



Achieving excellence through the pursuit of good

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Newsletter Three: November 2020



Some of our Reception Class enjoying their first OWL Adventures!

Dear Parents and Carers,

After the half term break, children have come back refreshed and ready to learn and be together! As we enter another national lockdown, we fully support the directive that schools are expected to remain open - being in school is so important for our children's education and wellbeing.



There is so much joy across all our classrooms (and outdoors!) and children have made a great start back. In the last week of term our Reception class enjoyed their first (muddy!) OWL Adventures.

Thank you for your support!

Children thoroughly enjoyed our PTA 'Dare to be Different' day where we celebrated that we are all different and yet all the same – and all equal, special and loved by God. Fr. Peter led our Harvest Celebration in a special Collective Worship that was live streamed to all classes. Thank you to all families who so generously donated towards the Bath Foodbank and our PTA. We raised a total of £441.80!



PTA AGM – date to follow

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 will be 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. The PTA will be launching some exciting projects and fundraising ideas to help our school continue to improve. The new School Council are helping lead the new development project. Look out for details to follow!



Black History Month

All classes focussed part of their learning last month on Black History. Year 2 learned about some fantastic sports people including

Usain Bolt, Serena and Venus Williams, Pele, Muhammed Ali, Jesse Owens, Tessa Sanderson and Dame Kelly Holmes. They discussed what would make a good role model and enjoyed a mini Olympics for P.E. and created medals with a photo of the sportsperson that had inspired them the most.



Another thank you to our families who generously donated to the charity, 'Show Racism the Red Card'. As well as marking the day in school to support our ongoing work to celebrate diversity and challenge inequality, we raised a fantastic £301.72!



Allergies in school

We have children in school who have **life-threatening allergies** to 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 there is a **school wide ban on nuts and sesame products**. Thank you for your continued vigilance and support.

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.

Support in Lockdown

We are living in challenging times. I am sure many of us appreciate the short and long term demands this can place or has placed on our children and families. **If you are in need of support for any reason**, or if circumstances have changed at home that may have an impact on your children, please let us know. If you wish to confidentially share something with Mr. Purkiss, please email our office – marked 'Confidential FAO Mr. Purkiss' and it will be treated as such.

The **B&NES Food Finder** was set up in response to the Covid-19 pandemic to



highlight local businesses providing food delivery, hot meals and takeaway services to Bath and North East Somerset residents during the lockdown period. There is a Food Clubs & Pantries section here: <http://banesfoodfinder.org.uk/listing/food-clubs-pantries> which highlights organisations providing affordable food or emergency food parcels for those who meet the qualifying criteria. If you need help, feel free to call the 3SG Compassionate Communities Hub on 0300 247 0050.

Oasis Church in Bath have opened a Community Pantry. A network of Community Pantries is being established across Bath with the aim of keeping people from reaching crisis point. They are different from foodbanks, who support people in acute crisis for a limited period, as they provide long-term access to food, which people pay a small amount for, and our members select the food they purchase each week. The Oasis Pantry is open every Thursday afternoon from 2-4pm in Oasis Church in Bath, which is situated near the junction of Lansdown Road, Broad Street, George Street and The Paragon. For more details please visit https://oasisbath.org/wpos_portfolio/oasispantry



Remembrance Poppies

If your child would like to purchase a poppy, please can they bring in a donation from Friday 6th November. A suggested minimum donation of £1 per poppy will be gratefully received. We will have a separate selection of poppies in each class instead of our usual procedure of Year six going into each class.

Christmas Card deadline

Just a reminder - when you have placed your online order for cards, please ensure the artwork is returned to school by this Friday morning (6th November).

Welcome to new children!

It is always lovely to welcome new children to Bathwick. A very warm welcome to Daniel in Year 3. We hope you will be very happy here!



A change to the Annual Donation

Following the recent Governors meeting, it has been agreed that due to the last lockdown and as we have needed to postpone or cancel a number of trips already this academic year, we will not be requesting the Annual Donation at this time. A letter regarding this will be sent shortly.

Severe weather procedures

In the event of very severe weather, it may be necessary to close or partially close the school. We will always do our very best to remain open, but with many staff living outside of Bath, due consideration is given to safe travel. In the event of poor weather leading to a closure, **we will email and text all parents**. If you see other children walking to school, please do not suggest they walk back home, as parents may assume they have safely arrived at school. If we are open, please send your child in with a change of footwear! Thank you.

Changes to ordering and paying for school meals

Thank you for your support in pre-booking your child's school meal choices. Please remember to cancel your child's meal for any planned absence (urgent medical appointment etc.), by midnight the day before. If your child is unwell on the day, please email the school office as usual to explain reason for absence and ask for the meal selection to be deleted. If this is not done on the day, the meal will be charged for as we will have begun preparing the food. Thank you for your support.

A message from Avon Fire & Rescue Service

As Bonfire Night approaches and in order to ensure our community's safety, please see the Bonfire Night information attached and below detailing how to stay safe. We have created this fun but really important fire work safety message with Fido the fire dog! aimed at children but great for all ages to watch making sure children stay safe within our communities this Bonfire night. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sm8s2vIcpqI&t=106s>. As well as this, please be aware that there is further safety information here: <https://avonfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/events-and-celebrations/fireworks> and on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Y0NMZtatew>

Term 2 Dates for the Diary	
November	
Th 5	Individual photographs have been postponed due to Lockdown OWL Year 6
Fr 6	Deadline for Christmas Cards projects to be return to school
Th 12	OWL Year 5
Th 19	OWL Year 4
Th 26	OWL Year 3
December	
Th 3	OWL Year 2
Fr 4	Year 4 Carnival Day
Th 10	OWL Year 1
Th 17	OWL Year R
Th 17	Choir to Pump Rooms – cancelled
Th 17 or F 18	Carol Service – approach and details TBC

And finally... even without the exciting trips and visits that help make the Bathwick Curriculum so varied and engaging, I would like to thank our teachers and staff team for continuing to innovate and create such memorable learning opportunities in school each day. Whilst lockdown may be looming, the wonderful buzz of laughter and learning continues to fill the classes here at Bathwick! 😊

