



*Achieving excellence through  
the pursuit of good*

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Headteacher: Mr. Kevin Purkiss



## Newsletter One: September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of all our Staff and Governors - a **very warm welcome** to this new academic year whether you are a new parent to our school or have been here for some time! It is great to hear the excited buzz around the school and playground as children settle into the routine and begin to tackle new topics and themes.



The staff team have been busy preparing the school for this new year. Thank you to our office team who have been working to ensure things run as smoothly as possible; to our teachers and teaching assistants to all the planning and preparation of the rich curriculum; to



our kitchen team creating a new menu for children to enjoy; and to our site manager Debs Miner, who

has coordinated the redecoration and refurbishment of areas of the school over the summer, including carpeting each of the Junior classrooms and refreshing the staffroom.

Thank you parents and carers for your patience and adherence to the various new routines including the different start and finish times we have needed to introduce.



### Welcome to new children and staff!

We have a few new staff faces to get to know. A very warm welcome to members of our Teaching Assistant Team - Mrs. Stephanie Smith and Miss. Nancy Appleton in Year 1 and Miss. Leanne Plank in Year 3. We are looking forward to benefiting from their experience and expertise!

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

- Antonia in Year 1
- Jacob, Leonard, Constance, Charlotte and Emily in Year 3
- Honor in Year 4

We hope you will all be very happy here!

### IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFORMATION:

#### Low immunity danger

**Fabienne's** (Year 5) immunity remains compromised and a variety of illnesses including Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps, Shingles, Slapped Cheek and Scarlet Fever put her potentially at **life-threatening risk**. If your child becomes ill - and in particular with one of the illnesses listed above - then please let the school office know immediately.

#### Allergies in school

A reminder that we have children in school who have **life-threatening allergies** to both nuts, 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.

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

## Changes to ordering and paying for school meals

To support a more efficient way of ordering meals and enable parents to support their child to choose food they enjoy most, we will be moving to a new online meals system in the next few weeks. Parents will need to prebook (and prepay, where meals are paid for) school meals for their children. There will be further information and a launch date to follow.



## Home Learning

We have an adapted approach to home learning – please look out for an email letter due to go out shortly.

## 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.

### ‘Dropping off’ and ‘picking up’ routines

- To keep our younger children safe, if there is any change to the infant authorised collector of your child, please let the class teacher know or ring or email the school office.
- Thank you to all our parents for your patience and courtesy to each other and Darlington Road residents due to the traffic.

### 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. Children should tuck in their shirts and tie back long hair.

**PE Uniform:** As all PE is currently outside, please ensure children have the appropriate kit:

- Navy PE shorts
- Light blue PE T-shirt printed with the school name - to be ordered from Michael Hope Sports
- Navy or dark coloured (non ‘branded’) jogging bottoms or leggings and hoodie/sweatshirt for outdoor PE. Children in the Juniors are encouraged to have a light blue school hoodie printed with the school logo to be ordered from Michael Hope Sports
- A pair of plimsolls (daps) or trainers.

## Birthday Treats

- Currently we are not allowing children to bring in toys or unnecessary items from home due to Covid-19. As such, please do not send in any ‘birthday treats’ for others in your child’s class.

## Mobile phones

- If you feel your child in Year 5 and 6 has a specific need for a mobile phone in school, please speak to Mr. Purkiss or contact the school office. Thank you.

## Attendance regulations

- The Government is very clear that **no holidays should be taken in term time**. We 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 put in writing any request for planned absence. 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 (at the end of the newsletter) before booking any holiday.

## Thank you for your cooperation with these annual reminders.

We 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.

## Harvest Celebration

We have booked St. Mary’s Church for our Harvest Celebration service at St. Mary’s Church on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. However, we are exploring options to see if it is feasible to run this special service at this time. We would usually ask for donations of food for the Bath Foodbank but they are currently unable to accept food donations. We would like to support this charity who does much for vulnerable families in our city and as such will provide the opportunity to financially support this charity nearer the time.



## Clubs timetable

We have needed to make some changes to the clubs timetable and provision to adapt to Covid requirements – this will be shared shortly.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

Many parents generously donated towards the staffroom refurbishment – and in true makeover style, here are the before and after pictures. We are all extremely grateful to our parents who have enabled this much needed overhaul to happen!



**And finally...**

Please make a note of the dates for the diary below. Whilst the calendar looks somewhat sparse at the moment, we are working hard to enable as many exciting trips and visits to go ahead in line with our risk assessment and Government guidelines. We take pride in our rich and varied curriculum – and further dates and engaging opportunities will be shared soon!

As we settle in to a ‘new normal’ 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 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	
<b>September</b>	
Th 10	OWL YEAR 6
Th 17	OWL YEAR 5
Th 24	OWL YEAR 4
<b>October</b>	
Th 1	OWL YEAR 3
Th 8	OWL YEAR 2
Th 15	OWL YEAR 1
M 19	Flu Vaccinations
Th 22	OWL YEAR R
F 23	Harvest Service – details TBC
<b>Half Term</b>	
<b>November</b>	
M 2	INSET Day (no children in school)
Th 5	Class photographs OWL YEAR 6
Th 12	OWL YEAR 5
Th 19	OWL YEAR 4
Th 26	OWL YEAR 3
<b>December</b>	
Th 3	OWL YEAR 2
W 16	OWL YEAR R
Th 17	Choir to Pump Rooms – details TBC
F 18	Carol Service – details TBC

# Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2020/2021

**NO HOLIDAYS SHOULD BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME.**

AUGUST 2020						SEPTEMBER 2020						OCTOBER 2020						
M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26
T		4	11	18	25		T	1	8	15	22	29	T		6	13	20	27
W		5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28
TH		6	13	20	27		TH	3	10	17	24		TH	1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30
S		8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26		S	3	10	17	24	31
SU		9	16	23	30		SU	6	13	20	27		SU	4	11	18	25	
NOVEMBER 2020						DECEMBER 2020						JANUARY 2021						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25
T		3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27
TH		5	12	19	26		TH	3	10	17	24	31	TH		7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25		F	1	8	15	22	29
S		7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26		S	2	9	16	23	30
SU	1	8	15	22	29		SU	6	13	20	27		SU	3	10	17	24	31
FEBRUARY 2021						MARCH 2021						APRIL 2021						
M		1	8	15	22		M	1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26
T		2	9	16	23		T	2	9	16	23	30	T		6	13	20	27
W		3	10	17	24		W	3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28
TH		4	11	18	25		TH	4	11	18	25		TH	1	8	15	22	29
F		5	12	19	26		F	5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	30
S		6	13	20	27		S	6	13	20	27		S	3	10	17	24	
SU		7	14	21	28		SU	7	14	21	28		SU	4	11	18	25	
MAY 2021						JUNE 2021						JULY 2021						
M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26
T		4	11	18	25		T	1	8	15	22	29	T		6	13	20	27
W		5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28
TH		6	13	20	27		TH	3	10	17	24		TH	1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30
S	1	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26		S	3	10	17	24	31
SU	2	9	16	23	30		SU	6	13	20	27		SU	4	11	18	25	

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