1 Monday 14th December
- LKS2 Tuesday 15th December
- UKS2 Wednesday 16th December

Christmas Holidays

A polite reminder that on **Thursday 17th December**, school will close early. Gates will open from 1pm and all children need to be collected by 1:15pm. Bowerham Kids Club will run from 1:10-4:30pm – bookable directly with Suzannah.

Christmas Tree Donations

Thank you to Lune Valley Home & Garden Florist and Craig Winter, who runs a construction company, for funding two of our Christmas trees this year. The third tree was funded by a parent who would like to stay anonymous. We look forward to decorating the trees soon and bringing the Christmas feel to our school.

New Reception Intake – September 20267

Our open afternoon in Monday 28th September was very popular with teachers providing guided tours of our wonderful school. We are also holding some additional show rounds with our Assistant Headteachers on **Monday 9th** and **16th November**, with slots available at **9:30–10:00am** and **10:15–10:45am**.

If you would like to come and have another look around, you would be more than welcome. Simply email admissions@bowerham.lancs.sch.uk or contact the school office on 01524 63999.

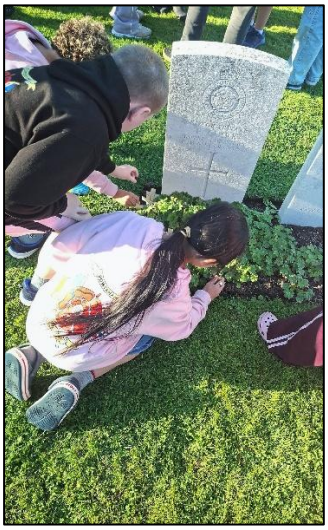




Year 6 France Residential

Linked to their learning about WWI, Y6 visited several historic sites. Sanctuary Wood Museum, also known as Hill 62, allowed the children to experience real WWI trenches and look through artifacts that have been excavated from the surrounding fields. Étaples Military Cemetery was a very sombre and thought-provoking moment for children and staff - the largest Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) cemetery in France and the final resting place of over 11,000 brave men and women.



Passchendaele Museum was a first for Bowerham and highly recommended. The children and staff were blown away by the beautiful surroundings, the well-ordered displays and the in-depth information boards. Y6 also visited Bedford House Cemetery to see the final resting place of a former Bowerham school pupil, Private Frederick Clark, who was sadly killed in action in 1915, aged 23 years – 10 months after enlisting.





At Étaples Market, the children had the opportunity to apply their linguistic skills when finding a bargain across the different stalls! Dhardelot Biscuitiers was a fascinating visit with Y6 seeing the machinery in action and enjoying their products. And finally, opinion was divided on snails as a delicious snack!



I want to say a huge thank you to the staff who volunteered their time to make this visit possible and for organising such a memorable experience. Thanks also to parents and carers for trusting us with your child and for the significant financial commitment.

Sporting Success

At Bowerham, we pride ourselves on providing as many sporting opportunities as possible for our children, and the recent success of our pupils is a testament to their hard work and commitment of children and staff. It is an exciting time for sport at Bowerham, and we couldn't be prouder of all our young athletes.



Our boys produced a fantastic performance earlier this month showing tremendous determination from start to finish and became the **District Football Champions** 2026-2027! The team didn't concede a goal throughout the tournament, worked brilliantly together as a team and more importantly, they demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and team spirit throughout the day.



The journey continues as we now look ahead to the **Lancashire Finals** at Fleetwood Town Football Club. The boys cannot wait for the next challenge and the opportunity to represent Bowerham on an even bigger stage.



Well done to our amazing **Girl's Football Team** who finished second place at the **District Football Competition** back in September. The girls topped their group, won their semi-final match and were unfortunate to lose in a very close final 1-0. They played brilliantly and did Bowerham proud.



Well done to the **Year 4 girls** who competed at the indoor football matches recently. They showed fantastic team spirit and encouraged each other while learning some new skills and playing lots of matches!



A huge well done to our **Year 5 and 6 boys**, who won the **Lancaster Large Schools' Football Competition**. Despite the awful conditions, the boys showed tremendous resilience, determination and teamwork throughout a series of close, competitive games. (Apologies that the photo does not include the whole team with some boys missing the photo at the end of the competition due to the awful weather!)

A huge well done to all our **athletes** for their performances. A mixture of positive attitudes, teamwork and resilience resulted in a fantastic score against some very tough teams. A brilliant start to Bowerham Athletics 2026/2027.







Congratulations to our new **Sport Council** for 2026-2027 who have had their first meeting and received their very important sports council badges!



Bowerham Toddler Group is Back

Join us in the Lower Hall every **Friday, 9:30–11:00am** (during term time) for a fun-filled morning of play, laughter, and friendship — and it's completely **FREE**!

- For children aged 0–4 years.
- Enjoy a wide variety of toys and activities.
- Take part in themed weeks full of crafts, songs, and special surprises!
- Meet other parents and carers and make new friends.

Educational Visits & Visitors

Y1 had the most wonderful time exploring **Blackpool Zoo** and linking their learning in Science to different types of animals and to hot and cold places around the world in Geography. Y2 travelled back in time to learn all about the **Gunpowder Plot** which was enriched by their History visitor. Several classes also visited **St Thomas' Church** to explore their Narnia exhibition with links to English and RE.





Curriculum Highlights

Our Nursery children have been having a wonderful time harvesting fruits and vegetables from their garden and exploring the season of autumn across our school grounds. Reception have been learning about how food is grown and the important role farmers play. The children enjoyed harvesting vegetables, preparing and cooking food together, and tasting their homemade chips, plum crumble, soup and vegetable pie - what a delicious feast!






In RE, Y4 have been learning about Hinduism and the celebration of light. They created Rangoli patterns to show that colour and light are part of the beautiful celebrations during Diwali. Y1 have been experimenting with spirals by creating large scale spirals outside with chalk and smaller scale inside on paper. Y4 have been using charcoal as a medium in preparation for their graphic novels. In Art, Y2 have been making beautiful wax resist leaves, exploring colour, pattern and texture inspired by autumn.






Bowerham
Primary and Nursery School and Baby Unit

Stand tall, reach high, love learning

We warmly invite prospective parents to join us for our

Reception 2027 Show Rounds

Show rounds with our Assistant Headteachers

Monday 9th November
Choose from one of the following slots:

- 9:30 am – 10:00 am
- 10:15 am – 10:45 am

Monday 16th November
Choose from one of the following slots:

- 9:30 am – 10:00 am
- 10:15 am – 10:45 am

- Meet our friendly staff
- See our wonderful learning environment
- Find out about our curriculum and values
- Ask questions and get a feel for our school community



Contact the school office to book on your preferred slot:

01524 63999 | admissions@bowerham.lancs.sch.uk

www.bowerham.lancs.sch.uk | facebook.com/bowerham