



NEWSLETTER

Happy Friday!

Netball Success!

On Monday, our Year 6 netballers made their way over to SGS Campus for the finals of the Bristol Sport Netball Games. Having already won the previous tournament to qualify for this event, the team had high hopes as they battled it against 5 other qualifying schools from around Bristol. Southville managed to win 4 out of their 5 games, which meant they earned themselves a fantastic 2nd place finish in the competition.

A massive well done to all those children involved and a brilliant experience for the children to play netball at the home of the Bristol Flyers! Mr Rogers



Doug Allan

On Monday and Tuesday of this week we were treated to a visit from world-renowned wildlife photographer Doug Allan who, over the course of two days, shared his stories, photos, film and expertise with every child from Pre-school to Year 6. His tales ranged from close encounters with polar bears, walruses and seals, to fascinating facts about the natural world, to casual mentions of his friendship with Sir David Attenborough. It was all supported with his own stunning photography and some of the footage he captured for the many programmes he has worked on. He was enthralling, adapting his presentation according to the age of the children, welcoming as many questions as the children wanted to ask and sprinkling humour throughout it all.

We all felt incredibly lucky to have Doug in school and extremely grateful to him for generously offering us his time. I am also very grateful to Jane Kite, the member of our school community who put us in touch with Doug in the first place and initiated what I hope will be a long and happy friendship!



Doug kindly left us with two signed copies of his book 'Freeze Frame' which will spend a little time in the staff rooms before going into the library for the children to enjoy.

Yara the Unicorn!

If you have walked along Milford Street in the last couple of days you will have almost certainly seen our new arrival, and what a new arrival it is!

Finally, this week the weather allowed Farrah Fortnam to return to Merrywood to finish this stunning piece, entitled Yara the Unicorn. A photo doesn't really do it justice, but it is visible from the street so if you haven't yet seen it please do take a detour and have a look.



Eat them to Defeat Them, healthy eating campaign 2024.

The campaign theme this year is all about fun ways to eat vegetables. We'll be encouraging the children to get those gnashers to work, defeating those veg one big bite at a time! Your children and family can join the campaign to 'Eat Them to Defeat Them' at school and home next week.

Eat Them to Defeat Them was created by Veg Power and ITV as a fun way to encourage kids to eat more vegetables. There are activities and ideas online to help get them chomping. Last year was very successful, involving over a million children and over half their parents said they ate more veg as a result afterwards.

At Southville last year, most of the children got involved and tried some new fruits and vegetables. We will run something similar again this year, starting in school on Monday 29th April. This campaign fits really well with our school values of being healthy and courageous (trying something new).

Each lunchtime that week, we will be offering a variety of tasty fruit and vegetables for them to try, for free. The lunchtime staff will encourage them to try something new and reward them with stickers for being brave and having a go, which they can add to their class tally sheet on the wall. At the end of the week, those staff will choose the class that made the greatest effort to try new things (both at Myrtle and Merrywood) and these classes will earn a tasty reward in school at the end of the week.

This campaign works because it is funny, a joke, a game. Children understand it's a ruse to get them to eat vegetables, but they go along with it as it's fun. As an adult the key is to play, to be part of the game. So, say "come on let's Eat Them to Defeat" or "Who's going to join the fight", maybe ask the children how they are going to defeat them. Thanks for your support.

This linked website has some great recipes and ideas to prepare at home:

<https://simplyveg.org.uk/>

Mrs Hall - Subject Leader Design & Technology

Disco Fever!

If you were in the building as a helper (or even passing by Myrtle hall or even walking along North Street or even waiting for a train at Temple Meads...) you will be very aware from the noise alone that the children absolutely loved the disco yesterday evening. Shapes were thrown, knee slides were administered, refreshments were consumed and a lot of fun was had by all.

Thank you very much to the PTA's Helen, Sonia and everyone who helped to organise the disco, and supervised or served refreshments on the day. It was like a well-oiled machine thanks to everyone's hard work.

What a great event!

That's it for this week, have a lovely weekend. Andy Bowman