



# NEWSLETTER

## Happy Friday!

Well it's finally happened - the first murmurs of Christmas singing have started around the school on both sites as we begin the balance of preparing for the Christmas period whilst trying to play down to the children that anything exciting and different is just around the corner!

We have one more 'normal' week before the festivities, performances etc begin (and yes, I did have to double check that because I can't quite believe it!) so please keep an eye on the calendar so you know what is going on and when.

## Winter Food Hamper

Thank you to everyone who helped last year with our winter food hampers, whether through money donations, helping to pack the hampers or delivering them. All of your generosity was welcomed by all the families we were able to support.

It's that time of year again and we could really do with your help supporting our school community. If you are able to donate towards our winter hampers, please do so by following the link below (or scanning the QR code). If you have any other ways you can help then please let us know.



If you feel that you would benefit from receiving a hamper, or if you have any questions, please contact Paula Mathias.

[paula.mathias@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:paula.mathias@bristol-schools.uk)

Thank you in advance

<https://app.goodhub.com/offerings/southville-primary-school/donations/create>

Scan the QR code to make a donation using a smartphone. Download to insert it in a leaflet or poster.

[Download QR](#)



### **Well Done Otto!**

Last week, Otto in Year 4 played the part of Tiny Tim in the Award Winning Bloc Productions performance of A Christmas Carol at the Bristol Hippodrome. Otto auditioned to be part of the show alongside hundreds of talented children from right across the South West and was cast as Tiny Tim.

I gather than more than 9000 people came to watch the show over the week and there was a standing ovation every night! What a fantastic achievement Otto - well done!



Photo credit - Stewart McPherson

### **Myrtle Street Car Park**

Just a reminder that the new enforcement measures come into place in our Myrtle Street car park on Sunday evening.

### **Police Communication Regarding E-scooters**

I have been asked to circulate the message below regarding the purchase and use of e-scooters. I have also attached the letter separately.

### **Handful of Harmonies Choir**

Good luck to the children taking part in the Handful of Harmonies Choir performance at Ashton Park Secondary School on Sunday. They have been rehearsing hard and I hope will really enjoy the chance to sing with other schools and choirs as part of this special event.

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### **OPAL Update from Mr Potter**

The school continues to develop our play provision across both sites for all children.

### Ezy-Rollers

We have very recently started offering the children on both sites the opportunity for wheeled provision. The 6 Ezy-rollers across the sites have been a huge hit with all the children. We have 'rolled' this out in a controlled way to ensure that all children across the school have an opportunity to cruise the play space. The children have been amazing in the way that they have used and shared the go karts. At Myrtle we've started to section off our MUGA space splitting the area up to develop other opportunities for play within this space.

We would like to thank the PTA for funding the Ezy-rollers and for continuing to support our Play enhancements across both sites.



The future for wheels in our play space

Our go-karts form stage 1 of our wheeled play offering for our children. We are now looking to continue to enhance our provision for scooting across the school with ramps and jumps especially at Myrtle.

### Dance spaces

At our Myrtle site we have secured the final costings for the shelter to go over the dance floor at the back of the playground space.

The plan is to cover the area, then board the side spaces making the area as dark as possible. We will then furnish this area with some shiny disco balls hanging from the roof as well as using a sound system with inbuilt lights already funded by the PTA. We are also planning to decorate the boards around the sides and back with neon paint making the space 90/00's nightclub ready. It already has a sticky nightclub floor!!!

At Merrywood we will get the sound-system booming out the tunes at the bottom of the play space near the gazebo.

#### Loose parts play

We are always on the hunt for more loose parts to include within our play spaces.

Quality pallets, planks of wood, netting, tarpaulins, slides, drainpipes, working pushchairs, saucepans, frying pans, and anything else that you may think would be helpful to children's play.

If you have any donations then please get in touch with Mr Potter

#### Small world toys for both sites

We have had a great response to my earlier request for small world play donations. These spaces always need topping up so when you are having a clear out of Playmobil, Lego, Duplo, dragons, dinosaurs and farmyard animals then please think of us first, before marketplace 😊

#### Welly play!

On our Myrtle site we've noticed that the back play space is becoming muddier as the weather turns wetter. Part of our provision is to have opportunities to play with, in and around muddy spaces. In order to do this without our uniforms, footwear and building becoming overrun with mud we would like to suggest that children who wish to access this area slip into a pair of wellington boots which can be stored temporarily on their pegs in the corridor until we establish a shared welly rack.

#### The future...

##### Green spaces

We continue to develop our gardening spaces on both Merrywood and Myrtle.

Mrs French and the Reception children are doing a great job with the planting and Mr Bob continues to build things to Mrs French's high standards!

The orchard has had a team of adult helpers working on it and hopefully will continue to work on it. We are now looking to cut some hazel, with the support of Jim Twine, before Christmas to start developing small hedgerows within the space. We are also looking to develop the seating spaces within the area to provide the children with small places to sit and connect.

### Emerging Ideas...



Mud kitchens... We will be constructing mud kitchen spaces on both sites using wooden pallets. If you are a dab hand at construction and have a passion for mud kitchen construction then we would love to chat to you. If you also have a spare sink/draining board hanging around that we could use can you please give Mr Potter a call?!

Musical spaces outside... We are working to develop our percussion section outside of the classroom. We want to use the fence line or other spaces within our playgrounds to develop musical centres of wonderfulness!

### OPAL Play Award

All of the changes we have made within our play spaces over the last two years have been to provide different play opportunities for all of our children. We have also been working in the background to secure an award linked to play. Our play provision will be judged at some point in Terms 5 / 6 against the OPAL standard.

Thanks to everyone who has and continue to help develop 'Play' within our settings. Your donations, time and support are greatly appreciated by us all.

Gareth Potter

Have a lovely weekend, Andy Bowman





Dear Parents/Carers

As we go into the festive period, we would like to remind you about the law regarding electric scooters. It has become apparent that some young people have already acquired or are in the process of acquiring electric scooters for their own use.

The only electric scooters that can only be used on public roads are those that are hired as part of the government-backed trials. We would also remind you that to use these trial scooters you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full or provisional driving licence. Private e-scooters can only be used on private land (with the landowner's permission) and not on public roads, cycle lanes or pavements.

Electric scooters are classed as powered transporters and fall within the legal definition of a motor vehicle under the Road Traffic Act 1998. This means that the same rules that apply to motor vehicles, apply to e-scooters. This includes, but isn't limited to:

- Driving with a licence
- Driving/riding with insurance
- Driving/riding other than on a road

It is not currently possible to get appropriate insurance for privately owned e-scooters meaning that it is illegal to use them on roads or public spaces. If a child or adult is found riding a private e-scooter on a public road or land the scooter may be seized, and the person, including children could be liable for prosecution for driving without insurance. If the child or adult doesn't hold a provisional or full licence and is stopped riding an e-scooter, they could be prosecuted for driving other than in accordance than with a licence, as well as having no insurance. Penalty points can still be issued where a licence isn't held. These points would take effect when the child or person applies for a driving license.

Our aim is to keep children safe and out of the criminal justice system. We want to keep you informed so that we can work together to do this.

If you need to report an incident involving an electric scooter you can call 101 or report online:  
[Report anti-social driving | Avon and Somerset Police](#)

If you need to know anymore information please contact your local neighbourhood policing team:  
[Your area | Avon and Somerset Police](#)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larisa Hunt'.

Larisa Hunt

Chief Inspector

Early Intervention, Crime Prevention and Licensing