



*Achieving excellence through
the pursuit of good*

Bathwick St. Mary Church School

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Headteacher: Mr Kevin Purkiss



Newsletter Nine: May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

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! The summer term is always particularly busy – including three residential trips, plenty of other visits for children designed to enhance their learning in class, the Sports Morning, the Leavers' Service, and planning for next academic year!

After two thirds of the academic year and following our Spring term progress and attainment assessments in the core areas of learning, we are again pleased to see a very strong set of academic outcomes across all year groups. In September, we shared the letter from the Chair of BWMAT where it was recognised, **'It is clear that your school maintains high expectations for all learners, fostering an environment that encourages academic growth and personal development. We are delighted to witness the continued progress and success of your school, as it goes from strength to strength.'** We remain on course to meet the challenging targets set across the curriculum – giving every child the learning and skills they need to achieve their very best.

Year 5 Residential to Dean Field Studies Centre



Last week our Year 5 children had a brilliant residential in the Forest of Dean. Thank you to Mr Downing, Miss Malewski, Mrs Herron and Mrs Elliott for giving up their time to take our children away on this experience. Look through the newsletter for several photos! In June, Year 6 are looking forward to their week in the Isle of Wight, and Year 4 to Magdalen Farm in south Somerset. These residential help develop children's confidence and resilience as they prepare for their next stage of education.

Your voice counts – thank you for your feedback

We are grateful for all the feedback received in the recent communication and engagement questionnaire. Some of the key themes are as follows:

- The benefit of the 'Meet the teacher' events, and other curriculum meetings – English, Maths, RWI.
- Several replies highlighted the desire for a further **E-Safety meeting**. As a result, we have organised this for **Wednesday 5th June**, 6pm – 7pm (see below).
- The challenge for some parents to attend events due to childcare / work / other commitments with requests that events are publicised well in advance and held at varying times.
- Communication in newsletters is valued. Some replies requested either less school emails or grouping information in emails.
- The very positive induction for children, particularly into our Reception class.
- Suggestions around PCE format and length – more information to follow.

A lot of other feedback was received and each response will be considered carefully by the Senior Leadership Team and Governors to help us best engage and communicate with our school community. **Thank you!**

Brilliant author visits

Reception, Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a fabulous, funny visit from Chris Naylor-Ballesteros in April. His Frank and Best books are proving popular in the library! This Thursday, we are delighted to be welcoming Piu DasGupta who is visiting from Paris to talk about her debut novel, *Secrets of the Snake Stone*. If you would like to buy a copy of her book to be signed by Piu, please do so by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday 2nd May.



Marcus (Y5): *It was really fun not doing lessons for 3 days and all the activities were fun!
I would definitely recommend it to children who are going next year.*



Layla (Y5): *I really enjoyed the zipline because you could go upside down. I also learnt to not look down when climbing!*

Walk or Wheel to School Week

Our school is taking part in Walk to School Week (20th – 24th May). The nationwide event is organised by walking charity Living Streets and designed to help pupils experience first-hand the importance of walking to school. Children will be well on their way to reaching their recommended minimum 60 minutes of physical activity per day before even reaching the school gates! Not only will it set them up for a positive day in the classroom, but it will also help create healthy habits for life. This year's challenge, The Magic of Walking, encourages children to travel actively to school every day of the week. Meeting various magical beings along the way, they'll learn about the important reasons to walk and the difference it can make for individuals, communities and the planet! Each pupil will be challenged to travel sustainably (walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or Park and Stride) to school for one week (or more) and to log their journeys.

As preparation for this week, we have organised for the Gloucestershire road safety team to be in school all day on 17th May to lead workshops on road safety with all classes.

We would ask, if possible, to make arrangements so that your child/children can travel actively to school on the week commencing 20th May, helping our school reduce congestion and pollution around the school gates. Walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling all count!

If you need to drive or take public transport, you could always sign up for our 'park and stride' scheme which we are piloting this week, on the Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd May. You will be able to drop your child off by the entrance to the Holburne museum and we will then all walk to school together. If you would like to try this, then please do sign up [using the forms link here](#), which also contains further details of times. We are looking for some adult volunteers to walk with us to school so if you are available please do see Mrs Elliott.



Netball and football team events

Before Easter our Y6 (Ella, Frida, Lata, Mayra, Milly H, Millie W, Sophie L, Sophie O) and Y5 (Isabella L, Keri, Lilwen) played a netball friendly against Saltford Primary. The team wrote, *'Despite an 11-8 loss, we had a lot of fun and enjoyed playing together as a team. Everyone in the team put in lots of effort. Our top highlights of the game included Lata and Milly's impressive goals and great defending from Mayra and Lilwen. We have certainly improved as a team and are looking forward to our next match!'*

Following this, the Y6 girls football team (Amelia, Constance, Ella, Emily, Frida, Millie W, Sophie) took on The Meadows Primary School in Bitton. They team wrote, *'We found the first half quite tough, but came back stronger in the second half where the amazing Millie W scored our first goal! We would like to thank Ben Jenkins for his amazing coaching and encouragement and all the players for making such a huge effort.'* Huge well done to both teams!

How can you keep your child safe online?

We recently marked Safer Internet Day at school where children reflected again on e-safety. Following a very successful event last year, we have again arranged for PC Megan Haldane from the Cyber Protect team in Avon & Somerset Police, to guide parents through the topic of online safety. Online safety is an ever-changing picture. This can make the job of keeping children safe online a difficult responsibility. We recognise the role you have in supporting healthy online habits and understanding the risks and challenges. Please do come along on **Wednesday 5th June, 6pm – 7pm in the school hall**. There are no tickets – please just turn up ready for a 6.00 start. Overview:

- *Online risk: breaking down what the online risks are and how we can understand them better*
- *Mitigating the threat: a discussion around the technical and non-technical safeguarding measures*
- *Becoming more Cyber Aware: how we and those we support can be more cyber aware and safe online*
- *Q&A session and time to share resources*

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of your role in matters related to online safety and would strongly encourage you to attend this opportunity.

Smartphone free childhood – a Bathwick group

Bathwick parents and carers may be interested in a movement which is gaining momentum. We know the value of online technology, but recognise it can be a minefield in keeping children safe and the impact it can have on wellbeing. The aim of 'Smartphone free childhood' is to reduce peer pressure that sees 97% of children aged 12 owning smartphones. They hope to connect local communities to share a commitment not to give children smartphones until they're at least 14, and not to be on social media until 16. [Here's the link](#) if you would like to find out more. Alternatively, a group has been set up for Bathwick St. Mary Parents – contact Rosie French (Patti Y3 and Thomas Y1) to find out more.



Keep entrance clear of stationary vehicles, even if picking up or setting down children

All our children's safety

Another reminder for all those collecting children - double yellow lines, yellow boxing, SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR markings and private driveways **must not be parked on or blocked.**



No waiting at any time



The vast majority of those collecting children adhere to the Highway Code. **We all have a duty to park responsibly and legally – please do so.** Thank you.

Class photograph orders

A reminder that the closing date for free delivery to school is 7th May. Order through Tempest using your unique link or [click here](#). If you need assistance, please contact Tempest: 01736 751555 (option 3).

Important safety notice

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'. We only ban foods that state nuts or sesame in the ingredient list.



Lizzie (Y5): *I loved using the planks to cross the crocodile swamp, especially when I fell in! It was fun putting our heads into the lake as well.*

Anella (Y5): *My favourite thing was all the activities we did because it got you out of your comfort zone. All the staff were really good at encouraging us to have a go.*

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. **Well done to Year R and 5 had 100% attendance** (which includes authorised absence) for the month of April.

Year R: 100% 😊	Year 4: 2 sessions lost
Year 1: 4 sessions lost	Year 5: 100% 😊
Year 2: 1 session lost	Year 6: 1 session lost
Year 3: 1 session lost	



Further congratulations to Clark (Y6) who entered and won in the Bath Comedy Festival Easter card competition! His design was made into an Easter card which we received and he enjoyed spending a Hobbycraft voucher.

Term 5 and 6 Dates for the Diary	
May	
1	OWL Year 2
2	Y4/5 Author visit - Piu DasGupta
7	Y6 Isle of Wight meeting - 3:30 pm Year 6 Classroom
8	OWL Year 5
13	Y6 SATS Week (Monday-Thursday)
14	Y4 Magdalen meeting - 3:30 pm Year 4 Classroom
15	OWL Year R (<i>Change to previously published</i>)
17	Year 6 to Little Theatre cinema and Sydney Gardens Road Safety Workshops – all classes PTA Cake Sale Year R
22	Wiltshire Air Ambulance – 2 days of workshops OWL Year 1 (<i>Change to previously published</i>)
24	Last day of term 5 (no clubs / Wraparound pm)
June	
3	First day of term 6 Year 6 in Isle of Wight all week
5	OWL Year 4 Parent E-Safety meeting PC Megan Haldane 6–7pm
12	OWL Year 6
13	Year 6 to Bath Abbey – Leavers Event
17	<i>Bath University Open Day (increased traffic in city!)</i>
18	Year 4, 5, 6 Eucharist – parents welcome
19	OWL Year 5 Year 4 to Magdalen Farm until Friday 21 st
26	OWL Year 3
July	
1	Year 3 1 st -5 th & 8 th -12 th swimming 1-2pm
3	OWL Year 2
4	'Shuffle Up' (new children to new classes) – TBC
10	OWL Year 1
12	Year 6 Leavers' show at Prior Park Theatre – evening
15	Year 2 Performance in hall, 2.30 p.m.
16	Sports Morning and Lunch – KES Playing field
18	Leavers' Service, 1.30 p.m., St. Mary's Church
19	Last day of the school year

Please particularly note the confirmed dates below:

- **12th July - Year 6 Show (evening)**
- **16th July - Sports Morning (9.45-1.00 approx.)**
- **18th July - Leavers' Service, 1.30 p.m.**

Thank you again for your feedback by way of the questionnaire – in addition always feel free to stop me in the playground or make contact to share ideas, concerns or questions! With best wishes, Kevin Purkiss, Headteacher

HOSTS REQUIRED IN BATH
Excellent rates for hosting our international students

Single rooms for adult students
Twin rooms for junior students (age 12-17)

Please contact the school for more information
bathaccommodation@kaplan.com
Kaplan International Languages Bath, 5 Trim Street, Bath BA1 1HB
Tel: 01225 448840



You may also be interested in...



Do you have a passion for getting outside and trying new things? Could you encourage and lead young people aged 8 to 11 years old to discover and learn through excitement, teamwork, and adventure?

Working as part of a team of adult volunteers, cub scout leaders assist in the planning and delivery of an exciting programme of outdoor activities, games, crafts, exploring the outdoors, community projects, challenges and the excitement of a few days away in a tent!

This is a fun and rewarding role and is ideal for people that enjoy working with young people. Overtime you will see members grow in confidence and ability as they learn from the programme you help run.

We know that life can be busy, so we're all about flexibility: You really can give as much of your time as you choose on your terms! Whether you can spare one hour a week, a month or a term, it's far easier to provide exciting activities at our meetings if we have your support. You may think that you have nothing to offer but you'd be surprised! Give us just one hour (in a way that suits you), and you can help us provide scouting to even more young people.

No previous experience of scouting is necessary. What's more important is your own skills and experience as well as empathy with our mission and values. We provide a warm welcome, a sociable network, a relevant level of easy to access training and lots of online resources to help with the planning of activities as well as lots of ongoing face to face support.

Being part of scouting is great fun and it goes without saying that helping young people can be one of the most rewarding things you can do, plus it also looks great on your CV!

If you are interested in helping, then Bath 28th Cub pack in Bathampton are looking for you.

Please email Guy Davies, the current Bath 28th Cubs leader: guy@bathamptonscouts.org



HOLIDAY CLUB

28th, 29th, 30th May

INFORMATION

- Ages 4 - 12 years
- 9:00am - 4:00pm
- £20 per day
- Bathampton Primary School
1896 Tynning Rd
Bathampton
BA2 6TQ

£10
off when you book all three days



07788173648

bookwhen.com/nextgenerationcoaching


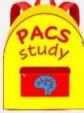


Next Generation Coaching

@nextgcoaching

nextgcoaching@gmail.com

Get Sported & Get Serious Cricket: 28th - 30th May 2024

- Location: St Gregory's Catholic College - Combe Hay Lane, Bath, BA2 8PA
- Camp Times: Tues May 28th - Thurs 30th 9am - 4pm
- Pricing: 1 Day: £28 / 2 Days: £56 / 3 Days: £78
- Discounts: This is our 10% SIBLING discount as we understand that more children means more cost. If two or more children are on the same booking, then all receive 10% off the their total price. (PLEASE NOTE THAT IF NEEDED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE BY EMAILING INFO@GETSPORTED.ORG)
- Book here: [World Sport Ministries : Registration \(getsported.org\)](https://www.getsported.org)







Pre-schoolers attention, cognition and social skills (PACS) study

What is it about?

In this study, we are interested in understanding why young children might act differently from each other in social situations.


We are interested in exploring how children's attention, cognition and social abilities influence their social behaviour.



Who can take part?

Do you live in the UK?
Is your child between 3 and 5 years old?
Are they able to complete some fun games and activities?

If you answered yes, great news! You and your child can take part!




What's involved?

Step 1: Parents will complete two sets of online questionnaires (30 mins each).

Step 2: You and your child will be invited to Bath where your child will take part in some fun games with a researcher! (45-60 mins)

Your child will receive a book and a £10 Amazon voucher for taking part! You will also be entered into a raffle for £100 Amazon voucher.




How can you join?

To get more information and sign up for the study, just scan the QR code on your phone!

Once you've signed up, we will send you a link to complete the online questionnaire and we will arrange your visit! If you have any questions, please email us: pacs@bath.ac.uk.

This study has been approved by the University of Bath (21-184). For any concerns email psychology-ethics@bath.ac.uk



SCAN ME



EGG THEATRE YOUTH CHOIR

An inclusive, welcoming, and FREE choir for young people aged 9-18 from refugee, asylum seeker or immigrant background, or those with English as a second language

Monday 19th August – Friday 23rd August
Monday 26th August – Friday 30th August

TIMES // 10am - 12:30pm

To express your interest, refer a young person or receive further information please contact
tess.agus@theatreroyal.org.uk
or call 01225823487





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Circuitry & Electronics



Tech Fun

FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGES 5-11, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY

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www.nextthing.education

MAY HALF TERM 2024

28TH - 31ST MAY

ACTIVITIES THEY'LL LOVE!


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MINECRAFT CODING


3D PENS


CIRCUITRY


SMART ROBOTICS


LAZER TAG


VR


ENGINEERING EXPERIMENTS

What to bring to camp?


Picnic lunch and drinks not included


Water bottle


Medication if required


Weather appropriate clothing

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We have more than 30 camps running this May. Find your local camp on our website: www.nextthing.education



Kids love NextThing!

"My child had a fabulous time, and this is the first type of STEM holiday club I've seen in our area. I'd definitely recommend and book again!"
Parent - St John's College School

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E: info@nextthing.education T: 01442 873150

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.

Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2024-2025

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME

AUGUST 2024						SEPTEMBER 2024						OCTOBER 2024						
M			5	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28
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F		2	9	16	23	30	F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25	
S		3	10	17	24	31	S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26	
SU		4	11	18	25	1	SU	8	15	22	29		SU	6	13	20	27	
NOVEMBER 2024						DECEMBER 2024						JANUARY 2025						
M		4	11	18	25		M	2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27
T		5	12	19	26		T	3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28
W		6	13	20	27		W	4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29
TH		7	14	21	28		TH	5	12	19	26		TH	2	9	16	23	30
F	1	8	15	22	29		F	6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30		S	7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25	
SU	3	10	17	24	1		SU	8	15	22	29		SU	5	12	19	26	
FEBRUARY 2025						MARCH 2025						APRIL 2025						
M		3	10	17	24		M	3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28
T		4	11	18	25		T	4	11	18	25		T	1	8	15	22	29
W		5	12	19	26		W	5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30
TH		6	13	20	27		TH	6	13	20	27		TH	3	10	17	24	
F		7	14	21	28		F	7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25	
S	1	8	15	22	1		S	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26	
SU	2	9	16	23	2		SU	9	16	23	30		SU	6	13	20	27	
MAY 2025						JUNE 2025						JULY 2025						
M		5	12	19	26		M	2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28
T		6	13	20	27		T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29
W		7	14	21	28		W	4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30
TH	1	8	15	22	29		TH	5	12	19	26		TH	3	10	17	24	31
F	2	9	16	23	30		F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25	1
S	3	10	17	24	31		S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26	2
SU	4	11	18	25	1		SU	8	15	22	29		SU	6	13	20	27	3

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

The 25/26 academic year begins on Monday 1st September 2025.