



Redbrook Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Striving Together To Be The Best We Can Be



No. 79, 21st October 2021

www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk

Dear Families,

I can't quite believe that we are at the end of the first half term already. Autumnal weather is well and truly upon us and the darker evenings and mornings are creeping in. Although this term brings a reminder that the winter is on its way, it has always been a favourite of mine where children find interesting leaves, bring in conkers and share the fascinating treasures they pick up as they walk to school or search the school grounds. Just last week a child in Robins class arrived with a leaf to share which they clearly treasured. Even as Acting Headteacher, these small things make me smile so much and I carry them into my day with me.

Autumn also brings the Annual Schools Cross Country event and I had the privilege of escorting 24 very enthusiastic runners from our federation to Five Acres last week where they raced against girls and boys from across the Forest. Each race had around 130 children take part and our teams lived out our federation vision as they embraced the racing challenge head on and strived together to cheer each other down the final straight. Millie in Kingfisher Class was the only child able to attend from Redbrook and I can only imagine how nervous she felt as she joined 23 children she did not yet know. During the course of the afternoon, she showed every one of our values: courage, compassion, respect and resilience and I could not have been prouder of her, she was a true super star!

Not all days in school though, have been glorious for us this term and our vision has never been so important as we have held together as a team to grieve the passing of a former pupil from St Briavels. Even as adults, we struggled to comprehend the tragic death of Jake Corner but through love and courage we have supported each other and reached out to support the young people who were at St Briavels with Jake when they came back to us. It is a blessing to me that our school and our staff provided them with a place they felt safe to return to and grieve together as they planted a tree in his memory alongside Jake's uncle just a couple of weekends ago. Grief, as many of you know, is a journey and sometimes it's the unexpected moments that catch you. We found an old class photo in a cupboard just a few days ago and in it was Jake smiling and happy. For us, this is how we will remember him always.

Now, as we head into the half term break, my staff and I will take some time to heal and to prepare for what is always an exciting and hectic term leading up to Christmas. I hope you get a chance to take a pause with your families during this week, even if it is just curled up sharing a story together. Please know that if you need us, we are here to support not only your children but you too. If we can help, we will.

With much love

Natalie Frey

Acting Executive Head Teacher

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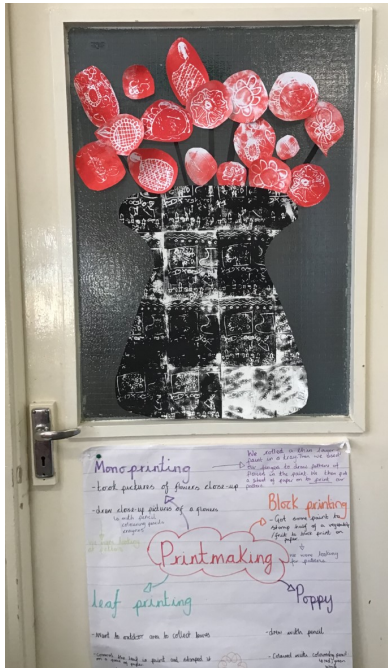
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Robins

This term in Robins we have been learning about lots of different and exciting topics!

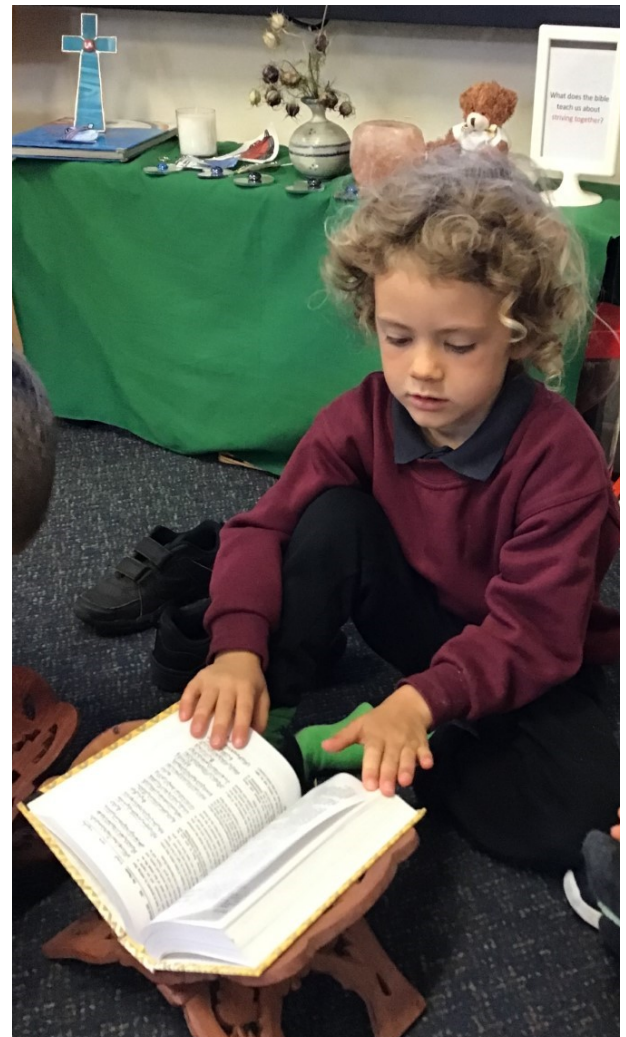
In ART, we have been learning how to do printmaking using printing ink and repeating patterns. We have made our own versions of Poppy flowers for remembrance day in November. The children are super proud of their flower prints and printed vase display in our classroom.



We have been learning about places of Worship in RE. The children were super excited to try on the attire of a Muslim person and act out how they would be in a mosque. We looked at the Islamic holy book (Qur'an), prayer mats, prayer hats, prayer scarves and beads.

We also had a very exciting trip to the football field where we all had an opportunity to sit in the helicopter and feel like a pilot for the afternoon. We really enjoyed the trip!

Miss Shera



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Kingfisher

A Note from Miss Collins

It is truly wonderful to be back at Redbrook and working with all the staff and children again.

I missed them terribly during my time away and am REALLY enjoying being back amongst it and spending time with my clutch. Seeing you lovely parents and catching up with you all has also been a real treat. Last July, I didn't think I could skip any faster into school but I now know that I can! It's marvellously good to be back!



Helicopter Visit

We had a very exciting day when a helicopter landed on the field. The school was invited to have a look round it and children even got to sit in it. Many thanks to the pilot!



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Office staffing / emergency contact information

If you are unable to speak to someone at Redbrook in case of emergency please phone St Briavels school and they will get a message to us:

01594 530428

The office at Redbrook is not staffed full time. I am in the office 8.30am—1pm, Mon—Thursday. Julia Price covers the office on Friday all day. In case of illness this may not always be the case.

Anna Oliver

Admin Assistant

FORS—Friends of Redbrook School

Cake sale success

Thanks to everyone who donated a cake to our FORS cake sale, and / or bought a delicious treat, we raised an incredible £73.80!

Pop-up curry night

Tickets to our upcoming pop-up curry night sold out in record time! During the night we will hold a raffle, if you're able to donate a prize please do bring it in to the office or speak to Ruth Brown. Thanks to Amy for donating a treatment at Lakeside Aesthetics, and to Justyna for donating a sourdough hamper! All monies raised on the night will go to the FORS fund and benefit our children and school.

New school resources

FORS has funded new vocabulary wheel resources to aid creative writing. Thanks everyone, this is a great example of how your support benefits our children.

Autumn window trail

Get creative! Decorate your window in a spooky or autumn theme for half term. Take a stroll around the village and see how many window displays you can spot. This isn't a fundraiser just a fun-raiser for half term.

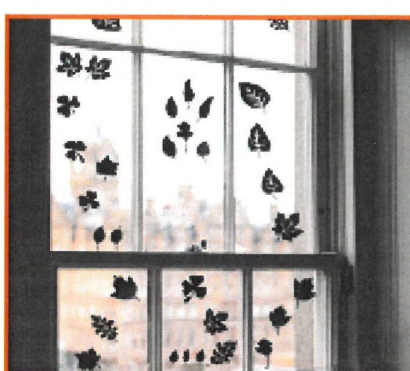
Disco Fever

FORS will host a disco at the Village Hall on 19 November. More details to follow soon, but keep your diary free and get ready to boogie!



Autumn window trail

October half term



Join Friends Of Redbrook School in our celebration of Autumn

Get creative! Decorate your window in a spooky or autumn theme for half term.

Get walking! Take a stroll around the village and see how many window displays you can spot.
You could even go in fancy dress!

Get sharing! Let us know how many windows you spot on the (private) FORS Facebook Group.

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The Forest Foodbank | Helping Local People in Crisis

With effect from Monday 11th October 2021 the Forest Foodbank will be operating as below:



MONDAY	-	OPEN DELIVERIES TO GL14, GL15, GL16 AND GL17
TUESDAY	-	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY	-	OPEN DELIVERIES TO GL14, GL15, GL16 AND GL17
THURSDAY	-	OPEN DELIVERIES TO GL14, GL15, GL16 AND GL17
FRIDAY	-	CLOSED

They will continue to deliver for the Baby Bank on the days we are open.

For further information go to: theforest.foodbank.org.uk

Adult Education In Gloucestershire



Adult Education in Gloucestershire is continuing to run **Wellbeing Courses** to support families across the county including:

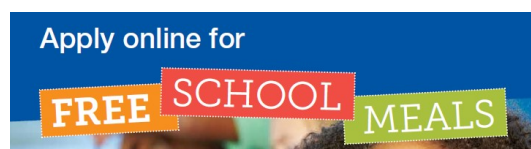
- **Calm Kids, Calm Home** is a 6 week course running on Friday mornings. The course look at ways of making the home environment calmer, including discussing effective co-parenting, family routines, parents as role models and self care. This course starts on Friday 5th November from 9:30- 11:00.
- **Calming the Mind** is a 5 week introduction to mindfulness. Parents who attended this course last year have noticed a real change in their lives, which has resulted in building strong bonds with their children. This course is running on Monday evenings, 7:30-8:30, from 15th November

For more information see:

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/adult-education-in-gloucestershire/>

Free School Meals

If you think you may qualify for free school meals please do apply for them—our school will receive extra funding for each eligible child registered. Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available at:



www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

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Dates for your diary Oct 2021—Jan 2022



Dates subject to change—please check letters home and website for updates

Date	
Friday 22nd October	Last day before half term
Monday 1st November	First day after half term R and year 6 NHS screening
Tuesday 9 th November	Parent consultations times tbc
Thursday 11 th November	Parent consultations times tbc
Thursday 18 th November	Open morning for children starting school in 2022, contact office to book
Friday 19 th November	Children in Need – no uniform or wear spots to school for a donation
Friday 17th December	Christingle (in school, children only) Last day of term
Monday 3rd January	Bank holiday
Tuesday 4th January	INSET
Wednesday 5th January 2022	First day of term
Fri 21 st January	Y6 to Gloucester Cathedral, more info to follow

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