

St Briavels Primary School

Newsletter

Striving To Be The Best We Can Be



No. 69 25th October 2019

Dear All,

This has been a fast and furious term with lots of fabulous learning taking place across the school. It has been amazing to watch our reception children, supported by their year six buddies, become part of our school team so readily. I am delighted with our year six children being so supportive of our younger children and showing what great role models they can be.

Our enquiries have proved a hit this term and our children have embraced them with curiosity and vigour, really trying hard to find answers to our 'big questions', often generating further questions requiring some deep thinking. I know classes have been thinking ahead to next term's enquiries and 'wondering' about the questions posed. If you have expertise that may help answer any of our enquiry questions coming up in term 2 (or may indeed prompt more!) please let us know as we'd love you to come and be involved in expanding our thinking. Please see the next page for our learning enquiries.

Our PTA have worked amazingly hard to continue providing much needed financial support and I'd like to thank all of the PTA team for everything they are doing and to all of you for supporting the events and contributing so generously. This additional support goes a long way to helping us continue to provide opportunities and resources that we would not otherwise be available to us.

We are currently finalising our Drugs and Alcohol policy and we will let you know when this is uploaded to the website. The key message outlined in this policy that I need to ensure you are specifically aware of, is that drugs, including alcohol are not allowed on the school premises during school hours. This includes sports day. I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping all our children safe.

We would like to give a warm welcome to Nicky Lloyd Bussell, our new School Business Manager. Please do drop into the office after half term to say hello!

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

**Thank
You**

The Parish Council are paying for 2 new lights to be fixed on to the external wall of the school. The new lights will come on at night for 2 hours when activated by switch so that the pavement immediately outside the school gates isn't so dark during Autumn and Winter for evening/night-time classes and activities.

Thank you!

Our Learning Enquiries for this term are:



Bluebell: 'How can we move'?



Daisy: 'Who were the great explorers?' focussing on Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus.



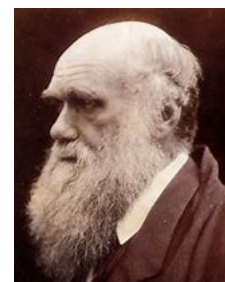
Poppy: 'How can we find out about how the Ancient Egyptians lived?'



Speedwell: 'How did the Romans' invasion affect Britain?'



Foxglove: 'Linnaeus and Darwin—how are they similar?'



If you can help with any of our enquiries please speak to the class teacher!

Forest Schools

We are reviewing our current forest schools planned provision. For next term it will be year one, going on a Wednesday afternoon with Mrs Morse. We will give you further information on the provision for other year groups as soon as we have finalised our new plan.

Primary School Applications for 2020

If your child was born between **1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016** they can start school in the school year starting 1st September 2020. You need to apply for a place by 15th January 2020.

The school are having an open **morning on Tuesday November 5th**.

Call the office on **01594 530428** ffi.

To find out more and apply go to:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions/>

From Susan Young: Chair of Governors

I would like to introduce myself as the new chair of governors. I have been involved in education for the whole of my career – first as a teacher in primary and secondary schools and then as a university lecturer involved in the training of primary teachers and lecturing in education. I retired a few years ago, but I still work freelance as a mentor, trainer, author and presenter.

I used to be a governor first for St Briavels, then Redbrook and St Briavels when they federated, acting as chair of governors for 4 years. I then went to another local school that needed special support as a short-term governor. And now I'm delighted to be back! I have always been very interested in children's learning, particularly creative and imaginative learning, music education and learning through play. (Google me and you'll find the stuff I've written.)

Being chair of governors is a voluntary role, but it is a key role in the school because the chair not only leads the team of governors, but works closely with the headteacher. I am very committed to working hard to create as good and enjoyable an education for our children as we can. Partnership is essential – parents, staff, governors – all working together and pulling in the same positive directions with the same aim in mind.

Susan Young

Afterschool Club

Afterschool club will continue to run until 6pm Monday to Thursday.

Please make sure 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!





....to Jared!

I'm sure you are aware of Jared's passion for cricket over the past couple of years and he participated in a tournament at the end of term. Following the success of his performance he was selected to attend trials for the ECB for Gloucestershire and the Forest of Dean back in the summer holidays. After a lengthy process he has been selected for Gloucestershire County squad. **Well done Jared!**



...to Lydney hockey club

There was a brilliant performance from our under 10 boys team (who all attend St Briavels Primary) at this month's Gloucester Hockey Association festivals at Dean Close on 13th October 2019. The team played 5 games - winning 3 and drawing 2, scoring 7 goals overall and only conceding 1.

We were very proud of their determination and sportsmanship, they were a great representation of both their club and school.

Kind regards

Cindy



Oxfam Harvest Appeal

Thanks to the kind donations from Parents and Carers to our Oxfam appeal at the Harvest Festival, we raised £81.83!
Thank you!



School Parking

Please park safely without obstructing the drop kerbs! These spaces are to enable safe crossing for those with bikes and pushchairs, parking across them makes crossing the road dangerous for children and parents.

Thank you for helping us stay safe!



Road Closures

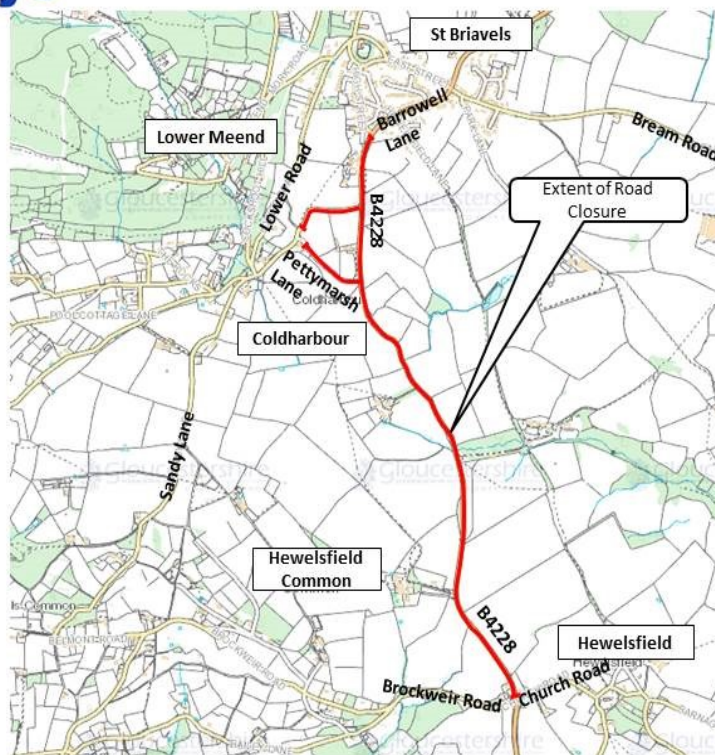
There is resurfacing works on Horsepool Lane to Hart-Hill due to happen

6th to 15th November from 0700 to 1900

This closure may affect how parents and staff travel to and from your school. We have been asked by Gloucestershire Highways to advise those travelling to and from school to do so from a northern direction as access from a southerly direction via the B4228 will be unavailable during the closure.



Road closure extent for
B4228 Horsepool Lane to Hart-Hill



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PTA News

Half term already! **PJ Party this evening (Friday 25th Oct)** heralds the break as per usual – a big hit with the kids, it should send them off in good spirits. Shout if you've not booked them in yet. Film will start at 4.30 with pick up at 6.15pm and there will be a slice of pizza and a mini milk at the interval – do let me know if we need to provide an alternative snack.

Lots to look forward to in the second half of term starting with an evening on **Wednesday 6th November** to sell the clothes donated during the Rags2Riches collection which you felt were worthy of a new home. It'll be a chance to possibly pick up a steal at a rock bottom price (plus chat with other like minded bargain hunters over a glass of wine and some nibbles!). Please contact me directly if you struggle with evening events and this appeals to you so I can find a way for you not to miss out!

The **Open Parents Evening Dinner** is taking a twist this year... one of our amazing families has suggested that, as they have a chef among them, that they'd like to share his skills and cook the dinner! We will be taking bookings for the two sittings once we're back after half term so watch this space for more details. It's absolutely my favourite night of the school year – a great chance to meet your child's friends and families and catch up with old friends in a relaxed and happy atmosphere. If you'd like to offer 45 mins of your time on the evening to either run the fully licensed bar or help with the washing up that would be brilliant.

KS2 are still deciding on what they'd like for their **PTA evening** – there's been talk of an age appropriate film or perhaps something sporty and a BBQ (possibly too cold and wet for this BUT I'm taking from that that the rounders match and BBQ we put on for them in the summer was enjoyed so more of that when the weather's better).

If there's enough interest there's talk of resurrecting the legendary **Mum's PJ Night** at the end of November ... watch this space...

Then we hit December and the Christmas events. **The Fayre** is on a Saturday this year and we're welcoming the village and surrounding areas. To make this the huge success it deserves to be we'd like a food stalls section in the playground alongside all the lovely craft, gift and children's stalls inside; the café in the Daisy Classroom and Santa's Grotto in Sunflowers. It's a lot of work so if you'd like to get involved in ANY capacity please let me know as soon as possible. We've started booking stall holders and looking for food vendors and would welcome willing helpers with good ideas or contacts. It's going to be brilliant!

Lastly the **Christmas Concert** (*Now That's What I Call A St Briavel's Christmas Concert*) was such a success last year that we think we'd be daft not to have a *Now That's What I Call A St Briavel's Christmas Concert 2!* Carols, readings from the children, mince pies, mulled wine, twinkly lights, singalongs?? What's not to love!

AND LASTLY, WE'RE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A NEW TREASURER. CONTACT ME FOR MORE DETAILS.

That's quite enough from me. Find me at the school gates, the FB page or at clairevgilmour@btinternet.com
Claire and the PTA Team xxsee over for PTA dates for your diary....

PTA Dates for your diary

NOVEMBER

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|--|
| Wednesday 6 th | 19.30-21.00 | Pre-loved Clothes Sale (plus wine and nibbles) |
| Thursday 14 th | 17.30-19.00 | Open Parents Evening Dinner |
| Friday 22 nd | 17.00-18.30 | Speedwell/Foxglove eve (theme TBA) |

DECEMBER

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Sat 7 th | 10.00-14.00 | Christmas Fayre |
| Sunday 15 th | 16.00-17.00 | Christmas Concert |



Daily Mile

On Friday we took part in a Gloucestershire Record of the most children taking part in daily mile in one day. Although it was a very soggy day, all classes managed to get out long enough to complete the challenge.



Harvest Service at St Briavels

We had our annual Harvest Service at the beginning of October in support of Oxfam and the Forest Of Dean foodbank. Thank you to everyone that donated in any way! The children that performed or took part did an excellent job and Daisy class did the stand out performance with their rendition of 'Little Red Hen.' The donations raised £81.83. **Thank you!**

Winter Term 2019 — St Briavels Primary School

Please check website for updates!



| Day | Date | Class | Event |
|--|----------|------------------------------|---|
| Friday | 25/10/19 | LAST DAY OF TERM | LAST DAY OF TERM PTA Movie night |
| Half Term 28th October—1st November | | | |
| Monday | 4/11/19 | FIRST DAY OF TERM | FIRST DAY OF TERM |
| Tuesday | 5/11/19 | Reception | Open morning for 2020 intake |
| Wednesday | 6/11/19 | Daisy Class Year 1's | Forest School—bring kit in! |
| Thursday | 7/11/19 | | |
| Friday | 8/11/19 | | |
| Monday | 11/11/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 12/11/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 13/11/19 | Daisy Class Year 1's | Forest School—bring kit in! |
| Thursday | 14/11/19 | Whole School Whole School | Parent Forum Meeting 2pm Bring your parents to school evening (times tbc) |
| Friday | 15/11/19 | Whole School | Children In Need |
| Monday | 18/11/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 19/11/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 20/11/19 | Daisy Class Year 1's | Forest School—bring kit in! |
| Thursday | 21/11/19 | | |
| Friday | 22/11/19 | Bluebell, Yrs 1 & 2 | Christmas Panto trip |

Dates subject to change—please check on **www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk** and watch out for letters home!

Winter Term 2019 — St Briavels Primary School

Please check website for updates!



| Day | Date | Class | Event |
|---|----------|---|--|
| Monday | 25/11/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 26/11/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 27/11/19 | Daisy Class Year 1's | Forest School—bring kit in! |
| Thursday | 28/11/19 | | |
| Friday | 29/11/19 | | |
| Monday | 2/12/19 | KS1 | Christmas performance, date tbc |
| Tuesday | 3/12/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 4/12/19 | Daisy Class Year 1's | Forest School—bring kit in! |
| Thursday | 5/12/19 | | |
| Friday | 6/12/19 | Poppy Class | Trip to Egyptian Museum Swansea (details tbc) |
| Saturday 7th December am - PTA Christmas Fayre | | | |
| Monday | 9/12/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 10/12/19 | Yrs 3,4,5, & 6 | Christmas Panto trip |
| Wednesday | 11/12/19 | Daisy Class Year 1's | Forest School—bring kit in! |
| Thursday | 12/12/19 | | |
| Friday | 13/12/19 | | |
| Monday | 16/12/19 | | |
| Tuesday | 17/12/19 | | |
| Wednesday | 18/12/19 | Whole school Daisy Class Year 1's | Christmas Lunch Forest School—bring kit in! |
| Thursday | 19/12/19 | | |
| Friday | 20/12/19 | Whole School LAST DAY OF TERM | Christingle Church Service December 2pm LAST DAY OF TERM |
| Monday | 6/1/20 | FIRST DAY OF TERM | FIRST DAY OF TERM |