

Happy Friday!

With a little of two weeks to go before the end of term we are looking forward to the theatre trips and performances that are in store for the rest of the term. Please check the school calendar on the website if you are unsure of any times or dates.

Communication Strategy... Also attached with the newsletter is our new home-school communication strategy. This is intended to provide a simple overview of the primary routes through which we communicate with you and vice versa so that you can see how it all fits together, and what the long-term plan will look like.

As you will see, there is a new element called Weduc which we will be introducing after Christmas. Weduc is an app that operates as a hub for all of our communication to you – notifications, news feed items and the calendar and twitter feed are also incorporated. Rather than one large 'dump' of information every week in the newsletter, we will be able to make sure the messages and news you receive are pertinent to your child's year group and they will be in html format making them easier to access from a phone or other device. That said, we will endeavour to make sure that you are not saturated with messages, and will continue to use Friday as the main 'news' day to round off the week.

We will send you login details after Christmas and will remind you about this and how to get started in the first newsletter of the term (which I envisage will be the last one we send in the existing format). In the meantime, Weduc is available to download for free 'wherever you get your apps' as the adverts always say ahead of us sharing the login details in January.

Parent Governor Elections... Just a reminder that voting for the Governor election closes on Monday 12th December at 7pm. Details of candidates and information about how to vote were sent out with last week's newsletter.

Year 5 Camp... This week our year 5 children have visited Magdelan Farm in Dorset where they have had a fantastic time feeding the animals, orienteering, toasting apple on the campfire, learning woodland survival so much more. Leopards and Lions started the week, and Lemurs swapped with them on Wednesday to end the week. A huge thank you to the staff who made it possible, in particular to Miss Poole, Mrs Moody, Miss Ash, Miss Murphy who were with the children for one half or the other of the week, and to Mr Millard, Miss Moore and trip organiser and all round wonderwoman Mrs Mathias who were there for the full five days. The children have undoubtedly made many happy memories for life – please see our twitter feed for a taste of the many activities they got up to!

Winter Fair Tomorrow... The PTA have already been working tirelessly ahead of the Winter Fair (Saturday 3rd, 2-5pm) and there is a general sense of excitement! Please do try to join us if you can for what promises to be a really enjoyable school family event.

Have a lovely weekend, Andy Bowman

Winter Hamper



Last year, thanks to all the wonderful donations and helpers who put the parcels together, we delivered over 30 hampers. They were amazing and gratefully received. It would be so wonderful if we could do it again this year.



You can donate by dropping groceries/goodies at either site, or through the link below or the QR code..



Chocolates/selection box, mince pies, Christmas cake, Gravy/bread sauce, cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, Christmas pudding, tinned peas, tinned sweetcorn, biscuits for cheese, custard, chocolate/treats, tinned potatoes, tinned soup, tinned veg, tinned soup, pasta, nibbles, biscuits, coffee, tea, squash, shampoo, shower gel, washing powder, Toilet roll

If you would like to receive a hamper, please email Paula.mathias@bristol-schools.uk

Invest In My Community

Scan the QR code to make a donation using a smartphone. Download to insert it in a leaflet or poster or attach to a collection bucket for events.



Practical and informative online sessions from your expert team of local School Health Nurses. https://cchp.nhs.uk/cchp/explore-cchp/school-health-nursing/school-nursing-webinars-parents-

<u>carers -</u> Our webinars lasts between 30 and 45 minutes, with the opportunity to ask questions throughout. They're suitable for parents and carers of children and young people of all ages.

Keeping your child happy and healthy

For families who would like ideas to create and sustain a healthy lifestyle for the whole family. This webinar looks at diet and healthy eating, exercise, sleep, and emotional wellbeing.

Book session: 15 December 2022, 10:30-11:30

Healthy eating and physical activity

Find out how to maintain a healthy lifestyle, with advice on diet and exercise.

Book session: 12 December 2022, 10:00-11:00

Emotional wellbeing

This presentation explores anxiety, low mood, self-harm and eating difficulties and provides parents and carers with strategies and information to build resilience and empathetic listening for children and young people.

Book session: 7 December 2022, 13:00-14:00

Sleen

This webinar will provide you with hints and tips to help improve the duration and quality of your child's sleep.

Book session: 14 December 2022, 10:30-12:00

Dental health

Our School Health Nursing Team will give advice on tooth brushing and tooth decay.

Book session: 1 February 2023, 13:30-14:30

Bristol City council have asked us to share this

Know someone who needs financial advice?

If someone is struggling to manage their money or are facing financial challenges, there is advice and support available.

They might be eligible to claim welfare benefits if they don't currently receive any.

They can use the council's benefits calculator to help find out what they could claim at:

https://bristol.entitledto.co.uk/home/start

Financial or debt advice is available from

Citizen's Advice Bristol (https://www.bristolcab.org.uk/),

North Bristol Advice Centre (https://northbristoladvice.org.uk/),

South Bristol Advice Services (https://www.southbristoladvice.co.uk/)

St Paul's Advice Centre (https://www.stpaulsadvice.org.uk/).

Learning how mental health and money are connected might help if people are struggling. Sorting things out might feel like an overwhelming task and some of it may be out of their control, but they should try taking things one step at a time and reach out if they do need support.

There is lots of mental health support available too. People should talk to family and friends or contact one of a range of local organisations, including Bristol Mind (https://bristolmind.org.uk/), Community Access Support Services (https://www.cassbristol.org/) and Second Step (https://www.second-step.co.uk/) for help. You are not alone.

More cost of living advice and support is available on Bristol City Council's cost of living support webpage www.bristol.gov.uk/costofliving or people can call the We Are Bristol helpline for free on 0800 694 0184, Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm.

Saving money on energy bills

With the rise in energy prices, we know many residents are concerned about how much their bills will go up.

While it has been milder for this time of year, here are just a few tips that may help to reduce energy bills.

People can also check if they're eligible for help at www.bristol.gov.uk/benefits-financial-help

- Turn appliances off standby mode and you could save around £55 a year.
- Use your washing machine on a 30-degree cycle instead of higher temperatures.
- Be careful in the kitchen avoid overfilling the kettle and only boil the amount of water you need.
- Keeping your shower time to just four minutes could save a typical household £65 a year on their energy bills.
- Avoid using the tumble dryer and dry clothes outside or on racks where possible to save around £55 a
- Only run your dishwasher when it is full to reduce the amount of water you use.

Don't forget about the city's network of Welcoming Spaces too. These are places where people can socialise, keep warm and access support relating to the cost of living.

Find a full list of Welcoming Spaces here: Cost of living support (bristol.gov.uk)



Christmas Dinner

Myrtle – Tuesday 8th December Merrywood – Wednesday 7th December

Mains

Roast turkey

Halal roast turkey

Roast vegetable parcel

Sides

Crispy roast potatoes, chipolata sausage, Brussel sprouts, carrots, peas, stuffing, and gravy.

Desserts

Christmas surprise Fresh fruit and yogurt



PLEASE BOOK YOUR MEAL ON THE PARENTMAIL APP



Unfortunately we are currently unable to offer gluten free fish fingers as our supplier are out of stock. On offer instead will be a slice of gluten free pizza, chips and beans.



Year Group Updates

Nursery

It's been a busy and varied week in Seahorse Class. The children have been so sensible, adapting to quite a lot of changes during the week. We have been building dens, celebrating birthdays, making cat masks, playing with playdough and practising singing a few festive songs. I wonder if you have heard any of our favourites at home?

We still enjoy getting outside at this time of year, so please make sure children have gloves and hats to keep warm on these chilly days.

We are looking forward to enjoying the Christmas lunch with lots of you next Wednesday.

Best wishes from the Seahorse Team (2)



Reception

Dear Families,

Our focus next week is showtime! We will be discussing the range of jobs involved in creating performance art. Our special person is Ella Fitzgerald. We are very excited to perform for you our production of A Snowman at Sunset, which the children have been working very hard on! We will also begin assessing the children on the Autumn 2 Phonics block over the next couple of weeks.

Each week our children will be accessing resources from our continuous provision. Here are our specific focuses for the next week:

Area of Learning	Week beginning 05.12.22
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	Standing up for yourself - I know which words to use to stand up for myself when someone does or says something unkind Zones of Regulation
Communication and Language	 Philosophy Circle Time - Should we share everything with our friends?
Physical Development	Classroom yoga (no PE session in the hall this week due to performances)
Literacy	 Focus text - 'Little Big, People Dreams - Ella Fitzgerald' Phonics - reviewing Autumn 2 Phonics assessments Writing task - Christmas cards Group reading sessions
Mathematics	One more and one less
Understanding the World	 Showtime - what jobs do people do at a theatre/ concert hall? RE - why are <u>some times</u> special?
Expressive Arts and Design	 Music - performing songs for the winter performance Winter craft - Christmas cards, salt dough decorations etc.
Characteristic of Effective Learning focus	Active learning - motivation - Being involved and concentrating

Reception cont.

<u>Winter performance - A Snowman at Sunset - Thank you so much for the children's wonderful</u> costumes! We had a very successful dress rehearsal performance this week and the children were very excited to wear their costumes for the first time. Below is a reminder of the dates and times of the performances next week, tickets available in ParentMail:

Monday 5th December at 2pm Tuesday 6th December at 9.15am

<u>Theatre trip walking volunteers -</u> We are still in need of volunteers to walk with us to the theatre on the afternoon of 15th December. Please see your class teacher or the office if you are able to come and thank you to everyone who has already volunteered.

Year 1

If any parent/carers would like to read with the children in Year 1, for the last part of the day from 2:30pm, after Christmas, then please could you let the class teacher know.

We are all really excited about the upcoming winter production Thursday 8^{th} December -2pm and Friday 9^{th} December -9:30am tickets available in ParentMail . A reminder that the children need to bring in their costumes on Monday 5^{th} December in a clearly named (name and class) bag. Please ensure all parts of their costume are clearly named as well as their school uniforms to try and avoid items being mislaid.

As the weather is getting really cold, please ensure your child brings in a warm, waterproof coat, gloves and hat. Please can you name all these items clearly.

Next Tuesday our P.E. lesson will be taught outside so can you child wear warm clothes please.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Year 2

Dear Year 2 Families,

What a busy week we've had in Year 2! The children have made a brilliant start to building their fire engines and have impressed their teachers with their dance moves in P.E!

As we begin the countdown to the festive season, here are some reminders of events coming up. Christmas songs The Year 2 children are very excited to invite you to listen to their festive singing on Friday 9th December. This is an unticketed event and will take place on the school playground. Rather than collecting your child from their door, Year 2 will meet you on the playground ready to start singing at 3.35pm and will last around 20 minutes.

Your child is welcome to wear something festive for our performance but please ensure they are wrapped up warm and toasty ready to sing outside.

Each class has also been given a lyrics sheet with their class song on, if you have any spare time over the next week some practise of words would be much appreciated.

<u>Tobacco Factory theatre Trip - walker volunteers</u> On the 15th December, Year 2 are visiting the Tobacco Factory to watch a performance. If you are available to help walk with the children to the theatre please let the office know.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your support as always, The Year 2 team

Year 3 & 4

Dear Year 3 & 4 parents/carers,

The Year 3 and 4 children at Myrtle St have been busy practising their Christmas songs, carols, and readings ready for the service at St. Paul's Church at 5pm on Thursday 8th December 17:00--18:00. Year 3 and 4 parents/carers are invited to this event. You will not need a ticket to attend.

On Monday and Wednesday next week, year 3 and 4 children will be walking to St Paul's Church for a rehearsal of our Christmas Carol Concert. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for cold and possibly wet weather. Due to this change to the timetable, PE will not be taking place on Monday or Tuesday, however, the Wednesday morning session with Mr Goddard will run as usual.

If you can help with the walking to and from the church on either day, please let the office know.

With previous Christmas Carol Services the children should wear school uniform, though they are welcome to wear 'Christmas jumpers' and / or hats to complement their uniforms!

On Thursday 8th the children will need to be at the church between 16.30 and 16.45pm—they should not arrive earlier than this—and the service starts at 17:00. It usually lasts around an hour.

It is very important that parent/carers complete a permission slip and indicate who will be picking children up and include a mobile number if possible. On arrival your child should make themselves known to their class teacher, who will mark them on their register. At the end of the service, you will need to ensure that your child is ticked off the register by the class teacher before they can leave the church. I'm sure you can appreciate the importance of doing so at such a busy event. Hope to see you there. Happy Christmas!

LKS2 at Southville Primary School, Myrtle St

Year 5

We hope everybody that attended Y5 camp this week has had a fantastic time. The children worked really well together and showed great teamwork and determination skills. A big thank you to everybody who made camp possible.

If your child has returned home with anything that is not theirs or is missing anything, we will be putting a table outside the Myrtle office on Monday and Tuesday where you can come and have a look at any lost and found camp property.

**Thank you to Mr Carter for everything he has done to support the children, staff and families in Year 5. We wish you all the best in your next chapter.

**Cereal box card

Y5 are studying Greek mythology at the moment and will be creating masks to use in their plays at the beginning of next week. If you have some card (the thickness of a cereal box) please can you bring it into school.

Thank you and have a wonderful, restful weekend.

The Y5 team.

Year 6

Dear Parents and Carers

As part of DT, in week 7 (wb12th December) year 6 will be designing and making bags. If your child has an old shirt or skirt that they no longer use they are welcome to bring it into school to use as the material for their bag. T-shirts and other more stretchy fabrics cannot be used as they are not sturdy enough. Denim is also too difficult to use for hand stitching. We do have some fabrics for the children, but most enjoy converting something that they have previously owned or worn.

Many thanks
The Year 6 Team

PLEA For 2 Lost Scooters

Please can you check at home to ensure your child hasn't accidentally come home with another child's scooter. We have 2 scooters missing currently.

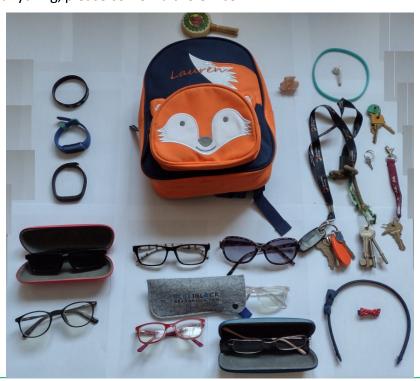
A light blue Mini Micro 3 wheeled scooter missing from Starfish, Merrywood



A purple JD Bug 2 wheeled scooter missing from Hedgehogs, Myrtle

Merrywood Lost Property

Please check the picture below and see if you recognise anything that belongs to you or your child. If you want to collect anything, please come via the Office.





Chess Club

Term 1 & 2 are now available to book in ParentMail. Pay for a term in advance, for your child to enjoy Chess Club.

Mondays at Merrywood from 3:30 – 4:30 for Reception to Year 2 children

<u>Tuesdays</u> at Myrtle from 3:15 – 4:15 for Year 3 to Year 6





Creativity Club from Chandos Atelier will be opening the bookings for terms 3 & 4 of Creativity Club at 6pm on Fri Dec 2nd. Bookable upfront on a first come first served basis, if you wanted to pay in instalments we recommend signing up to Clearpay before hand as the places can go fast. The listings are scheduled for 6pm - refresh your browser to see them appear!

Info can be found

here: www.chandosatelier.co.uk/after-school-creativity-clubs and you can click through to book once the listings are live at 6pm on Fri.



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

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 the new <u>Reception</u> will start on <u>Thursday 3rd November – Thursday 8th December – Merrywood - 15:30 – 16:30</u>

Classes for <u>KS1</u> next term will start on <u>Tuesday 1st November – Tuesday 6th December – Merrywood - 15:30 – 16:30</u>

Classes for <u>KS2</u> next term will start on **Wednesday 3rd November – Wednesday 7th December - Myrtle - in the Music Room 15:15 – 16:15**

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 £42 (£6 a week) for term 2 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



Jacqui Ham Acting Out Drama

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

https://www.kidsclub.org.uk/book/southville-infant/

Please visit the link to book your child's place.

If you have difficulties with payment or have further questions you can contact us on live chat kidsclub.org.uk

Southville Infant School

Dear parents and carers,

We are delighted to offer our clubs this term, led by our kind DBS certified expert instructors at your school.

No materials are required, your child simply needs to turn up!

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

https://www.kidsclub.org.uk/book/southville-infant/

After School Club: Spring Term

1h After School: 3:30-4:30pm

Spring Term 2023 Dates as followed:

Week Commencing - 04/01/2023 to 31/03/2023

Tuesday

Monday

Wednesday

Thursday



Please visit the link to book your child's place.

If you have difficulties with payment or have further questions you can contact us on live chat kidsclub.org.uk

Southville Junior School

Dear parents and carers,

We are delighted to offer our clubs this term, led by our kind DBS certified expert instructors at your school.

No materials are required, your child simply needs to turn up!

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

https://www.kidsclub.org.uk/book/southville-junior/

After School Club: Spring Term

1h After School: 3:15-4:15pm

Spring Term 2023 Dates as followed:

Week Commencing - 04/01/2023 to 31/03/2023

Monday Tuesday

Wednesday







WINTER FAIR IS TOMORROW! 2-5pm MERRYWOOD SITE

Thank you to everyone who has made donations for the Fair. Whether this be donations for hampers, buying raffle tickets /trees / crackers, grotto tickets, baking cakes for the cafe, tombola items, soft toys, lucky dip, warm winter items, glass jars, biscuit making, bead buying, glitter purchasing etc!

So much work goes on behind the scenes to make these events happen. We couldn't run the fair for the children without your donations or help – so thank you!



Please bring lots of small change, 50p, £1 coins!

Come along and enjoy a huge range of stalls; hook a festive duck, toys and books, biscuit decorating, glitter tattoos, lantern making, necklace making, sponsor a teddy, make your own reindeer food, lucky dip, scratch cards, tombola, lollipop dip, santa's grotto etc! PLUS a private stalls shopping quarter with 5 different stalls!

There will be mulled wine, candy floss and freshly made crepes with a range of toppings!

If thats not enough, we will be running the cafe for you to refuel and carry on enjoying the fair - please bring your NUT and SESAME FREE bakes to the fair, in a labelled container!

Hampers:

The legendary hamper raffle will also be held at 4:30pm; you can still purchase tickets on the day! If you have any tickets at home, please bring these along to the fair so they can be included in the draw.

The hampers are incredible – yet again! Here's a sneak peak to some of the hampers donated so far.....











Christmas Trees and Crackers:

If you have ordered a Christmas tree or any of our eco-crackers, please collect these from the fair. Trees are on a first come first served basis. We have SOLD OUT!

Please find the cracker collection stall to collect your crackers. Please bring a bag as these will be handed to you individually



Santa's Grotto:

We have 5 tickets left before this is also sold out! This will be held in the library in the front playground at Merrywood. Santa can't wait to meet over 120 of you!!

Community News



childhood can't wait

Can you spare up to 3 hours a week to make a difference to a family living in Bristol or South Glos? Our volunteers support families with children under 5 who are going through tough times. Why not join our next volunteer preparation course starting on Thursday

Contact us today to find out more. homestartbristol.org.uk 0117 9501170









Come in!

For tasty food and good company





Free meals Everyone is Welcome

Wednesdays 7:30pm at FoodCycle Bristol Easton Easton Christian Family St Judes, BS5 OSQ

Saturdays 1:30pm at FoodCycle Bristol Barton Hill Settlement 43 Ducie Road, BS5 OAX

Dance Stars



Introducing DANCE STARS...launching in January on Tuesdays at 4.40pm at BS3 Community's Milford Hall in Southville...

Dance Stars is a modern /pop dance class for 7-9year olds which incorporates a range of styles of modern dance, learning short routines from popular music & films – including favourites such as Taylor Swift, Little Mix & Katy Perry. The class focuses on building an overall performance experience. It is theatrical, energetic, building muscle control, co-ordination as well as increasing confidence and creativity. But...the ultimate goal is to feel great & have fun!

Dance Stars is suitable for Yr3 & Yr4 children (age 7-9)

No dance experience required, everyone is welcome!

Give it a go & book your free trial class here - spaces limited:

https://bookwhen.com/natridgeondance?fbclid=lwAR3NJk8Qjhlx9f70TFb2FA9FJmd7UVCbKLjg4KMW8abj2eR77EO8BSj0Dho#focus=ev-s5wx-

UNTER'S WALK Innovative Global Family Folk Theatre DECEMBER 18TH HEART OF BS13, HARTCLIFFE, 12PM & 3PM DECEMBER 19TH BATH CITY FARM, 11AM & 3PM* DECEMBER 20TH LAWRENCE WESTON COMMUNITY FARM, 11 AM & 3PM *with a craft workshop after each performance! 'Family theatre at its best!' - Rock the Tots **ARTS COUNCIL** www.tidaltalescollective.com

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Greater Bedminster Urban Nature Reserve

The BS3 Wildlife Group will be launching a new project in January – the Greater Bedminster Urban Nature Reserve.

Nature reserves are usually thought of as large bits of land with few human inhabitants and designed to protect wildlife. But, an urban nature reserve is full of people as well as animals. The core of this will be the domestic gardens that exist in Greater Bedminster - an estimate is 10,000 within BS3! The group will be asking gardeners to register their spaces as part of the Urban Nature Reserve. Almost all gardens are supportive of wildlife to some extent. The Urban Nature Reserve will celebrate these gardens and encourage their custodians to become more wildlife friendly and to link up to create wildlife corridors.

The group will also be linking up with park support groups, allotment associations, schools and churches that have spaces that might become more wildlife friendly. They are also in touch with bodies such as Avon Wildlife Trust, Bristol Parks and the universities. They are interested to see if Urban Nature Reserves are effective ways of mobilising public support and action in order to reverse the decline.

Ben Barker, secretary of the BS3 Wildlife Group said: "Britain is in the lowest 10% for biodiversity amongst all the countries on Earth. For hundreds of years, and especially in recent decades, human activity has driven many insects, mammals, amphibians and birds towards, and sometimes over, the edge of extinction. It's time for us to reverse direction and to find ways of conserving our fellow creatures so that Britain can become biodiverse again."

For more information, please email mywildbedminster@virginmedia. com.



Save Soil Winter Fair

A winter fair is going to be taking place at Create Centre on Smeaton Road this December.

The event will be a fun fair to learn all about soil health and what you can do to save our soil from extinction. There will be live music, dance, various workshops, face painting, food and drink, films and art, Christmas card making and even free tea and cake!

The Save Soil Winter Fair will be taking place on Saturday 3rd December from 1.00pm - 4.00pm. All are welcome to go along and entry is free.

For more information, please visit savesoilbristol.eventbrite.co.uk.



SATURDAY 3 DEC 10-12 pm

At ShoeZone, Broadwalk Shopping Centre, Knowle

We are a small group of parents concerned about the climate crisis. Come and join us!





