

St Briavels Primary School

Newsletter



No. 36 20th October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wow! This term has felt like it has gone by very quickly and has seen me getting to know what needs to doing to continue to improve both our schools. I have been most impressed by our children and their positive attitude to learning and have enjoyed learning lots about the communities of the schools. I have really appreciated many parents coming to meet with me and have found what I am hearing from all stakeholders to be most useful in beginning to put firm plans in place for moving forwards. Next term will be spent reviewing our current teaching and learning provision and from there, developing a formal School Improvement Plan. The headlines from this will be shared in future newsletters so you can have an informed picture of what we will be working towards getting better at and a chance to comment on and/or get involved with what we are doing.

If you or family members /friends have any skills that you think we could benefit from and you are able to share with us across our federation communities please let us know. We are always grateful for help to extend and expand our children's experiences. If you have time to spare and would like to get involved in volunteering in school for example by hearing readers or helping out with class displays amongst other opportunities, we would love to hear from you. Please let Mrs Crellin in the office know or speak to your child's class teacher.

I am aware I have not had chance to meet all of you parents and carers yet and apologise for not having been as visible as I would like to have been this term. There have been some areas I have had to address immediately and this has taken up unexpected amounts of time. I will aim to be at the gate more often next term and you are always welcome to make an appointment to meet with me or to have a conversation by telephone if you have anything you feel you need to discuss.

Sarah Helm
Executive Head teacher
The Wye Forest Federation

Dates for your diary:

Half Term

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October

School Photos

Tuesday 31st October at 9am

School Open Morning

Wednesday 1st November at 9.30

Bring your Parent to School

Thursday 9th November 5-7pm.

KS1 Xmas Theatre –

Thursday 16th November

Children in Need

Friday 17th November

Cadburys world Trip—Speedwell

Tuesday 21st November 2017

Foxglove Cake Sale

Friday 24th November—after school

Christmas Fair

Friday 1st December

KS1 Christmas Production

2pm—Thursday 7th December
6pm—Friday 8th December

KS2 Xmas Theatre –

Monday 11th December

Christmas Dinner

Thursday 14th December

Christingle and End of term

Friday 15th December at 1pm
Church
Term ends at 2pm.

End of Term

Monday 18th December – Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Inset Day –

Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Back to School -

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Half Term

Monday 12th February—Friday 16th February 2018

Inset Day -

Monday 19th February 2018

Back to School -

Tuesday 20th February 2018

Head Lice

We have had reports of head lice at school.

Just a quick reminder to parents to check their children for lice and to treat if necessary.

Late

If you are running late for school and arrive after 9am please remember to bring your child in to school via the main door (even if the gate is unlocked). The registers are taken at 8.55am and so to ensure we know which children are in school it is really important to come in through the main front door. Thank you for your support in safeguarding all the children.



Home Time

Could we please remind parents that at the end of the day when they are on the school playground they are responsible for their own children.

We have had reports of some children running out from the school gate into the road, obviously we don't want to see any accidents happen and so would just like to give a quick reminder for children to walk out of school sensibly with their parents at the end of the day.



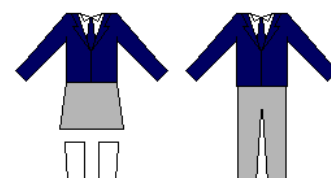
Second Hand Uniform

The next second hand uniform sale will be in the first week after half term on Tuesday 31st October.

I aim to do a sale in the first week back after each holiday/half term. The uniform all gets stored in my loft so I can't really coordinate individual requests throughout the term but I'm aiming to make the timing of sales predictable so people know when the next one will be. (The day in the week is variable as it depends on when I'm working).

If anyone is interested in helping out they are more than welcome to get involved. Anyone up for sparing an hour or so to sort clothes/set up and help once in a while (or do the odd washing load where needed) has the bonus of getting a sneak preview at the 'collection'!!!

Thanks for your support
Caroline Smith



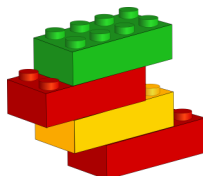
Sedate Playtime Space

We have recently set up an area in the playground where children can enjoy a more sedate playtime if they find that the busy-ness outside difficult to cope with.

I would like to ask that if you (or anyone you know) are having a clear out at all then we would welcome any

complete board/card games, children's books or lego/construction toys that you no longer need. I

know it's a long shot but we would be most grateful as this could provide happier playtimes for a number of our children.



Keeping our Community Safe Online

We are currently writing a school policy on the safe use of social media for children, staff and parents in order to keep our community safe. Until we have this completed and shared we ask you to please be mindful about what you publish online in the public domain.

Our Value this Term



Please continue to help the children to understand the importance of being generous.

PTA—News

Well, that half term flew by!



And so here we are about to have our first Pyjama Party of the year! If you haven't booked yet - don't worry! Either post on the facebook page, or text Jo on 07584 119592 to make sure your little ones can enjoy all the fun. It starts at 5.30pm, they need to come fed, dressed in PJs, with a sleeping bag and a pillow, and ready to enjoy Sing! Tickets just £3 per child, pick up at 7.30pm.



Then after half term, we have a packed schedule for you. On Thursday 9th November, it's Bring Your Parents To School night, a chance for you not only to see your child's class and work, but also to enjoy a lovely family meal in our St Briavels Restaurant. For just £4.00 per person, you and your children can enjoy a jacket potato with a choice of fillings and salad, plus ice cream to follow, all served by some of our fabulous pupils! There will also be wine and beer available, so it can really feel like a lovely night out! Booking forms will be coming out during the first week of the new half term.

And then we shall be on the countdown to Christmas - and yes, it seems very early, but we've got a really short half term and a lot to pack in!

We shall be sending out order forms on Monday 30th October for you to buy some lovely tote bags or aprons, decorated with the children's designs. These will make lovely gifts for family and friends, or even just a lovely memento for you at home. Watch out for the order forms in book bags.

Our Christmas Fayre will take place on Friday 1st December, in plenty of time for you to stock up on gifts. This year we shall have some amazing stalls, including Chateau BonBon, Usbourne Books, Phoenix Cards, Cinderhill Farm, Urchin Jewellery, Forever Living, amazing craft and vintage pieces..... plus all the stalls with items created by the children. There will also be a cafe serving cakes, mince pies, mulled wine and hot chocolates, a storytelling room and even a cinema room so that you can get a little shopping in without worrying about the children! With some carols playing in the background and of course lots of fairy lights, it's sure to be a lovely afternoon of Christmas fun. So get that date in your diary now!

And staying on the Christmas Theme, the school choir will be performing at the Christmas Medley taking place in St Briavels Church on Sunday 10th December from 5.30pm until 7.30pm. Tickets cost just £5 per adult and £3 per child, and can be booked by calling Jo on 07584 119592, or emailing jmdavies@yahoo.com. With proceeds going to the PTA this year, there's an added reason to come along!



Talking of singing, don't forget that our first PTA Choir rehearsal will take place on Friday 3rd November from 7.30pm in the school hall. So do come along for a communal sing-song (and you can bring wine along with you if you'd like to make a night of it!)

And so the mums don't miss out, we're having our own Pyjama Party (except you don't have to wear PJs!) This will be on Friday 17th November, and we shall be watching Bad Moms. If you haven't seen it, it's REALLY funny, although I do think the character of the PTA President is a little over the top..... To book email jmdavies@yahoo.com.



Phew - that was a lot to get through! We REALLY need some volunteers to help us make these events a success, so please don't be shy - get involved by speaking to Jo, Paula, Christine or Louise, and help us to make this a really successful PTA year.

Thanks

Jo and the PTA Team.