

Lydney C of E Community School (V.C.)
Bream Road
Lydney
Glos. GL15 5JH
01594 842172

Thursday 4th September 2026

Academic Year 26-27

A very warm welcome back! We hope that you have all had a great summer. To our new pupils and families, we look forward to getting to know you over the coming term.

In addition to all of our new families, we welcome Miss Frisby who will be teaching Class 5.

We are delighted to invite you to our Meet the Teacher presentations on 9th September and 16th September. These short sessions are designed to give you a clear picture of what your child will be learning this year, any new routines we'll be introducing, and the assessments that will take place across the year.

Please attend one session per child in your child's classroom at one of the following times:

- 3:30–3:50
- 4:00–4:20

This is also a great chance to meet your child's new teacher and hear how you can support their progress and confidence at home. We hope you can join us.

I have attached a copy of this year's calendar dates for your information but do keep checking our newsletters and online calendar for updates.

Last year, we had a large amount of lost property. Please ensure all your child's belongings (clothes, drinks bottle etc) are labelled.

We are looking forward to this new academic year. Class pages are currently being updated and will let you know what your children are learning, their P.E days etc. Please also check SeeSaw for updates and work. Our Facebook page will also keep you up to date with school news and information. Please use these other channels of information to find out things before contacting our school office.



We value your contribution highly and are excited to work with you all this year.

Attendance

Just a reminder that pupils must arrive in school before 8:45am on each school day.

Please note, the headteacher may not grant any leave of absence to pupils during term time unless they consider there to be 'exceptional circumstances'. Please note to have a holiday in school time because the cost is cheaper during term time, does not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

It is important that children attend school every day. The aim is for every child to have 100% attendance.

95% attendance = 2 weeks lost learning over a school year.

90% attendance = 4 weeks lost learning over a school year.

85% attendance = 6 weeks lost learning over a school year.

When children hit the school's trigger points for attendance, we will notify you that your child's attendance is below the school's expectations. Please do come and speak to us as we want to support you with this. Families may also be invited in to school for a supportive attendance improvement meeting. In this meeting, a plan and targets will be agreed to help improve your child's school attendance. In cases where attendance is not improving, the school may refer a family to the local authority for legal action to be taken.

Policies

All our policies such as attendance, behaviour, safeguarding etc are available on our website and are reviewed regularly. Please check the website for the most up to date versions. Our behaviour policy has had quite a few changes so please do take a look. We also have many policies that are Trust wide such as the Allergy policy. Links to both websites are below.

<https://www.lydneycofe.co.uk/policies/>

<https://www.sfat.uk/policies/>

Cost of Living

The school recognises that the continued cost of living crisis may be putting significant financial strain on families. Although the school requires all children to attend school dressed in school uniform we do not insist on branded items. This enables families to buy cheaper items from supermarket and national retailer ranges. Our friends regularly hold second hand uniform sales where you can purchase uniform at a much lower cost. If you have any uniform donations then please bring them into the school office.

The school supplies children with all the resources that they need for school so that families do not need to worry about purchasing stationary items and pencil cases.

We also ask that all families (even those in the infants) apply for their child to receive Free School Meals if they are in

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receipt of certain benefits. All children in households receiving universal credit will be eligible regardless of income but do still need to apply.

All children registered for free school meals receive pupil premium funding which is paid direct to the school. This enables the school to subsidise trips, purchase resources and provide staffing to support children through the school. To see if you are eligible, go to an internet search engine and search for 'Gloucestershire Free School Meals' or use the following link <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

The school is here to support all of our families so please do speak to a member of staff if you are experiencing financial difficulties or have any worries and concerns about this.

ParentPay

The school operates a cashless office. All payments for trips, swimming lessons, school meals and breakfast club are made through the ParentPay app. All new parents to the school should have received a letter with an activation code and details on how to download and register for the app.

PE

Children in Years 2 – 6 should have their P.E kits in school all week and you can find your child's P.E days on the class page section of the school website. Children in Reception and Year 1 wear their P.E kit to school on P.E days.

Contact Details

If you have moved house, changed your phone numbers or email address over the summer break then please make sure that you let the school office know as soon as possible so that we have up to date contact details for you. In line with Government Guidelines all Schools should keep at least 2 different emergency contacts for every child so please do make sure that the office has this information.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs every morning from 7.30am. Children who attend the club will receive a varied and nutritious breakfast which consists of toast and jam, cereals and a selection of drinks. The charge for breakfast club is £4.90 for a 7:30 start or £3.25 for an 8:00 start. Breakfast Club is booked and paid for through the school's ParentPay app.

School Lunches

For those of you with children in EYFS or KS1 please remember that they are eligible for a universal free school meal every day. Each day children will have a range of choices. Please come and pick up a menu from the school office.

Parents of children in KS2 (who are not in receipt of Free School Meals) have to pay for their child's lunches through the Parent Pay app. Lunches currently cost £2.95.

It is essential that if your child needs to pay for a school meal that their account stays in credit.



Local Trips/Visits

During the year, your child will have the opportunity to expand their learning in the local Lydney area. We do not send out letters for these 'local' trips. We will always send out a notification via text and or Seesaw if your child needs additional clothing or a packed lunch for these local trips.

If you do not want your child to leave the school site for these local trips then could you please let the school office or your child's class teacher know as soon as possible. We will still send out letters/notifications and ask for your permission for trips that involve bus or car transportation through ParentPay.

PG Rated Films

From time to time children may be shown PG rated films as part of their learning. Please contact the school office or your child's class teacher if you want to be notified about any PG films that your child may be watching or if you do not want them to watch them. We will always be sensitive to any cultural or religious needs for all children.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) - Photographs

Please let the office know if you would like to update photograph permissions and you will be given a new form.

A copy of the Severn Federation Academy Trust (SFAT) data protection policy can be found on the SFAT website.

Seesaw

If you have not yet done so, please sign up for both your child's and family Seesaw account. Signing up will allow you to see the exciting things that your child is learning in school and receive messages to keep you up to date with school events and information. If your code has expired, a new one will be issued next week.

Mrs L Bailey

Interim Executive Head Teacher Lydney and Bream C of E.

2026/27 Key Dates

September 2026

1.09.26 Inset Day (pupils do not attend)
2.09.26 First day for all pupils and No Correction without Connection Week.
W/C 31.08.26 New reception pupils 8:45 – 12:00
W/C 07.09.26 New reception pupils 8:45 – 1:15
Meet the Teacher 9 th September and 16 th September 3:30 – 3:50 and 4:00 – 4:20
W/C 14.09.26 New reception pupils full time

October 2026

6.10.26 and 8.10.26 Parents' Evening 3:30 – 6pm
w/b 12.10.26 Y4 CATS
16.10.26 My Plan out to parents
w/b 19.10.26 Outdoor and Adventurous Week
20.10.26 and 21.10.26 Life Tent (SCARF)
21.10.26 Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church 2:15pm
22.10.26 Inset (pupils do not attend)
23.10.26 Inset (pupils do not attend)

Half term 26.10.26 – 30.10.26

November 2026

2.11.26 Return to school
4.11.26 Y5 residential Viney Hill
6.11.26 Earth Day 1
30.11.26 NFER Reading Y2,3,4,5 and 6

December 2026

1.12.26 NFER Maths Y2,3,4,5 and 6
8.12.26 KS1 Christmas performance Y1/2 1:45pm
9.12.26 Christmas performance Y1/2 6pm
10.12.26 Christmas performance EYFS 1:45pm
18.12.26 Christingle Service at St Mary 2:15pm

Christmas Holidays 21.12.26 – 01.01.27

January 2027

4.01.27 Inset (pupils do not attend)
5.01.27 Pupils return to school
22.01.27 My Plan out to parents

February 2027

12.02.27 Mid-year reports to parents

Half Term 15.02.27 – 19.02.27

March 2027

4.03.27 World Book Day
19.03.27 My Plan out to parents
17.03.27 1:45pm and 18.03.27 6pm Year 3/4 performance
24.03.27 Easter Service St Mary's 2:15
Inset 25.03.27 (pupils do not attend)

Easter Holidays 26.03.27 – 9.04.27

April 2027

12.04.27 Pupils return to school
20.04.27 and 22.04.27 Parents' evening
22.4.27 Earth Day 2

May 2027

10.05.27 SATs
w/b 17.05.27 Aspiration Week
24.05.27 – 28.05.27 Y6 France

Half Term 31.05.27 – 04.06.27

June 2027

7.06.27 Return to School
Multiplication Tables Check w/b 7.06.27 and 14.06.27
11.6.26 Earth Day 3
Phonics Screening Check 14.06.27
Leavers' Service date TBC
Sports Day 18.06.27
Reserve date 25.06.27
28.6.27 NFER Reading Y1,3,4,5
29.6.27 NFER Maths Y1,3,4,5

July 2027

09.07.27 My Plan out to parents
7.07.27 1:45pm and 8.07.27 Y5 & 6 evening performances 6pm
16.07.27 reports out to parents
Move Up Morning 14.07.26
21.07.27 Leavers' Service in school

21.7.27 Summer Holidays