



*Achieving excellence through
the pursuit of good*

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Headteacher: Mr. Kevin Purkiss



Newsletter One: September 2019

Dear Parents,

A **very warm welcome** whether you are a new parent to our school or have been here for some time! We are delighted to welcome our children and families to school for this new academic year. After lots of internal work over the summer, the school is looking very much refreshed – almost all rooms have had new carpets and most rooms have been decorated. Our thanks go to Site Manager, Debs, who has done much of this work herself and coordinated a number of contractors over the summer break.

We are enjoying new lighting in the hall and 'Sound Clouds' in the hall and Year 4, 5 and 6 which has really helped improve the acoustics. Thank you again to the PTA – we now have LED stage lighting installed in the hall ready for our productions and other curriculum events.

One of the many strengths of our school is the curriculum we offer. Our staff team has planned exciting opportunities for our children to ensure their curriculum and learning is as rich and engaging as possible. You will shortly receive your child's 'topic web' outlining a few of the events taking place.



The first week of Term 2 (4th – 8th November) we will be celebrating the arts during a special activities week. We are very excited to share that all of KS2 will be going to see the musical '**The Lion King**' at the Bristol Hippodrome on Wednesday 6th November and Year 1 and 2 will be attending Bath's Egg Theatre to see the play '**I believe in unicorns**' on Thursday 7th November. More details will follow shortly. In the meantime, if you have any interest or expertise in theatre arts that may be shared with the children then please contact Miss. Bowman in Year 6.

Welcome to new children and staff!

We have a few new staff faces to get to know. A very warm welcome to new members of our Teaching Assistant Team - Mrs. Ally Messer in Year 5/6, Mr. Liam Alford in Year 4, Mrs. Rosi Lewis in Year 4, Mr. James Rogers in Year 2 and Mrs. Karen Begg in Year 1. We are looking forward to benefitting from their experience and expertise! In addition, we welcome Mrs. Jo Etheridge to the Reception Team who will be working alongside Miss. Farrar. A separate letter will be sent out today regarding this staffing change.

Tomorrow, our choir will meet Mrs. Kelly Sharp who joins us as our new singing, choir and ensemble teacher. We look forward to the choir's first performance at our Harvest Festival (more details below).

It is always lovely to welcome our new Reception children to Bathwick, as well as new children in other year groups. A very warm welcome to:

- Henrietta (Hettie), Ruby, Jacob (Jake), Lucas (Luke) and Laurence (Laurie) in Year 1
- Benjamin (Ben), Moss and Kason in Year 3
- Sebastian (Sebby) and Olivia in Year 4
- Jago and Tyffany in Year 5.

We hope you will all be very happy here!

Save the date: Harvest Celebration

Please join us for our Harvest Celebration service at St. Mary's Church on **Thursday 24th October at 1.30 p.m.** As is our custom, children will please need to be collected from the church after the service at 2.40 p.m. If children are unable to be collected, we will walk them back to school for the usual collection time. We will be **collecting food items for the Bath Foodbank** and would appreciate any donations of non-perishable tinned and dried foods. Please can children bring in donations from Monday 21st October to the morning of Thursday 24th October. Thank you in advance.



IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Low immunity danger

Sophie (Year 6) is receiving medication for juvenile idiopathic arthritis. Similarly to **Fabienne** (Year 4), her immunity to a variety of illnesses including Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps, Shingles, Slapped Cheek and Scarlet Fever can put Sophie at **serious risk**. Fabienne's immunity remains compromised putting her potentially at **serious life-threatening risk**. If your child becomes ill - and in particular with one of the illnesses listed above - then please ensure that you let the school office know as soon as possible.

Allergies in school

A reminder that several children in school are highly allergic to nuts and one child has a **life-threatening allergy** to sesame seeds and products containing sesame (sesame can be found on or in a variety of food, including on rolls, bread, oil, hummus). We take all our children's safety extremely seriously and as such the **school wide ban on nuts and sesame products remains in force until further notice**. Thank you for your continued vigilance and support.

Important 'annual reminders'

To keep our school being the best that it can be, please read through these polite reminders. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do ask their teacher. We welcome parents who are willing to share their expertise or passion for a particular subject, language or with a 'special' skill. Please do let your class teacher know if you may be able to help!

'Dropping off' and 'picking up' routines

- A reminder that 'Drop off' is from 8.35. A member of staff will usually be on the playground from 8:40, but there is no formal supervision available until the bell at 8:50.
- Please ensure the **prompt attendance** of all pupils for **8:50** into school. Thank you.
- A known adult must stay with each in the Infant playground until the bell is rung.
- Infant children are welcome to use the Fitness Trail after (not before) school and enjoy this facility, under supervision from the person collecting them.
- If there is any change to the KS1 'authorised collector' of your child, please write the change into the Pick-up diary which is in the front porch by the signing in book – (writing the change under the appropriate day).
- Thank you to all our parents for your patience and courtesy to each other and Darlington Road residents due to the traffic. The Governing Body continue to work with B&NES Council to improve the safety for our families.

Additional medical information

- If your **child is sick** or has diarrhoea, please wait 48 hours before returning to school.
- Please **do not send in medicines** without prior authorisation from the Head Teacher. There are guidelines we follow to ensure the correct administration of medicine. We can only administer **prescribed** medicine with clear written instructions from a doctor.

Uniform

- Children may wear winter or summer uniform until October half term, after which all children should be in full winter uniform please, including black shoes and ties.
- A reminder that jewellery, nail-varnish or tattoos are not allowed. We also ask children to tuck in their shirts and tie back long hair. If you are unsure of anything, please do ask.

Attendance regulations

- The Government is very clear that **no holidays should be taken in term time**. We do appreciate the strain this may cause on families, but we believe that every day in school is so important for your child. If some very unusual situation arises, we have to clearly explain the circumstances to the Child Missing Education Officer and demonstrate its 'uniqueness'. Consequently please assume there is no 'holiday entitlement', and any planned absence requires a written record for our Child Missing Education Officer. Any absence must be authorised by the Head Teacher in advance; this includes medical (unless an emergency) and exam or secondary school appointments. Thank you for your understanding.
- Please carefully check the Term Dates (over the page) before booking any holiday.

Mobile phones

- The Governing Body will soon be reviewing our mobile devices policy. If you feel your child in Year 5 and 6 has a specific need for a mobile phone in school, please contact the school office in the first instance. Thank you.

Thank you for your cooperation with these annual reminders.

We all seek to provide the very best education we can and by working together and supporting our school in this way, things run much more smoothly! Your help is much appreciated. If you have any questions, please do ask.

A thank you once again to Jennifer MacDougall who has kindly tended the roundabout garden over the summer – it looks lovely!

Reception class resources! Can you help?

To support our outdoor classroom, if you have any spare small world sets such as Sylvanian Families, Playmobil, zoo or farm animals, or old children's wellington boots for planting, please pass to Miss. Farrar. Thank you!

Library sessions will restart next week. Please see the library page of the school website for your child's library day. There are still a few outstanding library books from last term, so please could these be returned. Many thanks.

And finally...

As we look forward to this exciting year, please do stop me in the playground or make contact to share ideas, concerns or questions. Bathwick is a wonderful school, but there are always things we can do to improve and develop – and I am always willing and happy to hear ideas and comments.

With my best wishes for the year ahead.



Kevin Purkiss
Head Teacher

Term 1 and 2 Dates for the Diary – further details for several events will follow	
September	
Thurs 5	10.00 Choir – meet Kelly Sharp OWL Y3
Mon 9	Vote for New School Councillors this week
Thurs 12	OWL Y2
Thurs 19	1 st singing lessons with Kelly Sharp OWL Y6
Thurs 26	Open Morning for Reception 2020 OWL Y1
Fri 27	Year 5 to Bath Literature Festival p.m.
October	
October	Black History Month
Weds 2	NEWSLETTER Out Year 6 to Bath Literature Festival p.m.
Thurs 3	OWL Y4 Year 2 to Bath Literature Festival a.m.
Fri 4	Year 1, 3, 4 to Bath Literature Festival a.m.
Mon 7	Parent Consultation Evenings
Weds 9	Parent Consultation Evenings
Thurs 10	World Homelessness Day (Julian House fundraiser) OWL Y5
Fri 11	Y3 to Bristol Museum
Thurs 17	Open Morning for Reception 2020 OWL Y2
Mon 21	Flu Vaccinations
Thurs 24	OWL YR (a.m.) Harvest Service 1.30 St. Mary's Church
Fri 25	INSET Day (no children in school)

Music Tuition start dates for those children who have registered are as follows:

- Guitar: Tues 10th or Weds 11th September
- Flute and Clarinet: Monday 16th September (no lesson Monday 7th October)
- Brass: Wednesday 18th September
- Violin: Friday 20th September

Big Book Boost

Big Book Boost is The Book People's new fundraising scheme. Every time you place an order over £10, they'll donate £1 to a school of your choice for us to spend on books! Simply log into your account at thebookpeople.co.uk and add your chosen school in the Big Book Boost tab, fill your basket and once you've placed your order, they'll donate £1.

Dinner Money – KS2 Pupils only

If you would like to pay in advance for Term 1's dinner money the amount to pay via ParentPay is £98.80.

Thank you.

Term 2	
November	
Mon 4	Arts Week
Tues 5	Y4 Sports Hub pm Individual Photos Day
Weds 6	Year 3/4/5/6 to 'Lion King' at Bristol Hippodrome NEWSLETTER Out
Thurs 7	Open Morning for Reception 2020 OWL Y3 Year 1/2 to 'I believe in Unicorns' at The Egg
Mon 11	ANTI BULLYING WEEK Remembrance Day
Tues 12	Y4 Sports Hub pm
Thurs 14	OWL Y6
Tues 19	Y4 Sports Hub pm
Thurs 21	OWL Y1
Tues 26	Y4 Sports Hub pm
Thurs 28	Last singing lessons this term OWL Y4
December	
Tues 3	Y4 Sports Hub pm
Weds 4	NEWSLETTER Out
Thurs 5	Open Afternoon for Reception 2020
Fri 6	pm Y6 to Kingswood – 'A Christmas Carol'
Tues 10	Y4 Sports Hub pm
Thurs 12	OWL YR
Fri 13	Christmas Jumper Day
Mon 16	1.30 Infants Dress Rehearsal to school
Tues 17	Y4 Sports Hub pm 1.30 (approx.) Infant Nativity to parents Evening Choir at Bathwick St. Mary Church – Rotary Service
Weds 18	9.00 (approx.) Infant Nativity to parents
Thurs 19	OWL Y6
Fri 20	1.30 p.m. Carol Service at St. Mary's

Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2019/20

AUGUST 2019						SEPTEMBER 2019					OCTOBER 2019							
M			5	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28
T			6	13	20	27	T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29
W			7	14	21	28	W	4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30
TH		1	8	15	22	29	TH	5	12	19	26		TH	3	10	17	24	31
F		2	9	16	23	30	F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25	
S		3	10	17	24	31	S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26	
SU		4	11	18	25	1	SU	8	15	22	29		SU	6	13	20	27	
NOVEMBER 2019						DECEMBER 2019					JANUARY 2020							
M			4	11	18	25	M	2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27
T			5	12	19	26	T	3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28
W			6	13	20	27	W	4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29
TH			7	14	21	28	TH	5	12	19	26		TH	2	9	16	23	30
F	1		8	15	22	29	F	6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31
S	2		9	16	23	30	S	7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25	
SU	3		10	17	24	1	SU	8	15	22	29		SU	5	12	19	26	
FEBRUARY 2020						MARCH 2020					APRIL 2020							
M			3	10	17	24	M	2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27
T			4	11	18	25	T	3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28
W			5	12	19	26	W	4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29
TH			6	13	20	27	TH	5	12	19	26		TH	2	9	16	23	30
F			7	14	21	28	F	6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	
S	1		8	15	22	29	S	7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25	
SU	2		9	16	23	1	SU	8	15	22	29		SU	5	12	19	26	
MAY 2020						JUNE 2020					JULY 2020							
M			4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	M		6	13	20	27
T			5	12	19	26	T	2	9	16	23	30	T		7	14	21	28
W			6	13	20	27	W	3	10	17	24		W	1	8	15	22	29
TH			7	14	21	28	TH	4	11	18	25		TH	2	9	16	23	30
F	1	8	15	22	29		F	5	12	19	26		F	3	10	17	24	31
S	2		9	16	23	30	S	6	13	20	27		S	4	11	18	25	
SU	3		10	17	24	31	SU	7	14	21	28		SU	5	12	19	26	

School Term Dates:		
Holiday Dates:		(Children not in school)
Inset Days:		(Children not in school)
Bank holidays:		(Children not in school)

The 20/21 academic year begins on Tuesday 1st September 2020.