

St Briavels Primary School

Newsletter



No. 55 October 5th 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

The arrival of autumn has been well and truly confirmed with the sound and sight of flocks of migrating geese amongst other birds, we are so lucky to live in a place where these significant annual events are a common sight. On the note of the changing seasons please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat with them every day as we always aim to get out to play except in the very worst weather. Again, we will be using the field throughout the year and to avoid muddy carpets it is useful for children to have slippers, alternate indoor shoes or wellies for outside.

Collective Worship continues to be based around the Christian value of Courage and this week it was supported by the Ethiopian Folktale 'The Lion's Whiskers' in which the characters demonstrate physical, emotional and spiritual courage. **Courage** is one of the Christian Values that we feel is important to run through our school life, community and our curriculum, this is alongside the Christian Values of **Compassion, Respect and Resilience (perseverance)**. We have reduced the number of our Christian values down to four values and are working on weaving them through our school lives. The four we have chosen, in consultation with Governors and parents, we feel will support our children in flourishing as humans as they continue to grow, learn and contribute in our diverse society.

Sarah Helm
Executive Head teacher
The Wye Forest Federation

Word of the week

This year we are aiming to work more on developing our pupils vocabulary and so I will try and pick a word each week and ask you to discuss it with your child and try and use it where possible and appropriate! Don't worry if you think the word is too 'hard' for your child, they will, I'm sure' surprise you with their ability to understand and use the word. Let me know how you get on.

So this week's word is:

Decrepit meaning very old, worn down and creaky; ruined due to age or neglect; used to describe a person, a building or possibly an idea or philosophy that has become outdated or outlived its usefulness. eg "A row of decrepit houses" "A decrepit old man"

Daisy Class



Daisy class have had two great weeks of tag rugby as part of our PE this term. The children have learnt how to dodge and handle the ball, they have shown a lot of determination to improve and their team spirit is improving each lesson! Next week we will learn how to implement both skills within a game, more hard work needed! Well done Daisy class for your effort! Could I also remind parents that an outdoor PE kit is needed for tag rugby so could you please ensure your child has their kit in for a Wednesday. Many thanks.

Mrs Griffin



From the Office

We hope that you and your children have all settled into school well.

E-Schools



We are really pleased with how well E-Schools seems to be embedding within school and are hopeful that you will also be finding it helpful.

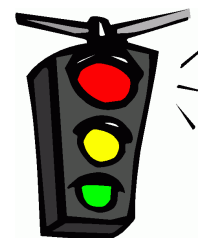
As part of the E-Schools package we will be having a new federation website and this will mean that when we put an event onto the calendar it will publish onto the website directly. The new website will be much easier for school staff to update, and so we are hopeful that this will ensure the information is kept up to date. The new website is at the final draft version and will be made live before half term, although we will still be updating pages over the coming months.

ParentPay

Some of the parents will have had the opportunity to take advantage of the new trips module within ParentPay. This module allows us to set up a trip or event and gain your consent for your child to attend online. This will save school a lot of time and money in the long run as we will be able to email you with trip letters instead of sending out paper copies. This trip module can also be used to get consent for trips/events that are free—no more paper reply slips going missing!! We hope that you will also find this a more efficient system for consenting to your child(ren) attending workshops and trips. This will mean that all parents need to be able to login to parentpay—if you have problems with this please speak to us in the office and we will try to sort this out.

Emails and Communication Policy

Hopefully you will all have received an email from the admin office to introduce the traffic light email system to you. We do hope that this will make it much easier for you to know when we need a response from you. Along with the traffic light system we have also introduced bullet points. A maximum of three bullet points to quickly and precisely let you know what the email is about. This will not replace our usual wording but will be in addition to. It is hoped that these quick changes will make it much easier for parents to know what we need responses to and when, which will in turn save time and money for the office who have to chase up missing replies.



Budgets

I am sure you have all heard about cuts to school funding and this is no different for our federation than for any other school. The changes mentioned above are systems that are being introduced to support you as parents but also to increase the capacity within the office. I am sure you are all aware of the difficulties we have had finding time to address things in the office and we are hopeful that with the ever increasing workload these efficiencies will allow the office more time to complete other jobs stretching the budget a bit further. Your support for these new systems therefore is really appreciated.

Thanks

It would also be prudent to mention at this time a HUGE THANK YOU to the PTA at St Briavels who have paid for the new federation website and the first year of the app for parents. E-Schools is already making a huge difference for us and so from the office team to all the parents that so generously support the PTA we wanted to say thank you.

STARS OF THE WEEK



Class

Last Week

Foxglove	May D'arcy, Charlie Walters-McLeod
Speedwell	Alfie Adams, Isaac Brand
Poppy	Sophia Bennett
Daisy	Tobie Mainwaring, Livvie Share
Bluebell	Teddy Hurley

This Week

Jack Organ, Susannah Wakerley
Max Morris, Fred Martens
Ted Rule, Blake Raeburn
Riley Leech, Mervyn Edwards
Joshua Gillingham



Road Closure

We have had notice that the A466 will be closed from 26th September to 3rd December between Redbrook and St Arvans. It will affect people travelling between Redbrook and St Briavels.

For further information please go to:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-rights-of-way/major-projects/a466-wye-valley-bank-stabilisation-work/>

Please find another route if you usually come this way to school!



After School Club

**Wednesday
Slime**

**Tuesday
Biscuits**

**3.10 –4.30 £5
3.10-5.30 £10
(Per child)**

**Thursday
Hamma Beads**

**Snack Available
Tea available after
4.30PM**

Branching Out Forest Tots Group

Wednesdays 10am-12 noon

Redbrook School is now running a Branching Out Tots group—this is an outdoors forest focussed group for pre-school children and parents. It is held in the woods every Wednesday during term time from 10am-12pm from Weds 19th September.

It gives parents of young children a chance to meet each other and the children to have fun in the woods. It is run by Donna Squirrell, a fully qualified independent provider of Forest School.

Payment needs to be made in advance: £30 for a 5 week term.

For further information, to book a place, and for direction to the forest site please



call Redbrook School on **01600 713501** or
email us at **admin@redbrook.gloucs.sch.uk**





Term 1 - Autumn 2018 St Briavels Primary School

Day	Date	Class	Event
Monday	8/10/18		
Tuesday	9/10/18	Foxglove	Toddlers am 10-11.30 Forest School pm
Wednesday	10/10/18	Bluebell	Forest School pm
Thursday	11/10/18	Year 4	Swimming pm
Friday	12/10/18		Open the Book PM
Monday	15/10/18		
Tuesday	16/10/18	Foxglove	Toddlers am 10-11.30 Forest School pm
Wednesday	17/10/18	Bluebell	Forest School pm
Thursday	18/10/18	Year 4	Swimming pm
Friday	19/10/18		Open the Book PM Break for half term
Monday	29/10/18		START OF TERM!
Tuesday	30/10/18		

Calling all parents and Carers!
The Children's Opportunity Centre
Coleford present

Forest First Aid

DESIGNED FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

CPR
CHOKING
BLEEDING
FEBRILE SEIZURES
MENINGITIS
AWARENESS
BURNS, BUMPS &
BREAKS

*£10 per
person*

Friday 5th October
(am session)

At the Town Council Offices, Coleford

For details and to book contact

admin@childoc.org.uk or call 01594 837552

Cyber News

It has been drawn to our attention that there are toys available to children that allow unsecured or unauthorized bluetooth access. This means that anyone who is within the Bluetooth limit is able to access the toys and listen to or speak through the toy to your child. If you have or are considering purchasing these toys (notably **Cayla doll, furby connect, i-que intelligent robot, toy-fi teddy, wowie chip and cloudpets**), please see the following link for information and a video clip. www.which.co.uk/reviews/smart-toys/article/smart-toys-should-you-buy-them. Stay safe people!

There are also similar concerns about the Alexa and mygoogle products. If you have these products in your home please make yourself aware of ways to ensure your family's safety whilst using them. #safeguarding

Tax Free Childcare

St. Briavels School is now registered to accept tax free childcare payments this can be used against Sunflowers Fees, After School Club and Breakfast Club. If you think you may be eligible visit HMRC website for details. Please inform the school office if you intend to pay in this way.

We are also in the process of registering Redbrook school for this and we will let you know when this becomes available.