

Newsletter – 30th September 2022



We're proud to announce our Stars of the week:

- [Duckling](#): Ava and Gwen
- [Dragonfly](#): Evan and Lexie
- [Otter](#): Dougie and Isabelle
- [Kingfisher](#): Frankie and Mollie

Maths certificates went to: Martha (Red), Bing (Orange), Maddox (Indigo), Felix (Iron), Henry C (Copper), Archie (Gold)

And our headteacher award winners are: Charlie, Ellis, Isabelle and Kenzie

A message from Mr Barton



It's been great that all our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children have had the opportunity to visit the Bath Children's Literature Festival this week. Books and reading are so integral to primary education and Mr Miller has been hugely instrumental in generating a love of reading across our school.

His Reading Ambassadors scheme has got a lot of children involved with posting video book reviews on Twitter, and this has brought about a long-standing and well established connection with authors. On many occasions, children have had the chance to meet authors online and I've heard the enthusiasm in their voices when talking about these experiences.

This week though, the author experience was taken to another level. Not only did children from Dragonfly, Otter and Kingfisher classes get to experience live workshops with authors at the festivals, but one of our children won a competition to get even closer to a couple of 'big names' in the literary world.

Many congratulations to Dylan and Clara in Kingfisher, whose book review entries to the Festival's competition won them free entry to events there. And a particularly special "Well Done!" to Billy in Year 6, who was the competition winner. This gave him the opportunity to interview authors of his choice, as well as to attend 3 events at the festival. He is pictured here meeting Cressida Cowell and David Baddiel, taking Leo along with him too!



Would you like to find out more about joining the PTA or being a governor at the school? Please let the office know.



I'm really pleased that we were able to get involved with the Bath Children's Literature Festival this year and meet some authors face to face. There are still events happening this year and you can [click here to find out more](#).

You can also read more about reading at Pensford, including this year's Reading Canon Challenge if you have a few moments to [click here](#).

Whatever you are doing this weekend, I hope you and your children have an enjoyable couple of days.

Warrick Barton

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Upcoming Events

Week beginning 3rd October

Monday 3 rd	Tuesday 4 th	Wednesday 5 th	Thursday 6 th	Friday 7 th
			Kingfisher swimming (Week 4 of 4) Census day menu (see below)	

Week beginning 10th October

Monday 10 th	Tuesday 11 th	Wednesday 12 th	Thursday 13 th	Friday 14 th
Tempest Photography to take individual and sibling photos (children attending Pensford only) Home netball match v Clutton (letters going to the team)			NO swimming for Kingfisher pm – Forest School for Duckling class Chew Valley football tournament (letters going to the team)	Parent Council meeting

Parents' Evenings – Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd November

Looking further ahead, we want to give parents advance notice that our autumn parents evenings will be on the above dates. As last year, we will offer both a 'remote' and 'in person' option as both have been popular. The Tuesday will be the date for the in-person meetings and Wednesday will be for the remote meetings (on Zoom).

Both evenings will have 10-minute appointment slots for each child, and will run from 3:30pm until 6:30pm. **Sign-up sheets will be available in the playground after school on MONDAY and throughout next week.**

Cross Country Running Event

It was a real pleasure for Mr Barton to take ten children from Kingfisher to the BANES Schools Partnership cross-country running event on Thursday. This took place at Odd Down Sports ground, where there was a great atmosphere as teams from more than 15 schools took part.

Our Y6 boys team consisted of Alfie, Billy, Dylan, Freddie and Josh and they did very well, with Billy coming 7th overall out of over 70 runners. All the boys finished in the top half of the field and we were very proud of them. The girls did incredibly well too, incorporating 2 Year 5 runners into their 'Year 6' team of Anais, Beau, Clara, Freya and Mollie. Again, our top runner came 7th overall, and

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very well done to Beau for that. And again, all the runners finished in the top half of the field: a brilliant team performance.

What was most impressive of all to Mr Barton was the stand-out leadership skills shown by Alfie on the day. He spontaneously led both teams in a very professional-looking warm-up routine and was instrumental in making sure every member of both teams felt well-supported and ready to give their best on the day. Well done Alfie!

We are currently awaiting the full team results from the event organisers and will let you know how Pensford did over all when they come through.

Census day menu – a reminder of what's on offer on Thursday

On certain key days of the year, a census is taken in schools. This includes the number of children who take up free school meals. This number, on this particular day, is taken (instead of an average) when determining a part of the funding that goes to schools. It's therefore in the interests of all children that as many of possible take up that offer on that day, as funding for the school overall will be a little bit higher. Edwards and Ward provided us with a choice of popular menus, and children have voted on these. The winning choice for the next census, on Thursday 6th October, was the menu shown here.

Of course, while the aim is to have as many children take up the option of a meal on that day as possible, parents must not feel under any obligation to do so. We just want you to be aware of the census day and the fact that the menu will be a little different then.



School Attendance – a reminder

The impact of the pandemic is still with us in some ways, and all schools have been given refreshed guidance on attendance by the Department for Education. This guidance comes into force this year, and puts even greater emphasis on schools working with parents to ensure very high rates of attendance now.

We have sometimes had queries from parents about when they should or shouldn't send their child to school with certain illnesses. We have a standing item in the newsletter each week (below) on absence reporting, which should be helpful. The rule of thumb is that they SHOULD attend unless

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they feel so unwell that they will not be able to cope in the classroom. However, there is also some guidance about specific illnesses, and this can be found [here on the NHS website](#). We will follow this guidance when advising parents, and it is very useful if parents are familiar with it too.

Please also remember that if a child is unwell in the morning, but improves later in the day then they should come into school later on. Similarly, if a child is a little under the weather first thing then do let us know and we will keep a special eye on them and contact you if they need to be collected early.

Important PTA news – a reminder

The positions of secretary and treasurer on the PTA will be coming up this term. Anyone interested can attend the next AGM, the details of which will be sent out to parents shortly. If anyone would like to chat about the positions prior to the meeting they can contact Nik Cogan on 07792568330.

Useful links and reminders

As usual, we're leaving a couple of links that could be useful to you in our newsletter.

If you need to book or cancel a **breakfast club** place, please [click here](#), or look up Breakfast Club under the Parents tab of our website.

Amazon wish list. If you would like to support our school by buying any books from our Amazon Wish List, please [click here](#).

Absence reporting

If you know your child will need to be **absent for school**, such as for a music exam or dentist appointment, or if under exceptional circumstances you need to request authorised holiday in term time, please [click here](#). You can also find this form under the Parents tab of the website. Note that it should NOT be used for unplanned absence (illness).

In the case of illness, this is our usual reminder to please be specific when leaving a message or reporting absence due to illness to the office. Below is a list of things that do **NOT** require your child to be off from school.

- They are tired
- They have a cold / mild stomach ache
- They are feeling 'unwell' but with no specific symptoms / pain.
- They are worried about something (but do let us know, so we can support them)

We hope this link provides some help as to when to keep your child at home and when not to: [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Remember that if you need to notify us of any planned absence, please do this via our [online form here](#). **Many thanks to all parents for working with us in ensuring that your child gets their full entitlement to their education by attending school as often as possible. If you do need to request a short absence for a term time holiday, be aware that this can only be granted in truly exceptional circumstances. Any such requests must be submitted at least 2 weeks in advance.**

Although the vast majority of requests cannot result in authorised absence, we very much respect parents' honesty in telling us about any term time holidays.

Community News

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EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Here's what is happening in your Libraries this week

w/c 3 October

For any ticketed events, the link will be online via Social Media or via the blog.

Bath Central Library

Storytime Sessions, Family Fun

Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00 am 4 October

Art in the Library - Sarah Targett, Charlotte Farmer, Jude McGuire, Kate Bernstein: In Print

Monday - Saturday 4 - 28 October

Share & Repair Drop In: How to Make a Kids Fancy Dress Costume

Saturday 1.00 - 3.00 am 8 October

Keynsham Library

Baby Bounce & Rhyme, Family Fun

Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00 am 4 October
10.30 - 11.00 am

Special Mermaid Storytime, Family Fun

Saturday 10.30 - 11.30 am 8 October
*No booking required, for ages 3+

Cubing Club, Family Fun Drop In

Saturday 10.30 - 11.30pm 8 October
*KS2 & 3 - Please bring your own cube if you can

Midsomer Norton Library

Baby Bounce & Rhyme, Family Fun

Monday 11.00 - 11.30 am 3 October

Storytime Sessions, Family Fun

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00 am 5 October

Digital All Social Media

Black History Month, October

Libraries Week, 3 - 9 October

National Poetry Day, 6 October

Children's Book Review 8 October
Bathnes Libraries Blog



Facebook
@BathnesLibraries1



Instagram
@bathnes_libraries



Twitter
@BathnesL



Pinterest
@BanesLibraries



Blog
bathneslibraries.wordpress.com

Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Food On Our Doorstep (FOOD) club

Good-quality food at a low price

Bright Start Children's Centre Services run a weekly
Food On Our Doorstep (FOOD) club
at Keynsham Children's Centre,
providing local families with good-quality food
at a low cost, while also reducing food waste.

It costs just £1 a year
for your family to become
members.

Once you've joined,
you can purchase
a bag of tasty food items
every week
worth approx. £15
for just £3.50!

To become a member,
you must live in
Bath & North East
Somerset and
have a child aged 0 - 18.



Where and when

Keynsham Children's Centre
65 West View Road
Keynsham
BS31 2UE
Thursdays
1.00 – 3.00pm

Find out more

01225 395400
brightstartcc@bathnes.gov.uk or
Hayley_Smith@bathnes.gov.uk

 BrightStartChildrensCentres
www.bathnes.gov.uk/childrens-centres

**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**

Improving People's Lives





Grassroots Sports Bristol

October Half Term Holiday Club

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We at **Grassroots Sports Bristol** in partnership with **Young Bristol** are delighted to inform you that we are going to be running a **Multi-Sports Holiday Club** at **BS14 Youth Club, Stockwood BS14 8SJ** from Monday 24th – 28th October 2022.

SPORT CLUB	CLUB OPEN TO	TIME	DATES	COST PER CHILD
MULTI-SPORTS This includes Football, Athletics, Cricket, Hockey, Basketball, Netball, Volleyball, Games, Arts & Crafts & Much More!	All children aged 5-12	Normal hrs: 9:00 - 3:00. Extended hrs: 08:30 - 4:30.	24 th – 28 th October	Weekly: Normal Hours - £70 Extended Hours - £95 Daily: Normal Hours - £21 Extended Hours - £26

For More Info or to book a place, please contact Jeff Dickens via: Phone – 07877287072 or Email - jeffreydickens@hotmail.com. Limited Spaces Available!

To Secure your place a **50% Deposit** is required by the **Friday 21st October!** You can do this by either contacting Jeff Dickens Direct or By Bank Transfer: ACC No -52293982 Sort Code 09-01-29

	Name: DOB:
	School:
	Home Address:
 Postcode:
	Home Telephone:
	Mobile:
	Emergency no:
	Medical requirements:

	*Payment enclosed:
	Parent/Guardian name:
	Signature: Date:

Booking Form

– Please hand form in on first day of club!

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