



Southville Primary School Newsletter



17th December 2021



@Southville_Prim

Happy Holidays!

Performances... If you came along to one of the Year 1, 2, 5 and 6 performances this week I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. It was so nice to be able to welcome you in to share this with us and see the children spreading the festive joy. They were amazing!

Theatre Trip Thanks... The children have really enjoyed their theatre performances this week, and it was lovely to be able to resume this tradition. It would not have been possible however without the PTA's financial support, and also the volunteers who accompanied the children there and back. Thank you for your help!

Food Parcel thanks... If you have helped Mrs Mathias' food parcel preparation either by donating or sorting, thank you so much.

Covid measures... There is a lot of speculation in the media about whether schools will be closed in January and I wanted to reassure you that, whilst I cannot guarantee anything, we are expecting and preparing to be open as normal. In the unlikely event that there is a last minute closure, we will use the Inset day on the 4th January to communicate all the information you will need. To be clear though, I am not saying this because I think it is at all likely, but to reassure you that we have our own plan B should it be needed at any point!

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 – Taken from the most recent Government communication...

From 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 has been introduced. All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take an LFD test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

Once notified by Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students are strongly recommended to take a LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [online reporting system](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow [national guidance](#). This approach should also be adopted over the Christmas holiday and on return in January.

For primary aged children LFD test kits are available through the usual routes community test sites, local pharmacies or [order COVID-19 rapid lateral flow tests online](#).

Finally... On behalf of all of us in school, thank you for your support and partnership throughout 2021. Have a wonderful holiday and I look forward to seeing you on January 5th. Andy Bowman

Nut free school... We would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of our school remaining a nut free environment.

Throughout the school we have a number of children who are a serious risk should they be exposed to any type of nut.

We ask all parents to ensure that snacks do not contain

- Peanuts
- Tree nuts
- Sesame (including Tahini paste)

If your child is purchasing their own snacks on the way to school please can you talk to them about the importance of selecting an appropriate snack.

Message from Jen Gibson, Chair of Governors... As we come to the end of this term, I wanted to take a brief opportunity to reflect on what has been a wonderful start to this academic year.

We have been very fortunate to welcome Mr Bowman to the school as headteacher and it's great to hear that staff, parents and children have made him feel very welcome. As governors, we have felt privileged to be able to get back into school more often to see first-hand the amazing work being produced by the children as well as the steps that are taken by school staff to support the children that particularly need it. We have particularly enjoyed having opportunity to observe and chat to the children at Merrywood and Myrtle about their experiences of play time, and we're looking forward to seeing additional play opportunities taking shape over the course of the year as part of the ongoing OPAL project.

The recent Christmas performances have been an absolute delight to attend. We have also seen a return to forest school, to swimming lessons and school trips, such as to Bristol Museum, not to mention the recent trips to the theatre. Thank you to the PTA and everyone that volunteers to help with these activities which enable the children to have these fantastic experiences.

While to parents and children, the return to school this year has felt very normal, this has only been achieved through the commitment, flexibility and determination of all of the staff at the school, who have been working so hard behind the scenes to make this possible. I am sure that you will join me and the Board of Governors, in thanking every one of them for everything that they do to make Southville Primary the special place that it is.

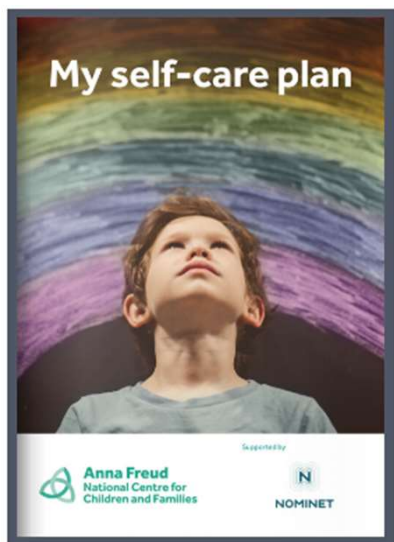
On behalf of the whole governing board, I would like to wish you and your families and the staff a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Jen Gibson, Chair of Governors.

OPAL playground – Natural loose parts... Across both sites we are looking to improve children's access to *natural* loose parts play. If you have access to large / small logs, wood, tree trunks of any size then please don't hesitate to deliver them to school. The children would love to play, carry and move them around their playground.

Mental Health... Here is a link to an excellent self care plan for primary children:

https://www.annafreud.org/schools-and-colleges/resources/my-self-care-plan-primary/?mc_cid=83fe08f5cb&mc_eid=e2403dab16



Keeping our children safe online (LGFL)... Some of our children will be lucky enough to receive new devices, games consoles and phones for Christmas. Many of the rest will have access in one way or another to internet-enabled devices. We all want to ensure that everyone in our school community has a safe Christmas holiday, online and beyond.

There will be a Facebook Live drop-in for parents on Monday 20 December 7pm on the [@LGfLDigiSafe](#) channel talking about staying safe online and offline too – what to worry about and what not, and how to have tricky conversations at home. There will also be discussion of how parents can help with bullying, relationships, criminal and sexual exploitation and simply starting tricky conversations. Sign up now by heading to facebook.com/LGfLDigiSafe/posts where you can click 'Interested' / 'Going' on the post to receive a reminder when it is about to go live.

Please also remember before buying Christmas presents that games, series and films (including on Netflix!) have age ratings linked to their content, not their difficulty (we often forget for games that they are also rated 18 for the same reasons as films - language, sex and violence). You may wish to visit the parentsafe.lgfl.net website where you will find many of the resources that will be presented to you on the evening.

Year Group Updates

Nursery...

We have been busy little Christmas elves this week in Seahorse Class. We have been making Christmas cards, salt dough decorations, sorting presents in our elf workshop, decorating trees and we even fitted in a bit of partying!

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy Christmas holiday break with your families. We look forward to seeing your gorgeous smiley faces in January!

Reception...

Dear Families,

We hope you have a wonderful and restful winter break. The children have worked so hard this term and we have been so impressed. We will return on Wednesday 5th January to begin our new topic called 5,4,3,2,1 Blast Off! We will be learning about space, our solar system, important people including historical figures that help us to find out about Space and how we get there. Each week our children will be accessing resources from our continuous provision. Here are our specific focuses for the next week:

<u>Area of Learning</u>	<u>Week beginning 04.01.22</u>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zones of Regulation
Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions about Space - What would you like to know?• Philosophy Circle Time - How high is the sky?
Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ball Skills - Throwing and Catching
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus Text: A Journey Through Space / How high is the sky?• Phonics - z/zz, qu and ch• Writing task - Writing about your winter holidays• 1:1 reading
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparing numbers to 5
Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Career talks from parent volunteers• Forest School - Friday 7th January - Octopus Class• Experimental cookery - Starfish and Jellyfish this week (all children will participate on rotation)
Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music - songs about Space• A range of Forest School craft
<u>Characteristic of Effective Learning focus</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating and Thinking Critically: Having your own ideas.

Reception contd...

Additional Information

Staff Gifts

Thank you for all the lovely cards and presents. All of our staff were delighted to receive such wonderful and thoughtful gifts.

Forest School Information

The next forest sessions are as follows:

Octopus: 7th January 2022

Starfish: 14th January 2022

Jellyfish: 21st January 2022

Please can you ensure your children are wrapped up warm for the winter season.

Year 1...

Please can all parents ensure they have access to Google classroom. If you need more information please contact your child's teacher when we return in January.

Thank you for your on-going support and the team would like to wish you and your family a lovely holiday full of fun, family and laughter

Year 2...

Carol Concert

Thank you for coming and watching the children sing. They have worked so hard practising the songs and did an amazing performance on Thursday.

Theatre trip

We had a great time at the theatre watching Robin Hood this week. Thank you to all the parent helpers.

Forest School

Falcon will have their final forest school session on the first week back after the holiday, on Wednesday the 5th of January.

PE

PE days next term are:

Falcon	Fox	Flamingo
Monday and Wednesday	Monday and Friday	Tuesday and Thursday

Hook Day

To celebrate the start of our new topic 'The Power of Pictures' we would like the children to dress up as their favourite Roald Dahl character for their hook day on Thursday the 6th of January (not the first day back as Falcons have forest school). The teachers have started planning their outfits already!

Thanks for your ongoing support. Have a lovely break!

Year 2 team

Year 3...

What a wonderful term we've had, learning about 'The Ends of the Earth'! We've been so impressed with the children's enthusiasm for this topic and can't wait to get stuck into our Roman topic, next term.

Wow day

Don't forget we have our Roman dress up day on the first day back (Wednesday 5th January). As part of our day, we would like to sample some Roman food together and would be grateful if your child could bring in a small paper/plastic plate with their name on with a selection of food for them to eat from: grapes, olives, figs, cheeses, honey, plain crackers, oranges, apples (or any other Roman food you may have researched).

If you would like to donate a small amount of any of the above, in addition to your child's plate, then we would be very grateful (for others to sample). Please note: DO NOT bring in any nut products due to allergies

Lantern parade

The children have made some fantastic lanterns for the Bedminster Lantern Parade and had the chance to work on a large polar bear, with our artist, Dee. We can't wait to see them all lit up during the parade! More information about the event, will be sent out at the start of next term.

Roman Baths

Our trip to the Roman Baths will be on Friday 28th January 2022.

Previous years have found this to be one of their favourite trips and extremely useful for their topic. The trip will include a guided tour, workshop and investigation zone.

If your child is entitled to free school meals and you would like the school to make them a packed lunch, please may you let us know by Tuesday 25th January, so the kitchen knows how many lunches to prepare.

Thank you for all your support this year. We wish you a very happy and healthy start to 2022!

Year 5...

Just a little reminder that Lemur's first Forest School session is the first day back of next term (Wednesday 5th January) so please come prepared!

Thank you for all of your support this term. Have a great holiday!



Another massive thank you to all the parent volunteers who have helped this week walking the children to their respective theatre trips and back again, including those who stood in for last minute replacements!

Everyone who won a hamper has been contacted and details passed onto who to collect your hamper from. Please get in touch via southvilleprimarypta@gmail.com should you need any further assistance.

Some great news following the fundraising we have been doing through December; from the Christmas Trees, Virtual Ballon Race and Santa's Grotto we have made over £3100, which is an amazing achievement. We are waiting for the final figures for the Christmas Card sales to be able to report these figures too. Thank you to everyone who has supported these events.

The PTA have also supported Miss Matthias in her mammoth task coordinating food parcels for families over the festive period. Thank you for all your contributions and to those who have worked extremely hard this week to ensure these are ready. I know they will be very warmly received.

I am hoping that we can meet at Myrtle Site in January to discuss 2022 plans for the PTA and what events may look like, however given the rise in cases we will review this closer to the date.

Next PTA meeting –
Wednesday 12th January 2022
Location: Myrtle Site
Time: 7:30pm



Community Children's
Health Partnership



Bristol Early Years Speech and Language Therapy Team

Baby Talk

How to help your baby learn to talk

A 1-hour session for parents and carers
of children 0-18months
living in Bristol

Come and find out:

What do babies need to learn?
How communication develops – what to expect & when.
What we can do to help your baby develop, feel safe
and help their brain grow.

Book a place via: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/baby-talk-parents-and-carers-tickets-163631244457>

or email sirona.sltearlyyears@nhs.net

Online session via Microsoft
Teams
Monthly dates available

Wed 19th Jan 10-11am
Thurs 17th Feb 10-11am
Tue 8th March 10-11am
Thurs 28th April 10-11am



Sirona care & health, 2nd Floor, Kingswood Civic Centre
High Street, Kingswood, Bristol, BS15 9TR

Service provided by:

Sirona
care & health



Acting Out classes help develop communication, self esteem, self confidence and mostly we have lots and lots of fun!

Acting Out KS1 Drama Club will take place on **Tuesdays 15:30 – 16:30** in the main school hall. Our drama club helps children to find their own voices and develop creativity, make friends, grow in confidence in a safe and fun environment. Our sessions include games, vocal work, imagination, storytelling, improvisation, and most important lots and lots of fun.

For more details on us and what we do please check out our website www.actingoutdrama.com. Classes for next term will start on

Tuesday 11th January – Tuesday 15th February

If you would like your child to join, please complete the registration form and photographs permission forms below

<https://goo.gl/forms/ZGnxev6FuBtZlf453>

<https://goo.gl/forms/OnVcHrCRH089X8XA3>

We will confirm by email you to let you know if your child has a place in drama club. Once your child's place has been confirmed please make payment of £36 (£6 a week) for term 3 by BACS (using your child's full name as reference) to Acting Out Ltd

Account Number: 92398568. Sort Code: 608371 Account Name: Acting Out Ltd

Please encourage the children to bring a water bottle and a snack as drama can be hungry work.

Looking forward to meeting them

Warm Wishes



Jacqui Ham
Acting Out Drama

www.actingoutdrama.com Tel: 07956962422 email: enquiries@actingoutdrama.com

Tel: 07956 962 422



Acting Out classes help develop communication, self esteem, self confidence and mostly we have lots and lots of fun!

Acting Out Reception Drama Club will take place on **Thursdays 15:30 – 16:30** in the main school hall

Our drama club helps children to find their own voices and develop creativity, make friends grow in confidence in a safe and fun environment. Our Sessions include games, vocal work, imagination, storytelling, improvisation, and most important lots and lots of fun.

For more details on us and what we do please check out our website www.actingoutdrama.com
Classes for next term will start on

Thursday 13th January – Thursday 17th February

If you would like your child to join, please complete the registration form and photographs permission forms below

<https://goo.gl/forms/ZGnxev6FuBtZlf453>

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