



*Achieving excellence through
the pursuit of good*

Bathwick St. Mary Church School

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Headteacher: Mr. Kevin Purkiss



Newsletter Three: November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



Welcome back after the half term break. In last month's newsletter we celebrated the richness of Bathwick's curriculum; all this term's curriculum maps that set out the core learning in each class and for each subject are [available here](#).

Year Six were successfully 'evacuated' (and safely returned!) to Swindon's 'Steam' at the end of last term. The hands-on experience helped cement their knowledge about how children were impacted in Britain during World War II.



Thank you to Miss. Lozynskij who led much of the learning across the school around **Black History Month** in October. During a special Collective Worship about the Bristol Bus Boycott, children better understood the impact of these events in Bristol and made international links to the lives of Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King in particular. During the month, each class shared stories from inspirational UK and international figures, learning about key moments in Black History through quality books and texts.

At Bathwick, we stand up against discrimination and racism in all its forms. Thank you to everyone who generously donated and supported the charity 'Show Racism the Red Card' at the end of last term. We raised £131 for the work of the charity who do great work in schools across the UK, educating children and adults about the causes and consequences of racism. [Find out more here](#).



Please come along...

A reminder that the Governors and PTA are holding a special **Presentation and Q&A session at 7.00 p.m.** (for around an hour) **on Thursday 3rd November**. This is a great opportunity for anyone linked to our school to hear more about the key things we are working on this year, our longer-term strategies and the work of the PTA. It is designed to be a partly social occasion – cheese and wine is provided, and an opportunity to informally speak with Mr. Purkiss, the Governors, the PTA, and each other. Throughout, there will opportunities to give feedback and to ask questions. Please do come along if you can!

GET TO KNOW YOUR SCHOOL
The Governors, Mr Purkiss and the PTA invite you for
CHEESE AND WINE AT THE PTA AGM
Celebrating successes and sharing plans for the future, with Q and A session.
EVERYONE WELCOME
Thurs Nov. 3rd, 7 - 8.30pm
Bathwick St. Mary School

Team work, dedication and smiles all round!

It is always great to hear what super ambassadors our children are as they enter competitions and events across our city. The recent netball tournament was no exception – well done to Amel, Anna, Cressida, Clemency, Dorothy, Evelyn, Isobel and Theodora who played four pool matches. The team won against two schools, drew with another and narrowly lost one match. With superb teamwork and under the careful direction of coach Sian Dudman, the team qualified for the semi-finals where they lost in a very exciting match. All children were a credit to the school, as always! I would particularly like to commend both Elsa and Agnes who came along to support the team – along with the parents. Thank you and well done!

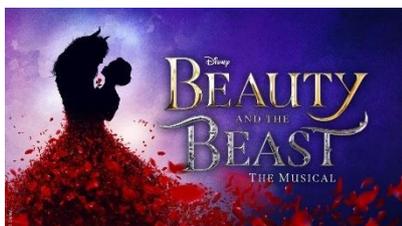


Staff team update

Many will be aware that our Office Manager, Mrs. Lorraine Harper, contracted Covid last year. Sadly, she is currently unwell and has been signed off work. We are very grateful particularly to Mrs. Sheryl Self and Mrs. Clare Turner as well as Miss. Rachel Whittle who between them have ensured the smooth running of our busy office.

From Page to Stage – Arts Week

As part of our celebration of the arts during our week called 'From Page to Stage', we are thrilled to be taking Years 2 to 6



to watch the stage production of 'Beauty and the Beast'. This will take place on Wednesday 9th November at 2.30 p.m. at The Bristol Hippodrome. We will be travelling by coach after an early lunch and are expecting to return to school at 6pm. If you have Wraparound Booked – please remember to cancel this. Please see yesterday's email with all the details on. We are very grateful to our PTA who have made a very generous donation of £1,500 to reduce the overall cost. We don't want any children to miss out on something this special so please do come and see Mr. Purkiss if you have any difficulty in paying. Thank you to Miss. Bowman who is championing this arts week!

New interactive boards in every classroom!

Over half term, much work was completed at school. We had new fire doors installed to adhere to the latest regulations as well as eight amazing new interactive boards in each teaching room. This new equipment has already had a brilliant impact on teaching and learning. These have been partly funded by the Bathwick Trust Fund and school capital funds.

Exciting playground updates



Over half term and during this week, work has progressed at a rapid pace in the area above the infant playground. The artificial surfacing will shortly be

installed and once complete, this area will significantly improve the play space and area for children to use throughout the year for creative play as well as for outdoor learning.

Thank you for your patience with access to the back gate while this work is in progress.



Parking in and around school

Thank you to all parents and carers who responded to the B&NES transport proposals last year. The School and Governing Body was also actively part of this consultation. The changes to the road layouts, the introduction of cycle lanes and removal of parking – particularly while there is no access to the rear of the school – is causing additional challenges on Darlington Road. Whilst Governors have worked and are working with the Council on solutions to the issue, **if EVERYONE only drives to school when ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY and whenever possible parks away from the school and walks in, then Darlington Road particularly will be far safer for all.** DO NOT park on double yellow lines or in neighbour's driveways – we have had several reports of private vehicles regularly parking inconsiderately and blocking lines of sight for children crossing the road and blocking pavements so people and pushchairs are unable to safely move along the pavement. We teach our children to be polite and respectful; we expect all parents and carers to do the same – thank you for your cooperation. **We also urge all those concerned to share their views and contact the B&NES Liveable Neighbourhoods Team on travel_survey@bathnes.gov.uk or 01225 396593.**

5 star kitchen accreditation

In order to maintain high food standards and control over our delicious school menu we directly employ our own catering team, led by Kitchen Manager Mrs. Kirstie Morgan. Under her leadership, the quality of food and the uptake of school meals remains high with children enjoying new recipes as well as 'old favourites'. In the last week of term, we were delighted to be awarded the highest level 5 rating by the Food Standards Agency. **Thank you to Kirstie and team** for all they do to provide our children with a nutritious and delicious hot lunch each day.



Clean and Green in Bathwick

Year 4 have once again been brilliant ambassadors as they took part in the B&NES 'Clean and Green' litter pick in nearby residential streets. They were joined by a member of B&NES Council as they supported the drive to keep local streets well maintained. [Find out more here.](#)



Congratulations and thanks to Clark

Clark in Year 5 entered a drawing competition recently and was one of the prize winners for his age category. He had to design a 'Horrible Dib Dib monster' inspired by the book 'The Horrible Dib Dib' by Idries Shah. Part of his prize is a selection of books from the Idries Shah Foundation for the school library. We are looking forward to receiving these – thank you and well done Clark!



Fantastic fireworks – more amazing achievements!

Another well done – this time to **Fred** in Year 3, **Sophie O** in Year 5 and **Theodora** in Year 6 who were the prize winners in the Bath Rotary Firework Poster competition. Fred not only picked up first prize in the age 6-7 category but also picked up

the **overall prize winner** of the Firework safety competition. Over 2000 children entered the competition so he is super proud of his achievements. Fred was presented with a trophy by the Mayor of Bath in the Guildhall and received lots of other goodies!



The importance of school attendance

We regularly remind our community that no holidays are authorised in term time. Children make progress in their learning when they know more, remember more and are able to do more. Our carefully sequenced curriculum is built around this pedagogy – and **this is one of the key reasons why school attendance matters so much**. Here are each class's attendance figures for any unauthorised absence last month.

Congratulations to Years R, 2 and 4 who have had 100% attendance (which includes authorised absence) for the month of October.

<p>Year R: 100% 😊</p> <p>Year 1: 99.8%</p> <p>Year 2: 100% 😊</p> <p>Year 3: 99.7%</p>	<p>Year 4: 100% 😊</p> <p>Year 5: 99.6%</p> <p>Year 6: 99.8%</p> <p>WHOLE SCHOOL: 99.8%</p>
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Important safety updates

We have children in school who have **life-threatening allergies**. We take all our children's safety extremely seriously and as such **the following foods and foods containing these ingredients are banned from the school site** (this includes bringing snacks after school for your children or during clubs time):

- ⊘ **Sesame seeds and food containing sesame** (sesame can be found on or in a variety of food, including on rolls, bread, oil, hummus)
- ⊘ **Nuts and food containing nuts**
 - ✗ All 'Tree nuts' - this includes cashew, hazelnuts, almonds, walnuts, pistachio, macadamia, pecan and Brazil nuts
 - ✗ Peanuts and chestnuts
 - ✗ Pine nuts and Pesto

Some food packing uses wording such as, 'This product has been produced in a factory that handles nuts and/or sesame' or 'May contain nuts and/or sesame'. At school, we only ban foods that specifically state nuts or sesame in the ingredient list. Thank you for your continued vigilance.

Open mornings

Is your child due to start school in September 2023? You are warmly invited to our Open Mornings on 3rd or 24th November, each from 9.00-10.00 or 10.45-11.45). Contact Clare Turner in the office to book a place: office@bsm.bwmat.org

Harvest Celebration

Thank you for your brilliant support at our Harvest Celebration Service on the last day



of term. It was a joy to 'formally' welcome all our new children in Reception and across the school to our school family and celebrate Harvest and some of the children's learning from Term 1.

PCE (Parent / Carer Consultation Evening)

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent PCEs. If you missed your appointment or feel there are any further queries you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. It is by working together that our children will make the best progress in their learning.

And finally...

We look forward to seeing as many as possible at tomorrow's cheese and wine Governor and PTA presentation and Q&A evening.

With best wishes,

Kevin Purkiss
Headteacher

You may also be interested in...



Cook it

FREE five week cookery course for parents/carers and children

Join a group session to discover how to make easy, healthy budget friendly recipes in person or online

- Free recipe book and NEW video recipe links
- Support with meal planning and budgeting
- Encouraging children to eat balanced meals
- Ingredients provided or funded with £30 voucher

Upcoming start dates (one session per week):

- Tues 11th Oct- 15th Nov (no session 25th Oct), 4-5.30pm at Southside Youth and Community Centre, Twerton, Bath.
- Wed 16th Nov - 14th Dec 4-5:30pm at Castle Primary, Keynsham
- Mon 14th Nov - 12th Dec 5-6pm, Online.
- Mon 14th Nov - 10th Dec 4pm - 5:30pm at Paulton Village Hall

Contact the Community Wellbeing Hub to book on
Tel: 0300 247 0050 Email: BATHNES.thehub@hcrgrcaregroup.com

Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives



Fussy Eating

Free online workshop



Fed up with stressful mealtimes? We're here to help...

As parents we want our children to eat well – and to enjoy mealtimes together

Come along and get support and new ideas for:

- How to encourage your child to try new foods – and begin to enjoy them!
- Child-friendly foods that provide what they need to grow and be healthy
- Happier family mealtimes

Event details:

Online - 23rd November
7:45-9:15

Term 2 Dates for the Diary	
November	
3	Open Morning for September 2023 Reception PTA & Governor Presentation and Q&A 7.00 p.m. OWL Year 2
9	From Page to Stage Week Y2-6 To Bristol Hippodrome 'Beauty & the Beast'
10	Y6 Girls football match @ Moorlands 3.00p.m. PTA Quiz Night in School Hall (From 7.30pm)
11	Remembrance Day OWL Year 1 Cake Sale in WR (Responsibility of Years 3/4)
14	Anti-bullying week Odd Socks Day
15	Flu Vaccinations
18	Children in Need OWL Year R School Disco. End of school day - 4.30 Infants / 4.45-5.30 Juniors
24	Open Morning for September 2023 Reception OWL Year 5
25	Year 6 – Walking Tour of Bath PTA Y3/4 Cake Sale – after school
December	
1	PTA Christmas Wreath Evening 7.30 p.m.
2	OWL Year 6
6	Christmas Lunch
7	Choir to 'Carols at the Rec' (evening)
8	Y3/4 to Bathwick Church for B&NES Carol Service
9	Christmas Jumper Day (Save the children) Year 4 OWL After school – PTA Christmas Fair
12	2.15 Nativity Performance (YR/1/2)
13	Evening Choir to Rotary Carol Service - Abbey
14	9.45 Nativity Performance (YR/1/2)
16	Carol Service, 1.30 p.m. St. Mary's Church

Save the date(s)

- Friday 31st **March**, Easter Service, 1.30 p.m.
- 19th – 21st **April**, Year 5 to Deanfield
- 5th - 9th **June**, Year 6 to Isle of Wight
- 21st – 23rd **June**, Year 4 to Magdalen Farm
- Wednesday 20th **July**, Leavers Service, 1.30 pm.



Term and Holiday Dates – 2022-2023

NO HOLIDAYS SHOULD BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME

AUGUST 2022						SEPTEMBER 2022					OCTOBER 2022							
M	1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31
T	2	9	16	23	30	T		6	13	20	27	T		4	11	18	25	
W	3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26	
TH	4	11	18	25	TH	1	8	15	22	29	TH		6	13	20	27		
F	5	12	19	26	F	2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28		
S	6	13	20	27	S	3	10	17	24	S	1	8	15	22	29			
SU	7	14	21	28	SU	4	11	18	25	SU	2	9	16	23	30			
NOVEMBER 2022						DECEMBER 2022					JANUARY 2023							
M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	30
T	1	8	15	22	29	T		6	13	20	27	T		3	10	17	24	31
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25	
TH	3	10	17	24	TH	1	8	15	22	29	TH		5	12	19	26		
F	4	11	18	25	F	2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27		
S	5	12	19	26	S	3	10	17	24	31	S		7	14	21	28		
SU	6	13	20	27	SU	4	11	18	25	SU	1	8	15	22	29			
FEBRUARY 2023						MARCH 2023					APRIL 2023							
M		6	13	20	27	M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	
T		7	14	21	28	T		7	14	21	28	T		4	11	18	25	
W	1	8	15	22	W	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26		
TH	2	9	16	23	TH	2	9	16	23	30	TH		6	13	20	27		
F	3	10	17	24	F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28		
S	4	11	18	25	S	4	11	18	25	S	1	8	15	22	29			
SU	5	12	19	26	SU	5	12	19	26	SU	2	9	16	23	30			
MAY 2023						JUNE 2023					JULY 2023							
M	1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31
T	2	9	16	23	30	T		6	13	20	27	T		4	11	18	25	
W	3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26	
TH	4	11	18	25	TH	1	8	15	22	29	TH		6	13	20	27		
F	5	12	19	26	F	2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28		
S	6	13	20	27	S	3	10	17	24	S	1	8	15	22	29			
SU	7	14	21	28	SU	4	11	18	25	SU	2	9	16	23	30			

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

The **23/24** academic year begins on Monday 4th September 2023.