



Achieving excellence through the pursuit of good

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Newsletter Two: October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The school year is in full swing with so many exciting learning opportunities for our children – all linked to our Bathwick Curriculum. We are thrilled to begin again those rich visits from which so much learning stems. The love of reading and books was evident as all classes from Years 1 to 6 enjoyed hearing from some brilliant authors as part of the recent trip for the **Bath Literature Festival**. Year 5 had a fascinating trip to Bath's **Herschel museum** where William Herschel discovered the planet Uranus. Year 1 all learned about the **fire service** and had a go at being firefighters for the morning! Year 3 are off to the **Bristol Museum** on Thursday and next week Year 4 are heading to the **Roman Baths**. Year 2 soon have the Avon fire brigade coming in linked to their Great Fire of London topic. Year 6 developed their skills at Bristol's **'Life Skills'** and are heading to the **Steam museum** in Swindon at the end of this term as well as learning all about the **Bath Blitz** in a walking tour next week!



We are also privileged to welcome (virtually) **Professor Chris Done** next week who will be speaking with Year 6 about science and faith. As one of Durham's first female professors with a PhD on X-rays from black holes and having worked on the NASA Space Flight Centre – she is well placed to inspire our children, helping them 'reach for the stars'! Year 5 and 6 also recently enjoyed a fascinating talk from **James Shone** – a local Head who lost almost all his sight following a brain tumour. His inspirational presentation about turning setbacks into springboards inspired our older children about building confidence and 'inflating balloons of self belief'.

SUMMER FAIR – thank you!

Thank you very much indeed to Emma Dixon (Anella's mum in Year 3 and PTA Chair) and the PTA team who put so much into the Summer Fair on 25th September. Thank you to all who came and supported the school. It was a wonderful community event with some great stalls run by both children and adults. Thank you if you supported in anyway – we managed to raise a total of **£1144.08!** The PTA AGM will be held shortly where we can discuss some of the upcoming projects for the year!



Thank you also to Bethany (2) and Joe, Amelia and Sophia (5) who ran a musical concert at home recently and raised a further £41 for our PTA!

Teaching children to read

Thank you to the many parents and carers who were able to come to the recent information session on Thursday 23rd September. As part of our ongoing curriculum development, we have overhauled our approach to teaching reading and phonics and are using Read, Write, Inc. All parents/carers in Year R, 1 and 2 should have received an information pack. In addition, all resources and the recorded event are live on the front page of our [website here](#). Please do take the time to review this important information.



We are looking forward to our **Harvest Service on Friday 22nd October** and hope as many parents and carers 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 St. Mary's Church (Bathwick) 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. A reminder that we 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. We will be **collecting food items for the Bath Foodbank and Genesis Trust** and would appreciate any donations. Please can children bring in donations from Monday 21st October to the morning of Thursday 24th October. Thank you in advance.



Open mornings

Is your child due to start school in September 2022? You are warmly invited to our Open Mornings on 4th November or 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

B:M2021 **Black History Month: 'Proud to Be'**
DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER
 Again this year we join schools and organisations across the country to celebrate Black History Month. We are learning more about the accomplishments of Black Britons throughout our history. On Monday in Collective Worship we started by looking at Radzi Chinyanganya, Lewis Hamilton, Beyoncé and Usain Bolt. A wonderful selection of new books and resources have been purchased which, after their use this month, will be readily available for all to enjoy in our school library.

PCE (Parent / Carer Consultation Evening) reminder

A reminder to please sign up for PCEs (Monday 11th and Thursday 14th October). Unfortunately, due to positive Covid cases in school we have made the decision to hold both PCEs online on this occasion. We appreciate some parents and carers will be keen to review children's books. If you do wish to do so, please contact your child's class teacher who can facilitate this. Please see the email sent on Tuesday 5th with all the details on. Please [click here](#) to book your place.

Winter Uniform – from October half term

As we approach half term may I remind parents that all **children** need to wear their 'winter uniform' (shirts and ties) from Tuesday 2nd November (Monday 1st is an INSET day). Thank you for your co-operation. The uniform [requirements are here](#).

Classrooms continue to be well ventilated in line with Government advice. The heating is on, but some classes may be slightly cooler than usual. The temperature will be monitored but no children will need to wear gloves, scarfs or hats (as you may have seen reports of in the news!). However, children are welcome to wear a fleece or jumper in class if they feel they need to.

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.

End of day collection – keeping everyone safe

- A reminder that all children from Year R to 4 must be collected by a known adult.
- In Years R, 1 and 2, the office team or class teacher must be made aware if there is a change to the authorised collector of your child.
- To make a temporary change, please either contact the office or speak with the class teacher.
- For a ‘permanent’ change to add or remove someone from your list of authorised collectors, please email the school office. Thank you.
- Children in Years 5 and 6 may walk home on their own, but only after express permission has been given. If you wish your child to walk home on their own at the end of the school day, please [complete this short permission form](#).

National Fitness Day was on 22nd September. Thank you to Siobhain Archer who gave of her time to lead a whole school Zumba session!



Library Helpers and Reading Helpers – can you help?

Thank you to many parents and carers who, before Covid lockdowns, gave their time to support with either reading or in the Library each week. We are looking for volunteers to support with hearing children read or to help with Library sessions. If you are interested in supporting the school in this way, please contact our Librarian, Clare Turner: Librarian@bsm.bwmat.org

OWL Adventures – thank you

Thank you to parent Mr. Edwards who, after volunteering at a recent OWL day, kindly purchased 13 flint and steels for children to use on OWL days.



Save the date(s)

In addition to the dates to the right, 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 Dean Field
- 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.

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

October - Black History Month	
Thurs 7	Y3 to Bristol Museum OPEN MORNING (Postponed) OWL Year 2
Mon 11	PCEs (Parents' / Carers' Evenings)
Weds 13	Year 4 to the Roman Baths
Thurs 14	OWL Year 5 Year 6 Bath Blitz walking tour PCEs (Parents' / Carers' Evenings)
Fri 15	Professor Chris Done – Y6 Zoom
Tues 19	Individual Photos day
Weds 20	Cross Country at Odd Down (Some Y5/6) Year 4 Roman 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
Mon 8	KS1 and Y3 Collective Worship 9.00 All Year R/1/2/3 parent/carers invited
Thurs 11	Remembrance Day OWL Year 4
Mon 15	Anti-bullying Week Road Safety Week Flu Vaccine – all classes
Thur 18	OWL Year 3
Fri 19	Children in Need
Thur 25	OPEN MORNING OWL Year 2
Mon 29	Y6 to Steam museum
December	
Wed 1	Newsletter
Thur 2	OWL Year 5
Thur 9	OWL Year 6
Mon 13	2:15 – R/1/2 Nativity Performance to Parents/Carers
Tues 14	Choir to Rotary Carol Service – Bath Abbey, evening.
Weds 15	9:45 – R/1/2 Nativity Performance to Parents/Carers
Fri 17	Whole School Carol Service, 1.30 p.m.

A reminder that Monday 1st November is an INSET day. Staff will be doing further work on the Bathwick Curriculum as we continue to develop our offer for our children!

Kevin Purkiss, Head Teacher

You may be interested in...

GET Sported and GET Serious Cricket Autumn 25th – 27th October

GET Sported: Multi Sport Day Camps, ages 5-12 years. Enjoy Football, Cricket, Rugby, Basketball, Frisbee, Hockey and many more sports! Also, pizza day (Tues), prizes, awards and so many 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!

For more information please visit our website: www.getsported.org (or Email info@getsported.org)

Book online:

<https://getsported.org/Groups/316965/Bath.aspx>

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

Times: 9.00am - 4pm

Registration from 9.00 am

Prices: Standard Camp (Sibling discount 10% off)

1 Day: £30 (£27)

2 Day: £60 (£54)

3 Day: £75 (£67.50)

(All bookings must be booked online prior to the camp and no participants will be able to pay on the door)

(Bookings close midnight, Saturday 23rd)

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

Festival of the Moon - Wells Cathedral in October

Families can enjoy experiencing the Museum of the Moon, a scale model of the moon suspended from the Nave ceiling, complete with lunar imagery, moonlight and surround sound composition. Entry to the cathedral is free although donations are always welcome. There are also ticketed family friendly performances.

Festival of the Moon at Wells Cathedral

This autumn, Wells Cathedral is hosting a festival to celebrate the visit of Luke Jerram's spectacular touring artwork: *Museum of the Moon*. A whole constellation of activities and events, including live shows, music, school displays and tours, will be on offer throughout the *Moon's* stay from 12th October to 3rd November, with something to satisfy all tastes and ages! Why not visit the Moon this October half-term?

Wallace & Gromit's 'A Grand Day Out'

Thursday 14th October 2021 at 7.00pm

Wallace and Gromit enjoy a day out with a difference when a quest to find cheese prompts a visit to the moon! Watch this comic classic on the big screen at Wells Cathedral's family-friendly evening under the *Museum of the Moon*. This show includes a performance of *Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo*, performed by the Choristers of Wells Cathedral Choir! Tickets: £5-£10 (family tickets available)

'Man on the Moon' at Wells Cathedral

Friday 15th October 2021 at 6.30pm, 8pm and 9.30pm (three performances)

On Friday 15th October, watch ropewalker-extraordinaire Chris Bullzini perform a breath-taking highwire routine above the *Museum of the Moon*, and explore the extraordinary spaces of the Cathedral by night. Tickets: £8-£10

Full details and booking information can be found at <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/cathedral-events/festival-of-the-moon/>

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.