



Achieving excellence through the pursuit of good

Bathwick St. Mary Church School

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Headteacher: Mr. Kevin Purkiss



Newsletter Nine: May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter break and a bank holiday weekend. Thank you for your congratulations about the new addition to the Purkiss family; Annabel and family are doing well!

The last day of term 4 was a joyous celebration of Easter at St. Mary's Church. Thank you to so many parents and carers who were able to join us. It was a special occasion, in particular for Lorraine Harper who retired at the end of the term, after over 31 years working at Bathwick St. Mary. Thank you to the whole community for such a show of support and gratitude for Lorraine. Needless to say we will miss her but wish her and Guy a very well earned retirement! Our Choir of almost 50 children in Years 5 and 6 were in fine voice and performed to their usual high standard. It was also great to hear a fantastic song from the Year 3 and 4 musical 'Minotaur' as well as other children involved in different ways. Thank you and well done to all!



It has been a great start to the term which is in full swing with classrooms and corridors alive to the sounds of laughter and learning! Year 5 have already enjoyed a fantastic residential to **Dean Field Studies Centre** in the Forest of Dean. Thank you to Mr Jackson, Miss Farrar, Miss Fraser, Miss Malewski and Mrs Williams

for giving up their time with family to take our children away on this experience. Look through the newsletter for several photos! Each residential experience for Years 4, 5 and 6 are so important in developing children's confidence and resilience as they prepare for their next stage of education.



Welcome to...

A very warm welcome to Lavinia in Year 2 and Yunu and Yudai in Year 3. We hope all children and families settle in quickly and are very happy here!

New play equipment – being installed next week!

We are delighted to share that thanks to everyone's hard work and generosity, the next pieces of equipment for 'Project Playground' are being installed next week. Children will soon be able to enjoy new several new pieces of equipment including shelters, sand tables and improved surfacing by the traverse wall. Thank you again for all of your support. We were delighted to launch the 'Grow a Pound' project last week and are already hearing reports of sponsored cricket matches, baking for neighbours, car washing and other creative ideas – keep those ideas coming!



Calling all young entrepreneurs... 

£ GROW A POUND 2023

Help us raise the final funds to make the children's dream playground a reality.



The PTA will give every child £1 and challenge them to 'grow' it by investing it in an activity that will make more money.

All money raised will go directly to the
PTA Project Playground
Friday 28 April - Friday 9 June



Summer uniform

A reminder that children can wear summer uniform from now until October half term. [The details are here.](#)

New summer menu – competition winners

The new summer menu is proving a hit with our children; thank you to the kitchen team for preparing this each day. A special well done and mention to both **Iseult** (Year 1) and **Constance** (Year 5) who won the recent competition with their delicious recipes: Iseult's Chicken & Chorizo Paella and Constance's Cherry Tomato, Mozzarella and Fresh Basil Spaghetti.

Thank you to KES students who shared their **story books** with our **infant children** at the end of April. Our children thoroughly enjoyed their time engaging with the stories.



Term dates for 23-24 Academic Year – see below

Please have a look at the newly published 23-24 academic year calendar at the end of the newsletter.

Children have missed so much normal schooling during Covid disruption. All teaching staff continue to work extremely hard to support all children to catch up from missed learning and every day at school counts. Please DO NOT take even more time out of school for holidays.

Not only will children miss even more learning, but they are far less likely to be ready for their next stage of education, whether that be senior school or the next year group at primary. There are thirteen weeks of school holidays annually and ALL families are expected to use this time for any holidays. **THANK YOU to the vast majority of families who do their utmost to keep their child's attendance at school the best it can possibly be – it really does make a difference.**

The INSET Days for 23/24 are as follows:

- Friday 1st and Monday 4th September
- Tuesday 2nd January 2024
- Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Start of the school day

Please remember the school gates are opened around 8.40 and the bell goes at 8.50 – **this is the start of the school day and it is expected ALL children are in for 8.50.** In order for them to benefit from their education and not to disturb the learning of others, please ensure your child is in on 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 reasons why attendance matters so much.** Here are each class's attendance figures for any unauthorised absence last month. **Congratulations to Year 1 who had 100% attendance** (which includes authorised absence) for the month of April (to date).

Year R: 10 sessions lost

Year 1: 100% 😊

Year 2: 4 sessions lost

Year 3: 2 sessions lost

Year 4: 10 sessions lost

Year 5: 2 sessions lost

Year 6: 3 sessions lost

WHOLE SCHOOL: 99.2%

Terms 5 and 6 Dates for the Diary	
May	
8	Bank holiday – Coronation
9	Year 6 SATS week
12	FLAG smoothie sale after school
15	Reception trip to Warleigh Lodge Farm Y3 swimming 1-2 p.m. (daily for two weeks) OWL Year 5 Y6 to Little Theatre
17	9.00 Eucharist for Y4/5/6
19	National Numeracy Day Celebration Grow a Pound stalls in playground after school Year 6 Cake Sale
22	OWL Year 6
24	B&NES Girls Cricket Tournament
25	Class Photographs All children in uniform please
26	End of Term 5
June	
5	Year 6 to Isle of Wight all week OWL Year 1
7	Year 5 friendship workshop day
12	OWL Year R
15	B&NES Y5/6 Cricket Tournament
16	Non-uniform day (donations for Summer Fair) Year 2 to Pavilion 'Hear My Voice' singing festival
17	Saturday: GROUND FORCE DAY (TBC)
19	OWL Year 2
20	Year 3 to Holburne Museum
21	21-23 Year 4 to Magdalen Farm
24	SUMMER FAIR – SATURDAY 24th JUNE
29	Earth Day – details to follow
30	INSET Day – staff only in school
July	
3	INSET Day – staff only in school
4	PCEs evening (1 of 2)
6	PCEs evening (2 of 2)
7	Year 6 to Bath Abbey
8	SATURDAY 8th – Year 5 to Bath Carnival
12	Sports Morning at KES playing fields
14	Year 6 Leavers Show (evening)
20	Leavers' Service – 1.30 p.m.
21	Last day of the school year



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.

Heritage Fund | JOHNS ASSOCIATES | WELLS CATHEDRAL

Discover Vicars' Close

Family Holiday Activities at Wells Cathedral

Explore Vicars' Close and join in with our fun activities for families – with Cathedral guides, ecologists and musicians on hand to help!

Tuesday 30th May
Create a Coat of Arms

Wednesday 31st May
Discover Bats

Thursday 1st June
Singing Workshops

Book online today at wells cathedral.eventbrite.co.uk or drop in on the day!

£2 per child / £1 if eligible for free school meals
Accompanying adults FREE
Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult
*Subject to availability

You may also be interested in...

CHILDREN'S AIR AMBULANCE

FAMILY FUN DAY

BATH RACECOURSE

FOOD STALLS
ENTERTAINMENT
LIVE MUSIC
LOCAL BUSINESS STALLS
#THECREW KIDS CLUB WITH MASCOT 'BLADE'

SEE THE HELICOPTER & MEET THE CREW*

SCAN FOR FREE TICKETS

*subject to the helicopter being called out on a mission.

BATH RACECOURSE
Lansdown
Bath BA1 9BU
SINCE 1811

children's air ambulance
keeping hope alive

Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Bathwick St Mary Primary** if they sign up by Saturday 23rd September. Parents should quote BSMP230923 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120.

You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try. Alternatively, pdf flyers can be downloaded from [here](#).

The nearest classes to Bathwick St Mary Primary are as follows (please click for a map and further details):

Perform Larkhall
(Drama for 4-7s)
(0.6 miles)
Mondays at 4.00pm

New Oriel Hall
Brookleaze Buildings,
BA1 6RA

Perform Larkhall
(Drama for 7-12s)
(0.6 miles)
Mondays at 5.05pm

New Oriel Hall
Brookleaze Buildings,
BA1 6RA

There are others too. Click to find all the nearest [here](#) or view a list of [all areas](#).

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Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – **2023-2024**

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME

AUGUST 2023						SEPTEMBER 2023					OCTOBER 2023								
M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25	M		2	9	16	23	30	
T	1	8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26	T		3	10	17	24	31	
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	W		4	11	18	25		
TH	3	10	17	24	31	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		5	12	19	26		
F	4	11	18	25	F	1	8	15	22	29	F		6	13	20	27			
S	5	12	19	26	S	2	9	16	23	30	S		7	14	21	28			
SU	6	13	20	27	SU	3	10	17	24	SU	1	8	15	22	29				
NOVEMBER 2023						DECEMBER 2023					JANUARY 2024								
M		6	13	20	27	M		4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29	
T		7	14	21	28	T		5	12	19	26	T		2	9	16	23	30	
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	31	
TH	2	9	16	23	30	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		4	11	18	25		
F	3	10	17	24	F	1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12	19	26			
S	4	11	18	25	S	2	9	16	23	30	S		6	13	20	27			
SU	5	12	19	26	SU	3	10	17	24	31	SU	1	7	14	21	28			
FEBRUARY 2024						MARCH 2024					APRIL 2024								
M		5	12	19	26	M		4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29	
T		6	13	20	27	T		5	12	19	26	T		2	9	16	23	30	
W		7	14	21	28	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24		
TH	1	8	15	22	29	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		4	11	18	25		
F	2	9	16	23	F	1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12	19	26			
S	3	10	17	24	S	2	9	16	23	30	S	1	6	13	20	27			
SU	4	11	18	25	SU	3	10	17	24	31	SU	2	7	14	21	28			
MAY 2024						JUNE 2024					JULY 2024								
M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24			1	8	15	22	29	
T		7	14	21	28	T		4	11	18	25			2	9	16	23	30	
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26			3	10	17	24	31	
TH	2	9	16	23	30	TH		6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25		
F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28			5	12	19	26		
S	4	11	18	25	S	1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27			
SU	5	12	19	26	SU	2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28			

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

The 24/25 academic year begins on Monday 02 September 2024.