



*Achieving excellence through
the pursuit of good*

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Newsletter Two: October 2019

Dear Parents,

The school year is in full swing with so many exciting learning opportunities for our children. All classes from Year One and above are going to the Bath Literature Festival and enjoying hearing from some brilliant authors. Thank you to our Librarian, Clare Turner, who does so much to help organise these opportunities.

We are looking forward to our **Harvest Service on Thursday 24th October** and hope as many parents as possible will be able to join us 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. Please note that after school clubs **WILL** run on this day, so after the service staff will walk children back for these clubs at the end of the day. Alternatively, please feel free to collect your child at the end of the service.

We will be **collecting food items for the Bath Foodbank** and would appreciate any donations of the following foods. Please can children bring in donations from Monday 21st October to the morning of Thursday 24th October. Thank you in advance.

Tinned Fruit, Fruit Juice (long-life), Chocolate, Tinned Rice puddings, Instant Mash, Pasta Sauce (jars), Soup, Sponge puddings, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Custard, Jam, Teabags, Biscuits, Tinned Vegetables (e.g. sweetcorn, potatoes, peas & carrots), Baked Beans.



Welcome to new children!

It is always lovely to welcome new children to Bathwick. Tomorrow we will welcome Henry (Year 1) and Georgia (Year 3). We hope you will all be very happy here!

World Homeless Day and World Mental Health Day

10 October is World Mental Health Day 

Thursday 10th October is World Mental Health Day and World Homeless Day. The local charity Bath Mind are holding a **lantern parade through Bath** in the evening to raise awareness of Mental Health Day. The parade will start in Victoria Park at 6:45pm and end at Bath Abbey at 7:15pm where there will be music and food. All children will be making lanterns in school during the week and we would like to encourage as many families as possible to attend this event.

As well as this, we are supporting the Julian House **'bobble hat fundraiser'** to mark



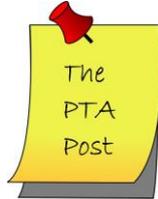
World Homeless Day. All children are invited to wear a bobble hat (or similar) to school that day to recognise the challenges of those who are homeless in our city and beyond. The School Council will be holding buckets in the playground – as you come to school, please give a donation for these charities. Proceeds from donations to wear a bobble hat will be split between Bath Mind and Julian House. Please give generously to these causes. Thank you.



Bathwick St. Mary PTA - AGM

Please come to the AGM of the PTA tomorrow evening - Thursday 3rd October at 7.00 p.m.

The PTA plays a vital part in the school community and all parents, as members of the PTA, are invited to support the AGM. This is your chance to hear and see how the funds you have helped to raise have been used for the benefit of the children at our school. **We would also love to share ideas for supporting our school this year and take other ideas from our parents!**



'From page to stage' week!



Thank you to Miss. Bowman for coordinating this exciting week (4th – 8th November)!

Details will be released soon –

but all children will be enjoying an 'off timetable' week with a variety of visitors, different activities and workshops as well as the junior class trip to see the musical 'The Lion King' at the Bristol Hippodrome on Wednesday 6th November and Year 1 and 2 attending Bath's Egg Theatre to see the play 'I believe in unicorns' on 7th November.



Wraparound Care update

We are holding interviews during this week for both the Breakfast and After School Club teams. We look forward to launching this service on 4th November – full details will be launched very soon once the final details are in place.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Rigby!

We are delighted to let you know that Mrs. Rigby gave birth to her daughter Lola on Tuesday 24th September. The family are thrilled with their new arrival and all are doing well!

Data checking sheets

To help us ensure we have your latest contact details, the Data checking sheets will be sent out shortly. Please check the information is correct, then sign and return a.s.a.p. Thank you.

Winter Uniform – from October half term

The SNAG Group – an introduction



There are many ways parents can be involved in school life. One of those is SNAG. SNAG stands for 'School Nutrition Action Group'. The group is an advisory body consisting of parents with an interest in nutrition and healthy eating. Their role is to support the school and make suggestions to the Governing Body and PTA on how we can develop our school further in regard to nutrition. They have been very active in the past supporting the school with our delicious school meals and more recently with the popular 'Fruity Fridays' which have raised money for our PTA. Our current SNAG members are:

'Encouraging children to make healthier nutritional choices'

- Chair: Lorna MacDougall (Emily Y3, Sam Y6): I'm very keen to help support the school creating healthier nutritional choices for our children with guidance from Ofsted and communication with parents. I run a catering company and have a passion for cooking and nutrition.
- Leah Allen (Scout Y4, Lata Y2, Monte Y1): Parent governor and previous Food Technology teacher with a passion for healthy, balanced and exciting family food.
- Simona Thompson (Emma Y4): I think it's important to offer children healthy school meals made with fresh ingredients, cooked from scratch where possible, in order to develop children's food awareness (perhaps due to my Italian cultural background!)
- Kate Geohegan (Cressida Y3): A Registered Nutritionist (mBANT), passionate about wellbeing education and the promotion of children's mental and physical health of which nutrition is an important part.
- Aga (Hugo Y4): Often described as a foodie, I work in natural skin care, and have a deep interest in what we eat and what we apply to our bodies.

We cover the majority of year groups but would very much welcome a representative from Reception - please get in contact if you're interested in finding out more. Over the page you will find a summary of the recent parental questionnaire. By completing the questionnaire, you have helped ensure the SNAG group are making recommendations to the PTA and Governing Body that take on board parental feedback from across the school.

As we approach half term may I remind parents that all children need to wear their 'winter uniform' (shirts and ties) from Monday 4th November. Thank you for your co-operation.

Dinner Money – Year 3, 4, 5, 6 Children only

If you would like to pay in advance for Term 2's dinner money the amount to pay via ParentPay is £91.00. Thank you.

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.

Smart watches

A small number of children are wearing watches which have the ability to take photographs and record video. Whilst these watches may be fun for children to use at home, they have the potential to be used inappropriately in a school setting. For that reason, children may not bring devices in school which are able to record images, sound or video. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

And finally...

Please have a look at the final page of this newsletter for a '**You may be interested in**' section. We try to share some of the many events we are asked to publicise without overloading parents with daily leaflets and information!

SNAG Questionnaire – summary of answers

The results from the parental questionnaire relating to school food (other than lunches) concluded that whilst the majority of parents agree with the concept of both 'Freezy Friday' and the **cake sales**, a similar number would encourage their child to have a healthier option if one were available. As a result of this and the comments provided, the SNAG group have worked with the PTA and the popular cake sales will now be divided into one per year group. In school, children will use part of the Design and Technology curriculum to cook healthy food specifically for the cake sale. All donations from parents will of course continue to be welcome!

Thank you for supporting our trial of '**Fruity Fridays**', the feedback has been wonderful, sales higher than expected and the PTA have earned over £100 profit from each one! 'Fruity Friday' will now be a permanent feature and we'll be back after Easter on alternating weeks with 'Freezy Fridays' where a new range of lollies will be trialled. We're very excited to introduce our next venture '**Souper Fridays**', where cups of nutritious home-made soup will be available to buy after school, warming us up in January and February!

Comments regarding the **PTA disco food** confirmed more than half wanted to see a healthier option available. 49% wanted 'only healthy snacks', 46% 'disagreed' with this suggestion and 3% were 'unsure'. Popcorn will be offered at the next disco and we aim to add healthier options at future discos, whilst striking a sensible balance between 'treats' and healthier alternatives.

The questions regarding **Birthday sweets** showed a significant majority of parents were happy for their children to bring in/be given sweets. The majority of parents disagreed with the concept of banning Birthday treats/gifts. The SNAG will continue discussions on this and aim to suggest healthier ideas for those who would like them.

Thank you once again to all parents who completed the questionnaire as you have helped ensure the SNAG group are making recommendations to the PTA and Governing Body that take on board parental feedback from across the school.

Term 1 and 2 Dates for the Diary – further details for several events will follow	
October	
Thurs 3	OWL Y4 Year 2 to Bath Literature Festival a.m. PTA AGM at school – 7 p.m.
Fri 4	Year 1, 3, 4 to Bath Literature Festival a.m. PTA Cake Sale (led by Year 5 and 6)
Mon 7	Parent Consultation Evenings Years 1-6
Weds 9	Cross Country for some Y5/6 Parent Consultation Evenings Years 1-6
Thurs 10	World Homelessness Day and World Mental Health Day OWL Y5 Yr 4+6 Author Visit – Anna James
Fri 11	Y3 to Bristol Museum PTA Uniform Sale Y5/6 Biathlon – details to follow
Mon 14	Y5 to Herschel Museum
Tues 15	Y6 to Fleet Air Arm Museum
Weds 16	Parent Workshop: 6-7pm Thrive
Thurs 17	Open Morning for Reception 2020 OWL Y2 Year 4 Roman Day
Fri 18	BIG TEDs Day Out and RED Card for Racism – Mufti Day
Mon 21	Flu Vaccinations for all children
Tues 22	Y4 to Roman Baths
Thurs 24	OWL YR (a.m.) Please bring school uniform to change into Harvest Service 1.30 St. Mary's Church
Fri 25	INSET Day (no children in school)

You may be interested in...

Please have a look at some of the local events or information that we have been asked to share with our parents. We will only share information that is likely to be relevant to our children and families and by organisations already linked to the school.

FACE - Family Action on Climate Emergency

FACE (Family Action on Climate Emergency) is a growing network of families and friends taking collective action to tackle the climate emergency. **We would love to hear from you if you are concerned about the climate** and want to learn/do more, or if you are already taking action and could share ideas. Check us out & get in touch: www.facebook.com/FamilyActiononClimateEmergency, twitter @FACEclimate or email FACE2030bath@gmail.com

Term 2	
November	
Mon 4	'From Page to Stage' 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
Fri 8	PTA Cake Sale (led by Year 1)
Mon 11	ANTI BULLYING WEEK Remembrance Day
Tues 12	Y4 Sports Hub pm
Thurs 14	OWL Y6
Fri 15	Children in Need Mufti Day
Tues 19	Y4 Sports Hub pm
Weds 20	Eucharist for Y4/5/6
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' PTA Christmas Fair
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	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

From B&NES People & Communities Communications Team:

[1 Big Database BathNES](#) offers information on Ofsted registered childcare providers, after school clubs, school holiday clubs, events and activities for families all year round. This site is complemented by our Facebook page [Family Information Online](#) where we share an abundance of adhoc attractions, events and seasonal activities appropriate for families living across B&NES.

[Rainbow Resource](#) is Bath and North East Somerset's Local Offer providing information, resources, events and activities relevant to families with a young person who has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. We also offer a free Rainbow Resource card to these families enabling them to verify their child's needs confidentially as required, particularly beneficial when they are entitled to reduced admission to attractions.

GET Sported and GET Serious Cricket camp *this October Half Term* - October 29th to 31st

- GETSported: Multi Sport Day Camps, ages 5-12 years. Enjoy Football, Cricket, Rugby, Basketball and many more sports! Also, large inflatables day, pizza day, prizes, awards and more activities.
- Get Serious Cricket: for age 7-12. Our cricket camps offer hard ball and soft ball skills sessions with competitions and games including our legendary 'T20's' and 'Test Match'. Suitable for beginners through to advanced and county players.
- Learn / improve your sports skills with great coaching. Develop your character & confidence through activities & team talk discussions, centred around our themed curriculum with Christian character values. It's fun, exciting & action packed!
- Email info@getsported.org for more information or Book online: www.getsported.org
- Times: 9.00am - 4pm. Registration from 9.00 am (Pre-Camp and after camp available from 8.30-9.00am and 4-5pm at a cost of £5.00 or £3 each)
- Prices: Prices from £22.50. GET Sported is accessible to all and offers a bursary scheme to those who need it. Please enquire with us if you'd like to apply.
- Where are our camps? Ralph Allen School, Claverton Down Road, Bath. BA2 7AD

The Rock Project

FREE TASTER SESSION Spaces are now available to join The Rock Project Bath, lessons in Singing, Guitar, Bass or Drums, AND play as part of a band! The Rock Project are currently recruiting 7-11 and 12-18 year olds to join their two-hour weekly sessions in Bath. Spaces are limited so get in touch now to secure your place. Would you like to be playing or singing on stage at our big summer gig? Come along for Free Taster Session, Monday evenings in Bath. All abilities welcome from beginners to experienced. To book a space, or for more information, visit www.therockproject.com or email bath@therockproject.com, also check out our Facebook page, The Rock Project Bath and Trowbridge.

American Museum & Gardens Children's Play Area

The American Museum & Gardens in Bath is planning to develop and install a children's play area in order to enrich the experience for families visiting our museum and gardens. We plan to develop a natural play area, a short way from the manor house and main garden, making the most of the garden's wonderful setting, with its far reaching views over the Limpley Stoke Valley. We would like to invite parents and children to take part in a small discussion group. Provisional date is Thursday 24th October at the American Museum, Claverton Down at 10.00am. The discussion should last no longer than one and a half hours, and will provide an opportunity for you to find out about our plans and contribute ideas. Please email Tracy Foster at tracy.foster@americanmuseum.org to receive further information and sign up for the discussion group.