

St Briavels Primary School Newsletter

Striving To Be The Best We Can Be



No. 67 July 19th 2019

www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk

Dear All,

We come to the end of a busy year for the Federation as a whole and for St Briavels C of E Primary School. Redbrook our partner school has undergone three inspections and has worked closely with the LA. The culmination of this is a judgement, in June, from Ofsted as being a 'Good' school which is a cause for celebration for us all, as the leadership and improvement work shared across both schools has secured this judgement.

It has been lovely to be able to celebrate our successes this year in a number of ways. The feedback on our sports day has been so positive and I thank you all for being part of this and making it such a fabulous day, parents were key in facilitating and supporting this new format. Thanks to Mr Powell for his work in the planning and delivery of both competitive and team sports.

The School Council, led brilliantly by Mrs Kear this year, did a fantastic job of hosting a special 'Thank you' event to let all those who help us out by volunteering in school. It was lovely to be able to welcome lots of the people who make a difference to what we are able to provide for our children and to show them our appreciation. This was supported beautifully by our school choir and thank you to Donna Dickinson for being the driving force behind this. Again, Donna is a volunteer, without whom, we would be unable to provide this.

The Parent Forum is proving to be a really successful avenue to enable good communication between the school and parent community and I would like to remind everyone that all are welcome, either to attend or to pass on items for discussion. I would like to thank Kelly Leech for chairing this and to all who attend and contribute to help us get things right.

Big thanks to our fabulous PTA who work tirelessly to provide events for both children and parents to enjoy within our community whilst raising much needed extra funding to support learning and enrichment of the school experience in many ways. Another thank you to all who have been involved in our 'Pudding Club' project led by Jo George in collaboration with Wyldwood arts. This has seen our children and local community coming together beyond school hours and has been a fantastic way to continue our positive relationships with the wider community. And finally...

I would like to thank all of our fabulous children for the work that they have put into their learning over the last year, I am so proud of all that you have achieved and to my fantastic team of teachers and support staff who have made the continued improvement of our school possible. I know that, once rested over the summer, we will all be ready for the next exciting chapter in our learning adventure as we 'Strive To Be The Best We Can Be'.

Thank you all for your continued support, stay safe over summer and have fun!

**Sarah Helm, Executive Head Teacher,
The Wye Forest Federation**

Goodbyes!

We are sad to be saying our goodbyes to Mrs Ricketts, as she moves on in her career, taking on Deputy Headship. We know she will shine and wish her all the best. A massive thank you to her for all her contributions to St Briavels over the many years she has been here. Good luck Mrs R.

We are also sad to see Mrs Dutton leaving us as she has made a fantastically positive contribution to our Federation and has had such an impact in such a short space of time. Mrs Dutton is leaving us due to personal reasons but luckily she will continue to support us part time until we are able to appoint.

We will, in October, also be saying goodbye to the lovely Jo George, our lead Early Years practitioner. Jo has been sought out for her expertise and offered an amazing opportunity to be the Lead Practitioner at the Opportunity Centre in Coleford, providing her with a new challenge in her career. Jo was the driving force in setting up exemplary early years provision in St Briavels and has successfully led the team to its current status as part of St Briavels Primary School and the Wye Forest Federation. She will be greatly missed as the lead for Sunflowers but will remain working with the school both through outreach opportunities from her new post and through the intergenerational project she is passionate about continuing to develop with both the school and the village communities. Jo will be assisting us in appointing a new lead to the team at the beginning of the new academic year and ensuring the best start for all in September.

Goodbye to Catherine Roberts who has supported our upper KS2 children so well over the last few years. Catherine is leaving us to study for her degree: a model learner! Goodbye to Fran Peters who has worked as our Family Support Worker and TA in Speedwell for part of this year. Thank you for all your hard work.

We have loved you all and you will be missed.

**Sarah Helm, Executive Head Teacher,
The Wye Forest Federation**



Good bye from Mrs R.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people that have made my twenty years at St Briavels so special. I have made amazing friends in some of the staff I have worked with over the years and I have enjoyed every class I've taught since 1998. I will really miss coming to St Briavels every day but I am excited to be working in the same county as my children and finally sharing the same holidays! Thank you for all your amazing messages and kind words - I will stay in touch and can't wait to hear how the children are doing.

All my love,

Mrs Ricketts x



Choir

Choir will continue in St Briavels in September on Wednesdays (subject to confirmation), led by Donna Dickinson. The price will be £1 / week, please pay via Parentpay. Choir runs from the end of the school day until 4.15pm.



Afterschool Club

In September, Afterschool club will run until 6pm Monday to Thursday. This will be on a trial basis until October half term. If you want it to continue please send your children! There will be an additional £2.50 charge for the extra half hour.

Please could you ensure that you book your child in, so we can meet safeguarding regulations. If you have any queries, please speak to the office or to Sian Van Loo. Thank you!

*** The Malvern Garden Show Holiday Challenge! ***

As part of our preparation for and as a way of ensuring that the Malvern Garden Show is woven throughout our new enquiry curriculum, we would like to set a holiday challenge for children (and parents!).

The title for the Malvern Garden this year is 'The Seven Wonders of the World'. The title can be interpreted any way we would like and we will be holding some design workshops in the Autumn term to further explore this idea.

For a holiday challenge we would like to invite you to explore this idea in any way you feel inspired.

Ideas:

- What are the seven wonders of the world?
- What would YOU include in a list of world wonders?
- Where have you been that has been 'wonderful'?
- What makes you wonder?

This work can be presented in any format and will be used to inform our design process and the work undertaken throughout the year leading to another successful Malvern Garden Show for the Federation.

We now have a 'Pay it Forward' system

We are introducing a Pay-it-forward scheme in school. This has been suggested by some parents over the last six months and we would like to trial it. It means in essence that if you would like to make a donation to cover another child's activity or trip cost we will make sure that the cost is covered and the child/ren can attend. If you would like to donate, please can you call into the school office with either cash or cheque and we will ensure the money goes to the correct place. Thank you so much. We can keep the donation completely anonymous.

Piano Lessons

We have availability for Piano lessons from September Year 2 upwards. Please ask the school office for more details.



Bluebell Class -Cool Milk

This is just a reminder that if you would like your child to continue to receive milk each day once they join Year 1, please ensure you register with Cool Milk to enable to you to make payment for this (www.coolmilk.com)

Payment for School Meals (Year 3 upwards)

This is just a reminder that once your child joins Year 3 (unless you are in receipt of Free School Meals) you will be required to make payment each day for your child's school lunch. The cost per day is £2.50 and you can make lunch selections and payment for this via ParentPay.

Lost Property

We have two items of lost property in the office: a Nissan car key fob and also a silver bracelet.

Swimming Kit and Uniform

Please can all children take all their kits (PE and Forest etc) home for a wash over the summer and bring them back in ready for the new term in September. We suggest bringing a large carrier bag in on the last day to help get everything home!



Poppy Class

Poppy class have had a wonderful term exploring Asia. We have been privileged to have had so many amazing guests who have shared their knowledge with us. A huge thank you to Chika, Ging, Dara, Lana, Miss Impey and Auntie Yumiko. Poppy class, you have been a joy to teach this year and I hope you all have a safe and happy summer break!

Mrs Kear



Pots, pans and metal/wooden cutlery donations please!

Please bring these in for our messy kitchen! Thank you! Lisa Watkins



Wellies and waterproofs needed!

Please help us for the Autumn. We need donations of wellies sizes 3,4,5, hats scarves and gloves, and water proofs KS2 size please. Please bring them into the office!

Thank you!



Volunteers

St Briavels School have been extremely lucky to have had the support of a wide range of volunteers this year. From the bottom of our hearts we would like you to know how much this has helped, inspired and supported us.

We think this quote sums you up:

Volunteers are not paid – not because they are worthless but because they are priceless!

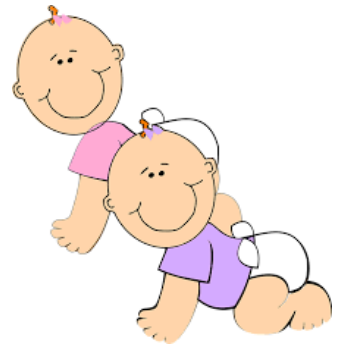
**Thank
You**

A huge thanks from School council, the children and all the staff.
Have a wonderful summer.



Needed: baby dolls and dolls clothes!

Sunflowers are in need of some baby dolls and dolls clothes, if you have any spare please bring them to the office! Thank you!



Book Club

Rossiter Books in Monmouth are starting a Book Group for 9-12 year olds: #BookChat

The #BookChat Book Group will be held in the Rossiter Bookshop in Monmouth 5-6pm on the 1st Wednesday of the Month starting with three sessions in the Autumn Term: September, October and November. The aim of the Book Group is to encourage children to read for pleasure and hopefully build a life long reading habit.

A friendly book group for children to discuss this months' book and ideas arising from it at Rossiter Books, Monmouth

£10 per session including the book and refreshments (Limited to 15 per session)

Book your place with Rossiter Books now for our first session on 4th September 5-6pm and read *The Closest Thing to Flying* by Gill Lewis over the summer holidays.

Call in to Rossiter Books or phone to book your place, **01600 775572**

PTA News

I can't believe the year's almost over! Chairing our PTA for the last three terms has been a huge amount of fun and incredibly rewarding. St Briavels families have managed to raise over £5,000 with events including the PJ nights, 2nd hand uniform sales, the Games Afternoon, Parents Dinner, sponsored walk, discos and talents shows, the Christmas fayre and concert, Back to School BBQ, Rags2Riches etc etc – and this figure doesn't even include the £500 worth of book vouchers thanks to our incredibly successful Book Fair! I hope there's been at least one event you and the children have been able to attend and more importantly enjoyed!

I hope you agree that we've spent the funds well. Alongside the outlay for events this is where the money has gone: we had the rusted gate by the Bluebell entrance fixed; each classroom now has a dedicated iPad and we bought a new steam mop for the Hall. If you weren't aware, every year the PTA buy the Leavers Hoodies which are given to the outgoing Years 6s at the Leavers Assembly. Throughout the year we match the amount each Class Cake Sale makes – usually around £100. Your fundraising also enabled the Year 6 leavers to enjoy a pizza lunch after their service at Gloucester Cathedral. Recently I asked each of the teachers to let me know what's at the top of their Classroom Wish List and we're now on the road to getting them what they need (it seems to be mainly sorting out the White Boards!). I'll let you know the details as soon as I can. As you can see the money the PTA raises is very important to the school and much appreciated.

The big project this year has been **Ground Force** - smartening up the playground and creating the outside area (STILL no name – it would be great to have one before the start of next term if you have a flash of inspiration). I've been genuinely humbled by the amount of time and effort which has gone into this both from families and staff. It just shows what can be achieved when we come together as a team. I've absolutely loved being part of it and hope you have too!

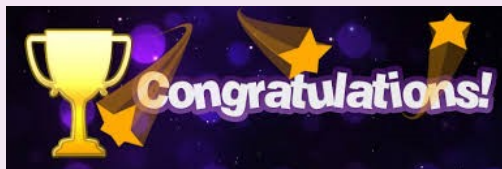
The **Back to School BBQ** will be our next event – the preliminary date for this is Sunday 1st September with more details to follow once this is confirmed with the Castle. Our postponed Treasure Hunt will go ahead on that morning with the winners announced at the BBQ.

The **AGM** will be held in September (date TBC) straight after school and it would be great to see as many parents/carers there as possible to share ideas for future events and decide how the funds raised should be spent. The PTA will provide childcare for the duration of the meeting so I hope you can come along, have a cuppa and a chat and help shape the future of our PTA.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Christine Wakerley for all her hard work as PTA treasurer and wish her all the best as she follows her daughter in leaving the school. Secondly thanks to Louise Taylor who is standing down as Secretary. Replacement Trustees will be announced shortly.

Lastly farewell to the Year 6s as they head off to pastures new – you're a fantastic bunch and we wish you well in your new schools. Best wishes to Nicola Dutton as she leaves us, she's been an absolute pleasure to work alongside. And a HUGE au revoir to the inimitable Mrs Ricketts! I'm sure we'll be ready with a warm welcome for the new Bluebells and Mr Le Templier come September! Have a great summer and see you back at the school gate.

Claire and the PTA Team



Congratulations are in order for the teachers and children at Redbrook. The school has been judged as GOOD by Ofsted. This acknowledges the amazing amount of work the teachers and Headteacher Sarah Helm have put in to make sure the education we are providing the children at the school is the best it can be with the resources we are given. They all deserve a thank you!

Chris McFarling

Summer holidays craft activities

Hope Farm crafts have some free craft activities running on 3 mornings in July, just one hour as a drop-in for families. Suitable from 3-9 years old.

Anyone interested should follow their Facebook page on the link below:

Gargoyle selfies: <https://www.facebook.com/events/387418895210152/?ti=icl>

Minibeasts: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2466829316709625/?ti=icl>

Dambusters: <https://www.facebook.com/events/616612172161539/?ti=icl>

Be amazing! Be a Home-Start volunteer!

If you think you could spare 2-3 hours a week supporting a family and helping to give a child the best start in life, sign up to get information about our latest volunteer prep courses coming up in September!

<https://mailchi.mp/5206e66d636d/beamazing>

Thank you in advance for any help you can give and if you require further information then please see our contact details below:

Website: <https://homestartnwglos.org.uk/home/about-us/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hsnwglos/>

Email: enquirieshomestartnwglos@gmail.com

Telephone: 07584472025

Nicola Stewart

Home Start Baby & Me Coordinator

The Good Shepherd Project – Can you find the sheep?



All Church of England Primary schools in the Diocese of Gloucester were visited in 2018/2019 by a sheep which was looked after and decorated by the school community, before continuing on pilgrimage to the next school within the deanery for a new adventure and decoration.

All the members of the Diocese of Gloucester flock are spending their holidays in Gloucester Cathedral, where they would love to be visited by children and their families from 5 August. Come along during your holidays and follow the sheep trail around the cathedral...Can you find all the 9 sheep?

WYEDEAN SUMMER EXHIBITION

COME AND CELEBRATE
CREATIVITY AT WYEDEAN
SCHOOL WITH A SELECTION
OF ART, PHOTOGRAPHY,
GRAPHIC DESIGN AND D&T
WORK ON SHOW

TRY OUT MAGIC-THEMED
DELICACIES FROM
THE BIG BEAN CAFE!

GRAND OPENING OF
OUR STUDY GARDEN

WEDNESDAY 17TH JULY

5-7 PM

MUSICAL PERFORMANCES
AND HIGHLIGHTS FROM
SISTER ACT

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF
THE PHILOSOPHER'S
DEN: SHOWCASING
STUDENTS' CYBER
INNOVATION WORK

Autumn Term 2019 — St Briavels Primary School



Please check website for updates!

| Day | Date | Class | Event |
|-----------|----------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Friday | 19/7/19 | | |
| Monday | 22/7/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 23/7/19 | | |
| Monday | 2/9/19 | INSET | INSET |
| Tuesday | 3/9/19 | INSET | INSET |
| Wednesday | 4/9/19 | FIRST DAY OF TERM! | FIRST DAY OF TERM! |
| Thursday | 5/9/19 | | |
| Friday | 6/9/19 | | |
| Monday | 9/9/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 10/10/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 11/9/19 | | |
| Thursday | 12/9/19 | | |
| Friday | 13/9/19 | | |
| Monday | 16/9/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 17/9/19 | | Five Acres High School Open Evening |
| Wednesday | 18/9/19 | | |
| Thursday | 19/9/19 | | |
| Friday | 20/9/19 | Parents | Parent Forum (chapel) 2pm |
| Monday | 23/9/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 24/9/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 25/9/19 | | |
| Thursday | 26/9/19 | | |
| Friday | 27/9/19 | Whole school | PTA Beetle Drive |

Autumn Term 2019 — St Briavels Primary School

Please check website for updates!



| Day | Date | Class | Event |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------|---|
| Monday | 30/09/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 1/10/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 2/10/19 | Whole School | Individual school photos |
| Thursday | 3/10/19 | Year 6 | Wyedean Open evening |
| Friday | 4/10/19 | Whole School | Harvest festival tbc |
| Monday | 7/10/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 8/10/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 9/10/19 | Selected year groups tbc | Flu jabs |
| Thursday | 10/10/19 | | |
| Friday | 11/10/19 | PTA Talent Show | |
| Monday | 14/10/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 15/10/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 16/10/19 | | |
| Thursday | 17/10/19 | | |
| Friday | 18/10/19 | | |
| Monday | 21/10/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 22/10/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 23/10/19 | | |
| Thursday | 24/10/19 | | |
| Friday | 25/10/19 | LAST DAY OF TERM | LAST DAY OF TERM PTA Movie night |
| Monday | 4/11/19 | FIRST DAY OF TERM | FIRST DAY OF TERM |