

St Briavels Parochial C of E Primary Newsletter

No 108 October 22nd 2026

Letter from Mrs Frey



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of you who shared your views about our school with inspectors during our recent Ofsted inspection; they form an important part of the process and enabled the inspectors to gain a fuller understanding of our school community. We are also hugely grateful to those who offered their support and kind words before, during and after the inspection. We are now awaiting our draft report and expect to be able to share this with you towards the end of November/ beginning of December.

This half term, our worship theme has been "Back Together Again", focusing on what it means to flourish as a school community. Through a range of Bible stories and verses children have explored our school Christian values of courage, compassion, respect and resilience, considering how these qualities help us to support one another, overcome challenges and grow together.

It has been wonderful to have children engaging in our discussions and reflecting thoughtfully on how they can demonstrate these values both in school and beyond.

In our wider worship, we have welcomed our Open the Book team back this term. I know how much the children enjoy these worships. They do such a wonderful job of making Bible stories come alive through involving a group of children in the acting each week. I thank them for their dedication to this, we are extremely grateful for their presence in school.

We also enjoyed celebrating our Harvest Festival together with you. Thank you to all families for your incredibly kind donations. Your contributions will make a real difference to members of our local community and are a wonderful example of your compassion in action.

As we continue our journey together this term, I hope that our school community will continue to be a place where everyone can flourish, supported by one another with courage, compassion, respect and resilience. Thank you for your continued support of our school and for the many ways you help make our community such a special place. We look forward to all that the next half term will bring.

***"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."* (1 Thessalonians 5:11)**

With love

Natalie Frey

Executive Headteacher

Snowdrops



We have had a very busy start to the term, getting all of the children settled and into a routine. We have had lots of highlights this term including a visit from Lexi, with lots of reptiles and a selection of exotic eggs. We also took part in the Harvest Festival, where Snowdrop children performed 'Big Red Combine Harvester' brilliantly. We have been finding out about our bodies and reading lots of stories about big emotions, helping the children to value and respect the people around them. We have also been thinking about different animals that lay eggs, such as owls, crocodiles and fish, and noticing the seasonal changes happening in our local environment, with the leaves on the trees changing colour, the berries ripening, the apples on the tree and the changes in the weather.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the parents who helped paint the fence around our garden and who weeded the brambles out of our play area. We really appreciate you spending your time improving our outdoor space.

Next term our topic is 'People Who Help Us'. We will be looking at different jobs and how people in the community help us. If you have a job where you help people, we would love to invite you in, to share what you do with us.



Daisy Class



Dear Daisy Class Parents/Carers,

It has been so wonderful getting to know Daisy Class and watching them flourishing in their new class. We loved reading our first book "How to be a Lion" and created some lovely lion artwork. Year 1's have had a great time at Forest School, they have looked at the seasons, team building games and completing an assault course. Year 2's have been participating in team building exercises and loved the blindfold challenge!

We hope you all have a wonderful half term.

Mrs Kear.

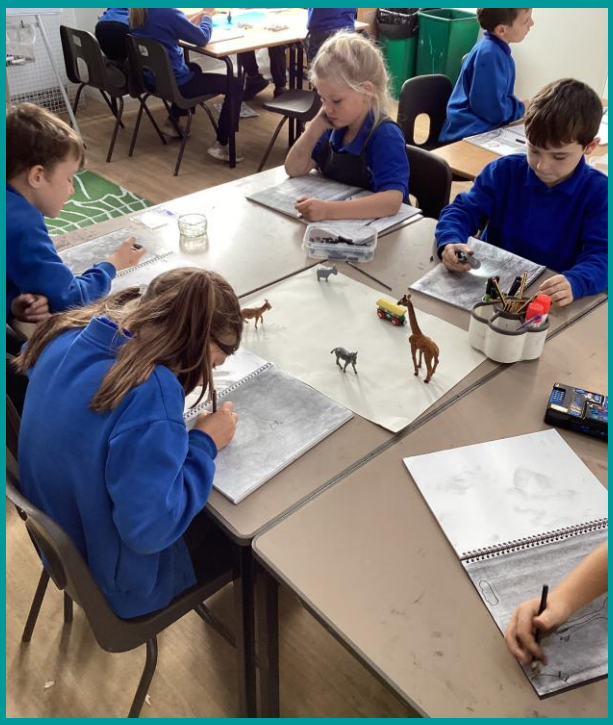

Welcome to
Daisy Class


English
Year 2

Poppy Class









Dear Poppy Class Parents and Carers,

We have had a brilliant start to the term and have enjoyed lots of exciting learning experiences!

A real highlight has been our STEM sessions with Ellie (Bella's mum), where we have explored making toys and developed our understanding of forces. We also had a fascinating session all about wasps with Jenny (Greta's mum), including the exciting opportunity to see a real wasps' nest!

Poppy Class have also had their first opportunity to take part in Open the Book, and in Art we have been busy exploring charcoal and experimenting with different techniques.

We have continued to develop our love of poetry too and were very proud to perform at the Harvest Festival.

We hope you all have a wonderful and well-deserved half-term break!

Miss Wilson and Miss Rees







Speedwell Class



Speedwell Class have had a fantastic first term and have settled into school really well! They have thoroughly enjoyed learning their Young Voices songs and have worked hard to improve their handwriting. In History, the children have been discovering what life was like for children during Tudor and Victorian times, learning lots of fascinating facts along the way. Well done, Speedwell, for a brilliant first term!

I've attached some pictures from our class treat and Open the Book worship.

Mr Ford













Foxglove Class



What a whirlwind the start of 26-27 has been and I could not be more proud of the way Foxglove have got stuck in. A lot of learning is happening with plenty of laughter thrown in the mix. The children have enjoyed learning about an Arctic expedition and writing their own blog posts in English, programming games using Scratch in Computing and exploring Jewish festivals during RE lessons.

At the start of the term, the children created collages, reflecting on their personalities and the things that they love. I am sure you agree with me that together the individuals have created a wonderful, caring and fun classroom, that is perfectly evident in our display too! The children also had their first (well deserved) treat few weeks back, playing a whole range of board games together.

I wish you all a lovely and restful half term.

Mrs Lindqvist





ELSA News



This has been a very exciting half term for me, as I have moved rooms! Over the summer, our lovely handyman, Nick, carried out some renovations to the upstairs classroom, and this term I have moved into my lovely new room, which we have named 'The Orchard'.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA for their generous donation towards our sensory equipment. It has already been put to great use, and the children absolutely adore it!

Our aim was to create a space not only for ELSA sessions, but also for children with additional needs to access throughout the morning. The Orchard provides a quiet, relaxing and calming environment for children who may benefit from a little time away from the busy classroom.

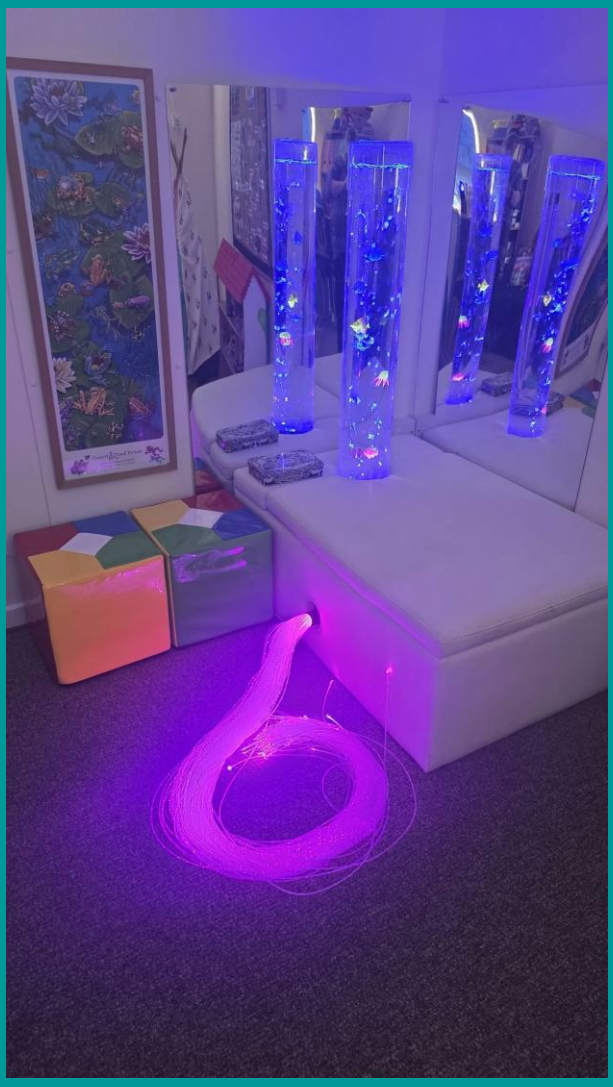
Mrs Hill (ELSA - Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)

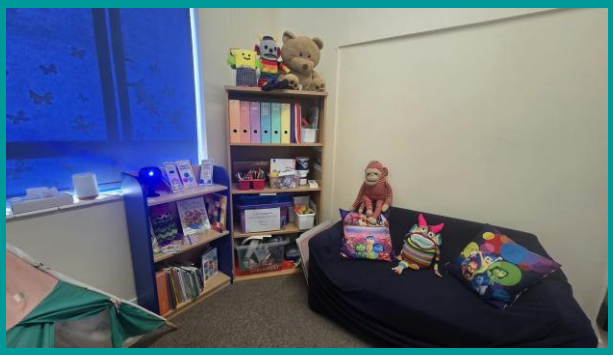
















Flu Immunisation Programme – 4 November

The school nurses will be visiting on 4 November to provide a Flu vaccination to all consented children in years R to 6. Please remember to log onto the form found here https://www.ghcimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu?schoolcode=GC115697 to ensure the nurses know your wishes. This form must be completed even if you wish to decline the vaccination. The nurses will make contact with any parents who have not submitted a form. Should you have any queries regarding the programme, please contact 0300 421 8140 or email ghc.fluimmunisation@nhs.net.

PTA

St Briavels PTA have had a great term of social and fundraising events.

We kicked off the academic year with the welcome BBQ. Families enjoyed games, crafts, bouncy castles and facepainting. Thank you to our fantastic BBQ team for the delicious food and to all our volunteers for setting up, manning stalls and being splashed by wet sponges for a good cause! The event raised enough money to cover big outgoings like the bouncy castle and make £250 profit.

A big thanks to the parents who worked hard on our October ground force day smartening up more outside areas - see the before and after photo for what a difference it makes!

On Wednesday after school, kids cracked out their best moves, disco outfits and fancy dress at the Autumn disco.

This year, we got into the festive spirit early with children completing Christmas designs at school to be printed on cards, mugs and other gifts. By doing this early, the school made the maximum commission offered on sales, which equated to £238. Plus you've got your cards and family presents sorted ahead of time. Win win!

Next term we're looking forward to some festive fun with an evening of wreath making with Smallbrook Cottage Flowers (some spaces still available to book (pta@st-briavels.gloucs.sch.uk) and, of course, the school Christmas fair. As in previous years, we

will be asking for your support to create a hamper full of colourful treats to raffle. There will be a non-uniform day on 26th November in return for donations. More info to come soon...

PTA Dates for the diary next term:

Non school uniform day for hamper donations - Thursday 26th November

Wreath making - Wednesday 2nd December, 7pm

Christmas fair- Friday 4th December, 3.15-6pm

As always, new PTA members or helpers are very welcome. Please get in touch to see how you can be involved!








ST BRIAVELS
BACK TO SCHOOL
BBQ 2026



Dates for your diaries

Please check letters home for more details about events. Dates may change.

LAST DAY OF TERM - Fri 23 Oct

FIRST DAY OF TERM - Mon 2 Nov

Wed 4 Nov - Flu Immunisations for children in years R to 6 - see email of 17 September

Thurs 12 Nov - Rags to Riches Collection Day - info to follow

Frid 20 Nov - School Photographs (Individual/Sibling Groups)

Thurs 26 Nov - Non Uniform Day (PTA Christmas Hamper Raffle Donations) - info to follow

Thurs 26 Nov - Year 2 and 3 visit to Hewelsfield Church - info to follow

Fri 27 Nov INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

Wed 2 Dec- PTA Christmas Wreath making workshop - see email of 17 September.

Fri 4 Dec - KS2 (Year 3 to 6) Christmas Pantomime Trip - Courtyard Theatre, Hereford - info to follow

Fri 4 - PTA Christmas Fair - From 3:20pm - info to follow

Tues 8 Dec - Christmas Performances (Years 1 to 6) - info to follow

Wed 9 Dec - Christmas Performances (Years 1 to 6) - info to follow

Thurs 10 Dec - Snowdrop & Daisy Class Christmas Pantomime Trip - Woodcroft Christian Centre, Tutshill - info to follow.

Wednesday 16 December - Christmas Lunch & Festive Jumper Day - info to follow

Thursday, 17 December - Snowdrops Nativity - St Briavels Chapel. More information to follow

Friday, 18 December - Christingle Services - info to follow

LAST DAY OF TERM Fri 18 December - Christingle Services - info to follow

Monday 21 December – Friday 1 January SCHOOL CLOSED

FIRST DAY OF TERM Mon 4 Jan 2027

Term Dates 2026-2027

Please note these are for the academic year starting in September 2026 .

Term dates can be found on our website here:

https://www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk/web/term_dates/372930

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2026/27

Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER

Mon		7	14	21	28
Tues	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thur	3	10	17	24	
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

OCTOBER

Mon		5	12	19	**26**
Tues		6	13	20	**27**
Wed		7	14	21	**28**
Thur	1	8	15	22	**29**
Fri	2	9	16	23	**30**
Sat	3	10	17	24	**31**
Sun	4	11	18	25	

NOVEMBER

Mon		2	9	16	23
Tues		3	10	17	24
Wed		4	11	18	25
Thur		5	12	19	26
Fri		6	13	20	27
Sat		7	14	21	28
Sun	1	8	15	22	29

DECEMBER

Mon	30	7	14	**21**	**28**
Tues	1	8	15	**22**	**29**
Wed	2	9	16	**23**	**30**
Thur	3	10	17	**24**	**31**
Fri	4	11	18	**25**	
Sat	5	12	19	**26**	
Sun	6	13	20	**27**	

JANUARY

Mon		4	11	18	25
Tues		5	12	19	26
Wed		6	13	20	27
Thur		7	14	21	28
Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	3	10	17	24	31

FEBRUARY

Mon	1	8	**15**	22	
Tues	2	9	**16**	23	
Wed	3	10	**17**	24	
Thur	4	11	**18**	25	
Fri	5	12	**19**	26	
Sat	6	**13**	**20**	27	
Sun	7	**14**	**21**	28	

MARCH

Mon	1	8	15	22	**29**
Tues	2	9	16	23	**30**
Wed	3	10	17	24	**31**
Thur	4	11	18	25	
Fri	5	12	19	**26**	
Sat	6	13	20	**27**	
Sun	7	14	21	**28**	

APRIL

Mon		**5**	12	19	26
Tues		**6**	13	20	27
Wed		**7**	14	21	28
Thur	**1**	**8**	15	22	29
Fri	**2**	**9**	16	23	30
Sat	**3**	**10**	17	24	
Sun	**4**	**11**	18	25	

MAY

Mon		3	10	17	24	**31**
Tues		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thur		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	**29**	
Sun	2	9	16	23	**30**	

JUNE

Mon		7	14	21	28
Tues	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thur	3	10	17	24	
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	**5**	12	19	26	
Sun	**6**	13	20	27	

JULY

Mon		5	12	19	**26**
Tues		6	13	20	**27**
Wed		7	14	21	**28**
Thur	1	8	15	**22**	**29**
Fri	2	9	16	**23**	**30**
Sat	3	10	17	**24**	**31**
Sun	4	11	18	**25**	

AUGUST

Mon		**2**	**9**	**16**	**23**	**30**
Tues		**3**	**10**	**17**	**24**	**31**
Wed		**4**	**11**	**18**	**25**	
Thur		**5**	**12**	**19**	**26**	
Fri		**6**	**13**	**20**	**27**	
Sat		**7**	**14**	**21**	**28**	
Sun	**1**	**8**	**15**	**22**	**29**	

Term Time		Holidays	
Bank Holiday		Inset Days	