



Newsletter

At Tillingbourne, we are committed to ensuring our school is a place where every child and every family feels valued, respected and included.

Over the past year, we have been working alongside Hemisphere Education to further strengthen our approach to inclusion, with a particular focus on how we work in genuine partnership with parents. Inclusion, for us, is about every aspect of school life—ensuring that all children, feel supported, understood and able to thrive. A key part of this work has been the development of our Parent-Led Inclusion Working Party. This is not a traditional parent group supporting events, but a group working alongside school leaders to help shape our thinking around inclusion, our curriculum and our wider school culture. We have been really encouraged by the openness of these discussions, with parents sharing their experiences, offering thoughtful challenge and helping us reflect on how inclusive our school truly feels.



Central to this has been making sure a wide range of voices are heard. We want all families to feel that they can contribute to the life and direction of the school. One parent recently shared that through this work, they finally “felt seen”—a powerful reminder of the importance of creating space for every voice.

We are already seeing the positive impact of this partnership. There is a growing sense of trust and openness between school and families, and staff are continuing to develop their confidence in meeting the needs of all children. Most importantly, this work is helping us to build a culture where children feel safe, supported and able to be themselves. This is not a one-off initiative, but an ongoing commitment. We will continue to develop this work, ensuring that parents remain at the heart of shaping what we do. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. By working together, we can ensure Tillingbourne remains a school where everyone belongs.

Ben Stevenson
Headteacher

Tillingbourne Bake Off

What a fantastic showcase of creativity and baking talent we have seen in this year's Tillingbourne Bake Off!

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils impressed us all with their nature-themed cupcakes, featuring ambitious decorations and beautifully light, delicious sponge. Every child who entered should feel incredibly proud—your effort and creativity really shone through.

A special congratulations to the following pupils who progressed to the technical challenge, joining our Year 3 and 4 finalists:

Year 5

- 5J: Ezra, Darcey, Emilia
- 5Q: Sam, Soraia, George
- 5VP: Evie, Oliver

Year 6

- 6G: Amalia, Hannah-Eden, Sasha, Cerys, Hannah
- 6H: Tadhg
- 6R: Rory, Matilda, Bea H

The finals were a joy to watch. Year 3 and 4 created and decorated Cheese and Chive Monsters, Year 5 tackled cheese scones, and Year 6 took on the ambitious challenge of making Chocochecks (a chocolate and vanilla shortbread) independently and against the clock.

The cookery room—complete with Bake Off bunting—was full of a wonderful atmosphere, with pupils supporting and encouraging one another throughout. It was a real celebration of teamwork as well as talent.



Tillingbourne Bake Off

Final Results

Year 3

Alfie (3B)
James (3NL)
Jake (3PW) / Theo (3NL)

Year 4

Seth Si (4SR)
Amelie (4D)
Chloe (4SR)

Year 5

Evie (5VP)
Ezra (5J)

Year 6

Matilda (6R)
Amalia (6G)
Hannah-Eden (6G)



A big thank you to Sainsbury's and Lakeland for their generous support—each finalist received some baking equipment to continue developing their skills at home.

Well done to everyone involved—an incredible effort all round!



Gardening

Spring is just around the corner and our garden is already being prepared for the new growing season.

Children have been busy helping to weed and dig over the vegetable patch, getting it ready for potato planting. Our potatoes are currently being chitted in the cookery room, encouraging strong shoots so they are ready for Year 3 to plant before the Easter holidays.



In the pollinator bed, the old growth that was left over winter to provide shelter and habitat has now been carefully cut back. This is allowing the early spring bulbs to emerge, ready to attract our first bumblebees of the season. The winter cover certainly did its job well—during the clear-up, we even discovered two frogs enjoying their home in the bed!

It's wonderful to see the garden coming back to life, and we look forward to another exciting growing year ahead.

Park Run



The Tillingbourne 'Tornados' participated in their fifth Junior Parkrun on Sunday 8th March at Knowle Park, Cranleigh. Well done to Toby in Year 3 and Derry in Year 5 who have achieved their half marathon wristbands. It is wonderful to see other Tillingbourne pupils regularly appearing in the results and improving their PBs.

Join us again on Sunday 19th April at Knowle Park. You can register for parkrun for free at www.parkrun.org.uk/register/

Once you have registered, joining the Tillingbourne group is easy:

1. Log back into your profile
2. Search for our Tillingbourne group 'TORNADOS'
3. Select and click join

Chilworth Station Art Project

We were delighted to take part in a special art project in partnership with Community Rail, which will see our pupils' work displayed at Chilworth Station.

Some of you may remember that artwork created by Tillingbourne pupils was previously displayed in the shelter on Platform 1. As these pieces had been removed, our current pupils were invited to create a brand new set of designs.

A visiting artist came into school to lead a workshop with one of our classes. The children created artwork inspired by local wildlife and the heritage of Blackheath, linking closely to the learning taking place in Year 5.

Pupils explored a range of materials, including watercolours and oil pastels, and worked both collaboratively and independently to produce their final pieces. These will now be developed by a professional designer into large vinyl displays for the station.

This was a fantastic opportunity for our children to contribute to the local community and to see their creativity showcased in a real-world setting. We look forward to sharing the finished artwork with you once it is installed!



Year 3 Trip to Butser Ancient farm

At the end of last term, our Year 3 students had an amazing trip to Butser Ancient Farm, where they stepped back in time to explore the fascinating world of the Romans. The lovely sunshine made the day even more enjoyable as the children got hands-on with history.

They took part in several activities including, digging like real archaeologists, unearthing artefacts that gave them a glimpse into life thousands of years ago. The excitement was palpable as they discovered pieces of pottery and other treasures buried in the ground.

The children also tried their hands at creating Roman mosaics. It was a fun and creative way to understand this ancient art form! They also explored the round houses, which were built using traditional methods, and got to see how the Romans lived.

To top off the day, the children participated in jewellery making, crafting beautiful pieces that they could take home as a reminder of their immersive history experience. Overall, it was a fantastic day filled with learning, laughter, and plenty of sunshine!



Celts and Romans day

After our day at Butser Farm, Year 3 continued to bring history to life back at school with their Roman Day. Throughout the day, pupils explored what life was like in Ancient Rome by taking part in a range of exciting activities, including creating 'fine ware' pottery, learning about Roman soldiers, and enjoying a Roman food tasting experience.

The children came dressed in impressive costumes and fully embraced their roles. While the Romans learned organised battle strategies and practised the defensive 'tortoise' formation, the Celts prepared for battle by painting their faces with 'woad' and rehearsing their menacing battle cries!

The day concluded with a reenactment of the Celtic uprising led by Boudicca. The Celtic tribes put up a brave fight, but the Romans were ultimately victorious and continued to rule for another 400 years.



Tillingbourne Shine at Charterhouse Hockey festival

It was a fantastic evening of hockey for Tillingbourne at Charterhouse School, with both our Year 5/6 and Year 3/4 teams doing us proud.

Our Year 5 and 6 team delivered an outstanding performance, winning every match and scoring an impressive 35 goals while conceding just four. It was a brilliant all-round display — dynamic in attack and solid in defence.

Our Year 3 and 4 pupils also had a memorable experience, enjoying expert coaching from Dan Fox, former GB Olympic hockey player, followed by friendly match play against Womersley and Shamley Green.

A huge well done to every player involved. Your teamwork, enthusiasm and sportsmanship were a credit to the school.



Upcoming Events

Summer term 2026

11th–14th May – SATs Week

14th May – PTA Summer Disco

19th–22nd May – Year 6 residential (Purbeck)

1st–5th June – Year 4 Multiplication Checks begin / Year 5 Bikeability starts

6th June – PTA Summer Jumble

11th June – Year 2 Parents' Welcome Evening

16th June – Maths Day in school

18th June – PTA Science Shows (all day in the hall)

29th June – INSET Day (school closed)

3rd July – Whole School Move-Up Morning

6th July – Sports Week begins – Sports Day Wednesday 8th July (Parent welcome)

6th & 7th July – Parent Consultations (Years 3 & 5)

13th & 14th July – Parent Consultations (Years 4 & 6)



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