

St Briavels Primary School

Newsletter

Striving Together To Be The Best We Can Be



No. 77, 28th May 2021

Dear Families,

Our federation vision sits at the heart of everything we do in school and you may recognise our tag line '*Striving Together To Be The Best We Can Be*'. This term we have been revisiting this with our classes and during worship, exploring what it means for the children in school and beyond. There has been much focus on how we strive together to achieve things at home and in our learning that we find difficult, with all of the children reflecting on this personally.

Did you know that this tag line is actually embedded in our wider vision? '***Our Federation is a safe place where we embrace and enjoy challenge, take ownership of our own learning, collaborate and support each other, whilst striving together to be the best we can be.***' As staff and governors we too have been revisiting what this means for us in our work in school. It has been a meaningful time as we have all focused on the heartbeat of our federation and worked together.

As a Church of England federation, our vision is underpinned by John 10:10 "*I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.*" This passage from the bible reminds us of how we, as educators, want the very best for your children, to enable them to learn so that they are ready for life beyond our school both in its joys and in its challenges.

As such, during our inset day on Monday 7th June we will be taking our vision and our toolkit of values: '*Courage, Compassion, Resilience, Respect*' and using it to plan our curriculum for the next academic year. After a long period of time where Covid has challenged and disrupted everything we do, we are starting to see exciting times ahead as our vision guides us to achieve the very best we can for you all.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term break.

Natalie Frey
Executive Deputy Head Teacher



A big 'thank you' to Bluebells staff for all their hard work clearing and tidying the front garden and creating a seating area!

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Attendance

We would appreciate it if wherever possible you book any medical or dentists appointments out of school hours. It is especially important at the moment to have children in school as much as they are able, as we have already missed so much due to lockdown.

Japanese Themed Week



The governors were successful in obtaining a grant from the Japan Society for a project that fulfils their aim to raise awareness of Japanese culture during the year of the Tokyo Olympics. The PTA and the Friends of Redbrook are also contributing to and supporting the project.

The centre piece of the week will be a performance on Thursday by the 1000 Cranes Theatre Company of a piece based on Tales of Old Japan. During the week the children will make origami cranes - Orizuru - using authentic Japanese paper. The crane has great significance as a symbol of peace. They will hear Japanese tales told to them by Chika Yamagato, a member of staff who will also talk about her childhood in Japan, Haiku poetry workshops from governor Mike Haines and a 'show and tell' about customs and religions with Japanese artefacts by Brian Bocking, a retired professor of oriental studies.

The children's paper cranes, together with poetry, art work and stories, will be arranged as displays - first for parents to enjoy and then during the Summer for the village shop windows in St Briavels and Redbrook. Some paper cranes will be sent to the Children's Peace Monument in Hiroshima (you can look up more about this on the website).

Free School Meals



If you think you may qualify for free school meals please do apply for them—our school will receive extra funding for each eligible child registered. More details are attached.

Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available at:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

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**THANK
YOU!**

St Briavels were really excited to film the Easter story with the kind help of **Rosie Rees, Christine Wakerley** and the **Open the Book** team. Each class took a section of the story and the videos were then shown to each class. The children really enjoyed the experience and it helped to enhance their understanding of this very special celebration. Huge thanks to all involved from Mrs Kear.



Can you help with reviewing the ideas from the 'School Parking' survey?

At the Parent's Forum the results of the 'School Parking' survey were presented. We had brilliant engagement with the survey, with 58 people filling it in. There's a ton of ideas as to what we could do to help solve the parking situation.

Piers Cardiff (co-chair of the Parent Forum) agreed to lead a group to analyse the suggestions and work out which ideas to try and move forward. We'll have some representation from the school and the parish council, but could use some more parents to get involved. This will mean a couple of online meetings.

If you're interested in getting involved, then email Piers at:

piersc@protonmail.com



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PTA News

Hello from the PTA! Thanks very much to everyone for their support at the recent cake sales whether you've baked, sold or bought. We've still got the Speedwell and Foxglove sales to go in June and July so plenty of treats to come! There's not a huge amount we can do yet but as restrictions ease up we'll adapt accordingly. In the meantime we will do what we **can** do!

Thank you to Jade Meadows who has entered us into the **Pip Organic Sports Day Competition!** To be in with a chance to win a bundle of Pip goodies including ice lollies and drinks for Sports Day we need LOTS AND LOTS of nominations so PLEASE use the link below and nominate us. The school address is The High Street, GL15 6TD and our Sports Day is currently scheduled for July 2nd. Send it to friends and relatives too – the more the merrier!

<https://piporganic.com/sportsday/>

If you haven't already please consider choosing us as your charity when using Amazon by selecting us when you sign up for Amazon Smile. Amazon will then donate a percentage of what you spend with them to us.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Below is the calendar of events we plan to run over the next few months – these are subject to change as the situation unfolds. If you have any ideas for events or fundraisers please do shout and we'll try our best to bring them to fruition. More details on each event will come out as we get nearer the time so keep an eye out on the Facebook page and your email.

May

17th Sponsor-a-thon!
The classes are running a sponsorship competition
(The monies raised will go towards fab new maths resources)

June

11th Crazy Hair and Outfit Day to celebrate the end of Sponsor-a-thon
Speedwell Cake Sale

21st -25th Book Fair

23rd Foxglove 'Escape Room' £3 per child (inc a slice of pizza* and drink)
1500hrs-1630hrs

24th Speedwell 'Escape Room' £3 per child (inc slice of pizza* and drink)
1500hrs-1630hrs

July

5th Rags2Riches

9th Foxglove Cake Sale

16th A Very Merry Unbirthday Party £5 per child

? Mums Night!

Enjoy half term! Love from the PTA team x





Give Ofsted your view on your child's school

Please do fill in quick survey giving your feedback about the school here:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Thank you!

Forest Foodbank

Please be aware that the Forest Foodbank is still operating. Individuals or families in need can find out how to access food by visiting the website at:



<https://theforest.foodbank.org.uk/>

Adult Education In Gloucestershire



Adult Education in Gloucestershire is continuing to run **Wellbeing Courses** to support families across the county including:

- **Happier and Calmer: Wellbeing at Home**
- **Get Crafty and Relax**
- **Writing for Wellness**
- **Calming the Mind**

All course are being delivered via Zoom and are free to people over 19 years old, who have lived in the UK/ EU for 3 or more years, or have a valid Residence Permit, and are one of the following: Unemployed or earning below £17,000 per year; Qualified below a Level 2 (less than 5 GCSEs); Have mental health challenges, Have a learning difficulty or disability.

For more information see:

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/adult-education-in-gloucestershire/>



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TerraCycle—Recycle and raise money for St Briavels school! -



Toria Bee has recently become a collector for TerraCycle. They give hard-to-recycle plastics a new life by turning them into items like picnic tables.

She is collecting:

- ALL flexible cheese packets
- Reckitt Benckiser packets, like Vanish and Finish
- Carex pumps and refill pouches.

You can drop them into:

Belmont Lodge, Belmont Road, Hewelsfield Common, GL15 6UZ;

or hand them to Toria at school drop-off and pick-up.

They can also be dropped off at the Hewelsfield and Brockweir shop.

For more information see:

<https://www.terraCycle.com/en-GB/brigades/carex-uk>

<https://www.terraCycle.com/en-GB/brigades/rb>



Any brand of packaging is accepted



Job Vacancies

Jamie's Farm have asked us to publicise a job vacancy for them as they would love to employ someone from the local community. Full job is attached.



Jamie's Farm needs a Lead Housekeeper

We are seeking a capable lead housekeeper to play a crucial role, ensuring all our guests have a fantastic experience when staying at Duffields Farm. It is a great opportunity to join a friendly and dynamic team and to make a difference on behalf of an exciting charity. Jamie's Farm is a charity working with young people who are at risk of social and academic exclusion, helping them to thrive and improve the way in which they are engaged in education.

Location: Duffields Farm, Redbrook, Monmouth, Monmouthshire, NP25 4LU

Deadline for applications: 9am Friday 11th June

Start date: Monday 12th July 2021 (or earlier if this is possible)

To Apply: Please submit a covering letter explaining your suitability and passion for the role, as well as your CV, to:

jopowell@jamiesfarm.org.uk



Bikeability Instructor Vacancy

Forest of Dean

- Are you looking for a job that fits around school hours?
- Are you interested in cycling and sustainable travel?
- Do you have experience of coaching, teaching or working with children and young people (paid or voluntary)?

Think Travel and Gloucestershire County Council are looking for a **Bikeability Instructor** to join our team delivering cycle training to school children between the ages of 9 and 13. All training is provided including a nationally recognised **Level 2 Cycling Instructor qualification**.

We welcome applicants from people who live in or are able to travel to the **Forest of Dean area** and are available to work **term time and during school hours**. Pay is £12 per hour (includes holiday pay) and both car and cycle travel expenses are paid from your home to schools.

For more information on Bikeability follow this link <https://bikeability.org.uk/bikeability-training/>

To apply please send a C.V. and a brief covering letter outlining your suitability for the role to

thinktravel@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Correction: Class Structure

Please note that the class structure in the last edition of the newsletter should not have been titled 'Class Structure for September'. Classes for September will not be decided until after May 31st, you will be informed as soon as classes have been agreed.

Influence travel for young people in Gloucestershire

Gloucestershire County Council are carrying out a survey regarding the travel needs of young people in Gloucestershire. Positive changes to travel and transport, will improve young people's access to current and future career options, as well as education and leisure opportunities.



Please encourage young people to access the survey, participants will even have the chance to win one of four vouchers up to £50 in value!



The link to complete the survey is:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/>



A466 ROADWORKS DELAYED FOLLOWING ROCK FALLS

Following a potentially dangerous rockfall on the site on Friday 21st May the A466 roadworks have been delayed until the 11th June (subject to change).

A spokesperson for Monmouthshire County Council said: "This decision has not been taken lightly and we appreciate the disappointment and frustration this will cause among residents and businesses in Tintern and the surrounding area. However, the need to protect the safety of motorists and cyclists is paramount. Our immediate and ongoing priority remains to make the A466 safe, not just in the short term, but longer term. We'll be discussing the matter further with the contractors later this week but at this stage we hope to reopen the A466 by 11th June. We will provide a further update at the end of this week."

To find out more see:

[Monmouthshire.gov.uk/a466](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/a466)

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TERM DATES For May—October 2021



Last day of term	Friday 28 th May
Bank Holiday	Monday 31st May
INSET	Monday 7th June
First day of term	Tuesday 8th June
Last day of term	Wednesday 21st July
INSET	Thurs/Fri Sept 2/3rd
First day of term	Monday 6th September
Last day before half term	Friday 22nd October
First day after half term	Monday 1st November

Please see next page for dates for your diaries

Please also see website and letters home for updates. Some events may be changed according to COVID regulations. For PTA events please check facebook / letters home.



Forest School teamwork!

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Dates for your diaries

Please also see website and letters home for updates. Some events may be changed according to COVID regulations. For PTA events please check facebook / letters home.

Monday 7th June	INSET day
Tuesday 8 th June	September 2021 new Reception intake parent meeting, 6pm (PTA)
Friday 11th June	Crazy Hair and outfit day to celebrate end of sponsor-a-thon (PTA) Speedwell Cake Sale (PTA)
Wednesday 16 th June tbc	Class and Year 6 leavers photos
Monday 21 st to Wednesday 23 rd June	Book Fair
Wednesday 23rd June	Foxglove Escape Room 3-4.40pm (PTA)
Thursday 24th June	Speedwell Escape Room 3-4.40pm (PTA)
Friday 2nd July (provisional)	Sports day (provisional)
Monday 5th July	Rags to Riches (PTA)
Monday 5 th July	Year 6 Bikeability (details to follow)
Friday 9th July	Foxglove Cake Sale (PTA)
Friday 9th July (provisional)	Reserve sports day (provisional)
Monday 12th July (provisional)	'Bump up' days
Friday July 16th	A very Merry Unbirthday Party
Friday 16th July	reports sent home
Monday 19th July (provisional)	'Bump up' day
Wednesday 21st July	Last day of term
Dates to be confirmed	Japanese Week



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