



*Achieving excellence through
the pursuit of good?*

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Headteacher: Mr. Kevin Purkiss



Newsletter One: September 2021

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 or carer to our school or have been here for some time! It was wonderful to welcome all children back on Monday. We enjoyed our first 'in person' Collective Worship with the whole school (other than Reception class as they were settling into their first day!) where we sung together for the first time in almost a year and a half and reminded ourselves of our school's Christian Values. Going into each classroom and hearing the excited buzz as children settle into a more 'normal' pattern and begin to tackle new topics and themes is a joy!

Thank you to all our staff team who 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 for 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 team who have overseen different improvements over the summer.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your greetings at the beginning of this term – may this academic year be one where all our children can learn and mix freely as one school family, and where any Covid challenges and restrictions do little to hamper children's love of learning and being together!

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

Collective Worship at Bathwick

As a Church school we enjoy meeting together daily. Prior to Covid, we weekly invited parents and carers to be part of Friday's Celebration Collective Worship (9.00-9.30 approx.) – we are delighted to once again invite parents / carers to celebrate in their child's achievements – please look out for your invitation (when your child has been chosen as 'Learner of the Week'!).

Welcome to new children!

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:

- Victoria in Year 6
- Lottie in Year 4
- Vi in Year 3
- Otto in Year 2

We hope you will all be very happy here!

IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFORMATION:

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 (this includes bringing snacks after school for your children or during clubs time)**. Thank you for your continued vigilance and support.

Low immunity danger

Fabienne's (Year 6) 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.

SUMMER FAIR – save the date!

Emma Dixon (Anella's mum in Year 3 and PTA Chair) and the PTA team are busy planning for our postponed Summer Fair. This year it will be held on **Saturday 25th September, from 10.30-12.30** at school. If you can help, or would like to run a stall, please contact Emma on pta@bsm.bwmat.org



Harvest Celebration

We have booked St. Mary's Church Bathwick, for our Harvest Celebration service on **Friday 22nd**



October at 1.30 p.m. For the first time since Christmas 2019 we are delighted to invite our whole school community to share in this joyful service together. We would usually ask for donations of food for the Bath Foodbank and will be in touch with details nearer the time. We also would like to especially invite all Year R and Year 1 Parents – new children in Reception (and Year 1 as we were unable to present these last year) all receive a Bible from school which we will present to each child in this service. Please do 'save the date' if you can. All children take part in the Service, so please collect your child from the Church at the end (we expect to end by 2.40 p.m.) If you are unable to collect your child (or they are booked into Wraparound Care), we will take children back to school for the usual end of the day.

Open mornings

Is your child due to start school in September 2022? You are warmly invited to our Open Mornings (7th October, 4th November, 25th November, each from 9.00-10.00 or 10.45-11.45). Contact Lorraine Harper or Clare Turner in the office to book a place: office@bsm.bwmat.org

Bath Children's Literature Festival

We are excited that the Bath Children's Literature Festival will be returning in the Autumn. From Friday 24th September through to Sunday 3rd October a whole host of big names are coming to Bath, including **Cressida Cowell, Liz Pichon**, TV fitness guru **Joe Wicks, Kristina Stephenson, Sophie Dahl** and illustrators **Dapo Adeola** and **Steven Lenton**. There will be events starring Supertato, a draw-along with illustrator **Rod Biddulph**, actor turned novelist **Stephen Mangan** with his sister illustrator **Anita**, ghost hunter **Yvette Fielding** and Irish comedian **David O'Doherty**. There's a session with Bath Rugby, called Rampaging Rugby plus an interactive Listified quiz aimed at kids, parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents! Visit: www.bathfestivals.org.uk

New Trim Trail and traverse wall

Our children have loved playing on and exploring the new equipment. Once again – huge thanks to every child, parent, staff member of Governor who have been involved in fundraising for this first phase of the playground development. The trail has been designed so it is suitable for ALL children at school. However, at present, no one should use the equipment before or after school. Thank you.



SAVE THE DATE – Year R, 1 and 2

To further enhance and build on our successes teaching children to read, this year we have overhauled our approach to teaching reading and phonics. We are using a completely new scheme called Read, Write, Inc. This approach has many significant differences – especially around the books children will be bringing home and when. All infant parents are invited to an important information session from **2.15-3.15 in the school hall, on Thursday 23rd September**. The event will be recorded so all are able to access it, but we encourage as many parents to attend as possible.



Clubs timetable

The clubs timetable was shared on Friday 3rd September. If you have any queries, please contact Lorraine Harper or Clare Turner in our office.

Water and weather

We appear to be enjoying a resurgence of summer – please apply sunscreen to your child before the school day. All water fountains are in operation – but please can children remember to bring in a named full water bottle each day.

Wraparound Care

Our Wraparound Care service provides on-site childcare from 7.30-8.50 and at the end of the school day to 17.30. The costs for each session are £6.00 (Breakfast Club; end of the school day to 16.30; 16.30-17.30). <https://bathwickstmary.schoolipal.co.uk/>. To find out more, please contact the office team.

Music tuition at Bathwick

Acoustic Guitar lessons

Tim Clark continues to provide personalised acoustic guitar lessons for Years 4, 5 and 6 children. If you are interested in your child learning, please drop an email to tclarkguitar@gmail.com to express your interest.

BANES Music Tuition for Y4 / Y5 / Y6 children

If your child would like to continue or start music lessons, please contact B&NES Music Service direct at Music@bathnes.gov.uk. Once the information is available, B&NES will contact you to book lessons direct with them.

Piano and Singing lessons at Bathwick for Y4 / Y5 / Y6

We are also able to offer a limited number of personalised private singing or beginner piano lessons at Bathwick with our Choir and Ensemble conductor, Ms. Kelly Sharp. If you would like to find out more, please email the school office and we will pass your contact details to Ms. Sharp.

Important 'annual reminders'

You will have already received (on Friday 3rd September) a letter outlining current changes in line with 'Step 4' of the Government roadmap. In addition, and in order to keep our school being the best that it can be, please read through these further polite reminders. Class letters from teaching teams will be sent out later this week, but if you have any questions about your child's learning, please do ask their teacher.

Birthday Treats

- Whilst the majority of Covid restrictions have been removed or adapted, at present please do not send in any 'birthday treats' for others in your child's class.

Survey for all Year 5 and 6

- If you wish your child to walk home on their own at the end of the school day, please [complete this short permission form](#).
- If you feel your child in Year 5 and 6 has a specific need for a mobile phone in school, please contact Lorraine Harper or Clare Turner in the school office who will share a permission form. Thank you.

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.

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 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 holidays.

'Dropping off' and 'picking up' routines

- **Infants only:** To keep our children safe, if there is any change to the authorised collector form you have previously completed, please 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.
- Please can all children and adults be very **mindful of the school drive** especially at the beginning and end of the school day. There are regularly moving vehicles at that time. Children, once collected, should make their way away from the school site and not 'play' near the drive or on the garden or bushes.

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.
- Here are the [uniform requirements](#).

PE Uniform: Please ensure children have the appropriate clothing:

- Navy PE shorts
- Light blue PE T-shirt printed with the school name - to be ordered from Michael Hope
- 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.

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.

Save the date(s)

Term 1 and 2 Dates for the Diary are on the next page. In addition, here are some key events in the year ahead:

- Sunday 30th **January:** Education Sunday
- Friday 8th **April**, 1.30 p.m. Easter Service
- 27th – 29th **April**, Year 5 to Deanfield
- 6th - 10th **June**, Year 6 to Isle of Wight
- 22nd – 24th **June**, Year 4 to Magdalen Farm
- Wednesday 20th **July**, Leavers Service 1.30 pm.

Your questions, queries and feedback...

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 your ideas and comments. It is by working in positive partnership that our children will continue to thrive!

With my best wishes for the year ahead.



Kevin Purkiss
Head Teacher

You may be interested in...

Free Cook It, LEAP and Henry Healthy Families Courses that are available to parents in B&NES.

- **Cook It** is currently being delivered online and is a five week programme that aims to motivate and provide families with the skills and confidence to plan, prepare and cook healthy budget friendly family meals and to improve knowledge about healthy eating by covering topics such as eat well plate, portion sizes, healthy snacks.
- **Henry Healthy Families** is an online 8 week evidence based programme which supports families with young children to give them a great start in life and encourages a healthier lifestyle for the whole family. The programme supports physical and emotional wellbeing and covers nutrition, physical activity, portion sizes, screen time, looking after yourself, exploring children's and parent's feelings and managing challenging behaviour. It's a relaxed and informal online course which gives parents the opportunity to share experiences and ideas with other parents. Each parent receives a free set of helpful family resources – a course book, which includes recipe and activity ideas; children's story books and soft ball, charts and more. For more info please go to the Henry website at [Homepage | HENRY](#).
- **LEAP** is also an online course, offering 1:1 support for children (with their family) aged 5-10 and 10-17, it is for 6 weeks. The topics covered include, healthy food and drink swaps, physical activity, impact of screen time and why we make certain food choices. Tailored goals are then set after every session and each child/parent receives a family booklet and session plan. After the course finishes we offer 3 months of free leisure centre activities (including 1 adult).

Term 1 and 2 Dates for the Diary – further details for several events will follow

| September | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Thur 9 | OWL Year 1 |
| Fri 10 | School Council announced! |
| Thur 16 | OWL Year 4 |
| Mon 20 | All Year R full time from this week |
| Thur 23 | OWL Year 3 |
| Sat 25 | Summer Fair |
| Tues 28 | 8.30 SNAG (more information to follow) |
| Weds 29 | Y6 to Lifeskills (Bristol) |
| Thur 30 | OWL Year 5 |
| October | |
| Mon 4 | Black History Month – 'Proud to Be' |
| Wed 6 | Newsletter |
| Thurs 7 | Y3 to Bristol museum OPEN MORNING OWL Year 2 |
| Mon 11 & Thurs 14 | PCEs (Parents' Evenings) |
| Thurs 14 | OWL Year 6 |
| Tues 19 | Individual Photos day |
| Thurs 21 | OWL Year R |
| Fri 22 | Harvest Service 1.30 p.m. St. Mary's Church, Bathwick |
| Half Term | |
| November | |
| Mon 1 | INSET Day (no children in school) |
| Wed 3 | Newsletter |
| Thur 4 | OPEN MORNING OWL Year 1 |
| Thurs 11 | Remembrance Day OWL Year 4 |
| Mon 15 | Flu Vaccine – all classes |
| Thur 18 | Y6 to Steam museum OWL Year 3 |
| Fri 19 | Children in Need |
| Thur 25 | OPEN MORNING OWL Year 2 |
| December | |
| Wed 1 | Newsletter |
| Thur 2 | OWL Year 5 |
| Thur 9 | OWL Year 6 |
| Tues 14 | Choir to Rotary Carol Service – Bath Abbey, evening. |
| Fri 17 | Carol Service, 1.30 p.m. |

Junior Church at St. Mary's

On Sunday 19th September Junior Church is restarting at St Mary's after 18 months. This takes place during the Sunday service at 10.30am and any youngsters aged 10 and under are welcome to come along. We have planned a programme of activities, including Bible stories, discussion and craft activities, mostly based on the Gospel readings for the day.

Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2021-2022

NO HOLIDAYS SHOULD BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME (v3 addition of July 22nd B&NES School holiday date)

| AUGUST 2021 | | | | | | SEPTEMBER 2021 | | | | | OCTOBER 2021 | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|----|----|----|----|----------------|----|---|----|----|--------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | M | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | M | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |
| T | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | T | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | T | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | |
| W | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | W | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | W | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | |
| TH | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | TH | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | TH | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | |
| F | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | F | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | | F | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | |
| S | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | S | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | S | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | |
| SU | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | | SU | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | SU | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | |
| NOVEMBER 2021 | | | | | | DECEMBER 2021 | | | | | JANUARY 2022 | | | | | | | | |
| M | | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | M | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | M | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| T | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | T | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | T | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |
| W | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | | W | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | W | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | |
| TH | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | TH | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | TH | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | |
| F | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | F | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | F | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | |
| S | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | S | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | S | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | |
| SU | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | SU | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | SU | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | |
| FEBRUARY 2022 | | | | | | MARCH 2022 | | | | | APRIL 2022 | | | | | | | | |
| M | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | M | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | M | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |
| T | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | | | T | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | T | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | |
| W | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | | | W | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | W | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | |
| TH | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | | | TH | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | TH | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | |
| F | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | | F | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | F | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | |
| S | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | | S | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | S | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | |
| SU | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | | SU | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | SU | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | | |
| MAY 2022 | | | | | | JUNE 2022 | | | | | JULY 2022 | | | | | | | | |
| M | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | M | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | M | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |
| T | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | T | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | T | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | |
| W | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | W | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | W | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | |
| TH | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | TH | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | TH | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | |
| F | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | F | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | | F | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | |
| S | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | S | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | S | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | |
| SU | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | | SU | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | SU | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | |

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

The 22/23 academic year begins on Thursday 1st September 2022.